



Promoting policy development and an EU Action Plan
for the Woody Energy Crops Sector

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What are short rotation plantations (SRPs)?

- Woody crops grown at close spacings
 - Single stemmed trees (short rotation forestry or SRF)
 - Coppice (short rotation coppice or SRC)
- Managed over short cycles from 2 to 20 years
- SRP species include
 - Willow (*Salix spp.*) & Poplar (*Populus spp.*)
 - *Robinia*, *Paulownia* & *Eucalyptus*



Introduction to ROKWOOD



- EU Framework 7 research project
- 20 partners from 6 countries (& EUBIA)
- Each cluster includes:
 - SME, a research body and a local authority
- Duration: 36 Months



- › ttz Bremerhaven
- › Agraligna
- › Institute of Agricultural and Fishery Research and Training
- › ASAJA Granada
- › BioAzul
- › Bio-tricity
- › Centre for Sustainable Energy
- › Crops for Energy
- › Dorset County Council
- › Dublin Institute of Technology / Dublin Energy Lab
- › EKSPERT-SITR
- › European Biomass Association
- › Gmina Załuski
- › Granada Energy Agency
- › Mazovian Agricultural Advisory Centre
- › Regional Planning Authority Altmark
- › SalixEnergi Europa
- › Scania's Association of Local Authorities
- › SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden
- › Western Development Commission

Joint Action Plan Common Strategies

Analysis of regional clusters state of play

Identification of relevant RTD issues in participating regions

Working with policy makers to create policy briefs

Analysis of links to other European initiatives

Industry

Public bodies

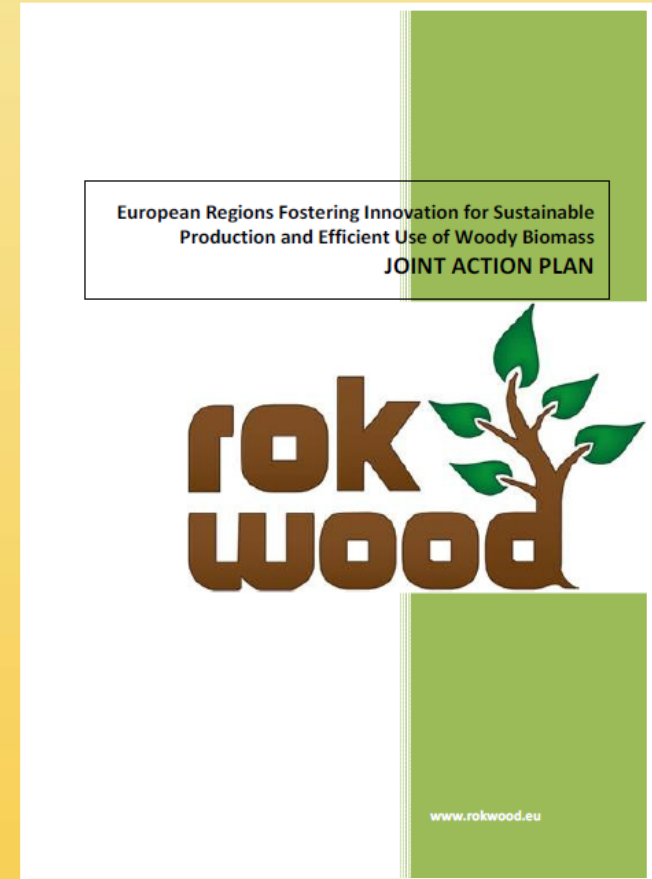
Research Institutions

Ireland, UK, Spain, Sweden, Germany, Poland, Belgium

- Obstacles and barriers for woody biomass production report
 - SME perspective
- PESTLE analysis
 - Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, Environmental factors
 - Interactive workshop identified 78 PESTLE factors
 - E.g.
 - Lack of incentives
 - Lack of infrastructure
 - Age of farmers
 - Invisibility in Govt departments
 - Lack of awareness and understanding



- Assessment of trans-national research needs
 - Agenda of project ideas
- Development of a Joint Action Plan (JAP) and financial plan
 - 6 working groups
- Policy briefs
- Dissemination and lobbying activities
 - CAP reform consultation response



1. Development of SRP pilot/demonstration projects
 - CHP, heat networks, biomass trade centres
2. Lobbying at the EU-level
 - Greening, Rural Development
3. Production of regional species & transnational agronomy guidelines
4. Knowledge transfer of cultivation, logistics and end-use
5. Multi-functionality / added value research
 - Evidence base, mapping of areas, basic research & long term trials
6. Education and training programs for sector stakeholders
 - Study tours, demo days, courses, online training etc.

1. Evidence base review of SRC costs & benefits
 - Recognition & acceptance of research outputs
 - Clarify roles within Govt
2. Enabling SRC harvesting, storage & processing infrastructure to supply local heat markets
 - Off gas areas with low woodland cover
 - Local revenue retention
3. Lowering investment risk for SRC growers
 - Incentives, interest free loans
 - Interim payments, Guarantees
4. Matching supply and demand to help achieve economies of scale
 - Pilot projects to overcome “chicken & egg”



- Identification of additional European & international clusters
- Technology offer & demand
 - Potential industrial partners
- Common research needs
 - Potential research partners
- Horizon 2020 opportunities



- Catalogue of 15 project ideas
- 3 themes
 - Harvesting and processing of SRPs
 - End use of the SRPs products
 - Multi-functionality (added value) of SRPs
- Worked up and ready to seek funding by May 2015

Please contact us if you'd like to be involved

- European databases and map
 - Planting, harvesting and processing
 - SRP varieties
 - SRP trial information
- Best practice booklet (2015)
- Staff exchanges (2015 and beyond)
- Training workshops (2-3 in Spring 2015)
- Joint publications (2015)
- Final project conference (Austria June 2015)
- Final project publication

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Rokwood

European regions fostering innovation or sustainable production
and efficient use of woody biomass

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