



**Prolog V:**  
**Wood Governance**  
**across Europe and beyond**

27<sup>th</sup> International Wood Construction Conference

Wednesday, 29 November 2023, 13:45 – 17:45 CET  
Room Strassburg, Congress Innsbruck  
Rennweg 3, 6020 Innsbruck

## Programme

Moderation: Alexander Buck, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

Veronika Juch, Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management

### 13:45 CET **Opening**

Georg Rappold, Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management

### 13:50 CET **Setting the Scene**

*The economic impact of forestry and wood industry in Europe*

Anna Kleissner, EconMove

### 14:20 CET **The European Wood Policy Platform (woodPoP)**

*Governance:* Lisa Lehner, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, Austria

*Building:* Petri Heino, Ministry of the Environment, Finland

*Innovation & Research:* Alfred Kammerhofer, Representative, Federal Office for Environment, Switzerland

*Education & Vocational Training:* Andreja Kutnar, Director, Innorenew COE, Slovenia

*Communication & Information:* Tomáš Krejzar, Director of Department of Forest Policy and Economics, Ministry of Agriculture, Czech Republic

- 15:00 CET**      **Wood First: Best practice examples of initiatives fostering the sustainable use of wood**  
Dirk Alfter, Head of Division, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany  
Graham Hilton, Trade and Investment Specialist – Europe, British Columbia Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation  
Takahiro Tsuchimoto, Chief timber research engineer, Tsukuba Building Research Institute, Japan
- 15:45 CET**      **Coffee Break**
- 16:15 CET**      **Towards a Global Wood Policy Platform: Sustainable Wood for a Carbon-neutral Bioeconomy**  
Janice Burns, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)  
Thais Linhares-Juvenal, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 16:35 CET**      **Round Table: Transitioning towards a wood-based bioeconomy**  
João Lé, Member of the High Level Group on Forestry and Biomaterial  
Silvia Melegari, Secretary General, CEI-Bois  
Uwe Kies, Secretary General, InnovaWood  
Fabian Huber, Project Manager EcoPlus, Project Lead Bioeconomy Austria
- 17:45 CET**      **End**

## The European Wood Policy Platform (woodPoP)

In the context of combating climate change, a growing number of countries, regions, cities and communities in Europe, as well as in other parts of the world, aim to **enhance the sustainable use of wood and other renewable materials by fostering a forest-based bioeconomy**. The renewable resource wood and other wood-based materials play a vital role in enabling the transformation towards a carbon neutral circular economy and climate positive society.

Against this background, The ‘European Wood Policy Platform’ (woodPoP) has been initiated by Finland and Austria. Both countries have a long tradition in using wood as a construction material as well as wood-related policy development. Both countries have **joined forces to upscale wood related activities** at the European and global level.

woodPoP provides a **dedicated forum for multilateral policy, knowledge and experience exchange between public and private actors from the wood sector at national and regional level** to share best practices and opportunities of coordinated approaches in developing policy solutions to enhance the sustainable production and consumption of wood and its contribution to an innovative, circular bioeconomy.

On 1 December 2022, the first High Level Meeting of the European Wood Policy Platform (HLM) took place in Innsbruck, Austria where the “woodPoP CALL on upscaling wood policy cooperation in Europe” was endorsed. As an important reference document, at the Second High Level Meeting in Helsinki/hybrid, the over 80 participants from 19 countries agreed on Guidelines as a clear and transparent working environment for the platform.

## The European Wood Policy Platform (woodPoP) pursues the following goals:



### Participants of the platform

- Government officials and representatives from the Pan-European region working with wood policy and wood-related matters;
- Representatives of wood-related international, regional, stakeholder and research organisations;
- Experts in the respective field and technical subject matters;
- Interested participants, including from other regions, can join as observers upon expression of interest.

### Co-Chairs of woodPoP

Mr. Georg Rappold, Head of Division Wood-based Value Chain, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management of Austria and

Mr. Petri Heino, Director of the Wood Building Programme, Department of the Built Environment at the Ministry of Environment of Finland

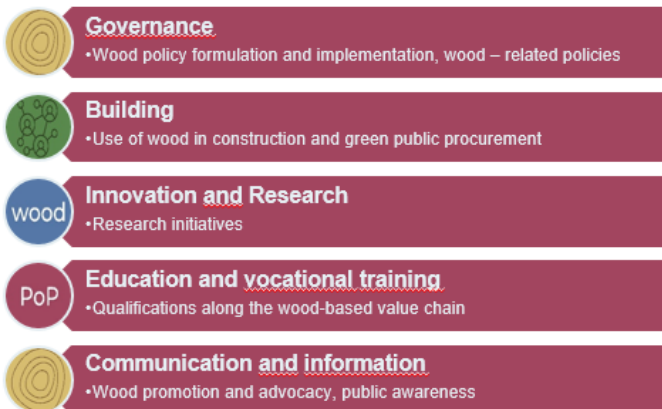
## Meeting formats

**The High Level Meeting (HLM)** is the main decision-making body, attended by delegations from Pan-European ministries led by high-level government officials (for instance Ministers, Secretaries of State, Director Generals, Directors) with the participation of regional and stakeholder organisations, as well as observers.

**The Expert Group Meeting (EGM)** serves as main forum for exchange on an operational level, with the participation of national and regional ministries and private sector, representatives from stakeholder, research, as well as regional organizations and networks.

**Technical Working Groups (TWG)** provide thematic fora in order to discuss specific subject matters in view of identifying issues of joint interest and developing recommendations and policy solutions. Participation is open to representatives from public and private sector, interest groups, research organizations and networks, government officials and invited experts.

## Overview on the Technical Working Groups:



## How to join woodPoP

**Everybody interested in the European Wood Policy Platform (woodPoP) is warmly welcome to participate!** Depending on your field of profession and expertise there are many opportunities to get actively involved.

Here you can find several links on topics mentioned above such as website articles and videos on the High Level Meetings in Innsbruck 2022 and Helsinki 2023, our woodPoP Guidelines and the registration for the Technical Working Groups:



Join our LinkedIn-Page to follow our woodPoP activities.

You can also contact us via [holz@bml.gv.at](mailto:holz@bml.gv.at)

## **Taking of photographs and videos:**

Photographs and video recordings will be made at this event. It is therefore possible that visitors will be recognisable on the recordings. By participating in the event, you consent to the processing of data in this regard by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) and to any publication of the photographic material on websites and social media channels. If you do not agree to the processing of a photograph, please contact [holz@bml.gv.at](mailto:holz@bml.gv.at). We would like to point out that the recording of online events, even for private use, is not permitted. Such a recording encroaches on the personal rights of the lecturers as well as the recognisable participants and constitutes a violation of the GDPR.

### **WIFI ACCESS**

Name: Congress

Username: ihf-2023

Password: ihf-2023