

Strategic guide for biomass heat policy in Ukraine

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Purpose

To develop strategic guidance for future policy interventions targeting biomass heat in Ukraine.

The work includes:

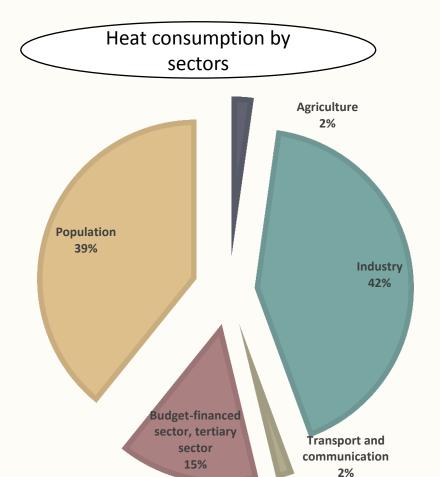
- an overview of demand and key influencing factors for biomass heat;
- estimates of availability for biomass cost supply from forest and agriculture;
- an overview of current policies in Ukraine and the ones for biomass heat in other EU countries; and
- provides recommendations for future policy interventions that will facilitate market development.

Demand & key influencing factors for biomass heat in Ukraine

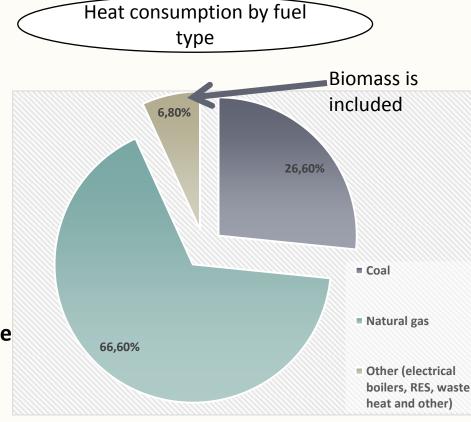
- Biomass heat in Ukraine is a practical and sometimes the only feasible option to replace fossil fuels or to provide heating for buildings lacking easy access to other heat supply options.
- A lot of heat consumers are aware of this option and willing to convert to biomass heat.

This guide aims to complement ongoing efforts in the country towards the formation of an effective policy for biomass heat in the domestic, industrial and tertiary (commercial & public buildings) sectors.

Overview of the heat market in Ukraine (2012)







Contribution of biomass to heat production by 2020 in ktoe (indicative NREAP* targets)

Heat energy production from		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Biomass		2700	3100	3580	4050	4525	5000
including	solid biomass	2660	3040	3500	3950	4400	4850
	biogas	40	60	80	100	125	150
Total		3083	3576	4139	4692	5261	5850
including	district heating systems	2130	2560	3050	3550	4080	4650
	private households	953	1016	1089	1142	1181	1200

^{*} National Renewable Energy Action Plan

Key influencing factors for biomass heat-Technical

high priority (green); average priority (amber); low priority (red)

	Domestic	Tertiary	Industrial
Level of infrastructure (forest roads, forestry mechanization, and logistic fleet) necessary to support the wood biomass fuel supply is low.			
Prevailing harvesting technologies currently applied in agriculture make it difficult or even impossible to collect agro-residues			
Forestry operations, like thinning and collection of login residue are environmentally friendly and financially viable.			
High level of unregistered logging pose threat to the forests in my country.			
Low fuel quality: Wood is mostly used with high humidity and freshly cut			
Poor forest road infrastructure prohibits the collection and handling of biomass			
There is lot of unused/abandoned agricultural land in my country, which could be used for growing biomass for energy purpose.			
Prevention, monitoring, and mechanization for fighting forest fires should be improved.			
Low presence of efficient DH/ CHP and heat technologies while high shares of the used biomass are being converted with old and inefficient equipment			
Grid connection requires improvement for the implementation of CHP			
Heat load at medium to large CHP is problematic as it requires substantial investment in long distances of underground district heat pipework, which brings economic challenges			
Biomass heat technologies have a slower response than gas or oil fired systems, similar to that of coal systems			
Biomass heat systems require more space than fossil fuels for the boiler itself as well as for fuel storage, and for fuel delivery vehicles' access			

Key influencing factors for biomass heat-Economic

high priority (green); average priority (amber); low priority (red)

	Domestic	Tertiary	Industrial
Capital costs for installing biomass heat systems are higher than the coal/oil/gas equivalent systems			
Biomass heat requires slightly more maintenance than oil and gas ones (including for ash disposal and fuel supply), similar to coal systems			
Biomass feedstock costs will increase as competition among the various end uses (heat, electricity advanced biofuels) increases			
Administrative/ transaction costs linked to power grid connection, and the power production licensing process, can be a burden for smaller scale or decentralised projects, where they represent a higher percentage of the investment costs			
Lack of heat revenues in a CHP plant reduces the attractiveness and payback period of such investments			
Efficient biomass heat technologies have high upfront investment costs and lack of affordable financing			
Lack of consistent grant systems targeting biomass heat, CHP, DH			
Lack of incentives for decentralised small to medium scale energy from biomass (heat; CHP, etc.)			
Bioenergy systems are still considered risky investments, and the cost of capital for such projects is thus higher than for other fossil fuel systems			
Low availability of financial assistance in the form of low-interest or no-interest loans, long-term loans, and / or loan guarantees			
Capital costs for installing biomass heat systems are higher than the coal/oil/gas equivalent systems			
Biomass heat requires slightly more maintenance than oil and gas ones (including for ash disposal and fuel supply), similar to coal systems			
Biomass feedstock costs will increase as competition among the various end uses (heat, electricity advanced biofuels) increases			
Administrative/transaction costs linked to power grid connection, and the power production licensing process, can be a burden for smaller scale or decentralised projects, where they represent a higher percentage of the investment costs			

Key influencing factors for biomass heat-Institutional

high priority (green); average priority (amber); low priority (red)

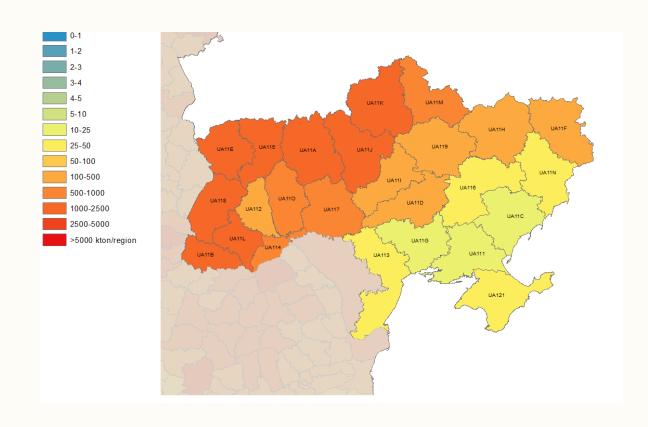
	Domestic	Tertiary	Industrial
Lack of harmonisation with European standards for biomass and boilers			
Lack of secure, reliable regulatory framework conditions for biomass heat over a medium/longer term			
Lack of long-term targeted (e.g. heat premium, investment grants, etc.) economic incentives in place for biomass heat and electricity			
Limited availability of affordable high efficiency boilers in local market			
Low level of local knowledge and experience on operation and maintenance of biomass to heat and power systems prevents market development			
Administrative process is complicated and lengthy for the construction of new heat facilities			
Concentration of small scale biomass heat cause pollution (especially in urban areas) with potential consequences on public health			
In the case of large quantities of biomass needed, the fuel delivery can create additional traffic-induced noise and emissions (notably when compared to gas)			
Implementation of heat consumption metering is low			
Implementation of heat consumption metering per building does not provide incentives for energy efficiency in dwellings			
Scarcity and inconsistency of data on the availability, typology and geographical distribution of various biomass resources constrains investments			
Fragmented and unreliable data on biomass consumption hinder the development of concrete and realistic targets and create difficulties to the international reporting for biomass consumption for energy use			
Significant effort is required across the region to improve national statistics on buildings, heat as well as integration of respective questions to the Census procedures			
Low awareness across stakeholders groups from policy, supply and demand for cost efficient biomass technologies and the related benefits			

Availability of forest & agricultural biomass estimated by S2Biom

Forest biomass: Which types are included?

Forest biomass in this analysis includes:

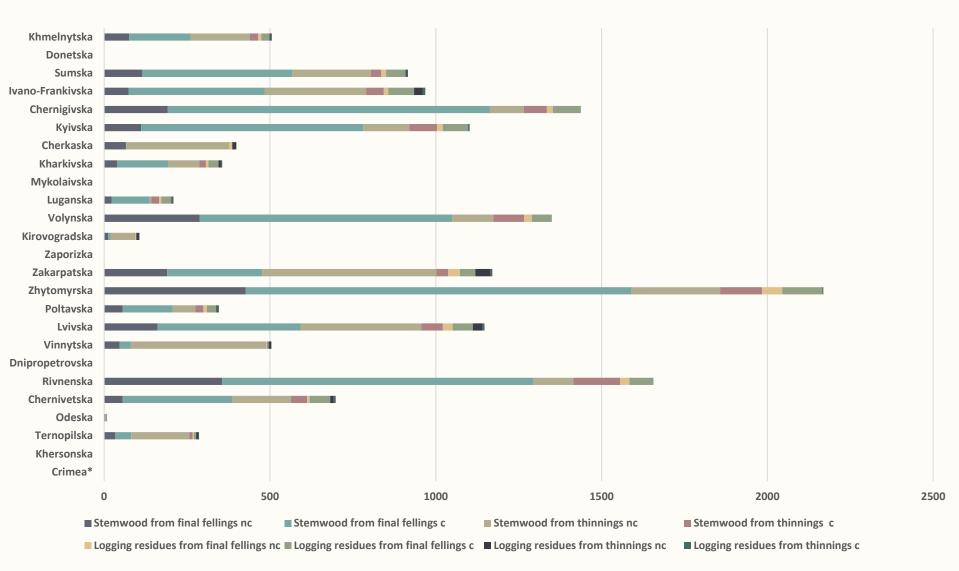
- i) primary forestry production from thinnings & final fellings, stem and crown biomass from early thinnings,
- ii) primary forest residues from logging residues and stumps from final fellings,
- iii) secondary forest residues from wood industries (sawmill and other wood processing).



Forest biomass sustainable potentials

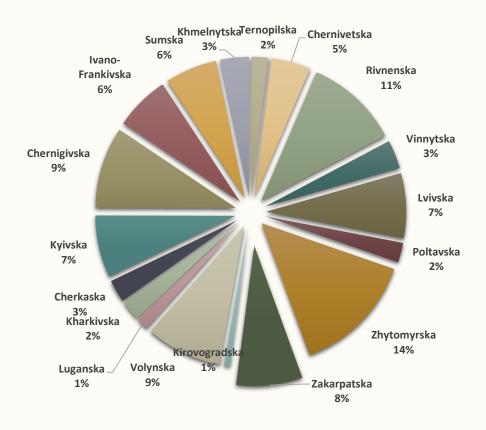
- Total estimated sustainable potential can reach up to 17.14m dry tonnes/ year
- Primary forestry production is estimated at 12.3m dry tonnes/ year
- Primary forest residues are estimated at 1.82m dry tonnes/ year
- Secondary forest residues are estimated at 3m dry tonnes/ year

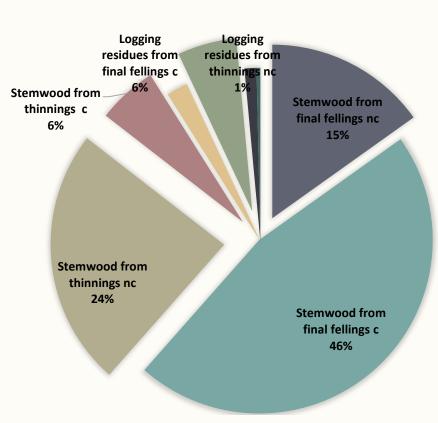
Forest biomass availability in Ukrainian regions by 2020 ('000 dry tonnes/ year)



c: conifers; nc: non conifer species

Forest biomass availability in Ukraine in 2020 by region and forest biomass type

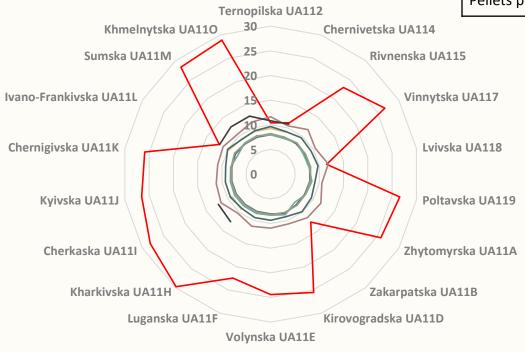


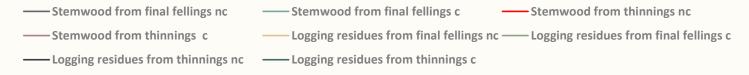


Costs* and market prices of feedstocks

(€/t dry matter; including VAT)

Туре	Price (€/t dry matter) including VAT		
Wood chips	25		
Pellets loose	40		
Pellets packed	50		



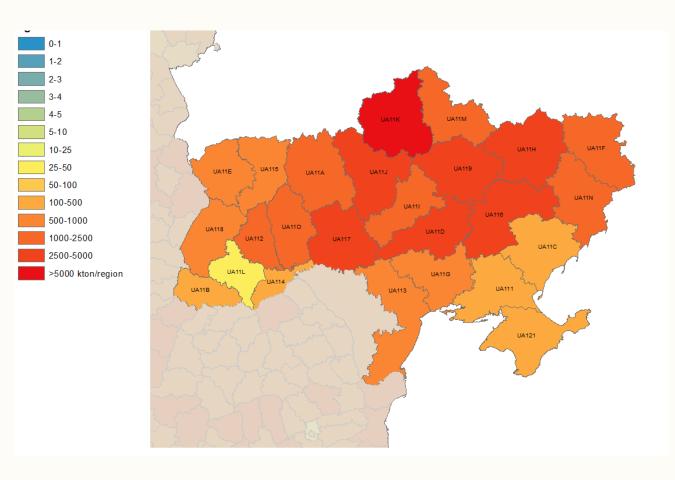


^{*} Costs in figure refer to roadside production costs

Agricultural biomass: Which types are included?

Agricultural biomass in this analysis includes:

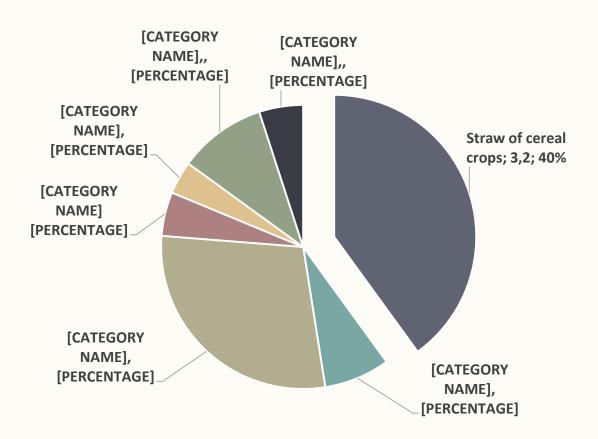
- i. agricultural biomass includes straw & stubbles;
- ii. woody pruning & orchards residues;
- iii. grassland cuttings not used for feed purposes;
- iv. biomass from road side verges;
- v. by-products and residues from food and fruit processing industry.



Agricultural biomass sustainable potentials

- Total estimated sustainable potential can reach up to 70m dry tonnes/ year
- agricultural biomass includes straw & stubbles reach up to 43.16m dry tonnes/ year;
- biomass from road side verges can reach up to 0.25m dry tonnes/ year;
- by-products and residues from food and fruit processing industry can reach up to 26.5m dry tonnes/ year

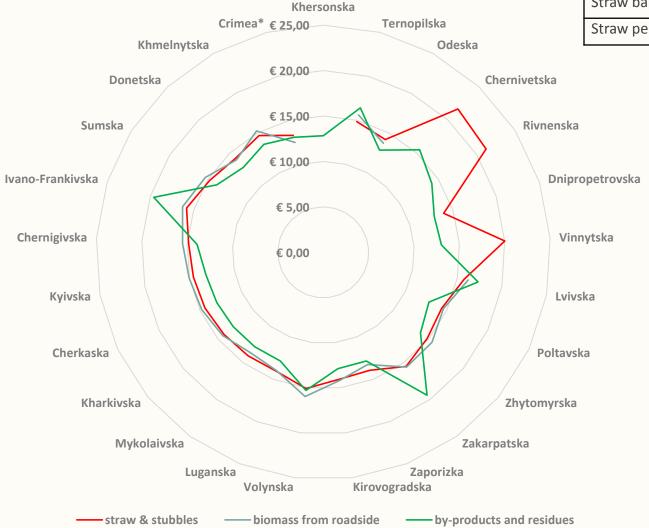
Agricultural biomass availability in Ukraine in 2020 by biomass type



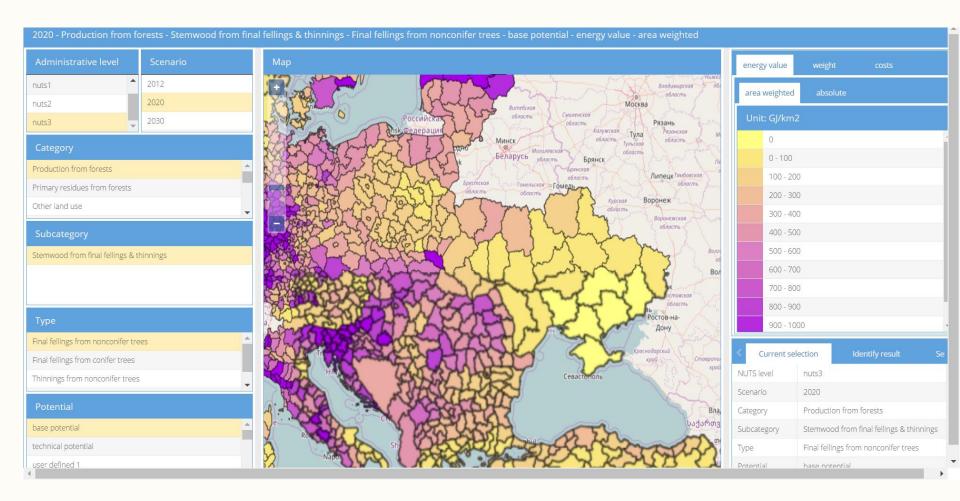
Costs* and market prices of feedstocks

(€/t dry matter; including VAT)

Туре	Price (€/t dry matter) including VAT
Straw bales	30
Straw pellets	40

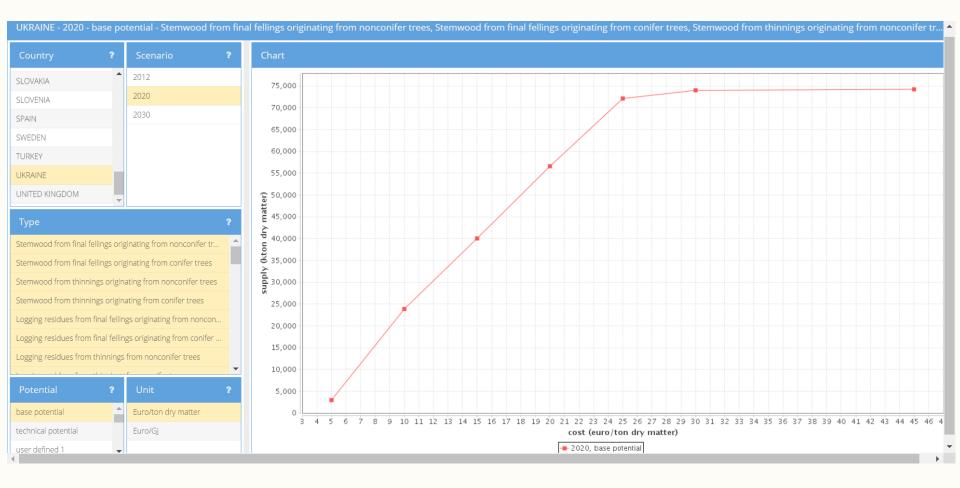


^{*} Costs in figure refer to roadside production costs



More detailed information can be viewed & downloaded

www.s2biom.eu



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www.s2biom.eu

Current policies for biomass heat in Ukraine and EU

Current policies in Ukraine

- At present there are no incentives for biomass heat except for partial state compensation when purchasing domestic biomass boilers (with bank credit) for population.
- The working group attached to the State Agency for Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving is elaborating specific amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On heat supply". The new version of the law will create preconditions for the competitive heat market in the country that in its turn will create favorable conditions for biomass heat development.

The following slides present details of existing policy that influences the biomass heat sector.

Current Ukrainian policy influencing biomass heat from forest, agriculture & dedicated crops

Biomass Supply

Logistics

Conversion

Distribution

End Use

Afforestation and reforestation

Additional activity for development of forestry

Forest Code of Ukraine

Land Code of Ukraine

Law on plant life

Law on Safety for Forestry workers

Sphere of competence of the State Forestry Committee

State Forest Committee validating the form of Certificate of origin of timber and sawn timber for export operations

Law for unprocessed timber of Ukraine N 325-VIII of 09.04.2015

Forests of Ukraine 2002-2015

Certificate timber for export

Alternative Energy Sources

Combined Heat and Power (cogeneration) and Waste Energy Potential

National Renewable Energy Action Plan- NREAP

Law of Ukraine "On Heat Supply" N 4334 of 30.03.2016

Feed-in tariffs

Heat tariffs for domestic sector

Plan of short- and middle-term measures for reducing consumption of natural gas until 2017

GHG-Power Plants cut by 2027

Regulations

Financing

Information

Ukrainian policy for biomass heat (I)

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (CMU) "On stimulation of replacing natural gas in heat supply area"24 (2014) introduced a supporting mechanism for using biomass in heat supply for population. Without the mechanism the use of biomass in this area is not feasible yet due to the artificially low price of NG for population and therefore a low heat tariff. The mechanism consists in covering by the state the difference between the actual heat production tariff and the heat production tariff established for population.

Ukrainian policy for biomass heat (II)

Ukrainian Government elaborated and approved "Plan of short- and middle-term measures for reducing consumption of natural gas until 2017". One of main activities planned is replacement of natural gas by renewable energy sources, the major of which is biomass. Among others the Plan envisages the following measures:

- The state will partly cover credits raised by entities for purchasing energy-saving equipment including heat-generating equipment running on any fuel except for NG (2015-2017).
- The state will partly cover credits raised by population for purchasing energy-efficient equipment and materials (2015-2017).
- The state will provide guarantee of credits raised by entities for the implementation of projects aimed at reduction or replacement of natural gas consumption (2015-2017).
- Definition of "biomass" in Ukrainian legislation will be harmonized with that in the European Directive 2009/28/EC.
- Technical specifications for the admission of biomethane into Ukraine's gas-transport system will be elaborated; stimulating mechanisms for the production and consumption of biomethane will be developed.

Ukrainian policy for biomass heat (III)

- An important draft law "On amending the Law of Ukraine "On Heat Supply" as for encouraging heat production from alternative energy sources" (N 4334 of 30.03.2016) was adopted in the first reading on 22.09.2016.
- The core of the draft law is that heat tariff for alternative fuels (including biomass) for the consumers financed from the state and local budgets and also for population is fixed at 90% of the existing heat tariff for natural gas. Consequently, biomass to heat and power plants are expected to become more competitive than fossil fuel ones.

Policy mechanisms for biomass heat in EU

- Most common policy mechanism in EU for biomass heat is investment support through direct subsidies and low interest loans.
- Austria and Finland are the top Member States for design, implementation and monitoring biomass heat policy mechanisms which have high effectiveness on market deployment.
- Tailored support, in the form of tax reliefs, feedstock premiums and/ or technology prioritisation through efficiency and emissions grading, is required to foster:
 - mobilisation of dedicated feedstock types, such as agricultural and forest residues streams as well as biowastes;
 - market uptake of new, high efficiency boilers and CHP systems.
- Biomass heat policy must also consider energy efficiency policies and that future frameworks should be designed to act synergistically with them.

The following slide provides an overview of the main policy mechanisms applied in EU countries for the uptake of biomass heat.

Overview of policy mechanisms for biomass heat in EU

Member State	Tax relief	Subsidy	Low-interest loan	District heat support	Energy- based payment	Obligation in public sector buildings	Obligation in new-build (or renovated) buildings
Austria							
Belgium							
Bulgaria							
Cyprus							
Czech Republic							
Denmark							
Estonia							
Finland							
France							
Germany							
Greece							
Hungary							
Ireland							
Italy							
Latvia							
Lithuania							
Luxembourg							
Malta							
Netherlands							
Poland							
Portugal							
Romania							
Slovenia							
Slovakia							
Spain							
Sweden							
UK							

Overview of successful policy mechanisms for biomass heat in EU Member States Regulations Financing Information

Country	Policy mechanisms (regulations, financing, information)	Key success factors
Germany: Three policy mechanisms work hand in hand to increase renewable heat and achieve the 14% RES target in 2020 in Germany.	overall energy efficiency and energy savings. The Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) requires to use a minimum of 60% of the waste heat from electricity production. Within this, the Renewable Energies Heat Act (EEWärmeG) obliges a part of heating and cooling demand of buildings to be covered by renewable energies. The obligation concerns new erected buildings, existing public buildings as well as fundamentally renovated buildings. Regarding biomass the obligation is fulfilled if 50% of the final heat consumption is covered by liquid or solid biomass, which is used in high efficiency boilers. Alternatively, gaseous biomass can be used to cover 30% of the final heat consumption, if it is used for combined heat and power production. The repayment bonus from the market incentive program (MAP) and the soft loans with low interest rates offered by the public sector bank KfW f encourages realisation of biomass heating plants, biogas pipelines and heat storages.	Complementarity between energy efficiency and renewable energy measures. Synchronisation and alignment of regulatory and financing mechanisms. Exogenous success factors include: high level of available forestry resources and a strong biomass industry in terms of suppliers, manufacturers, etc.
Spain	BIOMCASA II Resolution dated December 12, 2012, establishing the regulatory basis and call for the authorization of collaborating companies in the programme for the implementation of projects on the use of biomass for heating in buildings (BIOMCASA II) [1]. The Biomcasa II programme is a continuation of the Biomcasa programme. The aim of the programme is to establish a funding mechanism that promotes quality and is tailored to the specific needs of users of biomass systems. Private or public companies dealing in the supply and installation of biomass systems and Energy Service Companies may participate in this scheme and gain access to funding, as long as they can demonstrate a certain level of quality in technical services and organisational structure. The total available budget of the programme is EUR 5 million. 100% of the project costs can be covered, but there is a maximum limit of EUR 350,000 per individual projectand a maximum of EUR 1 million per qualified company.	

Overview of successful policy mechanisms for biomass

heat in EU Member States

Regulations

Financing

Information

Country	Policy mechanisms (regulations, financing, information)	Key success factors
Netherlands	Energy Investment Allowance (EIA): Biomass fired boilers or energy efficient cogeneration plants intended for the heating of buildings or processes are eligible for tax deduction. The amount of tax credit may be up to 41.5% of the total investments made in renewable energy or energy-efficiency technologies within one year. Since 2012, the SDE+ scheme also grant a premium on top of the market price to the producers of renewable heat.	High percentage of tax credit stimulates high efficiency technologies. Tax credits and direct premiums are considered as strong stimulation mechanisms when the markets are well developed and there is high awareness
Austria	Energy Fund-Subsidy scheme wood heating. CHP Act: The annual support budget until 2020 is 12 billion Euro per year. Thereof, 7 billion Euro are reserved for plants in industrial and commercial enterprises. Eligible are newly constructed as well as existing plants being modernized, provided that the modernisation costs amount to at least 50% of the entire cost for a new station. Rural Development Programme for Austria: One of the priorities is resource efficiency and climate. Under this topic, investments in new biomass heat and CHP plants and heat grids, renovation of existing plants, measures to improve the efficiency of heat grids and facilities for the production for biomethane and biogas not intended for electricity generation are supported by investment subsidies. "Environmental Assistance in Austria" ("UFI") programme: Investment grants depend on the technology and the size of the facility: i) a flat rate of de minimis support is calculated. "De minimis" allows for aid up to € 200,000 to be provided from public funds over a period of three years; or ii) 'standard reimbursement rate' which mostly amounts to 25% of the environment-related investment costs and can be increased through awards (sustainability and gas-cleaning awards, etc.) to a maximum of 35%. Climate & Energy Fund (Klima- und Energiefonds): investment subsidy depends on the type of system being installed and the one being replaced and ranges from 500 Euro to 2,000 Euro. Only pellet and wood chip heating systems are eligible for funding.	

Overview of successful policy mechanisms for biomass

heat in EU Member States

Regulations Financing

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Country	Policy mechanisms (regulations, financing, information)	Key success factors
Finland	Heat bonus in CHP: The main support mechanism for heat produced from RES, is a "heat bonus" allocated to CHP plants working on biogas and forest fuel. In addition to that, various investment supports are made available. Also fossil fuels in heat production have to pay CO2 taxes. Dedicated support for farmers, including both solid biomass and biogas plants (Regulation No. 855/2013: The aid can be in the form of either a state investment subsidy, lowered interest rates for loans or state acting as a guarantee for a loan. The exact amount of subsidy varies from the action supported, details for each action are provided in the annex of the Regulation No. 855/2013.	Direct premiums in the form of bonus are considered as strong stimulation mechanisms when the markets are well developed and there is high awareness. This on to with taxation for fossil based heat generation shifts interest towards biomass. Exogenous success factors include: strong position of the forestry sector and the available (and leading) capabilities of innovations in this area.
UK	The Renewable Heat Initiatives (RHI), introduced in 2011 in the UK, initially only applied to non-domestic installations in the public, industrial and business sectors. Since 2013, the scheme is also open for the residential sector where the eligible applications include biomass boilers, solar water heating and certain heat pumps. Payments are made for 7 years and are based on the amount of renewable heat made by the heating system.	During 2011, the number of anaerobic digesters in the UK rose by about a third to 78, not counting those used in the wastewater treatment industry. The reason for this surge in interest is the implementation of the new legislation Renewable Heat Incentives" (RHI) to promote renewable heat.

Recommendations for future policy interventions to stimulate biomass heat uptake in Ukraine

The following slides provide an overview of the main recommendations per feedstock and selected heat market segments in domestic, industrial and tertiary sectors.

Recommended policy interventions for biomass heat from forest feedstocks | Regulations | Financing | Information |

Market segment	Value chain	Suggested policy interventions		Barrier/ gap/ specific challenge the intervention will address		Added value expected from their implementation	
		Early markets	Mature markets	Early markets	Mature markets	Early markets	Mature markets
Households	Residential wood chips boilers - small scale (10 kW)	Coans Credit lines Investment grants	Certification/ Standardisatio n	Market is not developed High shares of	Good integration of efficient stoves	Develop the market Share the	Mobilise indigenous resources with low
Services	Wood chip boilers- large size (50 kW)	Capacity building	Premiums targeting specific indigenous feedstocks	low & polluting stoves used	Competition for feedstock requires measures to mobilise other indigenous biomass streams	costs with medium to low income population in rural areas	competition from non- energy industries
Industry	CHP using solid biomass > 10 MW CHP using solid biomass 0.5 - 10 MW	Investment grants	Feed in premiums with banding for feedstock choice Technology & innovation bonus prioritising agricultural biomass stream	Market is not developed	Mobilise unused biomass streams with low competition	Develop the market	

Recommended policy interventions for biomass heat

from agricultural feedstocks

Regulations

Financing

Information

Market	Value chain	Suggested poli	cy interventions	Barrier/ gap/ specific challenge		Added value expected from	
segment				the intervention will address		their implementation	
		Early markets	Mature markets	Early markets	Mature	Early markets	Mature
					markets		markets
Households	Straw and agricultural	Feedstock	Certification/	There is no or	Good market	Develop the	Mobilise
Services	residues for small	premium	Standardisation	very low market	development	market	indigenous
	scale local heating			uptake for straw	for agricultural		resources with
	plant (0.15 MW)	Capacity	Premiums	and agricultural	residues	Provide	low
		building	targeting	residues		renewable	competition
			specific		Competition	energy heating	from non-
			indigenous	Lack of	for feedstock	option to rural	energy
			feedstocks	knowledge on	requires	populations	industries
				straw for	measures to		
				bioenergy	mobilise other	Support	
					indigenous	income	
					biomass	diversification	
					streams	for farmers	
Industry	Straw and agricultural		Feed in	Lack of	Competition		
	residues for CHP > 10	premium	premiums with	infrastructure for	for feedstock		
	MW		banding for	straw storage	requires		
		Investment	feedstock choice	and logistics	measures to		
	5:	grant for			mobilise other		
Utility	Direct co-firing coal	biomass	Technology &)	indigenous		
	process	trade centers	innovation		biomass		
			bonus		streams		
		Capacity	prioritising				
		building	agricultural)			
			biomass stream				

Recommended policy interventions for biomass heat in selected segments of domestic, tertiary and industry sectors

Regulations

Financing

Information

Market segment	Value chain	Suggested policy interventions		Barrier/ gap/ specific challenge the intervention will address		Added value expected from their implementation	
		Early markets	Mature markets	Early markets	Mature	Early markets	Mature
					markets		markets
Domestic	Residential batch fired	Loans	Certification/	Market is not	Good	Develop the	Mobilise
	logwood stove for heat	Credit lines	Standardisation	developed	integration of	market	indigenous
	(10-20 kW)	Investment			efficient stoves	Share the costs	resources with
	Residential wood chips	grants	Premiums	High shares of		with medium	low
	boilers - small scale (10		targeting	low & polluting	Competition	to low income	competition
	kW)	Capacity	specific	stoves used	for feedstock	population in	from non-
Tertiary	Wood chip boilers-	building	indigenous		requires	rural areas	energy
	large size (50 kW)	'	feedstocks		measures to		industries
	Local heating plant for				mobilise other indigenous		
	straw small scale (0.15				biomass		
	MW)				streams		
					Streams		
Industry	CHP using solid	Investment	Feed in	Market is not	Improve	Certification/	Increase
	biomass > 10 MW	grants	premiums for	developed	efficiencies in	Standardisatio	mobilisation of
	CHP using solid		electricity		existing plants	n	unused
	biomass 0.5 - 10 MW			Technologies			resources
)	Capacity	Technology	have low	Add new	Premiums	streams and
	Waste combustion -	building	and/ or	efficiencies	capacities in	targeting	reduce
	heat only		innovation		existing plants	specific	competition
	Pyrolysis oil in CHP		bonus		_	indigenous	with non-
	combustion engine				Diversify	feedstocks	energy
	Pyrolysis oil production				feedstock		markets

Concluding remarks

- Policy mechanisms should cover two or more value chain steps to ensure they facilitate uptake and market development.
- The most common combination in biomass heat is expenditure measures for the conversion part with simultaneous support at local/ regional levels for farmers and foresters to develop/ improve the supply chains on site (e.g. biomass trade centers, provision of equipment such as chippers, pelletisers, etc.).
- Loans, credit lines and investment subsidies are very effective for the development of new
 market capacity. In countries with low market development of resource (appropriate
 seasoning of forest biomass, etc.) and energy efficient (modern boilers, stoves) biomass heat,
 they function better if they are combined with information provision activities such as
 capacity building, awareness campaigns, etc.
- Taxation in the form of tax credits for biomass or tax for the fossil fuel counterpart (e.g. heating oil, etc.) is an effective mechanism once the market is established but requires careful monitoring and periodic adjustments.
- Premiums are effective only in mature markets with high awareness and provide a means for policy makers to refine both the market sub segments (e.g. residential boilers, specific scales of CHP with certain feedstocks, etc.) and the scales to be promoted.

Further reading

- www.s2biom.eu
- http://s2biom.alterra.wur.nl/web/guest/biomass-characteristics
- http://s2biom.alterra.wur.nl/web/guest/country-downloads
- http://uabio.org/en/
- http://www.s2biom.eu/en/publications-reports/s2biom.html

Assessment of sustainable lignocellulosic feedstock potentials in the Ukraine and perspective conversion pathways, including recommendations for the strengthening of the biomass market FINAL



Project coordinator



Scientific coordinator

Imperial College London

Project partners

































































