



## Investing in Renewable Energies for Agriculture

In this issue: successful examples of national financing schemes, energy cooperatives and investments that have increased the use of renewable energy in farms and rural communities.

### Organic closed loop farm

Tùlaru farm in Lazio region, Italy, minimises harmful environmental impact by generating energy through solar PV systems, inverted flame wood boiler and thermal composting. This mixed system of renewable energy cuts down energy costs and helps the farm to recycle organic matter, such as pruning residue, branches and wood chips.



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### Polecat Springs Solar PV

The Polecat Springs Water Treatment Plant located in County Roscommon, Ireland, installed a 50kW Solar PV to provide renewable electricity for the plant's pumping operation. During the first seven months of operation, the plant generated 27,000 kWh of electricity. This represents a reduction of more than 8,900 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.



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### Dartmoor Woodfuel Cooperative

In 2009, Dartmoor residents, woodland and biomass boiler owners set up a cooperative that produces fuel from locally sourced wood. The co-op aims to improve cooperation between local boiler installations and



woodland owners, reduce carbon emissions and develop public awareness of renewable energy.

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## RO-Energy Programme

Romanian government has developed an energy programme to increase electrification of off-grid households and communities. This programme, supported by the European Environment Agency and Norway Grants 2014-2021, is open for public and private entities, businesses and NGOs. The total budget allocated for electrification projects is more than 10 million euros.



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## Farm-scale biogas production

The Maccarese farm in Lazio, Italy, has two biogas plants that are fed with by-products derived from farming, such as feed waste, cattle slurry and biomass. The remaining digestate is used as a soil amendment which further promotes circulation of nutrients in the farm.



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## J & M Dairies Solar PV Installation

Dairy farm sites and buildings are often well suited to solar energy, but owners require trusted and independent guidance to explore the appropriate options. The J & M Dairies farm in Tipperary, Ireland, received support from the 3 Counties Energy Agency for grant application and coordination of their Solar PV installation project under the SEAI Better Energy Communities (BEC) Scheme.



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## Successful RE practices in North Karelia

AgroRES project's second interregional event, held at the end of October 2020, focused on renewable energy investments implemented in North Karelia, Finland. The webinar provided knowledge on Eno Energy Cooperative and its woodchip heating plants, Biokymppi biogas plant, joint purchase of solar power and Sirkkala Energy Park testing facility.



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## Assessing renewable energy potential

AgroRES partner regions are currently working on regional self-assessment documents that reveal the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats connected to renewable energy use on farms. Based on these studies, the partner regions can identify the most potential and cost-effective RE technologies for their agricultural sector.



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## News from partner regions

- Stakeholders in Lublin, PL, evaluated good practices on RES. [Read more.](#)
- Webinar held on the positive development in on-shore wind in England. [Read more.](#)
- The community of Extremadura, ES, is updating its Forestry Plan. [Read more.](#)
- Recording of slurry pit gas collection webinar is available. [Read more.](#)
- IT Sligo, IE, hosted a webinar on small-scale renewable electricity projects. [Read more.](#)
- Lazio region, IT, discussed RES and energy efficiency in farming. [Read more.](#)
- Platform for bioenergy and biomass companies launched in Romania. [Read more.](#)

## Upcoming events

- Free webinar on Capturing Carbon in Soil on 1 February 2021. [Read more.](#)
- **Save the date!** On 25 February 2021, [ARSIAL](#) (IT) hosts the project's 3rd Interregional Event to showcase renewable energy investments developed in Lazio region's agricultural sector. More information available soon on AgroRES website.

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