

## Document Title

# Study visits to pilots/good practices

## Document Type

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Study visits were conducted with the aim of recognizing and transferring good practices, mutual learning and networking of actors in the field of PIE expertise, and with the purpose of networking between relevant and interested actors from the international to the national and local levels, and vice versa.

Realized was five Study visits in the frame of PM in Kuchl (Austria), Ljubljana (Slovenia), Bad Wildbad (Germany), Belgrade (Serbia) and Sofia (Bulgaria). This is online with the FORESDA Application form, where 5 Study visits were planned.

The programme of the Study visit was set-up by hosting PP, related to PM with support of the LP and WP6 L. Target group for Study visit were all PP and ASP. Study visits were prepared based on communication with PPs.

The typical set-up for Study visits was encompass:

- a detailed overview of one of the Pilot Innovation Environments implemented in WP4, including discussion with the stakeholders involved,
- presentation of further relevant practices in the visited region by relevant stakeholders,
- discussion on transnational aspects and opportunities for transferability of the practices explored.

In next chapter we give the specific information about each Study visit we conducted within the FORESDA project.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

A study visit is a short stay in a host country for an individual person or a group. Study visits usually include presentations and local visits to special departments, so for example to educational/training institutions, ministries or to other European and/or national facilities. Study visit can take place in a shape of forum for discussion, exchange and learning about topics of common interest as on European and national difficulties of FBI. Study visits are an excellent opportunity to support and engross the participants. Working together and reflecting on various job-related issues, sharing different point of views, discovering and accepting other ways of seeing things and many other positive aspects make both organisers and participants feel more like members of a common European FBI sector. To deepen this enormous opportunity, it is necessary to organise study visits professionally so that everyone receives maximum benefits from it. Another important point is that contacts and networks can be established. This could probably be useful for common future projects and future cooperation's.

FORESDA study visits were organised in the frame of project meeting in a host PP country. In the frame of study visits were implemented 5 study visits with different thematic. Study visits were implemented in:

- Salzburg, Austria (27<sup>th</sup> February 2018) - Study visit to pilot environment to show the potential for further transnational and cross-sectoral collaborations.
- Ljubljana, Slovenia (21<sup>th</sup> June 2018) – Study visit to PIE- Transfer of research results on the performance of wood and wood-based composites in outdoor applications into praxis
- Bad Wildbad and Karlsruhe (27 September 2018) - Study Visit CyberForum: Cluster Management, Cluster Services, Cross-Sectoral Projects, Digital Innovation Centre and Study Visit FZI - Forschungszentrum Informatik & Living Lab
- Belgrade, Serbia (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018) – Study visit to Belgrade Furniture Fair and Study visit to PIE and labs of UB, FF
- Sofia, Bulgaria (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019) – Study visit to Technomebel and World of Furniture and study visit to MISSIA23 – Ligna Creative Hub

## 2.1 BACKGROUND

FORESDA WP6 activities intend to improve the impact and efficiency of support organisations in the project regions – and beyond – by improving their internal skills and organisation and strengthening their intermediary role between the productive sector and the knowledge poles on regional, national but also transnational and cross-sectoral level. WP6 is closely related to WP3, WP4 and WP5<sup>1</sup> and will integrate their outputs.

At the beginning of the WP6 activities, a Joint Action Plan (D6.1.1) for the concrete institutional capacity building activities was defined and jointly agreed upon by the partners. Mutual learning & mentoring for policy makers and innovation stakeholders aims at fostering innovation skills in the innovation support structures in the forest-based sector by delivering customized learning interactions to meet the needs identified and cross-sectoral innovation activities. The target groups are policy makers, cluster managers and further innovation actors within the addressed regions.

*Role of study visits in FORESDA, relation to other WPs, etc.*

*Important to make the context of this document clear, someone who doesn't know FORESDA by heart should be able to understand it*

## 2.2 OBJECTIVES

Support organizations (clusters, technology poles, regional development agencies, etc. in the wood sector) are one of the major tools for increasing innovations and competitiveness in the sector, and without building their capacities, it will be impossible to realize cross-sectoral projects within FBIs. The operations linked to those activities intend to improve the impact and efficiency of support organizations in the project regions – and beyond - by improving their internal skills and organization and strengthening their intermediary role

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<sup>1</sup> *D3.2.3 Joint Action Plan*

*D3.3.4 Local Action Plans*

*D4.1.2 Pilot Design*

*D 5.1.1 A Database of relevant SMEs and innovation actors*

between the productive sector and the knowledge poles on regional, national but also transnational and cross-sectoral level.

The implemented activities are linked to the mutual learning & mentoring activities (via mentoring and knowledge transfer, study visits etc.) and development of the Transnational Sustainability Plan (O.6.3) and following Local Action Plans (D.6.2.4). The TSP should complete the TS with the aim to define clear steps for the sustainability of the FORESDA partnership and its outputs beyond the termination of the project. The LAPs (D.6.2.4) will describe the planned activities for ensuring the implementation of the Transnational Sustainability Plan for each project region separately, including the commitment of the relevant stakeholders.

The study visits aim to provide participants with the opportunity to get to know and compare with own experience, the strategies and practices for the organization. Through study visit participants:

- acquire knowledge about the current policies and strategies for the organisations
- acquire information of the existing methods and experiences for the organisations and management
- share best practices with participants, training institutions both at public and private level
- develop new contacts and explore opportunities of cooperation with public and private institutions

### 3. THE STUDY VISITS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF FORESDA

#### 3.1 THE PROJECT REGION AUSTRIA

##### 3.1.1 SHORT DESCRIPTION

Austrian PPs has organized study visit on the 5<sup>th</sup> project meeting in the frame of the FORESDA project in Salzburg, which took place in Kuchl, 27th -28th February 2018.

The aim of Austrian PIE was to support the Project partners in the field of innovation, to strengthen them for future challenges and, subsequently, to strengthen the forestry and timber industry and their positioning from a pure material supplier to a solution provider. The objective of the pilot study visit was to show the versatility of the biogenic raw materials, practical examples of the research activities in the laboratories

##### 3.1.2 SPECIFIC CONTENT

Within the FORESDA project, an Austrian PIE was developed by the SUAS. The Study visit was focused on presentation of the versatility of the biogenic raw materials, presented were practical examples of the research activities in the laboratories. With examples shown in the laboratories was to the project partners presented the current situation of the pilot innovation environment of the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences.



Picture1: Foresda PP are visiting the Lab.



Picture 2: Presentation of research activities.

The effective utilization of materials and energy resources is becoming an increasingly important challenge for the economy and society. Companies can react to this situation



with development of new materials and products from available and sustainable natural resources. For this reason, the University of Applied Science has endeavoured to provide the consortium with the possibility of participating SMEs with students. During the study visit, several cross-sectoral projects were presented. With study visit has SUAS offered the support to the Project partners in the field of innovation, to strengthen them for future challenges and, subsequently, to strengthen the forestry and timber industry and their positioning from a pure material supplier to a solution provider. The innovative ideas / approaches should give the project partners the versatility of the raw material.

Wood is a regenerative resource and because of its lifecycle, plays an important role in the quality of life (e.g. the cleaning and filtering of air and water), the multi-functional properties of this natural resource provide enormous potential in its application and use.

### **3.1.3 INTERACTION AND TRANSFERABILITY**

A study visit at the University of Applied Sciences in Salzburg was important, as the participants have met with students, who presented several cross-sectoral ongoing projects. The participants gained a lot of useful information in the field of innovation. Innovations are important for SMEs and their businesses.

Through the study visit, SUAS offered support to project partners in the field of innovation, strengthened them for future challenges, and consequently strengthened the forestry and wood industry and positioned them from a pure material supplier to a solution provider. Innovative ideas / approaches should give the project partners the versatility of the raw material.

All the information acquired, new knowledge and new contacts can be transferred by Foresda project partners, in particular research and development organizations, development agencies and clusters, which represent one of the major tools for promoting and increasing innovation and competitiveness in the FBI, to regional companies and their members or can connect them with relevant contacts with professionals.

### **3.1.4 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

The aim of the study visit was to support the Project partners in the field of innovation, to strengthen them for future challenges and, subsequently, to strengthen the forestry and timber industry and their positioning from a pure material supplier to a solution provider. The objective of the pilot study visit was to show the versatility of the biogenic raw materials. Project partners gained a lot of useful and beneficial information through a study visit, which they will or may have already been transfer to their colleagues or organizations. The study visit was attended by 30 participants of Foresda PP.

## **3.2 THE PROJECT REGION SLOVENIA**

### **3.2.1 SHORT DESCRIPTION**

Slovenian PPs has organised study visit during the 6<sup>th</sup> project meeting in the frame of the FORESDA project, which took place in Ljubljana, 21<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Aim of the Slovenian PIE “Transfer of research results on the performance of wood and wood-based composites in outdoor applications into praxis’ is to design and test innovative bio-based products and materials for outdoor use.

The study visit was focused on the presentation of Slovenian pilot environment to show the competences of UL, BF and SFI and the potential for new collaborations.

The objective of the study visit was to show field test set up of the PIE, other ongoing field tests and model objects of Biotechnical faculty, Department for wood science and technology (BF). One of the main aims of the visit to PIE was to present the infrastructure, know-how and competences of BF and SFI, also in terms of preparation and implementation of new projects.

### **3.2.2 SPECIFIC CONTENT**

Within the FORESDA project, a Slovenian PIE was developed by the SFI and UL BF as subcontractor of SFI and with support of WIC. The study visit was focused on the presentation of Slovenian pilot environment to show the competences of UL BF and SFI

and the potential for new collaborations. During the visit, wooden products for children playgrounds (climber), urban equipment (benches) and high raised beds made of different wood species (Norway spruce, biocidal treated Norway spruce, oak and black locust) and installed sensors for the monitoring were presented to the visitors. They were informed about all phases of PIE implementation were presented – from the design of outdoor equipment to the installation on field test objects, sensors and all kind of different measurements.

Field tests are divided into two main areas: testing field at the Department of Wood Science and Technology in Ljubljana, and second testing field at the model facility.

In the field of the Department of Wood Science and Technology in Ljubljana, different types of samples are also exposed in the framework of numerous international researches.



Picture 3: Testing field at the model facility



Picture 4: Testing field - high beams.



Picture 5: Wooden bench



Picture 6: Wooden climbing wall for children

Presented was also Infrastructure centre for preparation, weathering and field testing of wood and lignocellulosic materials. Infrastructure centre operates in frame of Department of wood science and technology on Biotechnical faculty. More than 1000 different wooden

and lignocellulosic samples are exposed to natural weathering on the field test site and additionally also two model objects for testing of wood in real conditions. On model objects different parameters are observed, moulds, blustain, colour changes, decay, moisture content temperature, ...



Picture 7: Foresda PP at Study visit – testing field.

### 3.2.3 INTERACTION AND TRANSFERABILITY

Any connection or cooperation at both national and transnational level is welcome. SFI and UL BF has presented the knowledge and competences in the field of using different tree species in the open air for various purposes. Such knowledge and information's are important for those companies that are engaged in timber construction, architects and other stakeholders. Innovations on this field will lead to collaboration between wood and timber industry with other industries, like IT. In the future, it will be very important to connect companies with research and development institutions, as they will have a lot of information and completed researches, which can bring positive effects to companies in the development and use of wood.

Knowledge and information gained during the study visit are transferred by research and development organizations, development agencies and clusters, which represent one of the major tools for promoting and increasing innovation and competitiveness in the FBI, to regional companies and their members or can connect them with relevant contacts with professionals.

#### **3.2.4 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

The aim of the study visit was to support the Project partners (PPs) in the field of innovation, on field of wood use in outdoor environment, which has huge potential for new products, innovations and increased demand of wood. Innovations on this field will lead to collaboration between wood and timber industry with other industries like IT. Visiting PPs estimated the study visit to PIE as very interesting, offering them a lot of useful information to be transferred to their colleagues and organisations.

The study visit was attended by 23 participants of Foresda PP.

### **3.3 THE PROJECT REGION GERMANY**

#### **3.3.1 SHORT DESCRIPTION**

German PPs has organized study visit during the 7<sup>th</sup> project meeting in the framework of the FORESDA project, which took place in Bad Wildbad and Karlsruhe, from 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2018. Study visit was related to the German Pilot Innovation Environment” Smart Home Smart Furniture” in the region of Baden-Württemberg. “Smart” in the pilot context means IT, but also sustainable and circular. Purpose of the study visit was to present and discuss interactively best practices in terms of cluster set up, cross-sectoral cooperation and digitisation and beyond, and accordingly support project partners (PPs) in the respective fields.

#### **3.3.2 SPECIFIC CONTENT**

The study visit was related to the German Pilot Innovation Environment” Smart Home Smart Furniture” in the region of Baden-Württemberg. “Smart” in the pilot context means IT, but also sustainable and circular.

Study visit was divided in three parts. The first part of the study visit was focused on CyberForum e.V. and its activities as a high-tech business network that aims at being an engine of digitalisation, a centre of competence and an organisation that supports founding and growth for the IT companies of the region. CyberForum e.V. campaigns for the digital economy within the Karlsruhe Technology Region and offers a network of 250



business angels and guest investors, 1600 m2 coworking space and 150 mentors to start-ups. The effectiveness of different concepts to fund start-ups and sustainable financing of cluster initiatives were debated. In addition, one start-up named apic.ai, who is based on the premises of CyberForum e.V., gave a detailed presentation of its innovative idea to save bees with artificial intelligence by observing them and using software to evaluate and interpret their behaviour and condition. By doing this, conclusions with respect to for instance biodiversity can be made.



Picture 8: Project partners at the Digital Innovation Centre (Digital Innovation Zentrum).

Picture 9: Project partners at the FZI House of Living Labs.

In the second part of the study visit, the Digital Innovation Centre (Digital Innovation Zentrum) was presented. DIZ is an initiative of CyberForum e.V. and FZI (Research Centre for Information Technology) and as such unites the business perspective and the scientific perspective to support SMEs in their digitisation efforts. DIZ is a neutral and independent contact point for economy and politics and mirrors the needs of SMEs towards politics and administration. It supports events financially and with the organisation of interesting speakers as well as by matchmaking companies with qualified experts. Furthermore, DIZ is in close contact with political decision makers, collects data on digitisation in Baden-Württemberg and provides online tools where companies can estimate their digital maturity.

In the third part of the study visit, which took place on the premises of the FZI House of Living Labs, where new applications can be developed and tested until they are ready to be launched on the market. The four living labs “Automotive”, “Smart Home”, “Service Robotics” and “Software Innovations” were visited. Researchers offered interesting insights into their work and room for exchange regarding the latest knowledge with respect to the car of the future, innovative living environments for safe and convenient living, autonomous mobile robots for routine tasks in industry and everyday life and software engineering.

### **3.3.3 INTERACTION AND TRANSFERABILITY**

The study visit was related to the German Pilot Innovation Environment” Smart Home Smart Furniture” in the region of Baden-Württemberg has offered enormous amounts of useful information on IT technology. Information obtained were important for start-ups, digital innovation hubs, .... Study visit was an important point, as new links were created, and networks established. This could probably be useful for common future projects and future cooperation’s.

### **3.3.4 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

The aim of study visit was to support project partners in the field of high-tech business network, digitalisation, Smart Home and Smart Furniture, IT and sustainable and circular economy. To the project partners were interactively presented best practices in terms of cluster set up, cross-sectoral cooperation and digitisation and beyond, and accordingly support project partners (PPs) in the respective fields. Purpose of the study visit was to present and discuss interactively best practices in terms of cluster set up, cross-sectoral cooperation and digitisation and beyond, and accordingly support project partners (PPs) in the respective fields.

## **3.4 THE PROJECT REGION SERBIA**

### **3.4.1 SHORT DESCRIPTION**

Serbian PPs has organized study visit during the 8<sup>th</sup> project meeting in the framework of the FORESDA project, which took place in Belgrade, Serbia, from 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The aim of the Pilot Project, which is being prepared and implemented by the Faculty of Forestry, is the application of oscillatory drying in the production of sawn beechwood from the aspect of improving the quality, and the savings in terms of energy and the duration of the process. The aim of this study was to show the laboratory equipment on which laboratory investigations of the application of the oscillatory drying regime are carried out, as well as to show the preliminary results from the aspect of drying quality and energy savings. This pilot project is focused on energy efficiency.

### **3.4.2 SPECIFIC CONTENT**

The program of the study visit was divided into two parts. To the participants was first shown the goal of the PIE and the benefit of its application in the wood industry. Knowing that beech wood is the most important industrial wood in the Balkans, the participants were introduced to the results on beech wood utilization at the primary processing stage. It was pointed out how important it is to improve the wood drying process to reduce the negative effects and to have greater utilization of wood after this phase of the process. After that, the previous experience in the industrial process of beech wood drying was presented, along with the problems and deficiencies in the use of standard drying regimes. At the study visit participants were introduced to the PIE development methodology. They were shown the equipment that will be used to conduct laboratory investigations of the application of the new oscillatory drying regime on beech wood.





Picture 10: Introduction of oscillatory drying regime.



Picture 11: Visiting furniture testing lab.

### **3.4.3 INTERACTION AND TRANSFERABILITY**

It was pointed out how important is the wood drying process to reduce the negative effects and to have greater utilization of wood after this phase of the process. New application of oscillatory drying in the production of sawn beechwood from the aspect of improving the quality, and the savings in terms of energy and the duration of the process will be important for all those SMEs in Danube region, which are involved in wood drying. Faculty of Forestry is the key R&D institution that could help SMEs to implement oscillatory drying in industrial process.

Information about oscillatory regime was already transferred by research and development organizations, development agencies and clusters, which represent one of the major tools for promoting and increasing innovation and competitiveness in the FBI, to regional companies and their members or can connect them with relevant contacts with professionals

### **3.4.4 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

The aim of study visit was to acquaint project partners with the development of the PIE and its methodology. Through a study visit, the project partner from Belgrade wanted to show, the defects and difficulties in drying beech wood according to known procedures. With the developed of oscillatory drying regime, they want to reduce the negative effect and the greater use of beech wood after this operation or processing stage. Shown was

the equipment that will be used to conduct laboratory investigations of the application of the new oscillatory drying regime on beech wood.

## **3.5 THE PROJECT REGION BULGARIA**

### **3.5.1 SHORT DESCRIPTION**

Project partner from Bulgaria has organised the study visit during the 9<sup>th</sup> project meeting in the framework of the FORESDA project, which took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, from 26<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The aim of the study visits to MISSIA23 – Ligna Creative Hub was to present the newest createch hub in Sofia, project of the Bulgarian Furniture Cluster. The idea of the creative hub is to bring together the advanced, smart and talented people from the creative industries in an interactive and friendly environment, so they can be challenged, motivated, supported, mentored, educated and inspired.

### **3.5.2 SPECIFIC CONTENT**

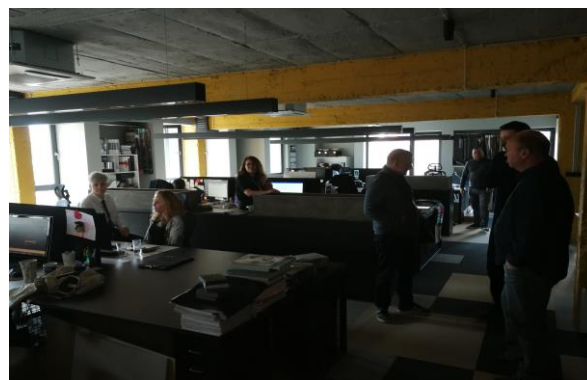
Study visit organized by Bulgarian Furniture Cluster was comprised of a visit to the Technomebel and World of Furniture Fair and creative hub.

Technomebel is a specialized exhibition, which brings together all professionals in the field of furniture production. As a rule of tradition, among the exhibitors there are Bulgarian producers, as well as major Bulgarian representatives for some of the world's leading manufacturers of machinery, materials and accessories for furniture production. In recent years there has been a relatively constant interest and direct participations of foreign companies, mostly from Greece, Poland and Turkey. The exhibition is one of the major regional business events, that provides five days of B2B meetings with domestic and international experts, hours and hours of professional forums, demonstrations, discussions and a selection of visitors, knowing what they are looking for. Technomebel is held together with World of Furniture, thus enabling businesses and end-consumers to see everything for furniture industry in one place - from machinery and equipment for furniture production, plus material and accessories, up to finished products. World of Furniture is a specialized exhibition for all kinds of furniture and interior textile, a meeting forum to

generate new ideas in interior design, interior architecture and furniture. The exhibition aims to bring together different styles, classic and contemporary furniture. To create a variety of opportunities helping the customer find answers or make a choice among the selection of leading Bulgarian producers and representatives of foreign brands. On the third day of the project partners meeting was held in MISSIA23. What the hub provides, besides the obvious working spaces, is second degree connections with focus on making them happen. Already in the building where the co-working spaces are set, there are tenants that are successful worldwide brands, which are hosting mentoring events. Serendipitous collisions and knowledge gained from those events are a major value add for the members. Finally, MISSIA23 provides individuals, start-ups and everyone in our space with all the resources needed so they can focus on what they do best and not have to deal with operations and HR aspects of their business.



Picture 12: Visiting MISSIA23 - hub.



Picture 13: Visiting MISSIA23 - hub.

### **3.5.3 INTERACTION AND TRANSFERABILITY**

Study visit to creative hub was important for all those project partners who intent to work with hubs and co-working space. PP has gained information's about development of a special service for supporting creativity. New contacts have been created and networks established.

### **3.5.4 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

By participating in study visits, the project partners have met with examples of good practices that support innovation at the FBI in all roaming regions of project partners. Study visits have had a strong interactive section with a view to ensure portability, which is available in the guest partners from various organizations. Study visits were encompassed a detailed overview of the Pilot Innovation Environment implemented in WP4, including discussion with relative stakeholders involved, presentation of further relevant practices in the visited region by relevant stakeholders, discussion on transnational aspects and opportunities for transformability of the practices explored.

## **4. CONTRIBUTION TO FORESDA AND DTP OBJECTIVES**

Here are extracts from AF about FORESDA and DTP objectives related to a Study visits. How to justify contribution of Study visits to these Objectives? Please for support.

Study visits in selected project regions were organised at five occasions. Typically, they included a visit to the local Pilot Innovation Environment and further relevant good practices supporting innovation in the forest-based sector in the regions visited. Participants were project partners, including ASPs. The visits and presentations have a strong interactive character to ensure a transferability of the learnings to the visiting partner organisations. The study visits contribute hereby to specific objective 3.

The third specific objective addresses the challenge of building up the necessary capacities of the main stakeholders in the project regions. Particularly representatives from clusters, research institutions and policy makers are involved to ensure a transfer, take-up and development of methodological knowledge, tools and an appropriate support portfolio for the development of cross-sectoral value chains. This leads to closer local as well as transnational collaborations and support capacity building for innovation intermediaries connected to the forest-based sector.

Set up study visits have encompassed:

- a detailed overview of the Pilot Innovation Environments implemented in WP4, including discussion with the stakeholders involved
- presentation of further relevant practices in the visited region by relevant stakeholders
- discussion on transnational aspects and opportunities for transferability of the practices explored.

PA 08: strengthen the competitiveness of forest-based and related industries as future regional competitive advantage, building capacities to turn R&D results into smart and clean technologies:

- TARGETS: establish a cluster network, improve technological transfer, better use of environmental technologies.

- ACTIONS: foster cooperation, knowledge exchange in the quadruple helix on a macro-regional level, eliminate cross-border barriers / bottlenecks, improve business support and framework conditions to strengthen SMEs, improve competitiveness of rural areas based on a stronger forest-based sector.

Synergies with the Danube Transfer Centres will be sought.

FORESDA allows an integrated approach towards PILLAR 2, positively influences PILLAR 3 - PA 10 by strengthening the institutional capacities to enable innovation and transnational cooperation.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

General, covering all 5 study visits, cross analysis.

By participating in study visits, the project partners have met with examples of good practices that support innovation at the FBI in all roaming regions of project partners. Study visits have a strong interactive section with a view to ensure portability, which is available in the guest partners from various organizations. Study visits were encompassed a detailed overview of the Pilot Innovation Environment implemented in WP4, including discussion with relative stakeholders involved, presentation of further relevant practices in

the visited region by relevant stakeholders, discussion on transnational aspects and opportunities for transformability of the practices explored.

Study visits were an important result as they were focused on the main eligibility of the project: authorities from Danube region, both at national and local level. In addition, study visits have been an opportunity to participate in working directly with different stakeholders.

The overall aim of the study visit was to transfer knowledge and experience and to exchange ideas and practices between representatives of Danube region. The study visit was designed to facilitate conversations and mutual learning between the visiting delegation and those who have experiences working on certain scientific field.

By participating in study visits, the project partners have met with examples of good practices that support innovation at the FBI in all roaming regions of project partners. Study visits have had a strong interactive section with a view to ensure portability, which is available in the guest partners from various organizations. Study visits were encompassed a detailed overview of the Pilot Innovation Environment implemented in WP4, including discussion with relative stakeholders involved, presentation of further relevant practices in the visited region by relevant stakeholders, discussion on transnational aspects and opportunities for transformability of the practices explored.

At all five occasions the project partners were acquainted with a lot of information's from versatile areas such as: field of innovation, versatility of the biogenic raw materials, practical examples of the research activities in the laboratories, infrastructure centre for preparation, weathering and field testing of wood and lignocellulosic materials, activities as a high-tech business network, with new applications that can be developed and tested until they are ready to be launched on the market, standard drying regimes, with visiting fairs they were acquainted with furniture trends in Danube region.

## **6. APPENDIX**

- D.6.1.3 Documentation of the study visits. Project Region: Austria
- D.6.1.3 Documentation of the study visits. Project Region: Slovenia
- D.6.1.3 Documentation of the study visits. Project Region: Germany

- D.6.1.3 Documentation of the study visits. Project Region: Serbia
- D.6.1.3 Documentation of the study visits. Project Region: Bulgaria