

PREAMBLE

Forestry and wood processing industry in all Southeast European countries play an important role in national economies, local and regional development, and with their high share in exports they actively contribute to the strengthening of international competitiveness of the aforementioned countries. In recent years, the sector entities such as trade and sectoral associations, clusters, universities and supporting institutions have been increasingly interconnected, creating numerous initiatives for projects at the regional and European level. Without a doubt, the continuation of similar activities will enable the creation of a strong regional network of knowledge, experience and sector activities aimed at the implementation of design and innovation in the industry, the environmental issues, promotion of wood as building material, energy efficiency and business networking of companies in the wood processing industry, forestry and related sectors.

In order to improve the existing situation, supporting institutions in the countries of SEE:

- Ministry of Agriculture - Republic of Croatia
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food - Republic of Slovenia
- Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection - Republic of Serbia
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry - Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management - Republic of Srpska / Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Republic of Montenegro
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy - Republic of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

are signing a following:

Cooperation Agreement

Article 1 Future activities and mutual cooperation will be based on common interests focused on the development of the wood processing industry in SEE countries, including regional expansion of the campaign for greater use of wood "WOOD is FIRST", as well as improving of cooperation among clusters and related companies, regional and rural development and exchanging experience among supporting institutions in the forestry and wood processing sector.

Article 2 The signatories of this Agreement will achieve significant exchange of knowledge and experience in order to strengthen the competitiveness of the whole sector in the aforementioned countries, especially in the implementation of innovation and in the exchange of scientific research results and best practices. Cooperation will include collecting of structural information about the sector and companies from wood processing industrial area. Special attention will be devoted to development of projects that aim to strengthen the value chain of wood products in the construction sector and interior furnishing in the countries of SEE.

Article 3 The cooperation on EU projects and multilateral connections are very important for the wood sector in SEE countries in order to share current information on the EU level and to actively participate in the application for EU tenders, to enhance their business through the exchange of knowledge, development and innovation, and the use of EU funding. The planned exchange of experience and contacts regarding membership in European specialized sectoral associations also includes cooperation on regional databases, cluster mapping and defining of appropriate strategy of wood and forestry sector, which can become an important part of sectoral strategies at EU level.

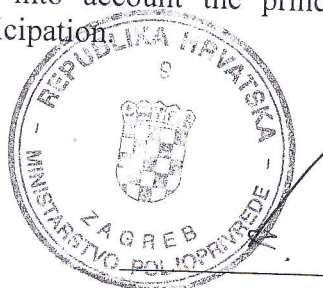
Article 4 The cooperation will also include projects regarding energy efficiency and energy savings as well as usage of renewable sources of energy from wood and forest. Business cooperation between different sectors will contribute to stronger connections on projects of renewable energy sources (RES), like conducting the campaign to increase the use of wooden biomass and pellets.

Article 5 Academic, professional and practical knowledge will be exchanged through previous experiences in scientific research projects, and especially through the cooperation on FP8 – HORIZON 2020 projects, which will be prepared and nominated in the future period.

Article 6 This Agreement represents the basis for the operational activities which the signatories will regulate with agreement supplement in the future period, through the establishment of joint working bodies, taking into account the principle of equal treatment, equal representation and voluntary participation.

In Slavonski Brod, October 29th 2014

Ministry of Agriculture – Republic of Croatia



Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food – Republic of Slovenia

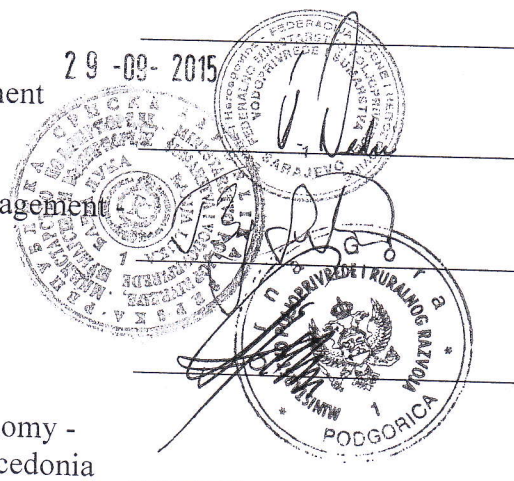
Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection – Republic of Serbia

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Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development -
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PREAMBULA

Šumarstvo i drvoprerađivačka industrija u svim zemljama Jugoistočne Europe igraju važnu ulogu u domaćoj privredi, lokalnom i regionalnom razvoju, a sa velikim učešćem u izvozu aktivno doprinose jačanju međunarodne konkurentnosti gore navedenih zemalja. U posljednjih nekoliko godina, razni akteri u sektoru, kao što su trgovačka i sektorska udruženja, klasteri, univerziteti i resorne institucije se sve više povezuju, pokrećući brojne inicijative za projekte na regionalnom i europskom nivou. Nesumnjivo, nastavkom sličnih aktivnosti omogućit će se stvaranje jake regionalne mreže znanja, iskustva i aktivnosti u sektoru u cilju provedbe projekata i inovacija u industriji, ekoloških pitanja, promicanja drveta kao građevinskog materijala, energetske učinkovitosti i poslovnog povezivanja poduzeća u drvoprerađivačkoj industriji, šumarstvu i povezanim sektorima.

Kako bi poboljšali postojeću situaciju, institucije u zemljama Jugoistočne Europe:

- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede Republike Hrvatske
- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i hrane Republike Slovenije
- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i zaštite okoliša Republike Srbije
- Federalno ministarstvo poljoprivrede, vodoprivrede i šumarstva – BiH
- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i vodoprivrede – Republika Srpska/BiH
- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja Crne Gore
- Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, šumarstva i vodoprivrede – b.j.r. Makedonija

zaključuju sljedeći

Sporazum o saradnji

Član 1 Buduće aktivnosti i zajednička saradnja temeljit će se na zajedničkim interesima usmjerenim ka razvoju drvoprerađivačke industrije u zemljama Jugoistočne Europe, uključujući regionalno širenje kampanje za veće korištenje drveta (WOOD is FIRST) "DRVO NA PRVOM MJESTU", kao i poboljšanje saradnje između klastera i povezanih poduzeća, regionalnog i ruralnog razvoja te razmjene iskustava između resornih institucija u šumarskom i drvoprerađivačkom sektoru.

Član 2 Potpisnice ovog sporazuma postići će značajnu razmjenu znanja i iskustava kako bi ojačali konkurentnost cijelog sektora u gore navedenim zemljama, posebno u provedbi inovacija i razmjeni naučnoistraživačkih rezultata i najboljih praksi. Saradnja će podrazumijevati prikupljanje strukturnih informacija o sektoru i poduzećima iz drvoprerađivačkog sektora. Posebna pažnja će se obratiti na izradu projekata u cilju jačanja vrijednosnog lanca drvnih proizvoda u sektoru građevinarstva i unutrašnjeg uređenja u zemljama Jugoistočne Europe.

Član 3 Saradnja na EU projektima te u cilju multilateralnog povezivanja izuzetno je važna za drvoprerađivački sektor u zemljama Jugoistočne Europe kako bi razmijenili postojeće informacije o EU nivou i aktivno sudjelovali u prijavama na EU tendere, pospjeli svoje poslovanje kroz razmjenu znanja, razvoja i inovacija te korištenje EU sredstava. Planirana razmjena iskustava i kontakata vezano za članstvo u specijaliziranim sektorskim udruženjima

na nivou Europe također uključuje saradnju na području regionalnih baza podataka, mapiranja klastera i definiranja odgovarajuće strategije drvoprerađivačkog i šumarskog sektora koji mogu postati važan dio sektorskih strategija na nivou EU.

Član 4 Saradnja će također uključiti projekte vezano za energetska učinkovitost i uštede kao i korištenje obnovljivih izvora energije, odnosno drveta i šuma. Poslovna saradnja između različitih sektora će doprinijeti jačoj povezanosti na projektima obnovljivih izvora energije kao što su provođenje kampanja za veće korištenje drvne biomase i peleta.

Član 5 Akademska, profesionalna i praktična znanja će se razmjenjivati kroz prethodna iskustva na naučnoistraživačkim projektima a posebno kroz saradnju na projektima FP8-HORIZON 2020, koji će se izrađivati i nominirati u narednom periodu.

Član 6 Ovaj sporazum predstavlja osnovu za operativne aktivnosti koji će potpisnice urediti dodatkom ugovora u budućem periodu formiranjem zajedničkih radnih tijela, uzimajući u obzir princip jednakog tretmana, jednakopravnog predstavljanja i dobrovoljnog učešća.

U Slavonskom Brodu, 29.10.2014.

Ministarstvo poljoprivrede Republike Hrvatske	_____
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