

PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES: BIOMASS IN AGRICULTURE

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

International conference ***Promoting Renewable Energy Sources: Biomass in Agricultural Production***, which will take place on **May 12, 2015 in Serbia** (Master Center, Novi Sad Agricultural Fair, Novi Sad), is being organized as an important segment of a larger pioneering initiative, that has been launched in 2014, to promote the production and usage of biomass as a source of energy in the region of Vojvodina, particularly within agricultural production.

Even though, biomass has become the most important to the study of the potential of renewable energy sources in the Republic of Serbia, and particularly in its northern region of Vojvodina, farmers, representatives of relevant institutions and organizations, as well as the general public are not sufficiently informed and aware of possibilities and opportunities of using biomass energy.

Having this in mind, the main aim of the forthcoming International Conference is to convey factual and relevant information and data about the costs and benefits of biomass production and usage by farmers, as well as to present best practice experiences and models that could be implemented in the near future, such are energy villages. In addition, the important aim of the Conference is to also put this discussion in the framework of the European Union integration processes.

Therefore, the Conference will focus on the following specific themes and issues:

- The importance, viability and potential of biomass usage
- European Union integration processes as an opportunity to increase the usage of renewable energy sources
- Presentation of comparative case studies on benefits of using biomass as opposed to fossil fuels, in agricultural production
- Energy villages and energy cooperatives
- Presentation of the cooperation between Serbia and Baden-Württemberg region in Germany
- Presentation of financial instruments of the Guarantee Fund of AP Vojvodina for facilitating the production and usage of biomass from agricultural production in Vojvodina

The overall initiative, as well as the International Conference, is being implemented by the **Guarantee Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina**, in partnership with the **Heinrich Böll Foundation**, **German International Cooperation –GIZ** and **European Affairs Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina** , and under the patronage of the **Provincial Secretary for Energy and Mineral Resources** of the province of Vojvodina.

