



Innovation and Circular Economy in Mountain Forest Supply Chains: How to Close the Loop?

29th November 2016

Venue Location: Dom kulture Skrad,
Josipa Blaževića Blaža 8a, 51311 Skrad, Croatia

How can we close the loop? To benefit from limited natural resources, we must develop a circular economy in mountain forests. Innovative processes, products, and governance are needed along the entire mountain forest supply chain in order to eliminate waste and negative outputs.

Context

Forests cover 41% of Europe's mountains, making them the most common landscape feature in mountain areas in Europe¹. In 17 European countries, forests cover more than 50% of the mountain area. Mountain forests provide multiple functions essential for human activities. The successful exploitation of mountain forest potential in the future will depend on a forest supply chain that is competitive, sustainable, well-managed, and productive. This workshop sheds light on how such a supply chain may be achieved through innovation and circular economy.

The circular economy is based on "sharing, leasing, reuse, repair, refurbishment, and recycling" of products and materials in an ideally closed loop. The goal is to reduce waste by keeping products and materials within the economy. As pressure on resources increases and availability decreases, there will be an increasing need for sustainable systems that reduce waste and promote recycling. The circular economy attempts to address this need. This workshop thus asks: how can the circular economy be applied to the mountain forest supply chain?

The European Commission proposed a circular economy package in 2015.² The package includes actions and legislative proposals to promote the development of the circular economy across Europe from now until 2030.

Forestry can contribute to the circular economy in Europe through the development of new and innovative products, processes and governance.

Objectives of the workshop

- To better **understand the policy framework** (EU, national and regional policies and programmes) supporting the circular economy in forestry

1 EEA: Europe's ecological backbone: recognising the true value of our mountains, 2010

2 Circular Economy Package, European Commission, http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm, 2015.



- To **explore visions for a circular economy in the forestry supply chain**– what does a circular economy in the forest supply chain look like, how will we achieve it?
- From theory to the practice, explore innovative **tools, instruments and processes** that can improve the circular economy in forestry.
- Facilitate the **exchange of experiences and good practices, ideas and proposals** among the different mountain forest actors in Europe.

Desired Outputs

- Handbook on good practices in innovation and the circular economy in the forest supply chain.
- Action plan for Euromontana on innovation and circular economy in the forest supply chain.

Target audience

National, regional, local authorities, forest owners, wood industries, forestry organisations, local development agencies, farmer associations, chambers of commerce and industry, research and technical centres, advisory services.

Program

Light Lunch and Brokerage Session (no interpretation services) 13:00-14:30

During the rest of the workshop, interpretation will be offered in English, French, and Croatian.

INTRODUCTION

14.30 – 14.45: How can RUMRA support mountain forestry?, Jozo Radoš, Croatian MEP of the RUMRA INTERGROUP

14:45 – 15:00: Opportunities for circular economy in mountain areas: focus on the need for innovation and circular economy in forestry, Juanan Gutierrez, President of Euromontana

15:00 – 15:15: Circular economy and sustainable development with a focus on Southeastern Europe, Saša Čegar, Faculty of Economics, University of Rijeka

TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

Circular Economy in Mountain Forestry: What might the circular economy in forestry look like? How can we achieve it?

15:15 – 15:30: The EU circular economy package and the EU forest strategy: intersections and funding opportunities, European Commission Zagreb Delegation (tbc)



15:30 – 15:50: What might the circular economy in mountain forestry look like and what makes it unique? Challenges and opportunities, Ben Allen, Senior Policy Analyst, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

15:50 – 16:10: Promoting innovation in the circular economy: value chain analysis in the sector of non-wood forest products in Serbia, Ljiljana Keča, Faculty of Forestry, University of Belgrade

16:10 – 16:30: Question and Answer Session

Coffee break 16:30 - 17:00

INITIATIVES AND EXAMPLES

**Innovation and the circular economy in the forest supply chain
(Presentation of Good Practices and discussions in groups (presentation of 4 initiatives plus overview – 15 minutes per initiative + 15 minutes for overview))**

17:00 – 17:15: Forest's Contracts: an instrument of development and participatory management, Enrico Calvo, Regional Entity for Services to Agriculture and Forestry (ERSAF), Lombardy, Italy

17:15 – 17:30: Monitoring and Managing Forests with GDi solutions, Ivan Lukić, GDi GISDATA d.o.o., Zagreb, Croatia

17:30 – 17:45: Project BioEuparks, Sila National Park, Italy, Mario Grillo, Confederation of Italian Farmers, Italy

17:45 – 18:00: Bioash granulators in the circular economy, Sakari Kiviniemi, Chief Executive Officer, Rakeistus, Oulu, Finland

18:00 – 18:15: Overview and summary of good practices

18:15 - 18:45: Question and answer, feedback and discussion on the initiatives

18:45 – 19:00: Recommendations and proposal of action plan for mountain forestry, Juanan Gutierrez, President of Euromontana

Cultural program by local performers 19:00 – 19:30

Dinner 19:30

(with opportunity to tour local 19th century house)



Logistics

Location: Dom kulture Skrad, Josipa Blaževića Blaža 8a, 51311 Skrad, Croatia

Shuttle bus: A shuttle bus from Zagreb to Skrad will be available on the evening of the 28th (21:00) and the evening of the 30th (20:00). Alternatively, you may take one of the public buses between Zagreb and Delnice or Ravna Gora, where the hotels are located. Times and prices are available [here](#). Shuttle buses will be available between the hotels and the workshop venue.

Accommodation: During reservations, participants should use the code “PINS Skrad” in order to receive the discounted price.

- 1.) Hotel Risnjak in Delnice – <http://www.hotel-risnjak.hr/eindex.asp> (price is 45 € per person/per night)
- 2.) Hotel Breza in Ravna Gora – <http://www.breza-rg.hr/english/index.html> (price is 31€ per person/per night).

Food: Lunch and dinner will be served. Please indicate your dietary constraints during registration.

Interpretation: Interpretation will be offered in English, French, and Croatian.