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**INNOVAWOOD SUPPLEMENT**

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## 1 EVENTS, CONFERENCES AND COURSES

### *1.1 Events in brief*

Forest Tech Europe 2008 – International conference on emerging technologies for the forest industry. Helsinki, Finland. 5-6 November 2008. Visit [www.forest-tech.net](http://www.forest-tech.net) for more information.

The European forest-based sector: bio-responses to address new climate and energy challenges? International conference. Nancy, France. 6-8 November 2008. For more information visit [www.nancy-congres.com](http://www.nancy-congres.com).

Joint partnering event for FP7 Projects under the ‘nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies’ (NMP) programme. Stockholm, Sweden. 14 November 2008. For more information on the event visit the FTP website at <http://www.forestplatform.org/index.php?mid=55&a=show&id=138>

2<sup>nd</sup> international forestry training centres conference. Lyss, Switzerland. 19-21 November 2008. Visit [www.eduforest.eu/index3.php?page=31](http://www.eduforest.eu/index3.php?page=31) for more information.

Research seminar on ‘Biofuels from the forest,’ organised by the Paper and Fibre Research Institute. Trondheim, Norway. 20-21 November 2008. Contact [karin.oyaas@pfi.no](mailto:karin.oyaas@pfi.no) for more information.

Contribution of wood science and wood industries to the issues of sustainable development. Bordeaux La Bastide, France. 20-21 November 2008. Visit the event website at [www.pindeslandes.org/arboracolloque.html](http://www.pindeslandes.org/arboracolloque.html).

European Paper Week, including seminars on paper recycling, climate change and forest biodiversity from the paper industry perspective. Organised by CEPI. Brussels, Belgium. 25-27 November 2008. Visit [www.cepi.org/epw](http://www.cepi.org/epw) for more information.

### *1.2 Consultation on Ireland's Involvement in ERA initiatives*

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> Forfás hosted an information morning on the involvement of Irish organisations in the EU's ERA initiatives. Although many initiatives have been taken by the EU and Member States there are still strong national and institutional barriers which prevent ERA from becoming a reality. In recent months, Ruth CARD of Forfás has been interviewing Irish organisations in relation to their participation in ERA initiatives, the results of which are presented below.

#### **Background**

In 2000, the EU decided to create the European Research Area (ERA). The objective behind this is to create a unified area all across Europe, in which we should:

- enable researchers to move and interact seamlessly, benefit from world-class infrastructures and work with excellent networks of research institutions;
- share, teach, value and use knowledge effectively for social, business and policy purposes;

- optimise and open European, national and regional research programmes in order to support the best research throughout Europe and coordinate these programmes to address major challenges together;
- develop strong links with partners around the world so that Europe benefits from the worldwide progress of knowledge, contributes to global development and takes a leading role in international initiatives to solve global issues.

ERA should inspire the best talents to enter research careers in Europe, incite industry to invest more in European research, thereby contributing to the EU objective to devote 3 % of GDP to research, and strongly contribute to the creation of sustainable growth and jobs.

Seven years on, the creation of ERA has become a central pillar of the EU ‘Lisbon Strategy’ for growth and jobs, together with the completion of the Single Market, the European ‘broad-based innovation strategy’ and the creation of a European Higher Education Area.

### **Irish experience of ERA initiatives**

The main findings of the study of Irish participation in ERA-NET presented by Ruth CARD reveal a number of both positive and negative attributes. The positives are that:

- institutions are incorporated into an expanded international network of agencies and researchers;
- there is greater access to conferences and workshops;
- access to peer reviewers and evaluators;
- a strengthening of research capabilities;
- access to infrastructure;
- insights into international research;
- the opportunity to benchmark the workings of one’s own organisation against others and
- the opportunity to share problems and solutions.

The shortfalls that currently exist are also considerable, however, and include the following:

- there is no overall strategy, with participation predominantly through personal contacts;
- there is little or no sharing of knowledge;
- the capacity for participants to actually participate is limited;
- there are some institutional barriers to participation;
- generally the goals are set in retrospect if at all and
- there is very little evaluation at national level.

The following recommendations for improving Irish participation in ERA-NETs, and also the effectiveness of Irish participation, were made:

- participation should be in accordance with a strategy;
- awareness needs to be increased;
- a critical mass must be achieved;
- coordination should be light;
- national and ERA-NET requirements to be harmonised where possible;

- ERA-NETs should be used as a stepping stone to meet SSTI and FP7 targets;
- national duplication of ERA-NETs must be minimised and
- dissemination of information from ERA-NETs needs to be increased.

## 2 EUROPEAN RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

### 2.1 Calls for proposals

The details of a number of open calls under the People, Cooperation and Ideas Specific Programmes of FP7 and also a call recently issued under the LIFE+ Programme were presented in recent issues of the InnovaWood supplement to the COFORD newsletter. The deadlines for the submission of proposals in response to these calls are approaching quickly. The closing dates for the submission of proposals are presented in table 1 below. Please refer to the InnovaWood supplement to the COFORD newsletter cited in the right hand column of the table below for more information about the programme in question. The links to the relevant newsletters can be found below the table.

**Table 1: Calls for EU-funded research under FP7 and other programmes.**

PROGRAMME	THEME / GRANT SCHEME	CLOSING DATE	COFORD NEWSLETTER
Ideas	Coordination and support action	12.11.08	September '08
Ideas	ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant	19.11.08	September '08
LIFE+	Calls for the themes: Nature and biodiversity Environmental policy and governance Information and communication	21.11.08	September '08
Cooperation	Energy (call part 1)	25.11.08	June '08
Cooperation	Energy (call part 3)	25.11.08	June '08
Cooperation	Biorefinery (joint call) (BIOREF)	02.12.08	June '08
Cooperation	Space (includes land cover related themes)	04.12.08	June '08
Ideas	ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant	10.12.08	September '08
Capacities	Research for the benefit of SMEs	18.12.08	
People	European Reintegration Grants (ERG)	31.12.08	April '08
People	International Reintegration Grants (IRG)	31.12.08	April '08
Cooperation	Environment (incl. climate change) (ENV)	08.01.08	June '08
Cooperation	Food, agriculture, fisheries and biotechnology (KBBE)	15.01.09	June '08
Cooperation	Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies (NMP)	mid-February	June '08
Cooperation	Energy (call part 2)	29.04.09	June '08

April: <http://www.coford.ie/iopen24/pub/pub/iwapril.pdf>

June: [http://www.coford.ie/iopen24/pub/pub/iwscoford\\_newsletter\\_june08.pdf](http://www.coford.ie/iopen24/pub/pub/iwscoford_newsletter_june08.pdf)

September: <http://www.coford.ie/iopen24/pub/pub/iws-september08.pdf>

## 2.2 FP7 Research topics with relevance for the forestry–wood chain (FWC)

In table 2 the research topics contained in the various FP7 work programmes for 2009 with relevance to various parts of the forestry sector are outlined. All of these calls are open, with the exception of those relating to the priority area ‘Nanosciences, Materials and New Production Technologies’ (NMP), which will be published on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November. The topics quoted for the NMP work programme are as yet provisional.

**Table 2: Research topics of relevance to researchers in the FWC under FP7.**

WORK PROG.	PAGE NO.	TOPIC NO.	Topic	CLOSING DATE
ENV	12	1.1.3.1	Quantification and attribution of annual-to-decadal changes of carbon and GHG budgets in European terrestrial ecosystems to human and natural drivers and associated climate-carbon feedbacks	08.01.09
ENV	14	1.1.6.1	Integrated methodology providing a common platform for an improved assessment of climate change impacts, vulnerability and related cost effective adaptation measures	08.01.09
ENV	14	1.1.6.2	Options for adaptation strategies integrating sectoral and cross-sectoral measures in view of post-2012 climate initiatives	08.01.09
ENV	19	1.3.1.1	Forest fires in the context of climate and social changes	08.01.09
ENV	19	1.3.2.1	Costs of natural hazards	08.01.09
ENV	25	2.1.6.1	Sustainable forest management as a tool to prevent unwanted forest fires	08.01.09
ENV	25	2.1.6.2	Forest ecosystem genomics	08.01.09
ENV	32	3.1.3.1	Supporting sustainable nationwide and local wastes processing industry in ACP countries: legal framework, economical incentives, business/ organisational know-how	08.01.09
ENV	33	3.1.5.2	Benchmarking and labelling of the sustainability performance of buildings	08.01.09
ENV	38	3.3.2.1	Improved Life Cycle Impact Assessment methods (LCIA) for better sustainability assessment of technologies	08.01.09
ENV	47	4.2.3.1	Assessment of economic instruments to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity	08.01.09
ENV	47	4.2.3.2	Enhancing connectivity between research and policymaking in sustainable development	08.01.09
KBBE	16	1-2-06	Developing new methods for valuing and marketing currently non-marketable forest functions, goods and services	15.01.09
KBBE	16	1-2-07	Meeting industrial requirements on wood raw-materials quality and quantity	15.01.09
KBBE	17	1-2-08	Assessing and reducing vulnerability of European forests to climate change and the consequences for industrial and societal needs – SICA (Russia)	15.01.09
KBBE	25	1-4-01	Development of detection methods for quarantine plant pests and pathogens for use by Plant Health Inspection Services	15.01.09
KBBE	26	1-4-02	Spatial analysis of rural development measures for effective targeting of rural development policies	15.01.09
KBBE	27	1-4-05	Policy and institutional aspects of sustainable agriculture, forestry and rural development in the Mediterranean partner countries – SICA (Mediterranean Partner Countries)	15.01.09
KBBE	43	3-1-01	Optimisation of secondary metabolite production in plants: localisation, transport and stability	15.01.09
KBBE	44	3-1-02	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> – breeding strategy – towards a sustainable	15.01.09

			crop for biomaterial and biofuels (SICA – India, Africa, Latin America)	
KBBE	45	3-1-04	Prospecting for novel plant-produced compounds	15.01.09
KBBE	49	3-4-01	Biomass and bioproducts: sustainability certification and socioeconomic implications – Mandatory ICPC (Latin America and/or African ACP and/or Asia)	
KBBE	49	3-4-02	Biomass pre-treatment for optimised biomass deconstruction and analytical characterisation – SICA (Brazil)	15.01.09
SPACE	17	1.1.01	Stimulating the development of downstream GMES services	04.12.08
SPACE	20	1.1.02	Monitoring of climate change issues (extending core service activities)	04.12.08
ENERGY (call pt.2)	8	2.2.1	Biomass to electricity from energy crops and recovered fuels	29.04.09
ENERGY (call pt.1)	13	3.2.2	Biowaste as feedstock for 2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	25.11.08
ENERGY (call pt.3)	15	3.7.1	Support to the coordination of stakeholders' activities in the field of biofuels	25.11.08
ENERGY (call pt.2)	24	8.1.1	Energy efficiency in energy intensive industry	29.04.08
BIOREF-INERY	14 (of Energy work prog.)	3.3.1 (of Energy work prog.)	Sustainable biorefineries	02.12.08
BIOREF-INERY	14 (of Energy work prog.)	3.3.2 (of Energy work prog.)	Enhancing exchange of information, synergies and cross-fertilisation between projects in the field of biorefineries	02.12.08
The NMP work programme has not been published yet, but the following topics are expected				
NMP	New biomass-based composite materials and their processing			Feb. 09
NMP	Light high-performance composites			Feb. 09
NMP	Innovative pathways for sustainable chemical production			Feb. 09
NMP	Automation and robotics for sustainable crop and forestry management			Feb. 09
NMP	Reducing environmental footprint of energy intensive industries			Feb. 09

The work programmes for all of the published calls can be found on the Cordis website ([http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)). For more information about the topics of relevance to those in the forestry sector within each of the work programmes and for help finding potential partners contact InnovaWood at (01) 676 3181 or email [office@innovawood.com](mailto:office@innovawood.com).

### 3 INNOVAWOOD INFORMATION SERVICE

#### 3.1 InnovaWood projects

One of InnovaWood's main tasks is the dissemination of the knowledge derived from research projects carried out throughout the forest-based sector in Europe. To this end, we are actively involved in a number of EU-financed projects as the partner

responsible for dissemination and knowledge transfer. We produce and distribute a wide variety of brochures, booklets and posters outlining the various aspects of the projects we are involved in. To receive an information pack detailing our current projects just send an email to [office@innovawood.com](mailto:office@innovawood.com). Our current projects are listed in the table below.

TITLE	TOPIC	WEBSITE
EFORWOOD	Sustainability Impact Assessment for the forest-based sector	<a href="http://www.eforwood.com">www.eforwood.com</a>
DIPP	Innovative particleboard	<a href="http://www.dipp-project.net">www.dipp-project.net</a>
ModelPACK	Modelling for improved packaging performance	<a href="http://www.modelpack.org">www.modelpack.org</a>
InnovaWood EDU	Best practice vocational education and training	<a href="http://www.innovawood.com">www.innovawood.com</a>
InnovaWood SSA	An innovation strategy to integrate industry needs and research capability in the forestry/wood chain	<a href="http://www.innovawood-ssa.net">www.innovawood-ssa.net</a>
WoodEMC <sup>2</sup>	Middle manager education in the timber frame construction sector	<a href="http://www.leonardo-woodemc2.eu/">http://www.leonardo-woodemc2.eu/</a>
Change-Up	Change management in the upholstered furniture sector	<a href="http://www.change-up.org">www.change-up.org</a>

### *3.2 Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform: the first years*

To coincide with the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of the FTP held in May of this year, the organisation has just published a glossy 18 page document summarising the progress that has been made since its inception in 2004. InnovaWood has a limited number of these brochures, which may be obtained by sending an email to [office@innovawood.com](mailto:office@innovawood.com).

### *3.3 Management of recovered wood: proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European COST E31 conference*

InnovaWood has a number of copies of the proceedings of last year's 3<sup>rd</sup> European COST E31 conference entitled 'Management of recovered wood – Reaching a higher technical, economic and environmental standard in Europe.' Edited by Dr. Christos Gallis, the 319 page book contains outlines of all 18 presentations held at the conference in Klagenfurt in May of last year, as well as four posters. To obtain a copy simply send an email to [office@innovawood.com](mailto:office@innovawood.com).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT**

**[WWW.INNOVAWOOD.COM](http://WWW.INNOVAWOOD.COM)**