

## **EIP-AGRI Focus Group** Sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass (SMFB)

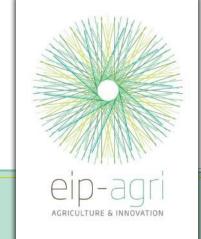
**Forest Innovation Workshop** 

Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union

Brussels, 26 April 2018



## **EIP-AGRI Focus Groups**







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## Scope of Focus Group "SMFB" (FG"SMFB")

### Sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass

#### FG"SMFB" concentrates on...

- » Innovation in mobilising different types of forest biomass for all potential markets and better interlinking supply and demand.
- » Economic, environmental and social functions of forests are the basis of the work.



## **Objectives of FG"SMFB"**

## Sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass (SMFB)

- Identify success and fail factors and explore the role of innovation and knowledge exchange in addressing them.
- Identify, describe the cooperation of small-scale forest owners and barriers to implementation. Provide examples of best practices.
- Analyse supply and demand factors, and the means to provide a link between the two (e.g. electronic marketing tools).
- Propose potential innovative actions to stimulate the knowledge and use of management practices and strategies in mobilising forest biomass.
- Identify research and innovation needs coming from practice
- Provide ideas for Operational Groups and other innovative projects.



## The eight "Mini Papers" of FG "SMFB"

Sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass (SMFB)

- » The content work of FG"SMFB" is structured into eight key themes to address best the complexity of SMFB.
- » For each key theme a so-called Mini Paper (MP) has been produced jointly:

MP1: Involvement of actors/stakeholders in regional initiatives for forest biomass mobilisation

MP2: Forest ownership types

MP3: Markets

MP4: Decision support tools

MP5: Harvesting and transportation technologies

MP6: Contribution to environmental issues

MP7: Incentives for mobilisation of forest biomass

MP8: European map of the regional forest-based sector



## **Identified key impact factors for SMFB in Europe**

- Changing markets and demand for forest-based products
- (rapidly) Emerging **new markets** on the global scale (impact of globalisation)
- Enhanced competition between traditional and novel forest-based value chains with increasing demand for raw material supply
- Competition for land-use and thus a threat of decreasing Roundwood production and supply
- (In)Efficient **Infrastructure** / logistic concepts (transportation value chains) in all regions
- Pricing of Roundwood and forest products
- (Demand for) new **processing technologies** for soft- and specially for hardwood species
- Climate change and its impacts on the supply of forest feedstock (not the same expected impact in different European regions)



## Findings of FG "SMFB"

#### Market trends and new demands

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- Increasing demand for Roundwood, sawn timber products, panel and board, pulp and paper
- Increasing demand for smaller diameter wood and wood residues
- Improving efficiency of operations
- Web-based trading, advanced wood procurement and best adapted harvesting technologies
- Efficient silviculture management models for producing Roundwood and wood-fibres while safeguarding sustainability



## Findings of FG "SMFB"

Key issues for harvesting

## Key issues for harvesting

- Operations on a smaller scale need to focus on efficiency
- Larger scale operations are needed to increase efficiency and to reduce unit costs
- Reducing time and costs spend on relocation of machinery is essential
- Training of forest workers and machine drivers is needed to achieve greater efficiencies and capacity
- Digitisation of chain of custody and supply chains allows for better performance



## **Research and innovation needs**

#### Prioritised 6 out of 28

- 1. Analysing the impact and effectiveness of **incentives** for sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass including predictions and scenarios of tailor-made measures.
- 2. Examining the functioning of various existing regional forest **ownership organisations**. How do long-established and well performing associations operate? Are there lessons to be learned?
- 3. Market analysis of **future demand and supply** (long- and short term perspectives) of forest biomass including potential new and traditional value chains.
- 4. Developing user-friendly **information platforms** and new tools (map-based) to **exchange knowledge** on forest management planning in the long term (multi-objective approach) across European regions.
- 5. Analysing the potential of new forest-based **cross-regional value chains** and production systems for enhancing Europe's competitiveness
- 6. Options and incentives for **carbon sequestration** through forest management: Identify and analyse incentives for carbon sequestration through active forest management and the use of timber and other forest-based products



## **Ideas for Operational Groups**

- 1. Developing **regional models** (including Decision Support Systems DSS) for improved forest management in small-scale forests (and consolidation, establishment of land registers, cooperatives).
- 2. Participating in the digitization process by using new models for **innovative virtual timber sales** / marketing hubs.
- 3. Reviewing existing **awareness-raising measures** for forest owners addressing the importance of their forests in providing ecosystem services, including the evaluation of **communication tools**.
- 4. Promotion and adaptation of existing "good practices" examples in order to **transfer existing knowledge** amongst practitioners and / or regions.
- 5. Profiling regional models for the development of **forest owner groups** to become **more self-sufficient** without over-dependency on "volunteerism".



#### Other recommendations and innovative ideas

- Exchanging knowledge on the real impacts and effectiveness of current incentives across Europe (tailor-made solutions)
- Provision of means to support the facilitation of forest owner associations
- Evaluation of existing participatory approaches (e.g. regional learning labs) to involve stakeholders
- Strengthening the stakeholder dialogue (along wood value chains)
- Developing incentives for marketing hubs
- Support new practices and policies along value chains for increasing SMFB



#### **More information:**

- Focus Group "SMFB"
   https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/sustainable-mobilisation-forest-biomass
- Final Report
   https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-focus-group-forest-biomass-final-report
- Factsheets https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-factsheet-forest-biomass

# Thank you for your attention Stay connected – mobilise yourself!

