
International Study Tour took place in Sweden



The SRCplus project organised an International Study Tour on 20-23 January 2015 in Uppsala, Sweden. The study tour helped to exchange experience on short rotation coppice (SRC) production and utilisation among farmers, public land owners and users of woodchips. 30 participants from 8 European countries joined the study tour to learn more about good practices of SRC in Sweden. The participants visited several SRC plantations, the combined power plant “ENA Energi” next to willow fields, the farmer’s cooperative “Salixodlarna” as well as the company “Läppe EnergiTeknik” which produces pellets from willow SRC.

[Presentations and more information on the International Study Tour](#)

Video on the Bioenergy Region Achenal

The “Ökomodell Achenal”, the bioenergy region Achenal and Biomassehof Achenal have



received several environmental awards for sustainable development in the region. Groups of visitors from all over the world come to learn from their experience.

The SRCplus project partner Biomassehof Achenal contributed to a television broadcast about the Achenal region. It was shown on 01.03.2015 in the regional programme of Bavaria, the [BR Bayerisches Fernsehen TV programme](#).

SRCplus activities in Croatia



The International scientific and expert conference “Natural resources, green technology and sustainable development” was held in Zagreb on 26-28 November 2014. More than 200 participants from 14 countries attended the conference where in two consecutive days 70 papers and 58 posters were presented during plenary and parallel sessions. The main focus of the conference was the promotion of sustainable natural resources management as the prerequisite of rural and regional development. Sustainable nature resources together with low

environmental impact technologies contribute to sustainable development. Within the Biomass and sustainability session, the SRCplus project was also presented. The presentation was held on “*Optimising the environmental sustainability of short rotation coppice biomass production for energy*”. The objective was to present sustainability criteria and recommendations for short



rotation woody crops identified within the SRCplus project to the scientific community and forestry experts as well as to facilitate discussion on this topic. The presentation was based on the review paper of the same title, published in South - East European Forestry journal “SEEFOR” ([Download the paper](#)). SEEFOR is an open-access, peer-reviewed, international journal of forest science.

In addition, an article on the [SRCplus International Study Tour](#) in Sweden, which was organized in January 2015, was published in the Croatian Forest Magazine. The article is available for the stakeholders in Croatian ([Download the article](#)).

Sustainability criteria for SRC in the Czech Republic



The report on sustainability criteria for SRC in the Czech Republic was published. The general information about the sustainability criteria for SRC came from the general guideline elaborated by the SRC consortium. The national document focuses on the specific situation in the Czech Republic. The first specificity for the Czech Republic is that the most suitable lands for SRC are agricultural lands normally used for annual crops. The second specificity is that it is not possible to grow SRC under the electric power lines over 22 kV and the third specificity is that SRC could be cultivated especially in areas with a high risk of erosion in case of compliance with special silvicultural technology. The report is

available in Czech and contains a short summary in English ([Download the report](#)).

Training courses on sustainable SRC plantations in Latvia



In collaboration with the Latvian University of Agriculture (LUA), “Silava” organised a one day training courses on SRC plantation for young farmers and foresters.

Students of LUA were introduced with SRC growing opportunities on agricultural lands. The first half day was spent on the field to showcase the main short rotation tree species under real conditions in Latvia. Hybrid aspen planted in different densities with other agricultural crops were shown. Opportunities to harvest such designed plantings with different technologies and potential yields as well as predicted economic impacts were discussed. Young farmers and foresters had an opportunity to directly get in touch with researchers of the Latvian State

Forest Research Institute "Silava": with Dr. silv. Dagnija Lazdiņa and with the PhD student in forestry Mr. Martins Zeps.

SRCplus activities in Macedonia

Recently SSA Resen implemented two meetings with regional farmers associations: Association "Prespanski ovostari" and association of agro producers "Blagoj Kotlarovski". The SRCplus project and main activities in Macedonia were presented to the farmers. In addition, the farmers were informed and invited to take participation in the next SRCplus trainings, organized by SSA Resen.

The SRC plus project was presented to the national organization of Secondary Agricultural Schools of Macedonia "Tera-fiton-animal". This organization was invited to cooperate with SSA Resen in the future training activities for public institutions and companies that are potential subjects to be included in SRC supply chains.

Finally, on 6th of May 2015, SSA Resen will participate in the annual national competition of agriculture, where the SRCplus project will be presented.

SRCplus consortium



WIP Renewable Energies, Germany



Biomassehof Achental, Germany



Secondary School Car Samoil - Resen, Macedonia



Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden



Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava, Latvia



Community of Communes of Trièves, France



EIHP, Croatia



EKODOMA, Latvia



CRES, Greece



Energy Agency of the Zlin region, Czech Republic



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