
WOODWISDOM-NET eNEWSLETTER 1/2006
February 19, 2005

Dear Recipient,

Please, find here the first WoodWisdom-Net eNewsletter in 2006.

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 continues identifying the research areas for the coming transnational wood material science and engineering research programme

As it was informed in the previous eNewsletter, in the autumn 2005 around 350 researchers from European universities, research institutes and industry participated in solicitation of the research issues for the transnational wood material science and engineering programme. The first call of this programme is planned to be opened in the year 2007.

In the first phase the research funding or management organizations from the eight countries participating WoodWisdom-Net invited researchers from universities, institutes and industry to solicitate research issues suitable for transnational research programme in the area of wood material science and engineering. This phase ended in mid-October 2005 and brought altogether approximately 350 research issues.

From December 2005 to mid-January 2006 the researchers were invited to assess the novelty of the proposed issues and indicate their tentative commitment. In January the industrial leaders on their turn participated in the assessment, assessing industrial relevance of the issues, suitability for European cooperation and the time horizon for the industrial use. The assessing phase is now over and the project would like to thank each participant for one's valuable contribution.

After the evaluation phases the results will be analysed, and in the three workshops in February 2006 in Helsinki (Feb 14-16) the researchers and industrial leaders will discuss the results of the assessments and will elaborate the recommendations for research areas of the transnational wood material science and engineering programme. Furthermore, they will give their suggestions for distribution of funds between basic and applied research. On March 28, 2006 the funding organisations' representatives will come to Helsinki to discuss in their own workshop the results of the assessments and will also develop tentative plans for European research programmes and respective calls for proposals.

The whole process will support the original plan of the WoodWisdom-Net ERA-Net project: to launch a joint, transnational European Research and Technical Development (RTD) programme in the area of wood material science and engineering with common funding and administration in the year 2007.

Norway's new national R&D programme WOOD has granted 740 000 euro to 14 new projects for 2006.

Norway's new national R&D programme WOOD, a joint initiative between Innovation Norway and The Research Council of Norway, has granted 740 000 euro to 14 new projects for 2006.

The projects include innovative development work, applied research and basic research, and aims to strengthen the forestry and wood-based industries.

The new projects are:

- ** Massive wood elements - properties and use (Moelven MassivTre AS)
- ** Assessing Fire Resistance of Timber Doorsets (Cowi AS – Trondheim)
- ** Everyday forestry or forest reserves? The relative importance of "Living Forest" for biodiversity in relation to forest reserves (Norwegian Forestry Association - Norskog)
- ** Applied silviculture for improved timber quality in Norwegian forest (Glommen Forest Owner's Association)
- ** Customer oriented forest and wood production and trade (Viken Forest Owner's Association)

- ** Assessing wood properties of forest resources by airborne LiDAR (Viken Forest Owner's Association)
- ** New cooperation solutions for effective communication and wood material flow in value chains (Optimera Gruppen)
- ** Raw material properties of Norwegian pine and use of pine in furfuryl alcohol treated wood products (Wood Polymer Technologies ASA)
- ** Better wood products by a new generation drying control (Alfsen og Gunderson AS)
- ** Solid wood products: Consumer preferences and product development (Norwegian University of Life Science, Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management)
- ** Which mechanisms decide the use of materials in large urbane buildings? (SINTEF

Byggforsk)

** A research- and end-use strategy for new generations of decision-support systems in forest management planning (Norwegian University of Life Science, Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management)

** Modelling and development of connections in timber structures (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Engineering Science and Technology)

** Comfort properties of timber floor constructions (SINTEF Byggforsk)

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Home page R&D programme WOOD:

<http://www.forskningsradet.no/tre>

Sweden, Finland and Switzerland are the European innovation leaders

The European Innovation Scoreboard 2005 (EIS) confirms that Sweden, Finland and Switzerland are the European innovation leaders, followed by Germany and Denmark. Although many new Member States show encouraging signs of catching-up, the current pace of improvements is unlikely to lead an EU-wide convergence in the short term. In addition, should trends for the 25 Member States remain stable; the innovation gap between Europe and the US will not close.

More (ctrl and click)

<http://trendchart.cordis.lu/scoreboards/scoreboard2005/index.cfm>

VTT Develops high-technology ecological paper

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland has developed natural materials from raw starch to replace minerals in fillers, adhesives and coatings. This kind of paper is 20 to 30 per cent lighter than the conventional one, which means a reduction in transport costs too. The new raw materials of starch paper and their manufacturing methods are expected to be a success.

More

http://www.tekes.fi/eng/news/uutis_tiedot.asp?id=4890

TeKes renewed its organisation for the benefit of its customers

From the beginning of 2006, TeKes will offer to its customers improved services in funding and expertise. The restructuring increases the impact of TeKes operations and improves the ability to change in this rapidly changing world.

More

http://www.tekes.fi/eng/news/uutis_tiedot.asp?id=4893

forest.fi

www.forest.fi is a gateway to Finnish forests, forestry and the whole forest sector.

More

www.forest.fi

The Plant Genomics ERA-Net Project ERA-PG has launched the two- stage call for transnational research projects in February

The call for pre-proposals opened on February 1st, 2006. The countries participating the call are Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the UK. Funding will be available from national funding organisations only for those participants of the respective residence country. Projects can be funded for a maximum of three years.

Application guidelines can be found on <http://www.erapg.org/>.

More

<http://www.erapg.org/everyone/10759>

Commission of the European Communities has finally published the rules for the participation in actions under the FP7 and for dissemination of research results

More

http://www.tekes.fi/eu/fin/7po/com_2005_705_en.pdf

Renewable energy: European Commission proposes ambitious biomass and biofuels action plan and calls on Member States to do more for green electricity

More

<http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/1546&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Austria presents Presidency research priorities

More

http://icadc.cordis.lu/fep-cgi/srchidadb?CALLER=EN_NEWS&ACTION=D&SESSION=&RCN=24940

Scientific Support to Policies Call opens in the Sixth Framework Programme

The areas open include "The modernization and sustainability of agriculture and forestry" and "Tools and assessment methods for sustainable agriculture and forestry management". The instruments of this call include SSA, CA and STREP projects. Closing date is March 22.

More

http://fp6.cordis.lu/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP6DetailsCallPage&call_id=268

CEPI, the Confederation of European Paper Industries, has published a new sustainability report

The report describes the achievements after the first report was published 2003 and also determines, how the pulp and paper industry can deliver a better sustainability performance in the future.

More

<http://www.cepi.org/>

Towards the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) of the European Community

On 21 September 2005 the European Commission approved its proposals for a Council decision concerning the Specific Programmes implementing the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities: Cooperation, Ideas, People, Capacities and direct actions by the JRC, as well as research under the Euratom treaty including direct actions by the JRC.

More information on FP7 in

<http://cordis.europa.eu.int/fp7/home.html>

Bioenergy market growing vigorously

The EU's commitments to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions have raised bioenergy as one of the main sources of renewable energy. This will boost international bioenergy trade and encourage EU countries to use biofuels in place of fossil-based fuels in energy production.

Read full newsletter and examples of the projects in the ClimBus programme that develops services related to emissions trading

More in

<http://websrv2.tekes.fi/opencms/opencms/OhjelmaPortaali/Kaynnissa/ClimBus/en/etusivu.html>

Academy of Finland and Tekes new funding programme starts

The funding programme for visiting high-level researchers in science and technology enables Finnish universities and research institutes to hire foreign top researchers or Finnish top researchers who have long worked abroad.

More

http://www.tekes.fi/eng/news/uutis_tiedot.asp?id=4837&paluu=default.asp

More than 100 candidates for the Millenium Technology Prize

The nomination period for the Millenium Technology Prize 2006, the world's biggest technology award, has closed and the process of selecting a winner has begun. High-level proposals have been received from 32 countries.

More

http://www.tekes.fi/eng/news/uutis_tiedot.asp?id=4810

CORDIS, an information space devoted to European research and development (R&D) and innovation activities, will move under Europa server at the beginning

More

<http://cordis.europa.eu.int/>

New TAFTIE publications

TAFTIE, the European association of national and regional technology and innovation programme management organizations, has announced some ideas how to organize collaborations between national research and technological development programmes.

More

<http://www.woodwisdom.net/news/see.html?id=160>

Wood manufactures (Building with wood) is one of the eighteen sectors which VINNOVA (The Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems) has identified as future growth sectors

More

http://www.woodwisdom.fi/content/Publications/WOODMANUFACTURE_The_innovation_system_that_beats_the_systems.pdf?from=405949215909120

New Journal: Wood Material Science and Engineering

More

<http://www.woodwisdom.net/news/see.html?id=157>

ERA-NET - Perspectives for the future

According to the commission proposal in the FP7 the support for coordination of national research programmes is an even higher priority than in FP6. The actions coordinating national and regional research programmes under FP6 provided a significant impulse to the building of

the ERA. This has raised the ambition to have these actions reinforced and extended under FP7.

ERA-Net brochure

ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/coordination/docs/era-net_serie3_en.pdf

The IUFRO World Conference promoted global cooperation in forest-related research

The XXII IUFRO World Congress "Forests in the Balance – Linking Tradition and Technology" identified a range of issues where research could significantly aid the better understanding of forest-related problems

[More](#)

<http://www.iufro.org/>

CONFERENCES, SUMMER SCHOOLS, OTHER EVENTS

April 2006

The Finnish-Swedish Wood Material Science and Engineering Research Programme will arrange its' Annual Seminar 2006 on Wednesday April 5, 2006 in Helsinki

Please, note the date and follow the website www.woodwisdom.fi/en/ -events where will be more information about the programme and registrations more closely to the seminar time.

The Seminar is open to all interested in!

February 2006

Pulping and Mechanical Refining

92nd Annual Meeting of the Pulp and Paper Technical Association of Canada

February 6-10, 2006 Montréal, Québec

[More](#)

9th Pira International refining event 20-24 February 2006, Renaissance Wien

Hotel, Vienna, Austria

[More](#)

May 2006

Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform

From Vision to Reality: The Strategic Research Agenda for the Forest-Based sector 2nd and 3rd May, 2006 in Austria.

[More](#)

June 2006

International conference on nanobiotechnology in Europe

The NanoBio-Europe 2006 conference will be arranged in France, June 14-16, 2006.

[More](#)

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS: PMA06: The Second International Symposium on Plant Growth Modeling, Simulation, Visualization and Applications

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