

WIDESPREAD-2014-1 TEAMING

**LignoSilva
Centre of Excellence Forest-based Industry**

**Implementation of intelligent technologies into wood
assortment and wood processing**

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NÁRODNÉ LESNÍCKE CENTRUM
NATIONAL FOREST CENTRE



National Forest Centre

We are a semi-budgetary forestry agency established by the Ministry of Agriculture on 1st January 2006

Staff: 235 employees (70 researchers)

BUDGET: 8.0 mil. EURO/ year (45 % governmental budget, 55 % NFC activity)

**Forest Research
Institute**

**Institute for
Forest
Consulting and
Education**

**Institute for
Forest
Resources and
Information**

**Forest
Management
Planning
Institute**

(1898)

(1978)

(2006)

(1952)

Focus of presentation

- **CE LignoSilva objectives**
- **CE LignoSilva framework**
- **CE LignoSilva policy context**
- **FBS Innovation environment - problems**

- **Demonstration case - Implementation of intelligent technologies into wood assortment and wood processing**

LignoSilva will represent a **Centre of excellence** that integrates research, development and innovation potential of the forest based industry that rationally links the chain of wood production, processing and utilization.

The CE covers five interconnected priority areas (PA):

1. Forest resources and sustainable wood production
2. Biomass and bioenergy
3. Paper-pulp technologies
4. Recycling and cascading system of wood and wood products use
5. Regional development in the context of bioeconomy

Call H2020 Widespread Teaming
Phase 2 **Coordination and
Support Action**

Centrum of excellence of Forest Based Industry: LignoSilva

OP R&I – Specific target
1.1.3 **Modernization of
infrastructure** of research
organizations in the areas of
RIS3 SK

**Research &
Innovation projects**
(H2020, BBI JU, OP R&I
CBC)

- **Europe 2020 Strategy / Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe** {COM(2011) 571 final}
- **A new EU Forest Strategy** for forests and the forest-based sector {COM(2013) 659 final}
- **EC (2013): A BLUEPRINT FOR THE EU FOREST-BASED INDUSTRIES**
- **Smart Specialisation Strategy for the Slovak Republic (the RIS3 SK)** n. 665/2013. The document identifies key areas of specialisation from the point of view of available **scientific and research capacities**: (i) **agriculture and environment including chemical technologies**, (ii) **sustainable energy**
- **National programme and Action plan to use wood potential** (NPUWP) approved by the Government of the SR (August 2013 and February 2014)
- **EFI (2014): Future of the European Forest-Based Sector – Structural Changes Toward Bioeconomy**

- Fragmentation of research program and infrastructure
- Insufficient level of cooperation with partners from business sectors
- Insufficient level of cooperation with top research institutions from abroad
- Insufficient cross-sectorial research
- Non-effective system for know-how and technology transfer
- Need to improve all features of innovation system, including screening; benchmarking; SMEs Market Uptake, networking, integration and mutual sharing of research and infrastructure capacities; Mobility & Exchange supporting; Communication & Dissemination

PA1 Forest resources and sustainable wood production

IP 1.1 Ecosystem dynamics modelling & Risk Management

IP 1.2 Silvicultural systems supporting wood production

IP 1.3 Forest logging and technical infrastructure

IP 1.4: Forest economy & Multifunctional forest management

PA2 Biomass and bioenergy

IP 2.1 Efficiency increase of the energy production from wood

IP 2.2 Transfer of advanced technologies for the wood biomass decomposition into practice

PA3 Pulp & paper technology treatment

IP 3.1 Incubator of the special paper production and online non-destructive testing

IP 3.2. Functional fibers formation and paper surface treatment development

PA4 Recycling and cascading systems of wood and wood product use

4.1. Wood cascade use of the mechanical processing

4.2. Increase of the old wood products recycling volume after the expiration period

PA 5 Regional development in the context of bioeconomy

- The demonstration case objective is to implement a workflow of coordination and support actions to facilitate knowledge transfer from CE to practice.
- Demonstration activities represent a flexible way to link CE Priority areas and Innovation priorities. DC combine their impact into tangible outputs.
- DC will also demonstrate relation and connection of Coordination and Support Actions with CE Infrastructure development program and CE Research and Innovation program

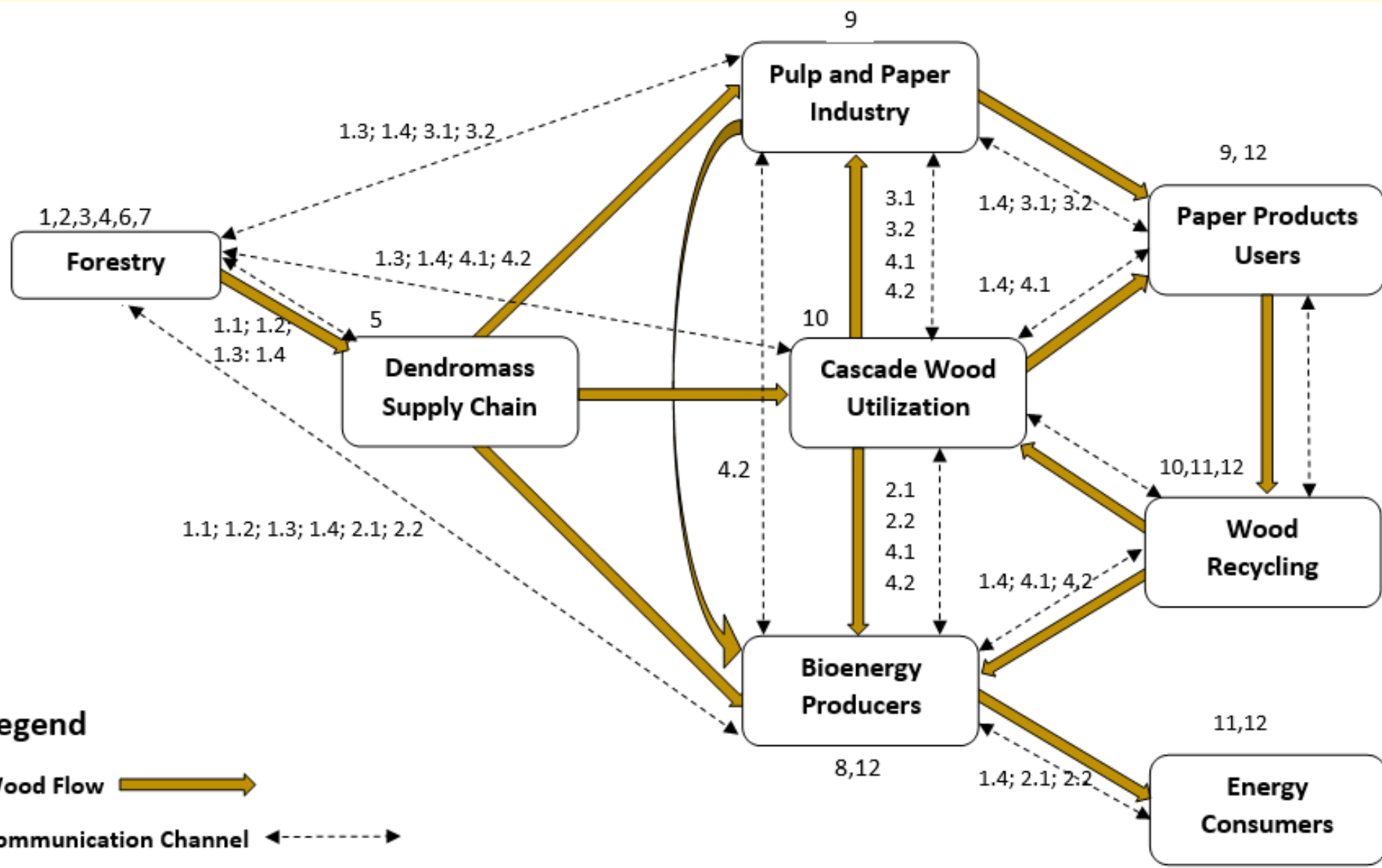
DC01 Support for sustainability of forest soils

DC02 Supporting forest adaptation to climate change in commercial forests

DC03 Forest protection service

DC04 Improving production capabilities of silvicultural systems...

DC05 Implementation of intelligent technologies into wood assortment and wood processing



Legend

Wood Flow 

Communication Channel 

Innovation priorities: 1,1 4,2 ; Demonstration case: 1 ... 12;

Implementation of intelligent technologies into wood assortment and wood processing

Rationale for the case selection

DC focus on implementation of **3D scanner** into the chain of processing of wood in sawmills. Scanner scans and digitally reconstructs the internal defects of the log allowing the assessment of the optimum cutting solution in real time. **Laser cutting technology** allow realised optimised cutting solution based on highest resale value of final products. These unique technologies will be interconnected in a fully automated and robotized production line.

Domestic sawmilling processed an average of 4.5 million m³ industrial roundwood. Waste generated in sawmilling is ~1.3 million m³ (29 %).

Applying pilot line (3D + 2D scanner, laser cutting) it is expected at hardwood:

- increasing the yield of 1 m³ of log from present 71 % to 90 % at lumber product
- increasing the yield of 1 m³ of log from present 45 % to 60 % of the final product
- saving in wood consumption € 10 per m³ (at a price of logs 50 € / 1 m³)

Objectives

- Demonstrate an establishment of pilot line of innovation technologies (3D scanner - 2 D scanner - Laser cutting) as a model case for sawmill companies.
- Demonstrate assortments innovative practices and handling of wood as a basis for an increase yield of wood logs to maximize revenues from the sale of wood.
- Improve the knowledge of wood producers and processors in optimizing the yield of raw wood assortments.

Questions

- How can assortment methods and assortment process before forest logging be improved?
- How can assortment process of stem-wood manipulation in cross-cutting be improved?
- How can handling and cutting losses be decreased and wood yields be increased?



Key infrastructure

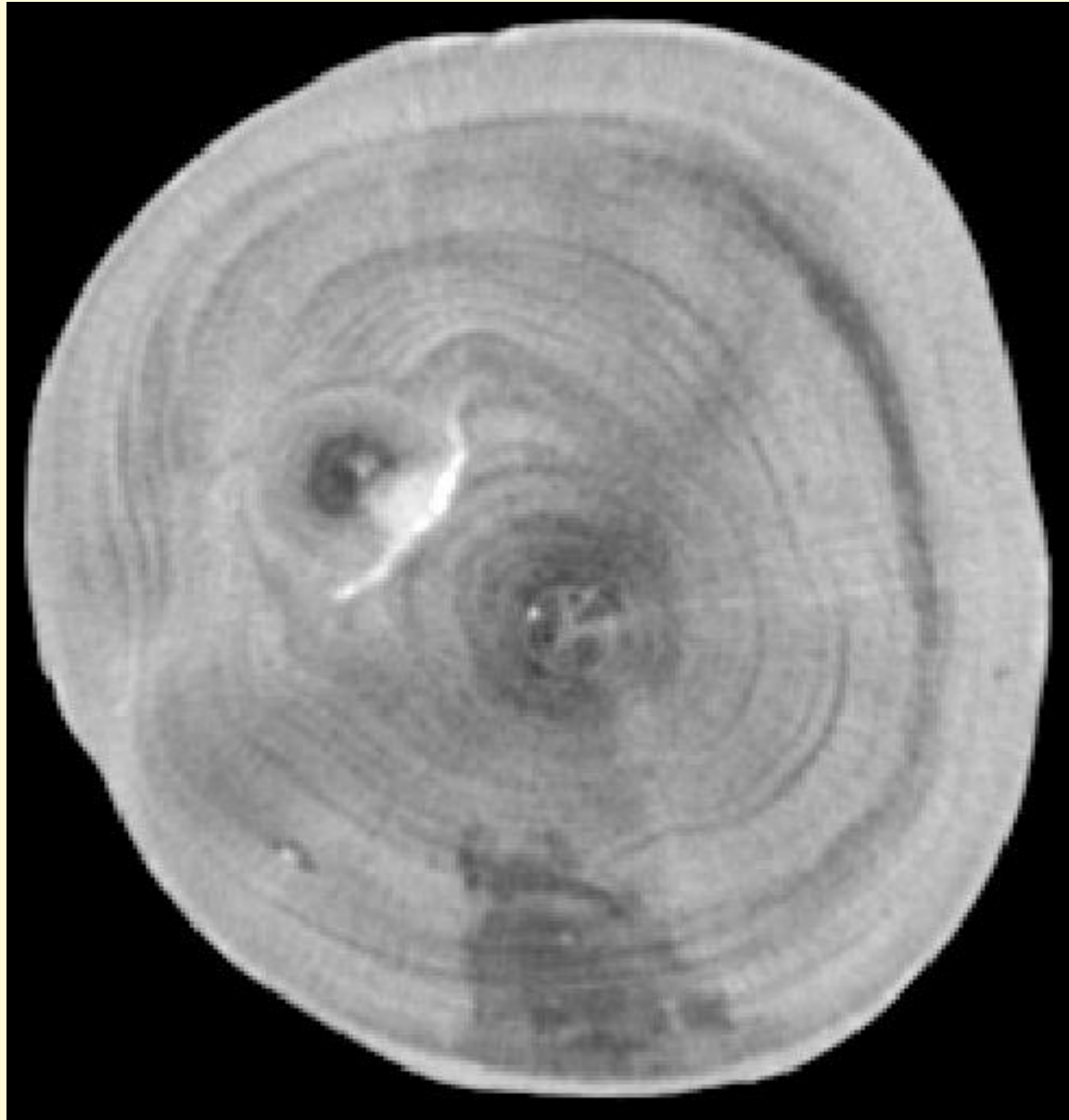
3D CT scanner
CT Log scanner
2D WoodEye scanner
Laser cutter

Products:

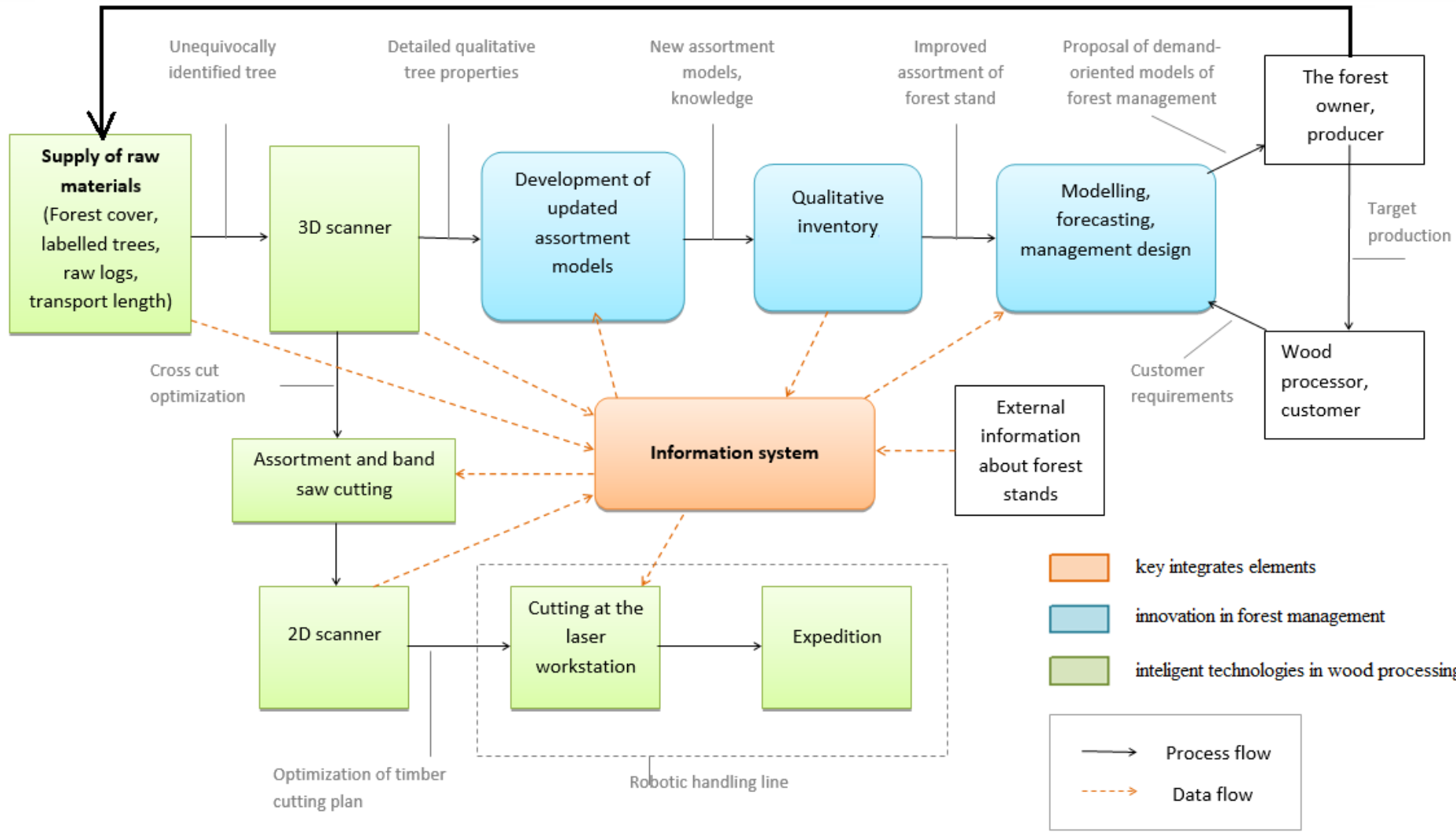
Assortments model
Assortment procedure
Wood defect detection
algorithms for 2D and 3D
scanners

Services:

Proposal of IT connection of
3D and 2D scanners and laser
cutting technology in sawmill.
Proposal of IT and IS
connection of wood producer
and wood processor



Conceptual scheme of process and data flows of industrial R & D centre to optimize the chain of production, supply and processing of wood



Generic stakeholder

Wood processors in sawmills

Companies licenced for forest management planning

Specific stakeholders

Quercus ltd Lučenec. - the company is owner of a robotic technological line for processing and cutting logs and lumber equipped with 2D scanner WoodEye and laser cutting machines. The line is in the testing stage in laboratories condition.

Forest of the Slovak Republic, state enterprise. The company develops a new procedure of forest assortment in preparation for logging and tests new system of logs labelling with aim to increase resale value of wood.

Technical University Zvolen, Faculty of Forestry & Czech University of Life Science, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences – PhD thesis, hosting and joining short-term visits and other exchange activities.

Services & products:

Innovation degree & Technological readiness level indicators

Service / Product	Innovation degree description	Technology readiness level
The new generation of assortment models	Variant changes	TRL8
The new variant of forest stand assortments	Variant changes	TRL6
New algorithms for wood defect detection based on 3D scanning technology	Generation change	TRL4 – TRL7
More powerful algorithms to detect wood defect based on 2D scanning technology timber	Generation change	TRL4 – TRL7
The new structural concept of sawmill lines with 3D & 2D scanner linked laser cutting – IS/IT connection	Genus change	TRL 7

Demonstration case DC05

	The 6 months periods of the 2 nd phase project implementation									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Preparatory phase: infrastructure procurement, targeted visits, study visits, benchmarking visits										
Pilot testing, data gathering, algorithm development, experts stays										
Organization of promotion events (conferences, workshops) & Dissemination activities (Exhibition, fairs)										
Publication activities (studies, guidelines, best practices, reports, articles, etc.) & Property right protection										
Education and training activities										
Bridge to industry - advisory services; stakeholders forum, creation of cross-sectoral alliances										
Estimated sources for CSA (EUR)	10000	35000	35000	15000	35000	20000	20000	20000	15000	25000
Total Budget for CSA (EUR)	230000									

- Market analyses of 3D scanners and 3D CT scanner procurement
- Analysis of processes and data flows in pilot line and implementation of for the entire system of technological innovation
- Study tour & training 3D scanner control, operation, programming,
- Initiating of PhD theses: detection of wood defects, optimize cutting plans
- Installing the scanner into a pilot line, testing in trial operation
- Study: proposals for the implementation and connectivity technologies in pilot line and communication interfaces
- Pilot testing of scanner, knowledge transfer from supplier
- External supervision of PhD student: detection of wood defects, optimize cutting plans
- PhD students study stays in CoE
- Participation in trade fairs
- Workshop: Implementation of 3D scanner in sawmill wood processor
- Proceedings from workshop
- Feasibility study: implementation of 3D CT scanner in expedition and manipulation log stocks of wood producents
- Advisory and consulting at 3D scanner implementation in sawmill or in expedition and manipulation log stocks
- Participation in international trade fairs
- Conference: Implementation of 3D scanner in sawmill wood processor; increase of wood yield, economy and return on investment
- Conference monograph in established publisher (e.g. Elsevier)
- Property right protection
- Stakeholders forum
- Press conferences, media tours

In conclusion, let us repeat the main idea of our project: Forestry is understood primarily as the industry, as wood producer.

We can be a strong partner in the processing chain and identify trends in the forestry-based sector.

It is not only my belief, but nicely expressed it Herbert Grill in the *Forest & Rings Journal*, when he said:

"... the best prospers the one who well recognize the needs of the buyers and prepares the wood they needs"



LOOKING FORWARD FOR COOPERATION

EC expectations

- New and strong knowledge institution, able to become bacon in their own countries/regions at a heart of possible far-reaching reform process.
- Real target is not „yet another excellence science and technology project“ but a new institution.
- EC do not want to see another good Coordination Action, but true New Institution claiming a new position in national and international science and innovation scene.

Vision

- Established CE as an excellent bearer of innovation and know-how transfer into the area of wood production, processing, use and recycling
- Achieve a position of a relevant entity with scientific perspective, actively participating and professionally guiding the complex multi-layered relationships in a forestry and wood processing complex
- Stimulate sustainable development of the forest-based sector based on the synergy of excellent science and practice

CE Long term life-cycle sustainability

