



**Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry
Economic Commission for Europe**



**European Forestry Commission
Food and Agricultural Organization**

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON SUSTAINABLE FOREST PRODUCTS

Webinar, Monday 23rd November 2020: 14.00 – 18.00 CET (UTC+1)

“Building and renovation solutions to meet 21st Century climate change, affordability, energy and sustainability criteria, the launch webinar”

The main objective of this webinar is to increase the awareness and knowledge of sectoral experts, policy-makers and the wider public of the benefits of using sustainable forest-based materials, products and systems in a wide range of projects addressing climate-related challenges.

Building on the success of previous events in Rome, Geneva, Vancouver and Brussels, the Team will hold a webinar on the use of forest products in construction on Monday, November 23rd.

The main purpose of this event is to grow the awareness and raise the profile of forest-based products as they relate to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Although its core will be to some extent construction-related, reflecting the current prevalent use of wood in construction, building with wood will by no means be the only theme. Other innovative applications will also be identified. Thus the event should also attract a wide array of professionals including: citizens, planners, legislators, wholesalers, retailers, academics, researchers, building owners and developers; architects and engineers; developers; estimators; quantity surveyors; valuers; housing associations; banks; investors; insurers; building contractors; regulatory bodies and the forest-based industries (firms and associations). The various actors would be brought together to:

- address the challenge of the Paris Agreement for a low-carbon, circular economy in a sectoral context;
- show how wood-based materials, products and systems can overcome age-old prejudices to help respond to that challenge;
- provide practical examples of how wood-based solutions can help provide society’s needs for affordable living, working spaces and life-styles which are sustainable and have reduced carbon impacts, and;
- derive conclusions and recommendations for further awareness and knowledge of the benefits of using forest-based materials, products and systems in all applications.

Webinar programme

The programme for our webinar is as below. Our speakers are among the leading experts in their field in each of the categories, as detailed below. Where possible, hyperlinks to speaker's backgrounds are provided.

Webinar welcome

- 2.00-2.05 pm A short opening address and welcome; [Eoin O'Driscoll](#), Team Leader UNECE Team of Specialists (ToS) on Sustainable Forest Products; Webinar Chairman
- 2.05–2.20 pm Welcome address from [Paola Deda](#), Director, [Forests](#), Land and [Housing](#) Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Geneva, Switzerland
- 2.20-2.35 pm Welcome address from [Cillian Lohan](#), Vice-President in charge of Communication, European Economic and Social Committee ([EESC](#)), Brussels, Belgium

Opportunities and challenges facing the renovation and construction sectors in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region

Climate change

- 2.35-2.55 pm Keynote: “Answering the call from Paris: the challenges for construction from climate change for a low-carbon, circular bio-economy by 2050”. Andrew will set the climate-change context as a backdrop for innovative building solutions to respond to the Paris Agreement on climate change.
 - [Dr Andrew Norton, CEI-Bois and EOS: Technical Advisor/Renueables, Llandudno, Wales, UK](#)
- 2.55 -3.05 pm Moderated question and answer session
 - [Peter Moonen, Canadian Wood Council](#), Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Opportunities in construction and repair markets

Outlining the opportunities and challenges facing the construction and renovation (RMI) sectors in the UNECE region.

- 3.05 -3.25 pm Opportunities in construction
 - [Peter Moonen](#), Canadian Wood Council, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 3.25-3.45 pm Opportunities in repair, maintenance and improvement (RMI)
 - [Philippe Moseley](#), Policy Officer, Sustainable Industrial Policy and Construction, DG Grow, EU Commission, Brussels, Belgium.
- 3.45-4.00 pm Moderated question and answer session
 - Eoin O'Driscoll, Team Leader UNECE ToS on Sustainable Forest Products

4.00-4.15 pm A virtual coffee break

Exploring policy options to increase the use of forest products in construction and RMI

- 4.15-4.35 pm Exploring policy options in climate change, energy and construction to increase the use of forest products in construction and RMI projects
 - [Rob Bernhardt, Passive House Canada, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada](#)
- 4.35-4.45 pm Moderated question and answer session, [Peter Moonen](#), Canadian Wood Council, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Skills, sustainability and the road forward

- 4.45-5.05 pm Skills and training needs in the construction sector.
- [Peter Wilson, Managing Director, Timber Design Initiatives, Edinburgh, Scotland](#)
- 5.05-5.25 pm Keynote closing: Are we entering a 5th Industrial revolution (5.0) – *The delivery of horizon net-zero* and the role of building sustainability..
- [Professor Seán Smith, Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, Scotland](#)
- 5.25-5.40 pm Moderated question and answer session, [Peter Moonen](#), Canadian Wood Council, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
- 5.40-5.50 pm A presentation of the follow up to this webinar
- Eoin O’Driscoll, UNECE ToS on Sustainable Forest Products; Webinar Chairman

Q & A session and webinar close

- 5.50-6.00 pm Meeting close and conclusions
- Eoin O’Driscoll, UNECE ToS on Sustainable Forest Products; Webinar Chairman