



*In May 2021, REI published the 40by30 report, a roadmap to an Ireland where 40% of our heat can come from renewables by 2030.*

## Bioenergy a crucial part of our renewable energy mix for 2030

Bioenergy provides 67% of all the world's renewable energy and provides the basic energy needs for 2.4 billion people worldwide. In Europe, bioenergy provides half of the renewable energy used.

The role and potential of bioenergy globally is grossly underestimated. In Ireland has not attracted the attention it deserves in renewable energy policy discourse.

IrBEA as the representative body for the bioenergy industry strongly advocates on behalf of members for the mobilisation of bioenergy for a sustainable energy future. The Wood Fuel Quality Assurance (WFQA) scheme provides a vital service in certification of the quality and sustainability of wood fuels.

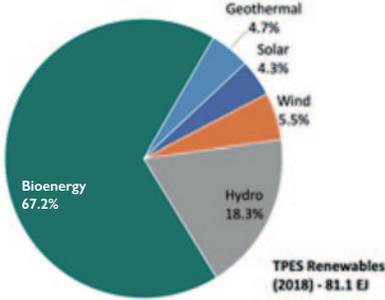
In May 2021, Renewable Energy Ireland (REI) published the 40by30 report, a roadmap to an Ireland where 40% of our heat comes from renewables by 2030. This would reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 7% annually in line with the Climate Action Bill. The Irish Bioenergy Association (IrBEA) as a founding member of REI actively contributed to the development of the plan by XD Consulting.

Bioenergy from biomass and biogas were identified as key contributors with potential to provide almost 20% of the entire Irish heat demand. Solid biomass as an indigenous, locally sourced, dispatchable energy source can deliver large emissions reductions across each heat sector and temperature range in Ireland.

The 40by30 report profiles heat usage in Ireland across the three sectors of residential, industrial and tertiary. It also profiles the heat demand based on the required delivery temperatures, a critical aspect in determining what renewable resource can be utilised to meet the demand. 52% of heating demand is above 60°C, with 24% of this being above 100°C.

Biomass is strongly positioned to supply high temperature heat as this demand needs to be met with combustible renewable fuel.

Total primary energy supply of renewables globally in 2018



The report considers that the forestry and the wood processing sector will be able to provide over two thirds of the biomass, with short rotation coppice to provide the remainder. A 40% renewable heat target would result in over 6.5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> savings, €630 million annual expenditure on biomass fuel, and the creation of 23,000 jobs. The biomass and forestry sector is well equipped to deliver an ambitious renewable heat target.

The resource is currently growing and available to mobilise. This will present significant opportunities to many in the supply, production and distribution of biomass fuels.

Foresters, hauliers, fuel producers, heat users, government and statutory bodies need to work together for the full potential of the sector to be realised.



Noel Gavigan  
Project Executive  
Irish Bioenergy Association