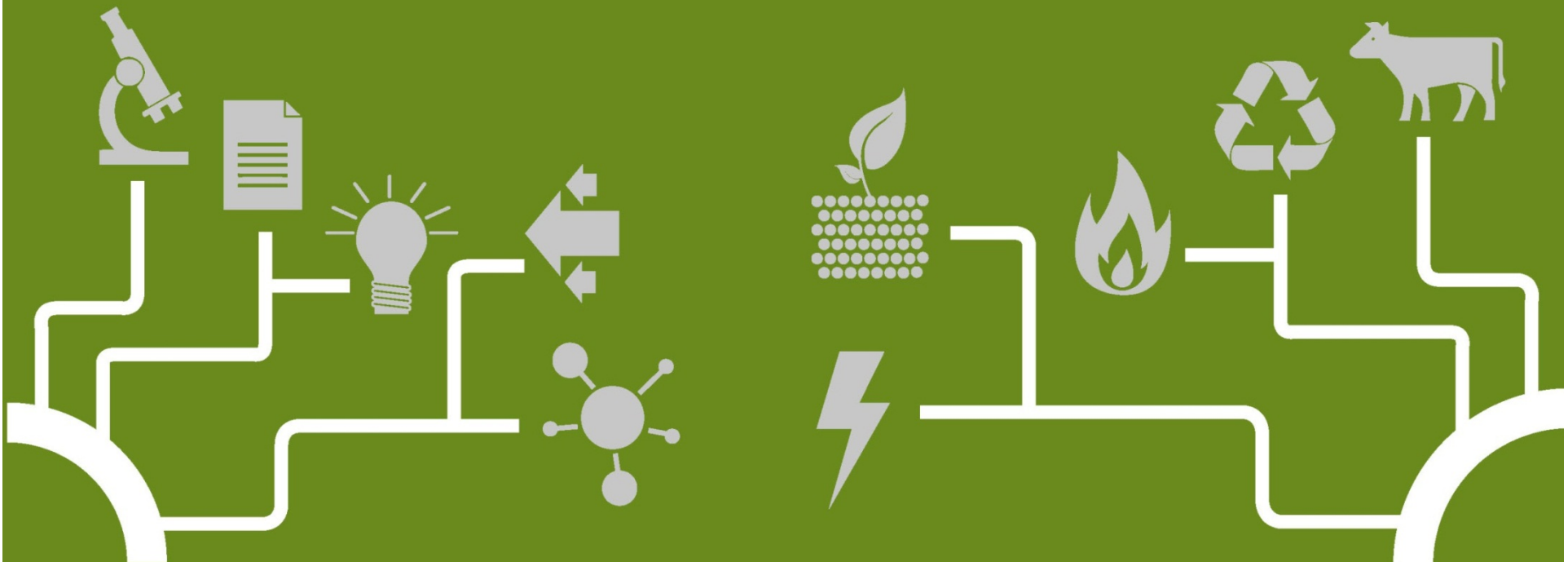


European Farm Energy Network

A concept paper

BioenNW Horizon 2020 international event Saarbruecken, Germany,
26th November 2014



Project proposer ~ Greenwatt Rural Energy

- Low carbon and renewable energy project developers for farmers and landowners
- Provide independent site-specific energy assessments
- Establish the bio/renewable energy options meeting on-farm energy requirements
- Develop low carbon solutions and 'farms of the future'
- Maximise returns on investment for farmers



Project partner (UK)

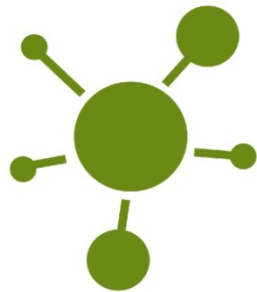


A Warwickshire farmers network helping farm and rural businesses to develop innovative, profitable and market-led enterprises. <http://www.ruralhub.org.uk>



Project partner (UK)

- Bringing together cutting-edge research with a practical and business-like approach
- Introduce bioenergy technologies and processes to turn biomass into energy and high-value products



Research



Technology



Projects



Deployment

- Deploy new bioenergy technologies in farms, factories and waste processors
- Provide objective, expert and free advice and support to farmers and other organisations interested in bioenergy

Bioenergy for West Midlands Farmers



“To provide technical and business assistance to West Midlands farmers identifying the commercial opportunities for bio-energy on their own farms .”



Key issues facing British farmers ...

- Rising costs of farm inputs including energy and transport fuels
- Security of supply of fuel and energy



Key issues facing British farmers ...

- Compliance with environmental legislation and the linked conditionality of incentives (CAP)
- Market and consumer pressures for quality, food provenance and value



Key issues facing British farmers ...

- Soil and land degradation through intensive cropping practices



- Impact of climate change on the farm business

The farm – a major energy consumer



The farm – a major energy generator?



Bio-energy for farmers

Farmers Weekly recently conducted a survey amongst 698 UK farmers and landowners which revealed that:

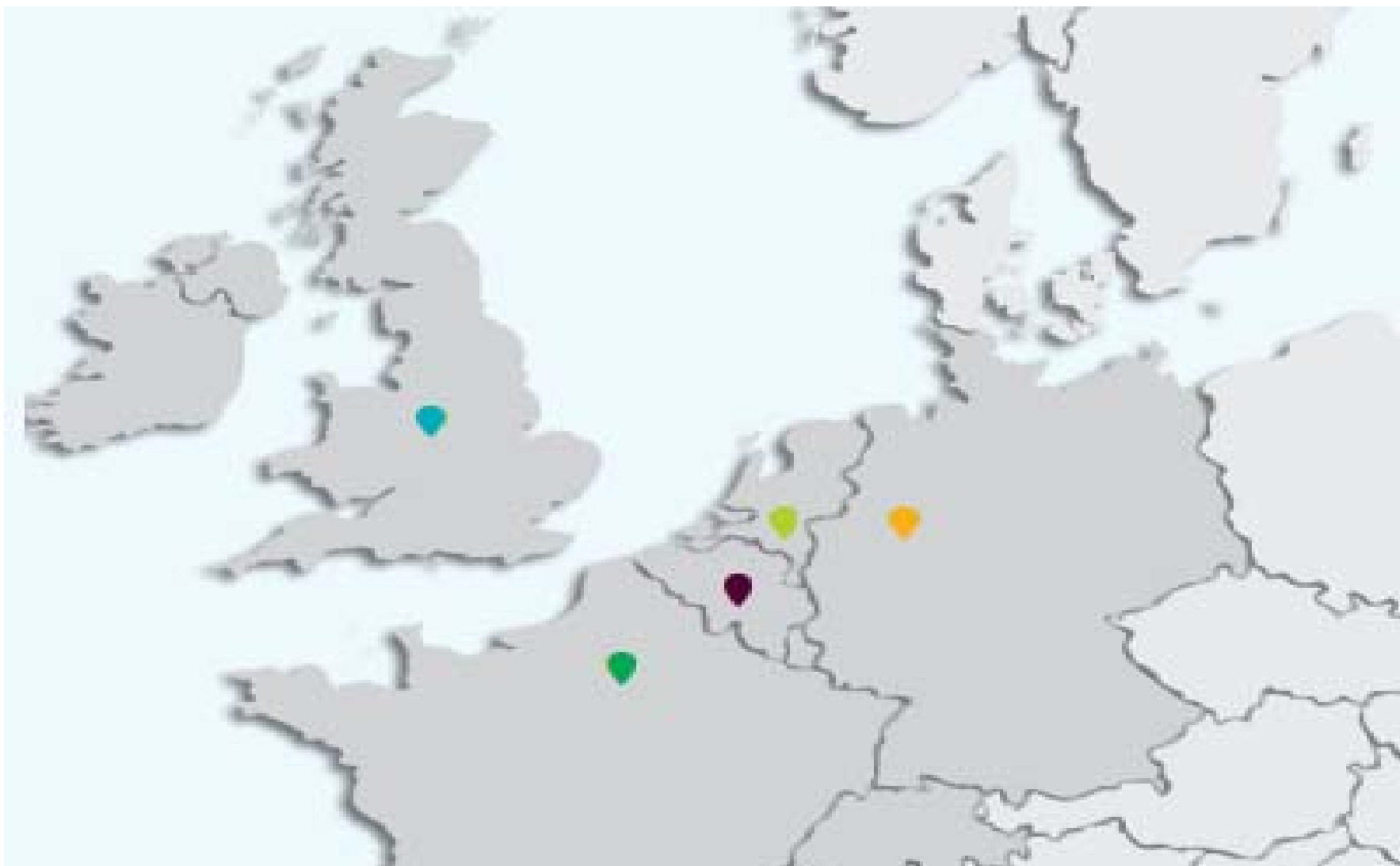
- 38% have already installed at least one renewable energy technology
- Of these, 75% are likely to make further investments
- Bioenergy represents 31% of current Renewable Energy investments on UK farms



A European Farm Energy Network?

- Greenwatt Technology, Warwickshire Rural Farm Hub and EBRI propose to initiate a network of farmers in several EU countries with a common interest in reducing farm energy and fuel costs and willing to share knowledge and experience in bioenergy and farm renewables and sustainable farm practices.
- The EFEN project will encourage an exchange of experience and good practice using case studies, farmer-to-farmer visits, online hub and a network of demonstration / pilot farms.

A European Farm Energy Network working as part of BioenNW?



‘Powerful Farmers’ - the first EFEN project?

- The ‘Powerful Farmers’ project will work with EFEN pilot farms to carry out detailed baseline studies of the on-farm usage of electricity, heat and fuel.
- It will source and apply appropriate energy monitoring and data analysis technologies on farms.
- It will provide essential data to enable farms to make energy efficiencies and to farm ‘smarter’.
- It will enable allocation of ‘fixed costs’ of energy to individual farm enterprises, processes and buildings
- It will encourage more farmers to generate their own renewable power (electricity, heat and fuel).

European Farm Energy Network Working together!



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