

All-rounder for turnover and environment

The BioRegio STERN Management GmbH and the Wirtschaftsförderung Region Stuttgart GmbH (WRS) (Stuttgart Region Economic Development Corporation) sent out invitations to the 7th Brussels Background entitled 'Bio-energy – Out of research. Into practice'. Within the framework of the 'Clean Energy Power' trade fair experts presented and discussed the latest figures and information on the subject of bio-energy.

The Brussels European Office of the Stuttgart Region uses the 'Brussels Background' event series to inform about new developments in the EU. Around 60 scientists, entrepreneurs and politicians took the opportunity to inform themselves at first hand about the state of research into bio-energy and the funding possibilities in the packed Stuttgart Region Lounge at the New Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre. Prof. Dr. Frithjof Staiss, Executive Chairman of the Zentrum für Sonnenenergie und Wasserstoff-Forschung, ZSW (Centre for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research), described the dramatic consequences of climatic changes and the positive effects of renewable energies on economic development. Compared to the year 2004, overall turnover in the industry in Germany had doubled by the year 2006. His contribution made it clear that former heavily-sponsored research-type branches of the economy have now become powerful exporting industries. From a practical point of view, Dr. Andreas Lemmer, Associate of the University of Hohenheim, Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaftliches Maschinen- und Bauwesen (State Institute of Farm Machinery and Farm Structures) spoke on the advantages of biogas. Taking the 'Unterer Lindenhof' biogas research plant as an example, he explained how the 'all-rounder biogas' is manufactured by means of the cooperation between process technology and microbiology.



Bioenergy was also one of the main topics at the „Clean Energy Power“ Trade Fair (Photo:New Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre)
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The increasing demand for energy is a great challenge

One thing is clear: in order to put research results into practice quickly, collaboration between machine and plant constructors,

agricultural technicians and specialists from biotechnology and the energy business is required. The host and Managing Director of BioRegio STERN, Dr. Klaus Eichenberg, therefore emphasised the multidisciplinary nature of the subject. Dr. Eichenberg is convinced that even greater common effort is required before the goals that have been set - namely to produce enough food and energy for every-body from existing resources – can be achieved.

Dr. Hans-Jörg Lutzeyer from the European Commission, who had been invited by the Brussels European Office of the WRS, and Dr. Renata Ch. Feldmann from Project Management Jülich were assured of receiving great attention: Dr. Lutzeyer presented the key data for European research funding, whilst Dr. Feldmann presented the Federal Ministry of Education and Research's 'Bio-Energy 2021' funding programme for research into energy plants and bio-refinery concepts, which is making 50 million euros available.

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