

Newsletter IEA Bioenergy Task 37: 6/2016

Reports and more

Decarbonization of transport towards 2030

The European Biofuels Technology Platform (EBTP) held its 7th Stakeholder Plenary Meeting in Brussels. The focus of this event was on the role of biofuels towards 2030 as an essential decarbonization option. The aim was to discuss with participants the decarbonizing alternatives for the transport sector as well as latest developments in the biofuel research and technology sector. All the contributions and short abstracts can be downloaded including those of IEA Bioenergy and IEA AMF members.

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BP World statistical review 2016

Global primary energy consumption increased by just 1.0% in 2015. Oil accounted for 32.9% of global energy consumption and coal for 29.2%, natural gas followed with 23.8%. Renewable energy used in power generation grew by 15.2% but showed a record increment (+213 TWh), which was roughly equal to all of the increase in global power generation. Renewables accounted for 6.7% of global power generation with China (+20.9%) and Germany (+23.5%) recording the largest increments. Globally, wind energy (+17.4%) remains the largest source of renewable electricity (52.2% of renewable generation). Solar power generation grew by 32.6%, with China (+69.7%), the US (+41.8%) and Japan (+58.6%). China overtook Germany and the US to become the world's top generator of solar energy. Global biofuels production grew by just 0.9%, well below the 10-year average of 14.3%: Brazil (+6.8%) and the US (+2.9%) accounted for essentially all of the net increase, partly offset by large declines in Indonesia (-46.9%) and Argentina (-23.9%).

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Renewables 2016 Global Status Report

REN 21 published its newest report on renewable energies throughout the world. The year 2015 was an extraordinary one for renewable energy, with the largest global capacity additions seen to date. An estimated 147 GW of renewable power capacity was added in 2015, the largest annual increase ever, while renewable heat capacity increased by around 38 GWth and total biofuels production also rose. This growth occurred despite tumbling global prices for all fossil fuels, ongoing fossil fuel subsidies and other challenges facing renewables, including the integration of rising shares of renewable generation, policy and political instability, regulatory barriers and fiscal constraints. Global investment also climbed to a new record level.

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IEA Bioenergy Workshop on “Mobilising sustainable bioenergy supply chains”

A workshop in collaboration with GSE, FAO and IRENA was held in Rome, Italy on the 17th May 2016. Fourteen invited speakers gave presentations in three sessions on biomass perspectives and mobilization; case studies and strategies showing synergies in food and energy production and biogas and applications. Four contributions highlighted the use of different substrates around the globe including industrial waste water in Thailand, catch crops in Italy, palm oil effluents in Malaysia and grass and macro algae from Ireland presented by Jerry Murphy, the Leader of Task 37.

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