



ENERGY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EU, THE LITTORAL STATES OF THE BLACK & CASPIAN SEAS AND THEIR NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES



**THE INOGATE STUDY TOUR ON BIO-ENERGY,
16-18 October 2012, Slovakia**

**INOGATE Technical Secretariat (ITS) and Integrated Programme in
support of the Baku Initiative and the Eastern Partnership energy
objectives**

Contract No 2011/278827

A project within the INOGATE programme

Implemented by:

Ramboll Denmark A/S (lead partner)
EIR Development Partners Ltd.
The British Standards Institution
LDK Consultants S.A.
MVV decon GmbH
ICF International
Statistics Denmark
Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar

October 2012

1. Study tour concept

1.1 Introduction

Capacity building is a main task of the New ITS Project, relevant to Component C, Sustainable Energy. A number of capacity building activities are planned to benefit partner countries (PC) in areas related to policy and regulation, technical and managerial expertise. Fact finding missions of the inception period helped to outline the key areas of interest for support in capacity building.

The thematic focus of this first study tour is on bio-energy. This event was chosen because a) there is huge interest and activity in the bio-energy sphere in Slovakia, and b) Slovakia is a country in advanced transition, i.e., sharing some common history with the NIS but advancing more quickly than the PCs toward western European standards.

This study tour is arranged first because the opportunity to co-organize it with another experienced organization appeared now. This event allows satisfying a large stakeholder demand learned during inception. The study tour links with a conference on sustainable use of natural energy resources taking place on 16-18 October 2012 in the small rural city of Banská Bystrica in central Slovakia. The conference will cover a range of topics including biomass use in the energy sector, bio-energy sources and facilities from the viewpoint of environmental protection, renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, waste-to-energy and success stories of bio-energy projects. The INOGATE delegation will focus strictly on the bio-energy topics.

The event gathers energy producers, suppliers and consumers, energy managers and entrepreneurs, energy service companies, state regional and municipal authorities, owners and administrators of industrial, business and residential buildings, non-governmental organizations, education and research institutes. In the course of the three days, there are numerous opportunities for participants to network with each other.

INOGATE participants will take guided plant tours of two operating bio-energy installations – a large biogas plant on a farm that cogenerates electricity and heat, and a biomass district heating (DH) plant. The first uses animal waste, and the second uses plant waste.

1.2 Objectives

The overall objective of the study tour is to contribute to improving the investment climate for sustainable energy in the PCs through bio-energy.

The main specific objectives of the study tour are:

- Decision making - to equip participants with improved knowledge and skills for making better investment decisions in the area of bio-energy;
- Best practice - to facilitate transfer of best practices on bio-energy, including biofuels, biomass production and its efficient use to the study tour participants;
- Operations - to improve capacity of the participants to develop and to carry out effective and profitable operations in the area of bio-energy;
- Actual demonstrations- to promote effective approaches and systems for bio-energy including demonstration of working examples.