



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS



UNECE/FAO

Forests

The Green Life of Wood

Assessing its Environmental Impacts from Cradle to Cradle

15 October 2012 All day

Back to back with the UNECE Timber Committee
Room XII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Wood is the product of the future. Green, useful and beautiful, it is one of the best solutions to the world's current environmental problems, with a huge number of uses, including fuel, all of which are produced in a sustainable and environmentally harmonious way. Yet, despite this, it is often overlooked in building and other industries which have a tradition of favouring less sustainable materials. This workshop will examine how to promote the case for wood products, raise awareness of the potential of wood, and market this remarkable sustainable product.

Life cycle assessment (LCA) can be applied to evaluate the overall environmental impacts of a material or a product throughout its life from cradle to cradle, and it can help to understand which parts of a production chain are most harmful to the environment, as well as compare different materials and products.

How can LCA help to promote wood?



The speakers include:

- ✓ **Annemarie Bastrup-Birk**, European Environment Agency
- ✓ **Gerhard Dieterle**, The World Bank
- ✓ **João Ferreira**, European Cork Federation
- ✓ **Tarja Häkkinen**, Technical Research Centre of Finland
- ✓ **Alfred W. Kammerhofer**, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
- ✓ **Sylvain Labbé**, Quebec Wood Export Bureau
- ✓ **Nicolas Mainville**, Greenpeace Canada
- ✓ **Rupert Oliver**, American Hardwood Export Council
- ✓ **David Paré**, Natural Resources Canada

The workshop will consist of a series of expert level presentations followed by discussion. Working groups will allow all workshop participants to contribute to the work by discussing and formulating recommendations for:

1. How effective is the LCA as a tool to measure the environmental sustainability of wood and how well is it currently used?
2. How effective are member states / the public sector in promoting the environmental benefits of wood?
3. How effective is the forest industry in promoting the environmental benefits of wood?
4. How effective is the Timber Committee in promoting the environmental benefits of wood?

...with the aim of establishing wood in its rightful place as **THE** sustainable product of the future.

For more information contact: elina.warsta@fao.org

www.unece.org/forests

With the support of Finland

PENCIL THE DATE IN!

