

ISWBP

Bio-modified wood as a building material



Façade made out of the project's novel product

Tropical wood is facing growing demand worldwide which is unsustainable in the long-term. The project developed a bio-based wood treatment process to replace tropical wood with wood of European origin in construction. The resulting enhanced timber possesses the look and durability of tropical hardwood.



Construction



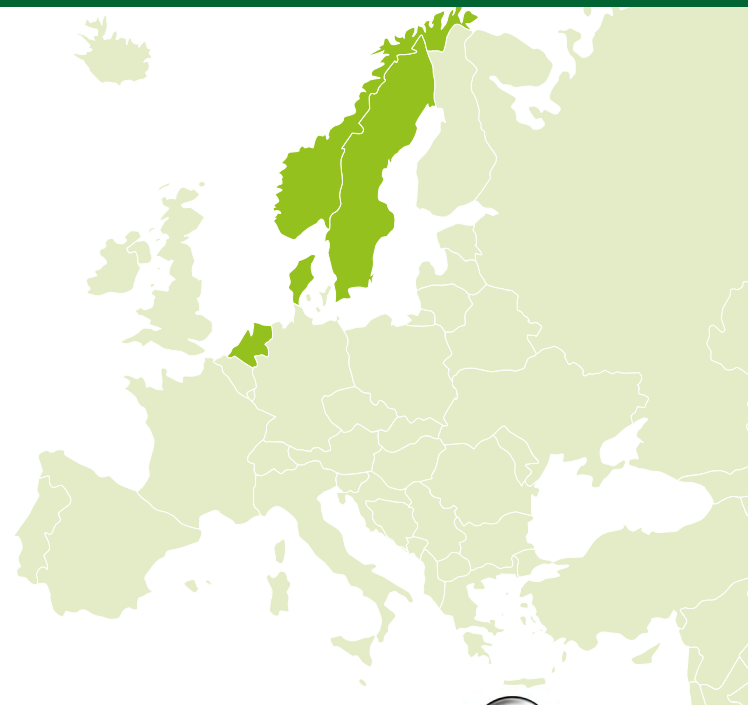
Wood

The project aimed to produce a bio-based modified wood, an eco-friendly alternative to environmentally unsound construction materials.

The result was achieved through In-Situ Wood Bio-Polymerization. Fast growing softwood is impregnated with a water-soluble thermoset resin which is produced from agricultural crop waste. The product is marketed as NobelWood®. It has penetrated the more environmentally friendly markets of Benelux and Scandinavia and is spreading further.










The Consortium, led by Foreco B.V. and further comprised of Trans Furans Chemicals and Kärnsund Wood Link, received EU funding between 2013–2016 in order to break through market barriers and commercialise this environmentally friendly solution.

- **Product available in The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway**
- **Focused on the B2B sector**
- **Contact: info@foreco.nl**



ECO-innovation
WHEN BUSINESS MEETS THE ENVIRONMENT

Commercialisation results & areas of success

-  Annual turnover: €0.5–1 million
-  Expected revenues in 5 years: €2–5 million
-  Expected market share in 5 years: 10% (Home country) 10 % (EU)
-  Expected no. of employees in 5 years: 150
-  Over 10 000 m³ of tropical hardwood substituted
-  A new production capacity is being installed, representing a rise to 5 000 m³ capacity per year
-  The product can be used as a façade material, where it will serve at least for 50 years without the need for maintenance
-  The product is being developed further to cross-over to the infrastructure market
-  The research matrix resulting from the project is being further exploited, strengthening the competitiveness of the EU's timber industry



Launched in 2008, the Eco-innovation initiative was part of the EU's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP), set up to support innovation among SMEs and to improve their competitiveness. It was included in the EIP's annual work programmes.

The eco-innovation initiative bridged the gap between research and the market. It helped good ideas for innovative products, services and processes that protect the environment become fully-fledged commercial prospects, ready for use by business and industry. In doing so the initiative not only helped the EU meet its environmental objectives but also boost economic growth.

The LIFE programme has financed green innovation and clean tech solutions since its start in 1992. One of today's key priorities for LIFE is to support close-to-market projects delivering innovative environmental solutions, ensuring that they are sustainable and capable of being widely taken up by society in general, and the economy in particular.

The Close-to-market initiative's aim is to help and assist the LIFE projects with market potential to develop towards successfully maintaining project results via commercialisation and upscaling of the proposed innovative solutions.

LIFE can help you to sustain and thrive even after the end of the LIFE project.

HOW TO APPLY FOR LIFE FUNDING

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals. Full details are available at <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life> <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/section/life/life-close-market-projects>

LEARN MORE

-  ec.europa.eu/life
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