

Title of STSM: Exploring the contesting functions of new energy landscapes

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Resume:

A general purpose of the mission was to use intensive personal discussions with colleagues at the host Institute to foster and streamline the cooperation between the Working Group 1 and Working Group 2 to reach the expected results of the RELY Project. Since the specific tasks and deliverables of both working groups are linked to each other (specifically, the WG2's "analysis of the specific landscape functions' and qualities' vulnerability to specific renewable energy production systems" should build on the "systematic review of specific renewable energy production systems and their impacts on landscape character and quality" provided by WG1) it was necessary to identify main intersections and cross-compliances to avoid multiple work and/or to come into incompatible results.

The work activities realized during the mission focused on three main issues:

(i) Checking the current status of compilation of literature on specific renewable energy system from different countries provided by WG1 team members. Significant gaps in the database of literature were identified, even missing articles from countries with evidently abundance of papers on the issue published in recent years. Several papers on wind and bioenergy from so far missing countries were sorted and added to the database.

(ii) Compilation and critical review of existing literature on the assessment and classification of landscape functions and landscape values. Comparison of existing categorizations and typologies and identification of interfaces were provided. A proposal of categorization of landscape functions to be used in the scope of WG2 objectives was prepared.

(iii) Sharing of knowledge about the recent trends, convergences and divergences of renewable energy policies (particularly of onshore wind and solar energy development) in Spain and the Czech Republic. The result of this shall be a common paper on comparative analysis of wind energy development in Spain and the Czech Republic.

The practical results of this mission are drafts of two academic papers; first on the perception of landscape impacts of wind energy, and second on exploring success factors and barriers of onshore wind energy development in the Czech Republic and Spain.