

Wood Heat Solutions

Wood Heat Solutions aims to increase the number of woodfired heating systems used in the UK, Slovenia and Croatia, by using lessons learned from successful wood heat projects in Finland and Austria. In particular, the project will address problems caused by a lack of awareness of bio-heat technologies amongst the general public and decisions makers and a lack of information and training available to the agricultural and forestry sectors. The project also seeks to improve co-operation and collaboration between individuals involved in developing woodfuel supply chains

- To mobilise the large biomass potential from fragmented privately owned forests and from agricultural land by increasing the co-operation among farmers and forest owners;
- To integrate the agricultural and forestry sector into the energy market as a raw material supplier (e.g wood chips) or as an energy supplier (e.g. bioheat);
- To stimulate national and international exchange of experiences and knowledge transfer.

Background

Croatia, Slovenia and the UK have large numbers of woodland owners, many owning only small areas of woodland. Much of this woodland is not managed for the production of wood products.

Each of these countries has ambitious targets for increasing the contribution renewable heat and power technologies make towards national energy requirements.

Austria and Finland have well developed woodfuel supply chains and bioheat projects.

Sharing experiences and lessons learned during the development of these successes could help speed up the establishment of reliable supply chains providing good quality fuel to well designed heating systems in less experienced partner countries.

Partners

- UK (lead partner) - [Forestry Commission](#) (FC)
- UK - [TV Energy](#) (TVE)
- Austria - [Landeskammer für Land- und Forstwirtschaft Steiermark](#) (Lk-Stmk)
- Croatia - [Sumarska Savjetodavna Sluzba](#) (SSS)
- Finland - [Valtion Teknillinen Tutkimuskeskus](#) (VTT)
- Slovenia - [Gozdarski inštitut Slovenije](#) (SFI)

Objectives

- Increase the number of wood heat projects in Slovenia, Croatia and the UK (15 MW installed capacity);
- Facilitate the development of 10 major bio-heat projects in Slovenia, Croatia and the UK;
- Increase the area of actively managed, privately owned woodland in Slovenia, Croatia and the UK (4500ha);

- Raise the profile and use of CEN TS/335 standards amongst woodfuel suppliers and end users;
- Raise the profile of wood-heat projects amongst the general public, public sector decision makers, foresters and farmers.

Key project outputs

- Development of 'best practice' guidance based on the knowledge and experience developed by foresters, farmers and end users in Finland and Austria and adapted to regional audiences;
- Training courses and materials aimed at providing foresters, farmers and end users with the skills they need;
- Summarising and disseminating CEN TS/335 technical standards - explain the importance of quality control during the production of wood fuel for heating;
- Identify and build relations with key decision makers, both in the public sector and industry, able to facilitate the development of wood-heat projects in Croatia, Slovenia and the UK ;
- Identify a range of successful wood-heat projects and use these to host study tours aimed at informing key decision makers and practitioners.