



WoodWisdom-Net

Towards a common strategic research direction

Competitiveness from sustainable and innovative forest-based products and services



Leonardo Bridge, Oslo, Norway

Launching a European research programme

The aim of the WoodWisdom-Net project is to develop collaboration between the European forestry sector and forest-based industry, the wood material research community and funding organizations by integrating research resources in different countries. Promoting the development of innovative forest-based products, processes and services, the collaboration will benefit Europe's citizens and strengthen the competitiveness of Europe's forest sector and forest-based industry.

The WoodWisdom-Net project, "Networking and integration of national programmes in the area of wood material science and engineering" (2004-2007), is designed to prepare and launch a joint, European Research and Technical Development (RTD) programme with common funding and administration in the year 2007.

The European collaboration in the WoodWisdom-Net project arises from the Finnish Forest Cluster Research Programme Wood Wisdom (1998-2001) and from the Finnish-Swedish co-funded Wood Material Science Research Programme (2003-2006).



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Developing sustainable, innovative products and services

Europe's forestry sector and forest-based industry generate an annual turnover of more than EUR 400 billion and employ 4 million people. The industry is competitive in global markets, relying on technology leadership, continuous product development and optimisation of the value chain. As this development is gradually coming to an end, innovations and cooperation within the cluster and with other sectors, as well as new business models, will be needed to secure the future success of the European forestry sector and forest-based industry. Wood material research plays an important role in developing innovative products and in creating a sustainable society.

Identifying research topics with stakeholders

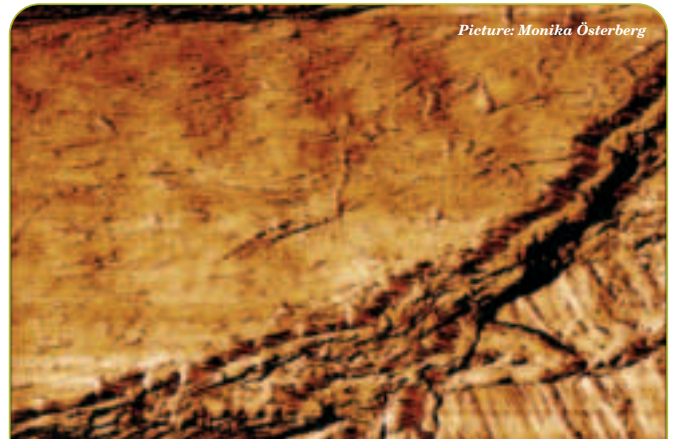
The project seeks to identify complementary research in national programmes and specific research efforts to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of the forestry sector and forest-based industry. Research topics will be identified in collaboration with different stakeholders in the industry and research community. Twelve funding organisations from five European countries will benchmark networking and opening mechanisms for sustained cooperation. These will be used in launching and implementing a joint European research programme funded from national sources.

The project also welcomes new partners.



Picture: Nordic Timber Council AB, Gösta Wendelius

Universeum, National Science Discovery Centre, Gothenburg, Sweden.



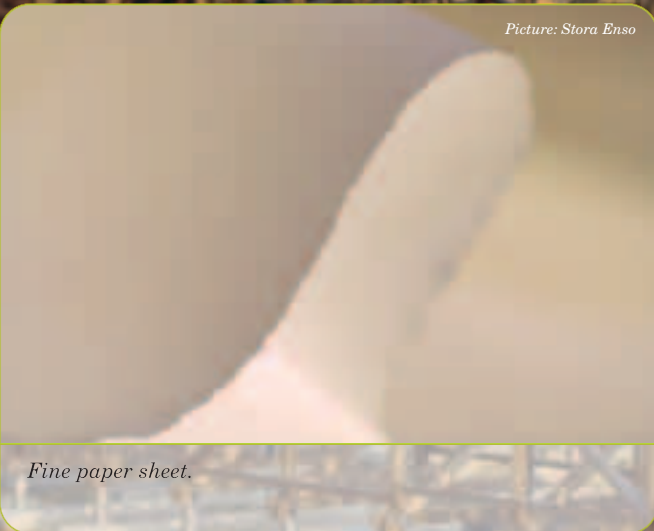
Picture: Monika Österberg

AFM image of unbleached TMP pulp.

Wooden Coaster Colossos, Heide-Park Soltau, Germany.

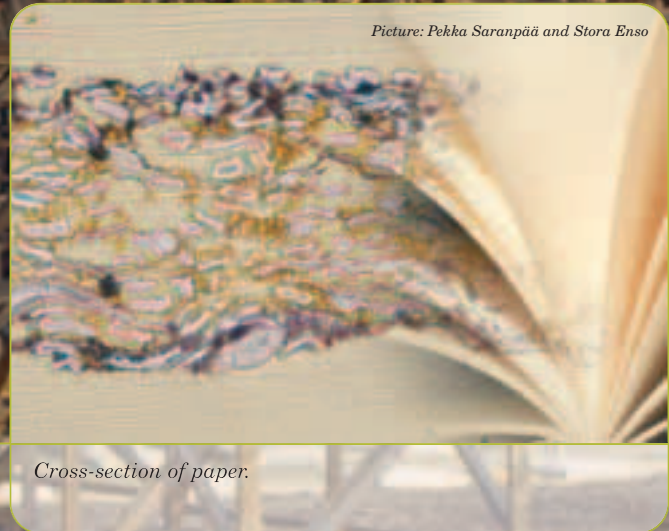


Picture: Stora Enso



Fine paper sheet.

Picture: Pekka Saranpää and Stora Enso



Cross-section of paper.



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Strengthening the European Research Area

WoodWisdom-Net is a project within the ERA-NET Scheme of the EU Commission's Sixth Framework Programme. The ERA-NET's objective is to generate collaboration between key research funding and managing organisations. It supports the cooperation and coordination of research programmes carried out at national or regional level and is a part of the specific programme 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'. The ERA-NET is also one of the major objectives in the Seventh Framework Programme.



Picture: The German Timber Promotion Fund

German forest and wood products.

Partner organisations of WoodWisdom-Net

Finland:

- *National Technology Agency of Finland (Tekes), www.tekes.fi*
- *Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, www.mmm.fi*
- *Academy of Finland, www.aka.fi*

Denmark:

- *Danish Forest and Nature Agency, www.sns.dk*
- *Danish Technical Research Council, www.forsk.dk*

Germany:

- *Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), www.bmbf.de*
- *Project Management Agency Juelich (PTJ), www.fz-juelich.de*

Norway:

- *The Research Council of Norway, www.rcn.no*
- *Innovation Norway, www.invanor.no*

Sweden:

- *The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (Formas), www.formas.se*
- *Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA), www.vinnova.se*

Nordic Forest Research Co-operation Committee,
www.nordicforestresearch.org



Further information

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