How policies support wood-based sector

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Wood stores carbon. It is/about 250 kg of carbon or 920 kg of CO2 equivalent stored in 1m3 of wood. Therefore, support for creating conditions for use of wood in long life cycle products like building construction supports climatic goals towards carbon neutrality. Wood-based buildings are seen in policies as an option for energy savings through material substitution and reduction of CO2 emissions. Wood buildings are finished faster and their construction is 4-5 times less energy demanding compared to brick or concrete buildings. In addition to that, wood is a local and sustainably produced raw material and there is also a high potential in woody material recovery. The construction industry is very important to the EU economy where the sector provides 18 million direct jobs and contributes to about 9% of the EU's GDP (EC, <u>https://single-market-economy.ec.europa:eu/sectors/construction_en</u>), thus, support of building from wood has strong potential to support growth of circular bioeconomy.

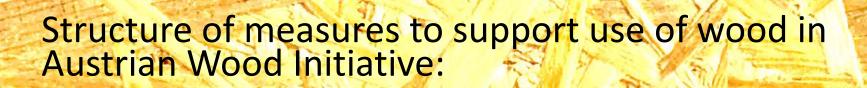
Wood sector policy tools in Czech Republic

- Policy for wood as a raw material cross-sectoral policy, supporting use of wood in private and public construction of buildings
- Green to savings support scheme for low energy consumption buildings, including buildings in wood
- Wood in public procurement guide
- Action plan of circular economy support for production and use of wood
- Operating program Entrepreneurship and innovation for competitiveness support for primary wood



processing

- Operational Program Technologies and Applications for Competitiveness – support for primary wood processing
- National Recovery and Resilience Plan support for primary wood processing, paper industry, furniture production



Wood sector policy tools in Austria

Through direct and indirect impacts, the entire woodbased value chain contributes to a gross added value by more than 20 billion euros, and the forestry sector accounts for approximately 5.7% of the national economy. In Austria, every euro produced in the wood industry stimulates an additional 90 cents of value added in other sectors (value added multiplier of 1.9).

Austrian Forest Fund – with federal allocation of 450 mil. Euro supports forestry and wood industry in changing environmental and socio-economic conditions

Austrian Wood Initiative – within the forest fund – specifically supports wood industry, e.g.:

- Research priority and research facility for the production of wood gas and biofuels
- Measures to increase the use of wood as a raw material
- Governance wood policy, rules and standards, networks, woodPoP,
- Wood construction CO2 Bonus suport for builtin wood, feasibility studies, construction of residential or public buildings and public infrastructure in timber construction with a high proportion of renewable raw materials from sustainable management
- Innovation research , development and innovation on the use of wood in construction
- Education primary, secondary, tertiary, continuing education, knowledge transfer and awareness raising on the topic of building with wood
- Communication events, public relations, social media, measures to promote the use of wood from sustainable forestry

