

BeReal is developing: Field monitoring is in full swing

The development of real life test methods requires a clear view on given user reality. In order to collect representative information about the real operation of chimney stoves and pellet stoves with and without water jacket the field monitoring of the BeReal project was launched in February 2014 after the selection of the data acquisition units had been finalized. This monitoring phase includes 30 appliances: 19 chimney stoves for log wood, 6 pellet stoves without water jacket and 5 pellet stoves with water jacket. The monitoring is done by the involved partners in Germany, Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Italy. During the remaining weeks of this rather mild heating period mainly the stove's flue gas temperature is continuously being recorded. The recordings shall provide user information such as the frequency of stove use or the number of batches per heating cycle. Moreover, at some selected sites also the chimney draught is additionally being recorded in order to identify boundary conditions in the field which can influence the efficiency of an appliance. One example for a field testing site with the two data loggers is shown in Figure 1. A test evaluation routine for the incoming data is now prepared.



Figure 1: Chimney stove equipped with data logger for flue gas temperature and chimney draught measurement. Source: TFZ

User behaviour survey: The web based questionnaire

Apart from the field monitoring also the survey is in progress. An online questionnaire was elaborated during the last 8 weeks and is almost ready for distribution. It is applied for collecting information to assess the "usual practice" of typical stove operators in all partner countries. The web based questionnaire is now being transferred into different languages (English, German, Danish, French, Italian, Swedish and Dutch). The link to the questionnaire will also be posted on the project website. Both, the field monitoring and the questionnaire shall provide practice data for meaningful definitions of the stove test methods which shall be drafted in the coming months.