

WOODWISDOM-NET eNEWSLETTER 1/2007

April 20, 2007

Dear Recipient,

Please, find here the first WoodWisdom-Net eNewsletter in 2007.

The eNewsletter supports the work of the EU's ERA-NET project WoodWisdom-Net in creating a common research platform that will promote the competitiveness and sustainability of European forestry and forest-based industry.

WoodWisdom-Net eNewsletter contains news and current issues of interests in the field of wood material science and engineering both at the European and national level.

Enjoy your reading!

WoodWisdom-Net Secretariat

NEWS

WoodWisdom-Net Call for Proposals (2006-2011) - 1st step completed

The first step of the first WoodWisdom-Net call was closed at the end of January 2007 and by the deadline 70 proposals from consortia with over 400 participating organisations in total were submitted. The Sub-Call A (basic research) "Wood production and properties" received 27 proposals and the rest – 43 – were under the theme area "New wood-based products, efficient processes and sustainable forestry" (Sub-Call B - applied and industrial RTD). After the evaluation 40 proposals were invited for the 2nd and final step.

The last date for the invited full proposals is the 30th of April, 2007. During May-June the proposals will be evaluated and the national funding decisions will be published during September-November. The first projects (Sub-Call B) will start in the beginning of September, 2007. The basic research projects (Sub-Call A) will start at the beginning of 2008.

All call documents (including different forms and project evaluation and procedure guidelines) are published on the WoodWisdom-Net website:

www.woodwisdom.net

WoodWisdom-Net Research Landscape Tool now including Research Facility Database

"Research Facility Database" is a new web-based database providing an overview of rare and unique research facilities in the field of wood material science and engineering in the WoodWisdom-Net countries. The database also provides a great opportunity for European scientists to find partners for joint research projects.

One of the tasks of WoodWisdom-Net is to gather information on available research facilities in WoodWisdom-Net partner countries and form a database based on available information. This database is included in the WoodWisdom-Net Research Landscape Tool. The new database is available both via the WoodWisdom-Net website www.woodwisdom.net/programmes and directly at www.nexdo.com/view.do?w=79. The database does not require user registration.

From the database users can look for research facilities by selecting a country or a certain field of research (e.g. biocomposites, fibre chemistry, mechanical wood processing). Users can open a more detailed information card for each research institute, to get information on facilities, contact persons and access policy. Currently, there are institutes from four countries, but the database is updated constantly.

The information for the database was gathered with a survey to different research institutes in WoodWisdom-Net partner countries. So far, over 50 research institutes have returned the completed survey and their data will be included in the database.

Innovation company established to network top level research and innovation in the Finnish forest cluster

Major companies in the Finnish forest cluster together with the Technical Research Centre of Finland, the Finnish Forest Research Institute and four Finnish universities have established Forest Cluster Ltd. The new innovation focused company is responsible for the operation of the cluster's strategic centre of excellence. Its task is to initiate research and innovation programmes and to channel research funds to selected focus areas. The forest sector's centre of excellence - led by the Forest Cluster Ltd - intends to become the strongest innovation environment of the branch globally.

More: <http://english.forestindustries.fi/press/2007/20070412121220.html>

New Research Institute - FPIinnovations - serving the whole Canadian Forest Cluster

As of April 1, 2007, Canada will have one, major forest research institute. The boards and member companies of FERIC, Forintek and Paprican have voted to merge. The new, single institute will be called FPIinnovations. FPIinnovations will also provide technical direction for the Canadian Forest Service's newly created Fibre Centre. In September of last year, Dr. Ian de la Roche was named president and CEO of the new structure.

"This means that researchers along the entire value chain will be better positioned to support industry in developing the next generation of value-added products. Understanding the unique qualities of Canadian forests and determining how to maximize the value of that resource is key to the industry's future success. FPIinnovations will play a significant role in assisting industry with this challenge", said Frank Dottori, chairman of Paprican.

More: <http://www.pulpandpapercanada.com/headlines.asp>

ERA-NET Review 2006 - The Report of the Expert Review Group

Since the European Commission launched the ERA-NET scheme in 2002, intending to coordinate national research programmes, the initiative has 'met a need', according to an expert group charged with reviewing the scheme. The need for ERA-NETs persists, however. The experts' report gives a ringing endorsement to the continuation of ERA-NETs, while proposing ways in which their structure could be bettered.

More:

http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simplifiedocument&N_RCN=26948

FP7 takes off

The EU's largest ever funding programme for research and technological development, the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), was launched on 1 January. With a total budget of €50.521 billion, FP7 will run for of seven years. An additional €2.7 billion has been earmarked for the Euratom programme on nuclear research, which will run for five years. EU Science and Research Commissioner Janez Potocnik hailed the FP7's approval as 'great day' for European Science. 'In financial terms, this is a major improvement over the last framework programme. In real terms, there are 40 per cent more funds on average per year,' he said.

More: http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simplifiedocument&N_RCN=26875

COST Open Call for Proposals to support Scientific and Technical Collaboration in Europe

COST invites researchers throughout Europe to submit proposals for research networks and use this unique opportunity to exchange knowledge and to embark on new European perspectives.

More: <http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=721>

First FP7 calls published

The European Commission has published the first calls for proposals for the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)! At the moment, there are 42 calls, covering themes from the 'Cooperation', 'Ideas', 'People', 'Capacities' and 'Euratom' programmes! The first calls provide a lot of opportunities for the forest-based industry, too. Below a list giving some examples of calls relevant for the industry. Please check carefully the Cordis site to see if there is a call open for your research area:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>

EXAMPLES OF OPEN CALLS

FP7 COOPERATION WORK PROGRAMME 2006-12-22

THEME 2 – Food, Agriculture, and Biotechnology

FP7-KBBE-2007-1, deadline 2.5.2007

KBBE-2007-1-2-05: Novel forest tree breeding
Large collaborative project

KBBE-2007-1-2-06: Developing new methods for valuing and marketing of currently non-marketable forest goods and services
Small collaborative project

KBBE-2007-1-4-12: Policy and institutional aspects of sustainable agriculture, forestry and rural development in the Mediterranean partner countries
Small collaborative project

KBBE-2007-3-1-02: ENERGY PLANTS - Novel plants for energy production
Small collaborative project

KBBE-2007-3-1-04: FOREST PRODUCTS - New forest based products and processes
Large collaborative project

KBBE-2007-3-2-09: BIOREFINERY - Biotechnology for the conversion of biomass and waste into value-added products
Large collaborative project

THEME 4 – Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new technologies - NMP

FP7-NMP-2007-SMALL-1, deadline 4.5.2007 (13.9.2007)

NMP-2007-2.4-3 Renewable materials for functional packaging applications

FP7-NMP-2007-SME-1, deadline 4.5.2007 (4.10.2007)

NMP-2007-2.4-1 Flexible efficient processing for polymers

NMP-2007-3.1-2 New added-value user-centred products and product services

NMP-2007-4.0-6 Innovative added-value construction product-services

FP7-NMP-2007-LARGE-1, deadline 4.5.2007 (4.10.2007)

NMP-2007-4.0-1 Advanced wood-based composites and their production

THEME 5 – Energy

FP7-ENERGY-2007-1-RTD, deadline 3.5.2007

ENERGY.2007.3.3.1: Forest-based biorefinery
Collaborative Project (large-scale integrating project)

ENERGY.2007.3.3.3: Developing biorefinery concepts
Coordination and Support Action (support type)

THEME 6 - Environment(including climate change)

FP7-ENV-2007-1, deadline 3.5.2007

ENV.2007.1.1.6.3. Impacts and feed-backs of climate policies on land use and ecosystems in Europe
Collaborative projects (small or medium-scale focused research projects)

ENV.2007.2.1.4.1. Contribution of biodiversity to ecosystem services
Collaborative projects (small or medium-scale focused research projects)

FP7 CAPACITIES WORK PROGRAMME 2006-12-22: Research for the benefit of SMEs

FP7-SME-2007-1, deadline 4.9.2007

Research for SMEs Call 1

The call is open to all research fields

Research for the benefit of specific groups (in particular SMEs)

FP7-SME-2007-2, deadline 1.6.2007

Research for SME Associations Call 1

The call is open to all research fields

Research for the benefit of specific groups (in particular SMEs)

FP7-SME-2007-3, deadline 10.5.2007

Coordination and Support Actions Call 1

Support to dissemination and exploitation of research results and exchange of good practice

Contributing to the identification of priority research topics for SME associations, especially by establishing a dialogue with ETPs.

Germany presents Presidency research priorities

The German government, which takes over the EU Presidency on 1 January, has announced its priorities in the field of research. Topping the bill will be increasing participation in the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), launching a charter on intellectual property rights (IPR), and promoting young research talent.

More:

http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simplesdocument&N_RCN=26864

CORDIS gateway to FP7

In anticipation of the final approval of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) by the Council, CORDIS, the Community Research and Development Information Service, has launched a new FP7 service. The new web service provides the latest state of play as the EU's new research and development (R&D) programme moves into its implementation phase. It will then develop into a fully-fledged support service for all potential participants and interested parties.

More: http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simplesdocument&N_RCN=26807

CONFERENCES, OTHER EVENTS

April 2007

27-29 April, 2007 The 3rd China International Wood Supplier and Consumer Trading Conference in Shanghai, China

More: www.woodchina.cn

28-30 April, 2007 The Second China International Wood and Wood Products Conference in Beijing, China

More: www.wood-trade.com/en

May 2007

May 8-10, 2007 in Rome, Italy: Italic 4 Materials, Chemicals & Processes from Agricultural and forest biomass

More: <http://www.stc.uniroma2.it/italic4/stbFrameset-2.html>

10-11 May, 2007 in Atlanta, USA: TAPPI will host the 2007 International Conference on Renewable Energy

More: www.tappi.org/07RENEW

May 15-16, 2007 in Hannover, Germany: FTP R&D Conference

The Forest-based Sector Technology Platform will hold its next conference in Hannover, Germany during May 2007. The conference will be an official event under the German presidency of the European Union. The conference is held in combination with LIGNA+ Hannover.

More: www.forestplatform.org

14-16 May, 2007 in Athens, Greece: 11th European PLACE Conference

More: <http://www.tappievents.org/eblast/europlace/europlace.htm>

May 17-19, 2007 International Conference on Wood-based Bioenergy in Hannover, Germany

More: see websites of FAO or ITTO

May 21-25, 2007 in Stockholm, Sweden: FPIRC course No 3: Unit Processes in Chemical Pulping and Bleaching

More: www.fpirc.kth.se/courselist

May 22, 2007 in Sweden, Finnish-Swedish Wood Material Science and Engineering Research Programme. FINAL SEMINAR

More:

<http://www.woodwisdom.fi/default.asp?docId=12443&rnd=1129525466374857>

June 2007

June 10-15, 2007: 10th International Congress on Biotechnology in the Pulp and Paper Industry ICBPPI Madison, Wisconsin

More: www.bact.wisc.edu/ICBPPI_2007/index.html

September 2007

3-7 September, 2007 International Conference Poverty Reduction and Forests Tenure, Market and Policy in Bangkok, Thailand

More: <http://conference.recoftc.org>

21-24 September, 2007 China WoodFair2007 in Guangzhou, China

More: www.woodfair.com.cn

If you don't want WoodWisdom-Net eNewsletter in the future, please, send an email to woodwisdom.office@woodwisdom.fi