HEAT WISELY WITH BIOMASS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Biomass supply facts

- The use of biomass for heating in the Western Balkans region could be sustainably increased by about 20%.
- Agricultural waste, which is suitable for district heating use, is most widely available in the Pannonian Basin region, which encompasses the cross-border regions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia.
- Additional supplies could be obtained from woody biomass residues, agricultural waste, and energy crops.
- Most of the woody biomass is already used, with significant potential to increase wood use only in Montenegro and Croatia, and sustainability concerns in Kosovo and Albania.
- Of the total amount of wood chips, briquettes, and pellets produced in the Western Balkans, 62%, 71%, and 71%, respectively, is exported in 2013.
- The amount of abandoned agricultural land is not clearly defined, and the availability and suitability for growing energy crops in the Western Balkans should be further explored.

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