

ENRD Thematic Group on European Green Deal in Rural Areas

Third meeting - Webinar

Agenda

26 February 2021

Energy consumption in the agriculture sector alone makes up 3.2% of total energy consumption in the EU-27. While the sector's energy consumption has been steadily decreasing between 1998 and 2018, this trend has been declining at a slower rate since 2008. Fossil fuels continue to be the main source of fuel consumed by the agriculture sector accounting for about 56% of total energy consumption in 2018, although the share of energy from electricity and renewables and biofuels has been increasing over the last 20 years.¹ There are many opportunities to further reduce the energy consumption of farms or rural enterprises which may significantly increase their competitiveness and resilience. Agriculture and forestry also present significant potential to produce renewable energy as a by-product or complementary activity. Hence farmers and foresters have a potential double role as energy users and suppliers.

The meeting will focus on the synergies between the EU objectives on clean energy and CAP objectives. Specific attention will be given to the role and opportunities of primary producers in the energy transition, as actors of integrated and multifunctional agro-energy or forest-energy ecosystems.

In addition to sharing examples of European good practices and promising initiatives contributing to the clean energy transition and CAP objectives, the meeting will discuss the barriers and enablers to replicating and upscaling them, and the possibilities of using CAP interventions to address them.

Aims

- Identify the role of the CAP in promoting clean energy initiatives in the sector;
- Present good practices and inspiring examples of multifunctional clean energy initiatives in agriculture and forestry;
- Contribute to the drafting of a TG factsheet on promoting clean energy transition through the CAP Strategic Plans.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Agri-environmental_indicator_-_energy_use



Timing 🕒	26 February 2021 Preliminary Agenda Items
10:00	<i>Registration – virtual meeting room open</i>
10:30 – 10:40	Opening and objectives of the day
10:40 – 12:00	<p>Energy transition in agri-food and forestry value chains: The role of farmers and foresters Introduction on key opportunities for farmers - Alexander Bachler, COPA-COGECA</p> <p>Experiences of multifunctional clean energy initiatives in agriculture and forestry: Win-win examples of agri-photovoltaics solutions – Miguel Herrero, SolarPower Europe Rural biogas for transport fuel – video by ENRD and Swedish Rural Network, SE Developing small scale biogas digesters in Flanders – Inès Verleden, Inagro, BE Olive by-products into energy - Caterina Venturini, Peccianti farm, IT</p>
12:00 – 12:30	<p>Discussion on opportunities for farmers and foresters in small groups Introductory presentations in the groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Austerland Energy, Wolfgang Brunner, SE - Heat entrepreneurship and district heating, Johanna Punkari, FI - Bioenergy in Pays de Condruses LAG, Jean-Francois Pecheur, BE
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:30	<p>Enabling sustainable energy transition in agriculture and forestry Role of the CAP in promoting clean energy initiatives – Lara Blake and Penelope Vlandas, DG AGRI</p> <p>How to promote clean energy transition through the CAP Strategic plans Austrian views – Gottfried Lamers, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, AT Polish views – Nina Dobrzyńska, director of the Department of Climate and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development, PL</p>
14:30 – 15:00	Discussion on support needs in small groups
15:00 -15:15	Wrapping up
15:15 – 15:30	Next steps and closing of the meeting

