

From WoodWisdom-Net to ForestValue:
20 years pioneering progress in European Forestry & Wood Tech

1-2 October 2024, Berlin

Overview on 20 years of funding of forestry research



Funded by
the European Union

2024 marks... (1/2)

the 40th anniversary of the EU's first funding programme dedicated to science, research and innovation. It all started in 1984 with the launch of the Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, worth €3.8 billion.

Over these four decades, the EU has set aside more than €280 billion for science, research and innovation through successive framework programmes and has signed over 120 000 grants with some 75 000 beneficiaries.



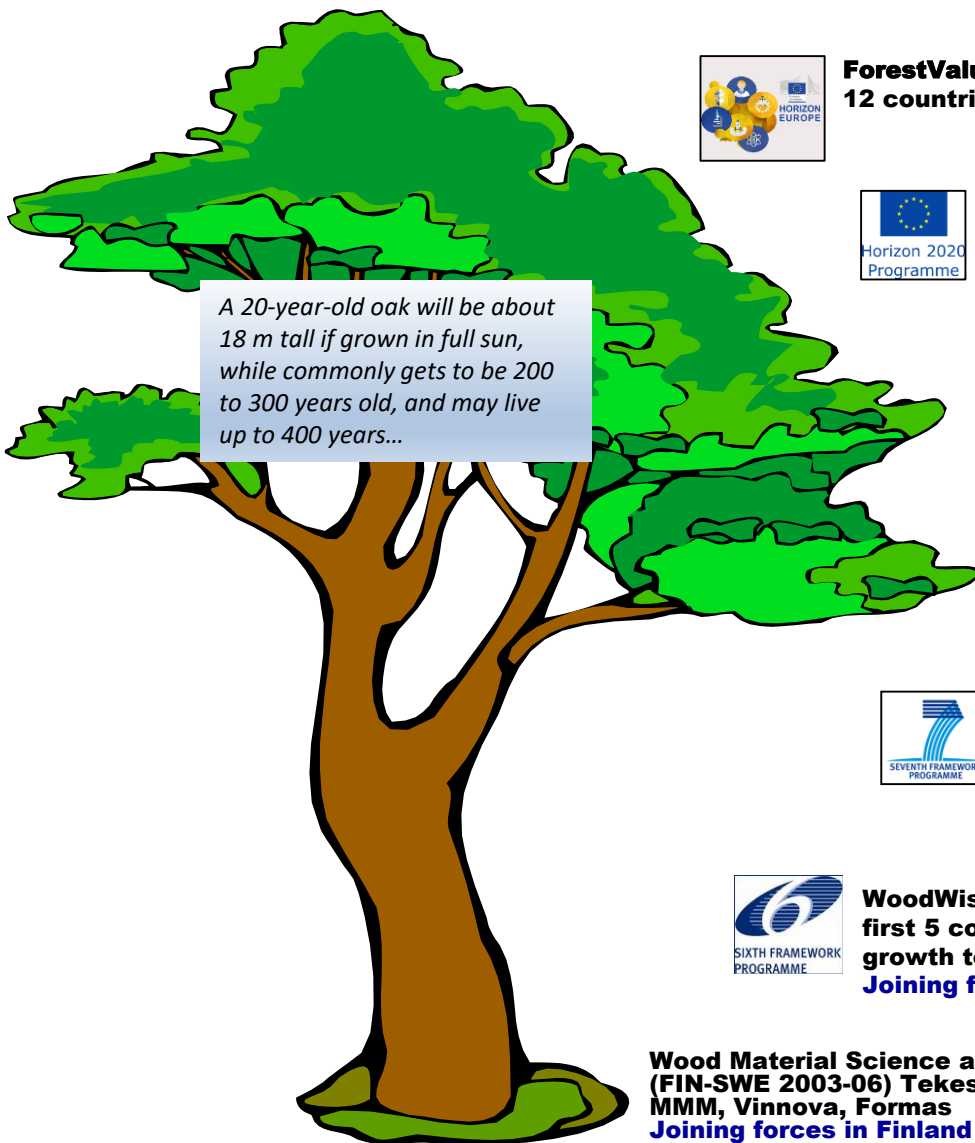
And 2024 marks... (2/2)

the 20th anniversary of strategic evolution in transnational RTDI funding in the European forest-based research. It all started in 2004 with the launch of the ERA-NET “WoodWisdom-Net - Networking and Integration of National Programmes in the Area of Wood Material Science and Engineering”.

Over these two decades, the related transnational collaborations with **9 joint calls** for research proposals has set aside around **€140 million** for science, research and innovation through successive ERA-NET initiatives and has signed **100 grants (=projects)** with **over 850 beneficiaries**.



Growth path – 20 years



A 20-year-old oak will be about 18 m tall if grown in full sun, while commonly gets to be 200 to 300 years old, and may live up to 400 years...



ForestValue2 CSA (2023-2027)
12 countries, 14 partners



ForestValue ERA-NET Cofund (2017-2023)
18 countries 30 partners,
Joining national funding with EC funding



SUMFOREST (2014-17)
18 countries, 23 partners
+ 9 European observers



FORESTERRA (2012-15)
12 Mediterranean-area
countries, 16 partners



WoodWisdom-Net+ (2012-17)
12 countries, 20 partners



WoodWisdom-Net 2 (2009-12)
12 countries, 19 partners,
5 joint call funding organisations
7 associate organisations
Joining new forces in East and South Europe



WoodWisdom-Net (2004-08)
first 5 countries, 12 partners
growth to 8 countries 18 partners
Joining forces in North&Central Europe

Wood Material Science and Engineering (FIN-SWE 2003-06) Tekes, AKA MMM, Vinnova, Formas
Joining forces in Finland and Sweden

Woodwisdom (FIN 1998-2001) Tekes, AKA, MMM
Joining forces of Finnish funding and research



2013: Founding of Strategic Working Group on Forests and Forestry Research and Innovation

Networks joining forces from outside Europe

2005: founding of Forest-based Sector Technology Platform (FTP)

IMPACTS (1/7)

Good to remember:

There are numerous long-term impacts from research which may take even up to 50 years to become visible depending on the area and type of research.



IMPACTS (2/7)

Email survey to the individual participating organisations in projects of

Joint Call 1 (years 2008-11; 20 M€, 17 projects)

Joint Call 2 (years 2010-13; 13 M€, 9 projects),
and

Joint Call 3 (years 2011-14; with ERA-NET
Bioenergy; 20 M€, 13 projects)

IMPACTS (3/7)

Example 1. Impacts on organisational/regional level

Q: Did your organisation's participation in a transnational project funded under the WoodWisdom-Net scheme lead to any other significant follow-up process(es) either at national or international level?

[Oy Arbonaut Ltd](#); today: leading provider of precise forest data & software services worldwide:

- ✓ Yes, **new products and services**, and **further development of Arbonaut's forest inventory service ArboLiDAR**, remote sensing technology for effective, efficient timberland management.

[Fraunhofer Institute for Chemical Technology ICT](#); today: 100 laboratories, multiple pilot plants and 3 test centers:

- ✓ As a results of the increasing activities in the frame of R&D activities in bioeconomy/ biorefinery **we could establish a new project group together with Fraunhofer [Institute for Interfacial Engineering and Biotechnology IGB](#)**.
- ✓ [The Fraunhofer Center for Chemical-Biotechnological Processes CBP](#) is **a spin-off** of Fraunhofer ICT and Fraunhofer IGB.
- ✓ Around this new R&D center, where we are a member, there was established **the Cluster [Bioeconomy Mitteldeutschland](#)**
- ✓ In the federal state Baden-Württemberg there was initiated **a public funded activity Bioeconomy research**.



IMPACTS (4/7)

Example 2. Impacts on national/European level

Project: FireInTimber - Fire Resistance of Innovative Timber Structures (2007-2010)

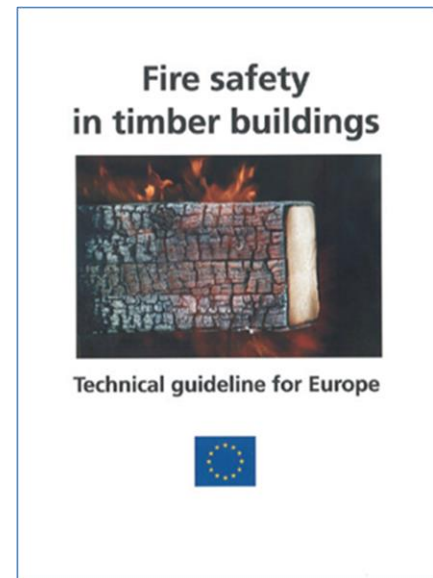
Coordinator: SP Träteknik/ Wood Technology (Sweden)

Participating countries: Sweden, Finland, Germany, France, Norway, United Kingdom, Austria, Switzerland, Estonia

Objective: to provide new possibilities for wood products in construction through proper fire design.

Main result for a wider audience:

- ✓ **Fire safety in timber buildings - Technical guideline for Europe.**
The very first European wide guideline on the fire safe use of wood in buildings.



IMPACTS (5/7)

Example 2. Impacts on national/European level

The guideline “Fire safety in timber buildings - Technical guideline for Europe” presents information for architects, engineers, educators, authorities and building industries on the fire safe use of timber structures and wood products in buildings. It aims at providing the highest scientific knowledge with regard to fire safety on the European level.

✓ Impact on standardization

- The new models developed used as input for the next revision of the European standard for structural fire design of timber structures (EN 1995-1-2).
- Input to the Eurocodes review process (Eurocode 5 provides rules for the design of timber structures).

✓ Impact on professional development

- 12 April 2016: The Count Carl Bernadotte Forestry Prize (Sweden) was awarded to researcher Birgit Östman, the FireInTimber Coordinator. The prize has been awarded for more than 50 years in recognition of outstanding services to Swedish forestry, and Birgit is the first ever woman to get the prize.



IMPACTS (6/7)

Example 3. Impacts on Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence

Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence actions under Horizon Europe, contribute to building research and innovation capacity for countries lagging behind (EU13: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia).

Once national applicants are involved in successful consortia, this might be the outcome:

Latvia's participation in WoodWisdom-Net Joint Call 3

- ✓ Latvia's cash **investment of EUR 270 thousand**
- **Access to projects of total value of EUR 3.8 million**
- Total project portfolio of the call ca. EUR 20 million



IMPACTS (7/7)

And more to follow later today afternoon:

- 11:15 Research in the market: TES EnergyFacade - Prefab Renovation Systems (JC2009), *Frank LATTKE, Nuernberg Tech - University of applied sciences, Germany*
- 11:30 I-MAESTRO - Innovative forest MAnagEment STRategies for a resilient bioecOnomy under climate change and disturbances (JC2017), *Christopher REYER, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany*
- 11:45 W3B Wood Believe - What We Wood Believe? - Societal perceptions of the forest-based sector and its products towards a sustainable society (JC2013), *Tobias STERN, Uni Graz/Wood Kplus, Austria*



SOME KEYS TO SUCCESS

Since the very first ERA-NET related to forest-based sector in 2004 the results make it evident:

COLLABORATION, WORKING TOGETHER

is the key to successful teams and projects in today's increasingly complex, uncertain environments

Multi-actor networking:

Project customers, research, industry, societal actors; National funders and project owners; European stakeholders, European Commission; National stakeholders and groups; Experts for project and programme evaluation; European initiatives and ERA schemes; official and unofficial networks...

Having a true

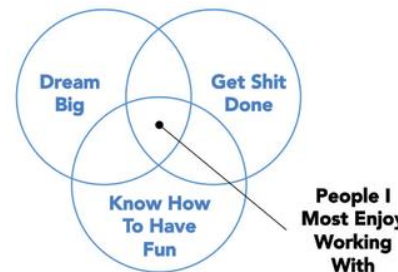
HOLISTIC APPROACH

creatively innovating across disciplines




Ingredients for success

DREAM BIG.
KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN.
GET SHIT DONE.



“Holy Trinity Wisdom” of
Jeff Weiner, CEO LinkedIn



 <https://forestvalue.org/>

Duration

01/2023 - 12/2027

Total budget

2 264 695.00 €

EU funding

2 264 695.00 €

ForestValue2 - Innovating forest- based bioeconomy

ForestValue2 is to contribute i) to provision of a shared and robust knowledge base to make Europe's transition to being the first climate neutral continent by 2050 a reality, and ii) overcoming the fragmentation of public research efforts in the EU and to reinforce work on research priorities that call for a stronger coordination and collaboration.

Disclaimer

ForestValue2 is a HORIZON Coordination and Support Action (Grant Agreement No. 101094340) funded by the European Union (Granting authority: European Research Executive Agency) under the call topic HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ERA-01-10. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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Partners

1. **MMM** - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (FI), Project Coordinator
2. **DAFM** - Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (IE)
3. **FNR** - Agency for Renewable Resources (DE)
4. **AEI** - State Research Agency (ES)
 - 4.1 **FECYT** - Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (ES; Affiliated Entity)
5. **MVZI** - Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (SI)
6. **RCN** - The Research Council of Norway (NO)
7. **LAAFS** - Latvian Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences (LV)
8. **NCN** - National Science Centre (PL)
9. **NFC** - National Forest Centre of Slovakia (SK)
10. **CREA** - Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (IT)
11. **MASAF** - Ministry of agriculture, food sovereignty and forestry (IT)
12. **MoE** - Ministry of the Environment (EE)
13. **INCDS** - National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry “Marin Drăcea” (RO)



*»Attitude is a little thing that makes
a big difference.«
(W. Churchill)*



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