

The voice of European Bioenergy

Pellets: local resource to achieve the EU's environmental objectives

Brussels, 17 October 2023 – Bioenergy Europe released today the [2023 Statistical Report Pellets](#) and its [Policy Brief](#). The report analyses the state of play of the pellet sector.

“By harnessing the potential of pellets, we substitute fossil fuels and strengthen our energy security. By relying on a resource that is readily available within our borders, we enhance our resilience to external disruptions, ensuring a stable and consistent energy supply for our citizens” states Bioenergy Europe Secretary General, Jean-Marc Jossart.

The geopolitical crisis and the EU sanctions against Russia made 2022 an exceptional year for the pellet market. Fluctuations in pellet prices significantly grew due to flow disruptions from Russia, Belarus and Ukraine.

Responding to this supply scarcity, many **EU countries reduced their pellet exports and increased their internal production** from 19,83 million tons in 2021 to over 20,5 million tons in 2022 (44% of the world's pellet production), thanks to the opening of 55 new production sites. The European Union maintains its status as world leader with 52% of total consumption.

Pellets are an important component of the defossilisation of the EU economy. It is a sustainable solution which already today displaces fossil fuels and contribute to the EU's climate and energy goals. Considering the demand in the residential and industrial sectors, **there is still significant room for expansion of sustainable pellet production** in Europe.

Government incentives and subsidies for renewable energy can stimulate pellet consumption and some European countries are already implementing policies to promote the use of biomass as part of their decarbonisation strategies. In addition, advancements in pellet production technology, such as improved pelletizing processes and higher-quality standards, can enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of the pellet industry and boost European production.

In this regard, the ENplus® fuel quality certification scheme has been a success for over ten years, ensuring wood pellet quality by guaranteeing it over the entire supply chain (i.e. from production to end-user delivery). In 2022, around 13,6 million tons of pellets were certified by the system in 50 countries all over the world.

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Notes to editors:

- [Bioenergy Europe](#) is the voice of the European bioenergy industry. It aims to develop a sustainable bioenergy market based on fair business conditions. Founded in 1990, Bioenergy Europe is a non-profit, Brussels-based international organisation bringing together more than 40 associations and 150 companies, as well as academia and research institutes from across Europe.
- Bioenergy Europe's [Annual Statistical Reports](#) provide insights on the development of the European bioenergy market in order to support industry leaders, decision-makers, investors and all bioenergy professionals to better understand the status of bioenergy in Europe. With more than 150 graphs and figures, readers can get an in-depth overview of the bioenergy sector in Europe.