



### Energy wood supply chains organized by forest owners in Finland

The central union of agricultural producers and forest owners (MTK) is responsible for the forest owners benefits in Finland. Further, forest owners have regionally and operationally organized through the 59 individual forestry associations. There is 202 000 forest owner members, which is about 60% of the total number of forest owner farms in Finland. The large number of members enable the common organized developing of forestry in regional, national and international level.

The energy wood is the important part of wood market nowadays in Finland. The aim is to introduce the market of energy wood supply chains organized by forest owners. The following data was collected from individual forestry associations (chief managers, 6/2021) and from using the statistical information.

#### Results and conclusions:

- According the average result of forestry associations, the most important source of energy wood is the delimbed energy wood.  
*Conclusion:* It would be important to develop the energy wood harvesting methods at young stands.
- Forestry associations have the main role in energy wood supply chains by organizing marketing to forest owners (89%) and harvesting to the roadside (89%). The level of organizing energy wood storages at terminal (59%) and chipping (51%) was a little bit lower.  
*Conclusion:* Forestry associations role have been more in the beginning of supply chains.
- The most common way of organizing energy wood supply chain in forestry associations is to use own harvesting services (76%), whereas the own company based model (14%) or co-operation model (8%) was not used as much.  
*Conclusion:* The own harvesting services are important part of forest owners services especially for energy wood.
- The harvesting cost of energy wood supply chains at young stands is the most significant reason for preventing to maintain the energy wood goals. Sustainability was not seen as significant from the several options.  
*Conclusion:* It would be the most important to develop cost-effective harvesting methods at young stands.
- The need of energy wood will be increasing because of the changes in energy market. The decreasing of peat at power plants was seen to increase the use of energy wood this year.



Photo: Kalle Karttunen

#### KEY WORDS

Energy wood, forest owner, supply chain, forestry associations

#### COUNTRY

Finland

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The energy wood supply chains are organized in Finland by many ways. Forest owners' organized energy wood supply is one of the most important especially when developing energy wood harvesting at young stands. There is a need to understand the forest owners' aims and needs for using their forest also when it comes to the use of energy wood. The small-sized energy wood harvesting from young stands is the important part of forest management. The forestry associations are organized by the private family forest owners. The organized forest owner members represent the majority of the forest owners in Finland.

The total share of energy wood used in Finland was 8,2 mill.m<sup>3</sup>, of which the share of small-sized energy wood was 4,3 mill. m<sup>3</sup> (52%) in 2020. The imported energy wood have increased in recent years being 1,8 mill. m<sup>3</sup> (22%). The statistics of energy wood harvesting in Finland covering 6,2 mill. m<sup>3</sup> of which the share of small-sized energy wood is 3,8 mill. m<sup>3</sup> in 2020. The share of energy wood supply through the forestry associations was totally 1,6 mill. m<sup>3</sup> in 2020. In addition, the energy wood is going straight by forest companies even with harvesting controlled by forestry associations. Market share of energy wood supply chains organized by forest owners is significant. The finding out the cost-effective methods for small-sized energy wood harvesting to increase the amounts of energy wood harvesting and supply chains would be the key information for forest owners from the project.

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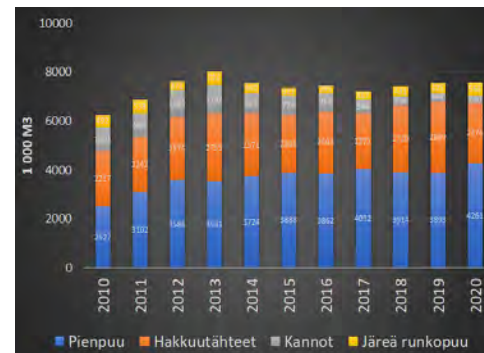
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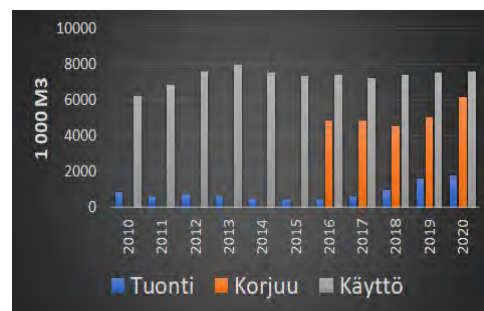
BRANCHES is a H2020 "Coordination Support Action" project, that brings together 12 partners from 5 different countries. The overall objective of BRANCHES is to foster knowledge transfer and innovation in rural areas (agriculture and forestry), enhancing the viability and competitiveness of biomass supply chains and promoting innovative technologies, rural bioeconomy solutions and sustainable agricultural and forest management.



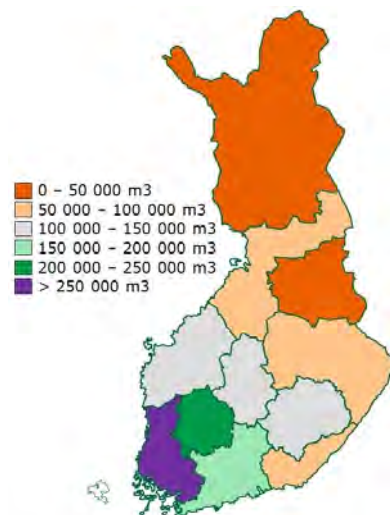
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Picture 1. The use of wood chips 2010-2020 (Luke)



Picture 2. Import, harvesting and use of wood chips 2010-2020 (Luke)



Picture 3. Energy wood supplies of the Forestry Associations in Finland (MTK)

### THE PARTNERSHIP

