## ERIFORE





European Reseach Infrastructure for Circular Forest Economy

ERIFORE aims to establish an open access research infrastructure for circular forest bioeconomy across Europe. This will unlock the full potential of available forest biomass and will give rise to a new level of co-operation between the major RTD providers in the field.

To achieve this, the project will first assess: (1) The sources of forest derived biomass and their availability and (2) The existing expertise and equipment of the project partners on the processing steps to convert forest biomass into valuable end products.

The analysis of the collected data and special competences will allow the identification of possible value chains in the circular forest bioeconomy. Furthermore, the missing expertise and equipment to realize these value chains within the pan-European infrastructure will be identified. As such a globally competitive European research infrastructure can be established delivering next generation technologies in the field of forest processing to novel biomaterials, revisiting current pulping processes, and valorization of forest biomass gasification (e.g. gas fermentation).

Interregional concept studies will be extracted from the most relevant value chains, resulting in novel business models for the forest bioeconomy. A conceptual design and plan for cooperation arrangements will be prepared between the main European RTD providers with the target to establish an ESFRI project in the field of circular forest bioeconomy.

The development of the Circular Forest Bioeconomy will allow to update the major European research infrastructure in order to use the full potential of available forest biomass in balance with diverse forest applications. New co-operation arrangements between the major RTD providers, as well as a globally competitive European research infrastructure will be developed.

Thus, ERIFORE will enhance the cooperation between academia and industry through biorefinery clusters, thus enabling knowledge transfer and upgrading the bioeconomy competence base.

## PARTNERS

Teknologian tutkimuskeskus (VTT), Finland; Aalto Korkeakoulusaatio (Aalto), Finland; Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant (BBEPP), Belgium; Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Forschung (FhG), Germany; SP Sveriges Tekniska Forskningsinstitut AB (SP), Sweden; Kungliga tekniska högskolan (KTH), Sweden; SINTEF, Norway; Institut Technologique Foret Cellulose Bois-construction Ameublement (FCBA), France; Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France; Tecnalia Research and Innovation (Tecnalia), Spain; Kompetenzzentrum Holz GmbH Wood K plus (Wood K plus), Austria; Latvijas Valsts Koksnes Kimijas Institūts (LSIWC), Latvia; "Petru Poni" Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry (PPIMC), Romania.

Project coordinator: dr. Härkönen Mika, VTT(Finland)

Supported by



Horizon 2020 European Union Funding for Research & Innovation