

# S.1 – Renewable Energy and Landscape Quality

**Chair – Michael Roth**, Nürtingen-Geislingen University, School of Landscape Architecture Environmental and Urban Planning



**Abstract:** In response to climate change, limited fossil fuels, and rising energy demand and prices, renewable energy is heavily promoted throughout Europe. While objectives to boost renewable energy and trans-European energy networks are ambitious, it is increasingly understood that public acceptance becomes a constraining factor, and general support for green energy does not always translate into local support for specific projects. Perceived landscape change and loss of landscape quality have featured heavily in opposition campaigns in many European countries, even though renewable energy can facilitate sustainable development, especially in disadvantaged regions rich in wind, water, biomass, geothermal or solar energy.

This session investigates the links and relations between renewable energy production and landscape quality, and the role of public participation for the social acceptance of renewable energy production in the landscape. The session aims at developing a better understanding of how landscape protection and management, including heritage preservation, and renewable energy deployment can be reunited to contribute socio-environmentally to the sustainable transformation of energy systems.

To our session, we invite papers from various disciplines that present theoretical, empirical or applied approaches to dealing with conflicts and synergies between renewable energy production and landscape quality. Perspectives we would particularly welcome include:

- Synergies between landscape protection and renewable energy production
- Management of landscape quality under the influence of renewable energies
- Cultural heritage preservation in landscapes affected by renewable energy production
- Social acceptance of renewable energy production systems in the landscape
- Impacts and mitigation of scenic landscape quality impacts caused by renewable energy production and transportation
- Design of renewable energy landscapes