



Dear subscribers,

The “Renewable Energy and Liberalisation in Selected Electricity Markets-Forum (REALISE-Forum)” is pleased to present its newsletter. This first edition describes the project, the participants and the activities. We hope you will enjoy reading the REALISE-Forum news!

## ABOUT REALISE-FORUM

REALISE-Forum focuses on the analysis of support mechanisms for electricity produced from renewable energy sources (RES-e). To this end, the project provides an information and discussion forum for RES stakeholders.

Besides the Environmental Policy Research Centre of the Free University Berlin – FFU Berlin (D), which is coordinating REALISE-Forum, Berliner Energieagentur GmbH (D), the Centre for Energy and Environment of the BI Norwegian School of Management (N), CESI-Ricerca (I), Slovenski E-Forum (SLO) and the Center for Clean Technology and Environmental Policy of the University Twente (NL) implement the project. The international composition of the consortium allows thorough

insights in different support systems. The project partners investigate the experiences gained with feed-in tariffs and tradable green certificates. On this basis, steps for a possibly coordinated European support system will be discussed. The project partners have set up desks in their countries which carry out consultations with major national stakeholders and prepare country reports.

National and international workshops as well as virtual meetings help to exchange information with stakeholders and among the project partners.

The proceedings of these events, results of the project and other relevant documents are available at the project’s website at [www.realise-forum.net](http://www.realise-forum.net).

## NATIONAL DESKS ACTIVITIES

### *Germany*

The German desk first met in Berlin on June 15, 2005. Apart from the German project partners, representatives of the Ministry of Environment, the Federal Energy Agency, two large electric utilities, associations of the RES-sector and environmental advocacy groups participated. The country desk developed a questionnaire on current RES-support systems, liberalisation and perceived need for a coordinated EU approach. A survey was then carried out in late summer 2005. Seventy questionnaires were returned and evaluated. The answers represented the positions of major actors on opportunities and obstacles relating to RES-e. The consultation process culminated in the national hearing held on October 19, 2005.

A second meeting of the German country desk, was held on March 13, 2006. It presented the project’s progress and focused on the Communication of the European Commission of December 2005 “The Support of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources” and the evaluation report concerning the Renewable Energy Act by the German Ministry of Environment.

### *Netherlands*

The stakeholder consultation by the Dutch desk has been conducted by means of an online survey in combination with in depth interviews of major stakeholders. The results have been published in the Dutch country report. The online survey will be repeated in spring 2006 and be followed by a hearing to discuss the overall findings of the Dutch desk.



### **Scandinavia**

The Nordic desk has focused on the stakeholder consultation in the Scandinavian countries. The activities concentrated on building up a dialogue with research institutions from Norway, Denmark and Sweden as well as industrial actors (NordPool, Norsk Hydro, Statnett, Södra Cell, Vattenfall, Greenstream). Various workshops have been organised in cooperation with NordPool on green electricity trading and the future energy system in the Scandinavian countries. Representatives of industry, research, the regulatory body as well as of green certificate trading and CO<sub>2</sub> markets participated.

### **Italy**

The first phase of the Italian national consultation was carried out by CESI-Ricerca with the help of APER (Association of Italian RES-e producers) by sending out a questionnaire to about 300 Italian RES-e stakeholders. The results were presented at the REALISE-Forum meeting with the steering group in Salzburg in September 2005, and in a document drawn up in Italian for national stakeholders.

In the second phase of the consultation, the results of the survey were presented to a smaller number of interested stakeholders - above all RES-e associations and producers - in a hearing organized in Milan on November 15, 2005. The outcome of the survey and the hearing provided the main input for the Italian country report.

### **Slovenia**

The Slovenian desk has concentrated on in depth interviews and intensive consultation with various stakeholder groups. The first meeting of the desk was held in May 2005 with representatives of producers and traders of green electricity, the regulatory body, RES-e consultants and non-governmental organizations. Since then, three national desk workshops have been organized on institutional issues of capacities generating RES-e from biogas, the role of "inclusive governance" in the development of RES-e and perspectives of RES-e produced by wood biomass in Slovenia.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Reports on RES-e Support Mechanisms**

Based on the results of the national consultations, the project partners prepared reports on RES-e support mechanisms. A special emphasis was laid on the analysis of the degree of cohesion of different stakeholder groups on issues such as the effectiveness of national RES support schemes, the willingness to change the schemes in the short term, the kinds of change that should be given

priority and the reasons underlying such reversal. The reports provide an assessment of the positive and negative influences of the energy market structure on RES-e.

The country reports from the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Scandinavia and Slovenia can be downloaded from the REALISE-Forum website.



## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS HELD

### *REALISE-Forum Workshop, Salzburg (Austria), September 26 - 27, 2005*

On September 26 – 27, 2005, REALISE-Forum carried out a workshop in Salzburg (Austria) with the REALISE-Forum steering group. The participants presented their viewpoints on a set of questions concerning national support schemes for RES-e and the feasibility of a strategy for possible harmonization.

### *1<sup>st</sup> International REALISE-Forum Workshop Milan (Italy), December 15 - 16, 2005*

The first international workshop of REALISE-Forum was held in Milan (Italy) on December 15 – 16, 2005. The workshop gave an overview of quota and certificates systems of different countries. The discussions provided some insights of the future role of green certificates and other RES-e support systems in Europe.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS COMING UP

### *2<sup>nd</sup> International REALISE-Forum Workshop Maribor (Slovenia), May 10 - 11, 2006*

The second international workshop of REALISE-Forum, “Experiences with Feed-in Tariffs: Lessons from the German and the Spanish Model for the New Member States” will be held in Maribor (Slovenia) on May 10 – 11, 2006. The workshop focuses on German and Spanish feed-in tariffs and their transferability to Central and Eastern European countries. Further information and registration forms are available at the REALISE-Forum website.

### *Final REALISE-Conference Berlin, November 2 - 3, 2006*

The results of REALISE-Forum will be presented and discussed with a wide international audience at the final conference which is scheduled for November 2-3, 2006 in Berlin.

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