



SIMWOOD

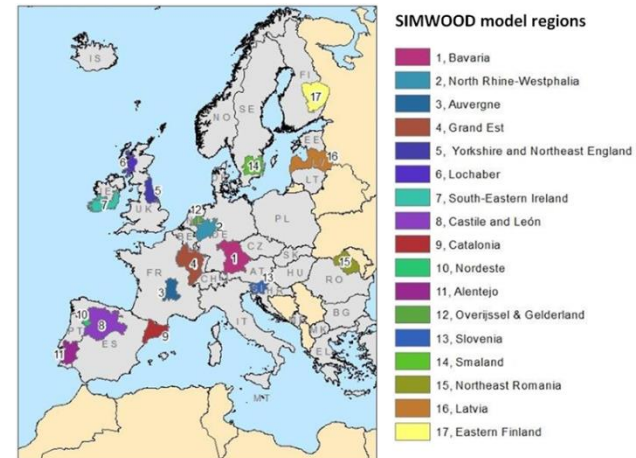
Solutions for wood mobilisation

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- Project concept
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Important key “Regional Initiatives”

- Wood mobilisation is more likely to be successful when it is embedded in collaborative Initiatives of multiple stakeholders.
- Increased awareness of the role of forestry for the region
- Common societal agreement on forest use,
- Impacts on sustainable regional development

Concept of “Regional Learning Labs” in SIMWOOD

- Involvement of regional stakeholders (workshops, round tables)
- Common analysis of the status quo,
- Identification, implementation and evaluation of wood mobilisation solutions for the model region
- To overcome barriers and make use of opportunities

- Development of a **Guide for planning, implementing and evaluation** of Simwood Pilot Projects (common structure and understanding)
 - **22 Pilot projects**
 - SME and institutional partners working hand in hand
 - to test measures to overcome critical barriers
 - 3 typical interventions
 - **New working methods** for the sustainable wood supply
 - **Strategies and new service-offerings** to engage forest owners
 - **Capacity-building** for professional practitioner
- ➡ All 22 Pilot project are available on the SIMWOOD Information System.

2 Examples of Pilot Projects



(Alex Kelly, IWP)

Ireland:

“Developing a new collaborative producer group and supply chains towards the mobilisation of timber”

France:


“Capacity building for a better, more efficient service offering in special forest conditions: sensitive soils in Grand Est”



C. Pupin, Forêts & Bois de l'Est, Ph. Ruch, FCBA

- **Barriers:**
 - First generation forest owners, lack of knowledge, scattered sites with poor access, no coordination, standing sales hide timber value, lack of trust
 - many forestry discussion groups in Ireland don't always result in active forest management and wood mobilisation.
- **Challenges:**
 - Logistics of supply chains
 - Challenge of smaller sites
 - Optimum economic return to forest owner
- **Measures:**
 - Knowledge transfer: e.g. field events, training, workshops
 - Clustered forest activities: e.g. Harvesting plans, tender, contracts
 - New markets: e.g. improved site infrastructure, chain of custody

Wood mobilisation has to be a long term, viable option for regional private forestry.

- **Outcome:**
 - Small, local group into a commercial “Irish Wood Producers” (55 to 750 members).
 - IWP engaged with forest owners to
 - implement of SFM and sell commercially (e.g. 95 % participants of field events)
 - secure economic viability for members.
 - Developed sustainable harvesting method optimised the economic return for forest owners  30-50% increased revenue to forest owners.
 - timber/biomass production achieved an economy of scale to develop regional markets.
 - 34 contractors employed full time
 - Investment in new machinery as a direct result of the group’s contracts
 - SIMWOOD project has acted as a catalyst for the group:
 - Active management - mobilisation of timber - increased economic return,
 - developed structure will sustain the newly evolved group “IWP”
 - can be replicated by groups in other regions.

(Alex Kelly, IWP)

- **Objective:**

Improving practitioners' capacity to harvest more efficiently on sensitive soils will increase forest owners' confidence in their service provider...and progressively unlock willingness to harvest

- **Barriers:**

- Sensitive soils = 25% of forest area
- Practitioners lack of knowledge and skills ➡ owners fear harvesting.

- **Challenges:**

- RLL with about 8 forest professionals from different sectors, permanent exchange with project leaders, collective steering of the project's evolution.

- **Measures:**

- Step 1: Several tests of machineries (tracks, excavators), Improve skidding trails implantation, DiaLOG Tool, Stream crossing system
- Step 2: Training session for forest practitioners (10 participants, feedback)
- Step 3: Showing good practises examples during technical day for forest owners (18 participants, 80 % plan to implement the new technique)



- **Outcome and lessons learned:**
 - For Forêts et Bois de l'Est (SME partner):
 - A new methodology (co-construction, evaluation during the process...)
 - New technical knowledge – environmental sound operations
 - New communication approach with forest owners

➡ for a more efficient service delivery
 - For others:
 - the results of this project are going to be used in other regions (Champagne-Ardenne and Lorraine)

“An improvement of foresters’ capacities combined with better communication towards forest owners lead to wood mobilisation.”

(Cyrille Pupin, Forêts & Bois de l'Est, Philippe Ruch, FCBA)

- **Engagement / Regional Learning Labs**
 - develop strong links with local stakeholders from the start,
 - they will help to define bottlenecks, ensure they are solvable,
 - help implement and disseminate the results of the project.
 - encouraged collaboration and knowledge exchange between stakeholders
- **Research is better when SMEs are involved**
 - Research outputs are more likely to be useable and to be used
 - SMEs are better as a result of their involvement in research
 - Research is grounded in “real world” problems
 - SMEs have access to potential problem solvers (network)
- **Evaluation:**
 - consider how to evaluate the outcomes and impacts of your project;
 - reflect on whether you are on track; regularly seek feedback;
 - allocate time to this because it is worth the effort.

Thank you for your attention!

Simwood Homepage:

www.simwood-project.eu

Simwood Information System:

www.simwood.jrc.ec.europa.eu/



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