



## MixBioPells: Markets for mixed biomass pellets



At the time small-scale combustion units are used almost only with high quality wood fuels. Since nowadays wood is getting more scarce caused by the growing demand in material and energetic use, alternative solid biofuels like straw, nut shells or olive press cake are experiencing growing interest for energetic use.

In most of the European countries first activities in industrial and public sectors have been started to integrate these alternative solid biofuels. The market integration of alternative biomass pellets is still blocked by various constraints.

The objective of the EU project "MixBioPells" is to identify the constraints and drivers in detail to find promising market introduction concepts for enhancing the market relevance of alternative pellets in Europe. The project includes a monitoring part as well as a promotion and consulting part.

- providing latest market information for alternative biomass pellets
- detection of existing networks or built up of new ones
- developing of fitting market concepts on EU level

Funded by Intelligent Energy Europe



**Contact:**

Thomas Zeng

Deutsches BiomasseForschungszentrum gGmbH DBFZ  
e-mail: thomas.zeng@dbfz.de

[www.mixbiopells.eu](http://www.mixbiopells.eu)

# MixBioPells: Mixed biomass pellets in Europe

## Background

At the time especially in Europe small-scale combustion units are used almost only with high quality wood fuels. Since nowadays wood is getting more scarce caused by the growing demand, alternative solid biofuels like low quality wood, straw or olive press cake are experiencing growing interest for energetic use. In most of the European countries first activities in industrial as well as in public sectors have been started to integrate these alternative solid biofuels. Pelletized biofuels seem to have the best chances due to their vantages like high energy density, similar physical characteristics and easy handling. The market integration of alternative biomass pellets is still blocked by various constraints.

The objective of the EU project "MixBioPells" is to identify the constraints and drivers in detail to find promising market introduction concepts for enhancing the market relevance of alternative pellets in Europe. The project is divided into two main project phases:

### Monitoring part

- Identification of the actual situation concerning several parts of the alternative pellet utilisation to provide consistent information for the promotion part by analyzing the local situation in close cooperation with an industry partner to support the local spreading and feedback and built up of existing networks.

### Promotion and consulting part

- Development of promotion approaches as well as dissemination and communication activities with key actors and target groups.

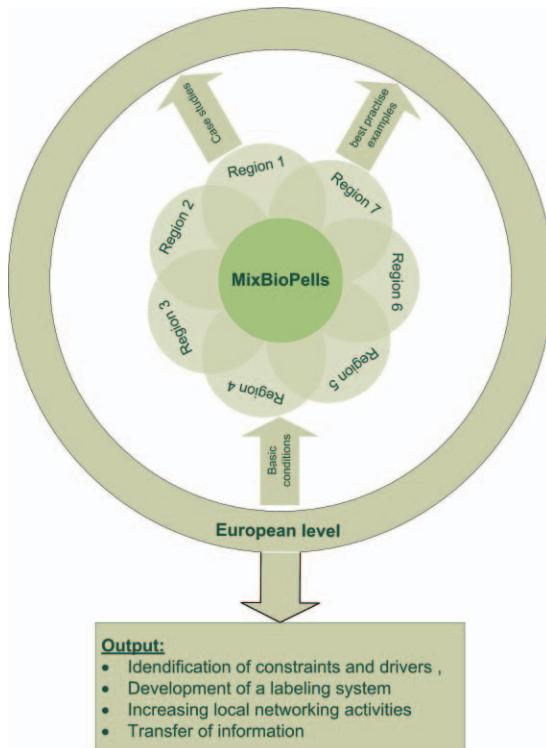
### The Local approach

Since kind and potential of the available raw materials and the local frameworks differ significantly between the European countries and even between the regions of one country, each project partner will concentrate on one region in his country to analyze the local situation. The objectives are:

- detection of existing networks or built up of new ones and
- development of fitting concepts for better market integration of alternative pellets on EU level

The following concerns and obstacles of the key actors have been identified so far:

- Legal frameworks: Key actors do not know the legal frameworks and "grey areas" in law exactly. Partly technical possibilities and requirements which are available to meet emissions limits are not known in detail.



- Emissions and Particulate matter: The laws concerning the particulate matter are very restrictive in several countries like Germany and Austria. Key actors are unsure about the particle emissions from the combustion of different raw materials.
- Corrosion: The fear of increased corrosion and associated high costs for maintenance and repair is very widespread but there are no certainties about the precise costs.

Others: Key actors are uncertain about ash characteristics. The type tests for combustion boilers are strict and expensive, e.g. in Germany and Austria. There are concerns about the profitability of the pellets production facilities and about the availability of raw materials.

The project is funded by the EU: Intelligent Energy Europe

### Contact:

Thomas Zeng

Deutsches BiomasseForschungsZentrum gGmbH (DBFZ)  
Torgauer Straße 116  
04347 Leipzig  
Germany

e-mail: thomas.zeng@dbfz.de  
www.dbfz.de

[www.mixbiopells.eu](http://www.mixbiopells.eu)