

# **COST Action E31: Management of Recovered Wood**

Gerfried Jungmeier<sup>1</sup>, Bengt Hillring<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Joanneum Research, Elisabethstrasse 5, A-8010 Graz, Austria

Tel: +43-316-8761313, Fax:+43-316-8761320, e-mail: [gerfried.jungmeier@joanneum.at](mailto:gerfried.jungmeier@joanneum.at)

<sup>2</sup>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, P.O. Box 7060, SE-75007 Uppsala, Sweden

*Call for Papers "Environmental Impacts of Preservative-treated Wood",  
February 8 - 10 of, 2004, Orlando, Florida, USA*

## **Overview**

The COST (European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research) Action E31 (2002 to 2006) is a multi-disciplinary forum for the exchange of information on "Management of Recovered Wood" with the main objective to improve the European management of recovered wood towards a higher common technical, economic and environmental standard.

Researchers of 15 European countries – Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Rumania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom - are involved in the Action, which is subdivided in 2 Working Groups:

- 1) European management of recovered wood: analyse the current systems of wood recovery in Europe, i.e. technical and legal aspects, environmental impacts, recovered wood potential
- 2) Treatment options for recovered wood: Analysis of different current and future treatment options for recovered wood based on technical, economic and environmental criteria

## **Main Objectives**

- further enhancement of the integration of the management systems for recovered wood
- examination of the technical potentials of recovered wood as secondary raw materials and as energy sources
- improvement of the quality of the European databases on the technical, economical and statistical information for recovered wood
- analysis of different management approaches for recovered wood in the European countries to establish a reliable basis for strategic decisions
- broadening of the knowledge basis and improvement of assessment procedures to advance the common understanding and to promote the development of appropriate wood recovery systems at the European level to further optimise recovered wood use
- further development of methodologies to analyse different recovered wood management systems to achieve a common description of the recovered wood management sector in European Countries
- improvement of the methods to monitor the implementation of new systems for the management of recovered wood

## **Scientific innovation**

- development of new methods including guidelines for the management of recovered wood
- improvement of the methods to evaluate existing and possible new treatment options for wood recovery
- improvement of the methods to generate energy from recovered wood
- development of a common method for technical, economic and environmental comparison of different recovered wood treatment options

- improvement of the methods to assess the use of recovered wood in (new) materials and products
- investigation of possibilities to increase the use of wood recovered as a secondary material
- development of methods to improve the data collection concerning the (regional) amount of recovered wood taking into consideration the different collection systems and treatments applied to wood recovery.

### **Outcome**

- bring together a multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural 'team' discipline under one umbrella
- establish a European forum for the management of recovered wood
- give a comprehensive overview of the different management options for recovered wood
- give an overview on available data and stimulate new data acquisition on the different recovered wood assortments in Europe
- expand the relevant data base
- provide strategic information for possible European Commission frameworks
- contribute to the harmonisation of corresponding legalisation
- reduce environmental loads by creating recovered wood management options that minimise landfill and incineration without energy use
- mobilise additional biomass as a sustainable energy source
- advance the methodology for environmental, technical and economical evaluation of different recovered wood treatment options
- develop tools for the comparison of different management options for recovered wood
- initiate possible common proposals to European Community framework programs.

Further information is available on: [http://cost.cordis.lu/src/action\\_detail.cfm?action=e31](http://cost.cordis.lu/src/action_detail.cfm?action=e31)

Gerfried Jungmeier  
Chair Person of Cost Action E31

Bengt Hillring  
Vice Chair Person of Cost Action E31

March 12, 2003