



Distr.
GENERAL

TIM/SEM.1/2003/R.28 (Summary)
14 January 2003

Original: ENGLISH

Seminar on
STRATEGIES FOR THE SOUND USE OF WOOD
Poiana Brasov, Romania
24-27 March 2003

Working on strategies for the sound use of wood in Hungary
Session IV

Paper by Mr. Zsolt Kovacs,
Professor of Wood Science, West-Hungarian University, Hungary

Summary

Strategies for the sound use of timber in Hungary are incorporated in a project under the umbrella of National Research and Development Programmes sponsored by the Government through the Széchenyi Scheme. This project has the title "Programme for a quality enhancement of the national forest assets and for the updating of the use of timber."

A wide consortium is working on the project objectives, lead by the Faculty of Wood Sciences of the University of West Hungary, the Scientific Institution of Forestry and the Energetic, Environmental and Wood Processing Service Ltd. The consortium also includes a number of state forestry enterprises, major wood-processing companies and machinery manufacturers.

In this project, forest management and timber utilisation are dealt with in an integrated manner. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the prevention of the ecological hazards and to meeting the demands for high value wood products.

The main tasks to be fulfilled are as follows:

- A quality-driven enhancement of the national forest assets;
- A firm foundation of the new forestation programme due with the accession to the EU;
- Survey of the quantity and quality of the domestic timber supply;

- Development of the energetic utilisation of dendro-mass;
- New methods for processing short roundwood;
- Modernisation of the processing of quality roundwood;
- Development of new, competitive wood products;
- Integration of the development of forestry and wood industry into regional development.

Anticipated results of the project follow from the implementation of an undertaking comprising the whole process of timber utilisation from afforestation and forest renewal to the manufacture of final wood products and reuse of timber.

Achievements to date include an analysis of criteria for an ecological sound and viable afforestation programme, development of new nursery machinery, study of the competitive situation of wood-based products, building elements and systems in Hungary, development of new engineered wood-based products based on domestic raw material.

Fulfilment of all the objectives will largely contribute to the promotion and sound use of wood in Hungary.
