



“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? In order 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 mountain areas. 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 seeks to shed light on how these objectives may be achieved through innovation and circular economy in the forest supply chain.

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.

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.

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.



Objectives of the workshop

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

PROGRAMME

Lunch 13:00-14:30

INTRODUCTION

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

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

15:00 – 15:15: Danijel Bertovic, PINS: ***How can Croatian forestry can be more circular?***

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: Sarah Whitaker, Euromontana (tbc): ***The EU circular economy package and the EU forest strategy: intersections and funding opportunities***



15:30 – 15:45: Ben Allen, IEEP: **What might the circular economy in mountain forestry look like and what makes it unique? Challenges and opportunities**

15:45 – 16:00: (tbc) **Promoting innovation in mountain forestry**

16:00 – 16:15: (tbc) **Imagining success in the circular economy in the mountain forest supply chain**

16:15 – 16:30: **Question and Answer Session**

Coffee break 16:30 - 17:00

INITIATIVES AND EXAMPLES

Innovation in the circular economy of the forest supply chain

17:00 – 18:15: **presentations of Good Practices and discussions in groups (presentation of 4 initiatives plus overview – 15 minutes per initiative + 15 minutes for overview)**

18:15 - 18:45: **Feedback and discussion on the initiatives**

18:45 – 19.00: Juanan Gutierrez, President of Euromontana: **Recommendations and proposal of action plan for mountain forestry**

Dinner 19:00



LOGISTICS

ACCOMODATION OF PARTICIPANTS (offer code "PINS Skrad")

Hotel Risnjak in Delnice - <http://www.hotel-risnjak.hr/eindex.asp> (price is 45 € per person/per night)

Hotel Breza in Ravna Gora - <http://www.breza-rg.hr/english/index.html> (price is 31€ per person/per night).

TRANSPORT OF PARTICIPANTS

Buses from hotels to Skrad (15-30 min of driving)

NEAREST AIRPORTS

Zagreb, distance from Gorski kotar area, 120 km, public buses and trains, shuttle will be organized for the evening of the 28th and the evening of the 30th

Ljubljana (Slovenia), distance from Gorski kotar, 125 km, rent a car

Trieste (Italy), distance from Gorski kotar, 163 km, rent a car