

# FIUSIS – Electricity production from olive tree pruning in Apulia Region (Italy)

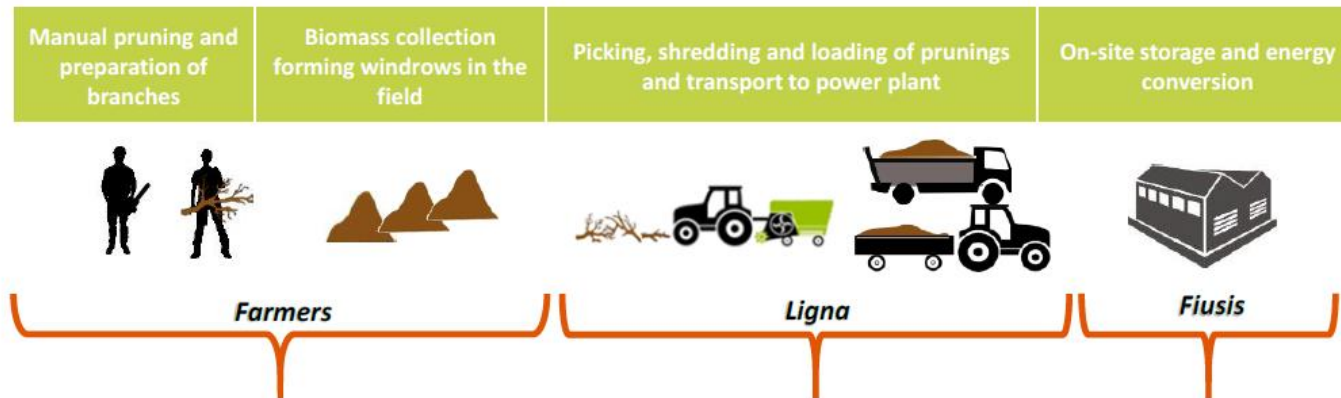


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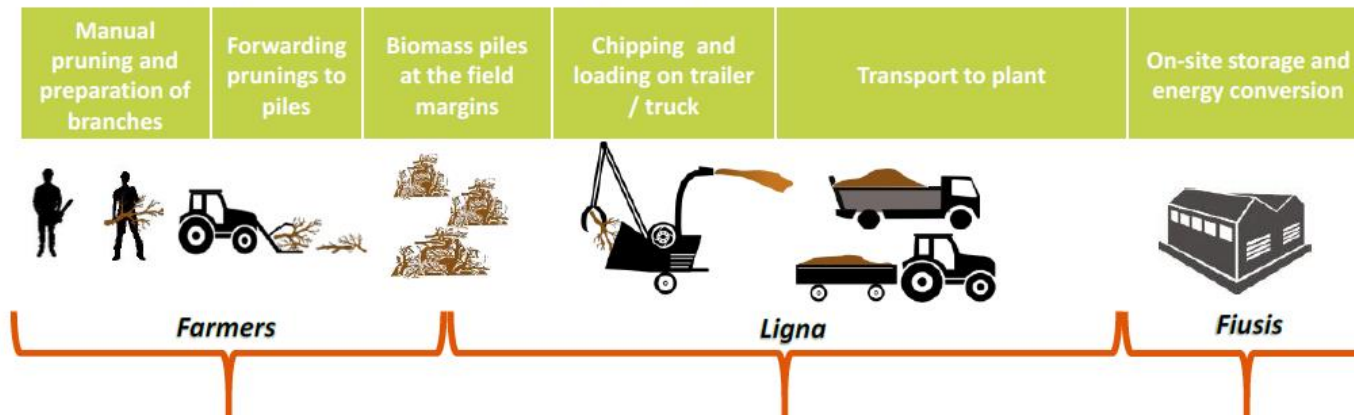
FIUSIS at a glance	
Location	Calimera, Apulia Region, Southern Italy
Type of biomass	Pruning
Crop species	Olives
Year of initiation	2010
Volume of biomass mobilized	8,000 t/y
Surface area with permanent crops mobilized	2,400 – 2,700 ha in total (800 - 900 ha per year due to every three-year pruning frequency)
Maximum radius of operation	10 km
Main production	Electricity
Number of jobs created	2017: 6 (permanently operating in the energy plant) + 10 (seasonally employed in pruning harvesting and transport) 2019: 30 + 5 new in the close future
Total investment	8 M€ (no public funds used)

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*Value chain 1: for fields < 400 trees, open-air storage on field*



*Value chain 2: for fields > 400 trees, direct transport to power plant*



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## Key success factors

- ✓ New jobs created for the locals
- ✓ Pollution reduction → by providing a viable alternative to uncontrolled and free open field burning of pruning, involving more and more farmers of the neighbouring municipalities
- ✓ Awareness raising around the opportunities for local development provided for by renewable energy technology and the reuse of agricultural waste, also involving students
- ✓ Promotion of cultural and social activities



## Key challenges faced

- ✓ Lack of legal framework able to support innovative initiatives (*e.g. marketing of biomass ash as a fertilizer*)
- ✓ Mismatch between the needs of innovative projects and the timing of policy making
- ✓ Overcoming old farmers' habits (pruning burning vs collection)