



Welcome to the second newsletter of JELARE

In this edition you can read about past and forthcoming activities of the JELARE project, such as the international networking event held in Florianopolis (Brazil) and the results of a survey carried out to identify needs and gaps for providing labour market-oriented research and teaching in the partner countries. Moreover, we invite you to make a note of the dates for forthcoming public seminars and conferences in Bolivia, Latvia and Chile.

About the JELARE project

JELARE is a co-operation project involving universities from Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Germany, Guatemala and Latvia, funded by the EU programme ALFA III. The aim of JELARE is to foster innovative labour market-oriented educational and research approaches in the field of renewable energies at Latin American and European institutes of higher education.

Fostering Innovative Labour Market-Oriented Educational and Research Approaches in the Field of Renewable Energy at Latin American and European Institutes of Higher Education.

Research and training needs in the renewable energy sector – JELARE survey results

As part of the JELARE project, a set of three surveys have been carried out in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Guatemala as well as in Germany and Latvia. The objectives of these surveys were to

- identify the needs of the labour market regarding education and research in the renewable energy sector,
- to identify training needs of university staff in the renewable energy sector and
- to benchmark renewable energy activities among higher education institutions.

It was seen that – despite different levels of development in the renewable energy sector in the six JELARE countries – there are a number of similar problems and perceived needs by the labour market. Enterprises working in the renewable energy sector have difficulties in recruiting appropriately qualified staff. Enterprises see universities primarily as providers of education and training rather than as research and development partners. The majority of enterprises believe that universities are behind the market needs.



The surveys conducted among higher education institutions also showed some results that are in common for all countries, such as:

1. The staff of the universities involved is conscious of the discrepancy between market reality and academia. This consciousness comes with actual proposals to decrease the existing gap through substantial investments in human resources and in teaching and research infrastructure in the renewable energies field.
2. Furthermore, the need for a better integration with industry

in different fields and activities related to renewable energy has been identified, for example in applied research sponsored by industry, courses and seminars, as well as internship offers for university students.

3. The study also revealed that university staff believes that there must be governmental

financial support for research in renewable energy sources, together with a constant monitoring of the professional trends and market needs.

A comprehensive survey report presents and discusses the survey results in more detail and also highlights the differences between the

partner countries. It concludes with some suggestions for fostering research and education in the renewable energy sector in Latin America and EU higher education institutions. The final survey report will be available soon at www.jelare-project.eu.

International JELARE Networking Workshop held in Brazil

The first 'International JELARE Networking Workshop on Education & Research on Renewable Energy at European and Latin American Universities' was successfully held in Florianópolis, Brazil, on 10th June 2009. More than 120 participants from government agencies, companies and academia gathered to use the opportunity of exchange between regional Brazilian key actors with representatives from higher education institutions from Germany, Latvia, Guatemala, Chile and Bolivia.

The international workshop on renewable energy initiated a new phase of initiatives and research on the study of renewable energy. During an entire day researchers, academics, political authorities from Brazil and abroad discussed the situation of renewable energy in the world and, in particular, approaches and methods to promote renewable energy in the curriculum as well as research and technology transfer activities of universities in Europe and Latin America.

The event was inaugurated by the rector of UNISUL, Prof. Ailton Nazareno Soares, who declared in his speech that renewable energy is one of the most important topics

nowadays and pointed out that the JELARE Workshop raised discussions about environmental questions and consequences for society, as well as creating opportunities to share experiences and initiatives that provide the convergence of projects, programmes and actions for renewable energy.

Prof. Ailton Nazareno Soares also said that for UNISUL the essential role of a university is to contribute to finding solutions to problems which can put human life on the planet at risk, and that the argument is no longer merely political, economic and social. It is vital to understand that the role of universities is the integral formation of citizens through education and research, as written in the institutional mission of UNISUL.

For the Secretary for International Cooperation of the State Santa Catarina, Professor Vinícius Lummertz, this event has helped to fill the institutional gap that exists in this area: 'the State of Santa Catarina promotes innovation and internationalization. We have brought international events here which have created major opportunities. Santa Catarina is a modern state and is capable of reacting to

those things. We believe in new levels of conscience and new levels of solution', stated Lummertz.

The president of Tractebel Energy (GDF - Suez) in Brazil, Manoel Arlindo Zaroni Torres, spoke about the challenges for research and the deployment of renewable energy in Brazil. In his presentation, Zaroni pointed out that Brazil still has an under-consumption of energy compared to Europe. 'For Brazil, the biggest challenge is to reduce the greenhouse effect and to combat deforestation. If we look at the electricity sector, Brazil has one of the cleanest matrixes in the world'. Zaroni affirmed that Brazil will continue to work with hydroelectric power stations for a long time, and that other alternative



sources should be their allies. Zaroni congratulated UNISUL and the other partner universities for the JELARE initiative. 'I graduated 37 years ago from a university that was founded in 1913. There, I was nominated as an ambassador and I recognised that it is necessary to bring the university and industry closer together. The university provides the base, but does not prepare students for the market'.

Upon presenting the JELARE project, Prof. Walter Leal (HAW Hamburg) said that the use of alternative energy is growing, but it is still difficult to obtain qualified labour to meet the demand of this sector. 'Therefore, we initiated the cooperation between these universities to implement the JELARE project. We are going to enhance education and research, intensify the relationship between companies and universities and foster the collaboration between Europe and Latin America'.

In the afternoon Professor Sérgio Colle (UFSC – Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina) spoke about approaches for education and development of curriculums in the field of renewable energy. Mauro Passos (President of the NGO 'Ideal Institute') spoke about research in renewable energies and the transfer of technology; and finally, representatives of the universities of Brazil, Germany, Latvia, Bolivia, Chile and Guatemala presented 'state-of-the-art' projects on renewable energy carried out in these countries.

Presentations as well as video clips from media coverage can be accessed at: <http://www.jelare-project.eu/panorama-brazil.html>

News from the partners

Bolivia: Renewable Energy Seminar and Fair held at Bolivian Catholic University

The Bolivian Catholic University has organised a seminar about 'The role of renewable energies in the Bolivian energy mix' on 15th and 16th October 2009 with lectures from renewable energy experts and a speech by the Bolivian Deputy Minister of Electricity and Alternative Energies about the role of renewable energies in energy planning until 2020. The seminar was directed at students and staff of the university as well as actors in the renewable energy sector. As part of the seminar, a Renewable Energy Fair took place at the Bolivian Catholic University with 18 renewable energy companies and NGOs taking part.



Germany: MSc Renewable Energy Systems

HAW Hamburg has launched a new Master's Programme on 'Renewable Energy Systems' starting from September 2009. Courses are held in English, further information is available at: www.haw-hamburg.de/master-res-english.html.

Forthcoming events

La Paz, Bolivia:
JELARE Networking Event
Friday 20th November 2010,
14:30 -17:00

Joint research programmes between universities and renewable energy companies

The JELARE Networking Event, which will take place in the Bolivian Catholic University on 20th November 2009, will be an opportunity to exchange experiences between university lecturers and researchers in the field of renewable energies from Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Latvia and Germany and representatives from Bolivian renewable energy companies.

The objectives of this meeting are to become familiar with criteria and success factors for joint research programmes, exchange experiences in this field and discuss barriers and possibilities for joint research in the field of renewable energies. The event is directed at members of companies, NGOs, ministries, local authorities and universities. Participation is free of charge, the event will be held in Spanish.

For more information, visit the JELARE website: www.jelare-project.eu or contact the Bolivian JELARE team at the Bolivian Catholic University:

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**Hamburg, Germany:
Brazilian Knowledge and
Technology Transfer in the
Field of Renewable Energy**
30th April 2010, 9:00-16:00

This one day seminar is organised as part of the German-Brazilian Year of Sciences 2010. It seeks to promote knowledge and technology transfer in the field of renewable energy between Brazil and Germany, initiate partnerships and contribute to closer networking between institutions from Brazil and Germany.

**Rēzeknes, Latvia:
Renewable Energy Seminar**
6th May 2010

More information will soon be available at www.jelare-project.eu or contact the Latvian JELARE team at the Rēzeknes Augstskola:
Aleksejs Zorins,
E-mail: alex@ru.lv.

**Santiago, Chile:
RE² – International Conference
and Fair for Research &
Education in Renewable Energy**
11th-12th November 2010

The call for papers will be published soon on www.jelare-project.eu.

JELARE Network

The purpose of the JELARE Network is to promote European – Latin American networking and exchange of experiences in employment, research and education in the field of renewable energy within and also beyond the JELARE project partnership. To date, the JELARE network has 70 members from EU and Latin American organisations, such as enterprises, NGOs, ministries, local authorities, universities.

Please register for free membership of the JELARE Network at <http://www.jelare-project.eu/network.html>

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