



EUROPEAN PANEL FEDERATION  
WOOD - BASED PANELS

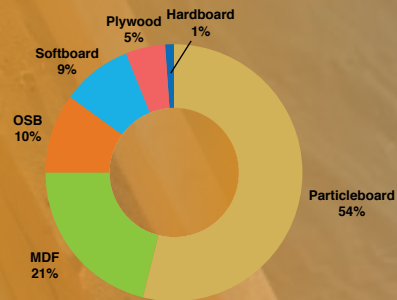
# THE WOOD-BASED PANELS INDUSTRY



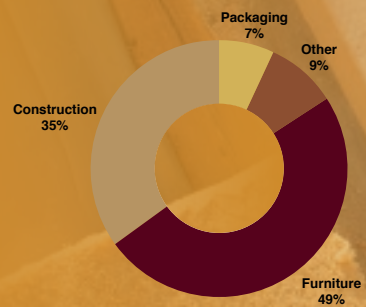
## WHO WE ARE

- › We have Members in **32 European countries**.
- › We create over **100,000 jobs** directly.
- › We count more than **5,000 enterprises in the EU**.
- › With a turnover of about € 22 billion every year.
- › Production of WBP in the EU-28 (+EFTA) in 2019 was an estimated 59.2 million m<sup>3</sup>

### WHAT WE DO



### APPLICATIONS

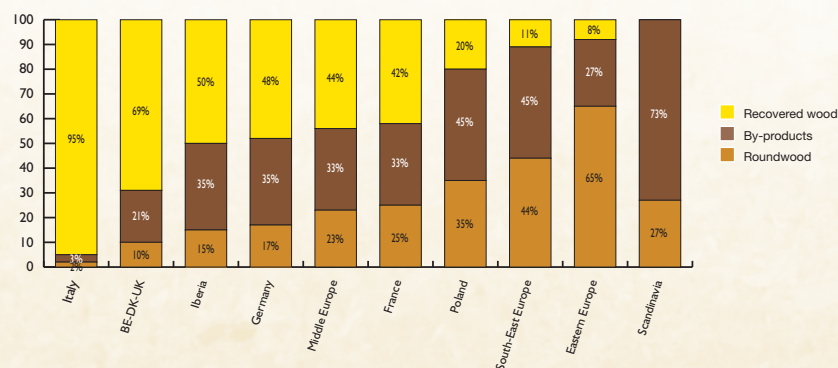


### WASTE HIERARCHY





## REGIONAL COMPOSITION OF THE RAW WOOD CONSUMPTION MIX IN THE EUROPEAN PARTICLEBOARD INDUSTRY, 2019



Sources: EPF Members, UNECE contributors and IKEA study  
 Regional definition  
 BE-DK-UK: Belgium, Denmark and the UK  
 Eastern Europe: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovakia  
 Iberia: Portugal and Spain  
 Middle Europe: Austria, Czech Republic and Switzerland  
 Scandinavia: Finland, Norway and Sweden  
 South-East Europe: Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary and Romania

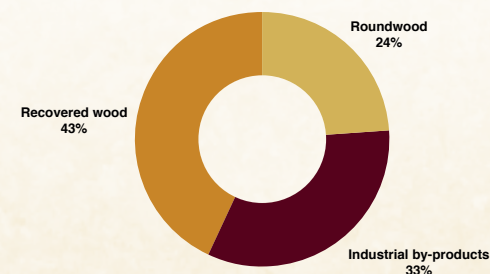
## AN INNOVATIVE AND CIRCULAR BIO-INDUSTRY

- Wood is the ultimate naturally renewable resource.
- Our WBP are **circular products sourced from sustainably managed forests**.
- Cascading use of wood** is in line with EU Circular Economy Action Plan: reduce, reuse, recycle and energy recovery at the end of the life cycle.
- Time, cost and energy efficient** especially for construction and renovation.
- Innovation has turned waste into an industry.
- Virgin timber is increasingly replaced by recycled wood into some of our products.
- More than 50% of panels' wooden biomass comes from recovered wood or industrial by-products and even up to 100% in some of our products.

## CARBON REMOVALS & SUBSTITUTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

- WBP naturally extend the carbon cycle and the storage lifespan.
- Sequestration**: growth of sustainably managed forests via photosynthesis.
- Storage**: harvested wood-based products can store about 1 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq. per cubic meter.
- Substitution**: every cubic meter of wood used as a substitute of carbon-intensive materials (such as steel or concrete) reduces emissions up to 2.5 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq.
- WBP can be structural, decorative or used for insulation in both construction & renovation.
- Studies have shown that an increased use of harvested wood products for construction and renovation could result in avoided emissions of 11 Million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year on average. It represents avoided emissions equivalent to more than 2,3 million passenger vehicles driven for one year.

## RAW WOOD CONSUMPTION MIX BY THE EUROPEAN PARTICLEBOARD INDUSTRY, 2019



## OUR RECYCLING ACHIEVEMENTS & AMBITIONS

- More than 50% of the wooden biomass raw material of WBP industry is recycled or an industrial by-product.
- Roundwood** is the tree coming from sustainably managed forests.
- Industrial by-products** are the remaining wood materials resulting from the work of sawmills and other processing factories in manufacturing wood products. Rather than being simply discarded or burnt, the by-products are used by the WBP industry to create entirely new long-lasting carbon storing products.
- Recovered wood** is wood derived from the recycling of old furniture, packaging or construction and demolition wood, broken down and transformed into new material for the manufacture of WBP.

## SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

- Environmental value**: WBP are a model of circular and sustainable economy and can provide, for instance in construction and renovation (prefabricated WBP), about 60% less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than traditional heavy housing;
- Economic value**: for construction and renovation WBP are time (faster and easier to assemble off site), cost and energy efficient with excellent insulation properties and low maintenance requirements;
- Social value**: cascading use of wood is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, namely: 'decent work and economic growth' (SDG8), 'industry, innovation and infrastructure' (SDG9), 'sustainable cities and communities' (SDG11), 'responsible consumption and production' (SDG12), 'climate action' (SDG13) & 'life on land' (SDG15).





## OUR EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL OBJECTIVES

In line with the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the European Green Deal, the European WBP Industry calls on the European institutions to:



### ■ Secure the supply for wooden raw materials and guarantee a level playing field:

- Avoid unnecessary market distortions from support schemes for bioenergy;
- Develop an integrated policy framework for sustainable forest management to satisfy the growing demand for raw materials and climate-friendly wood-based products;
- Support plantations and reforestation that capture carbon, protect soils, rivers and biodiversity, create jobs in shrinking rural areas of Europe and support the European industry;

### ■ Increase the use of sustainable bio-based products and systems to fight climate change:

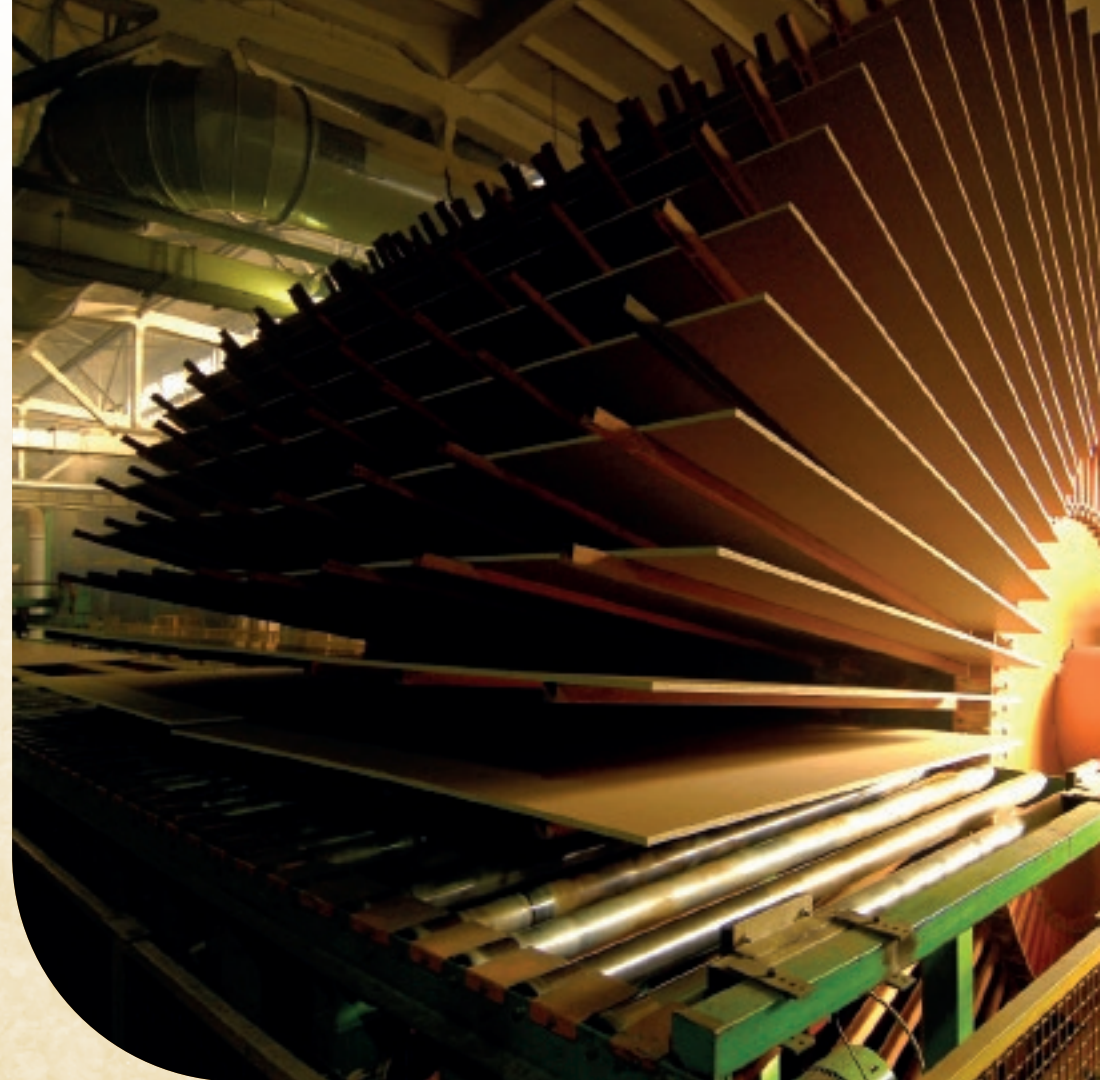
- Assess the environmental and energy performance by categories of buildings to identify the most climate-friendly solutions for construction and renovation;
- Reflect results into minimum green public procurement for sustainable products;
- Boost the use of biogenic carbon storing materials for better resource and energy efficiency;

### ■ Stimulate the cascading use of harvested wood products:

- Promote resource efficiency, waste reduction and extension of the carbon life cycle for the deployment of a circular bioeconomy;
- Ensure that bio-based materials, including all wood wastes, return to the value-chain by fostering eco-design, increasing recycling targets and favouring wherever possible the use of secondary wooden raw materials for products ahead of eventual end of life incineration;
- Broaden the waste hierarchy principle to materials;

### ■ Enable users to choose climate friendly materials:

- Define accurate accounting to measure and confirm the substitution effect of using biogenic products instead of carbon-intensive materials;
- Extend carbon storage via greater use of natural products such as wood-based panels and increase the total harvested wood products' carbon stock.



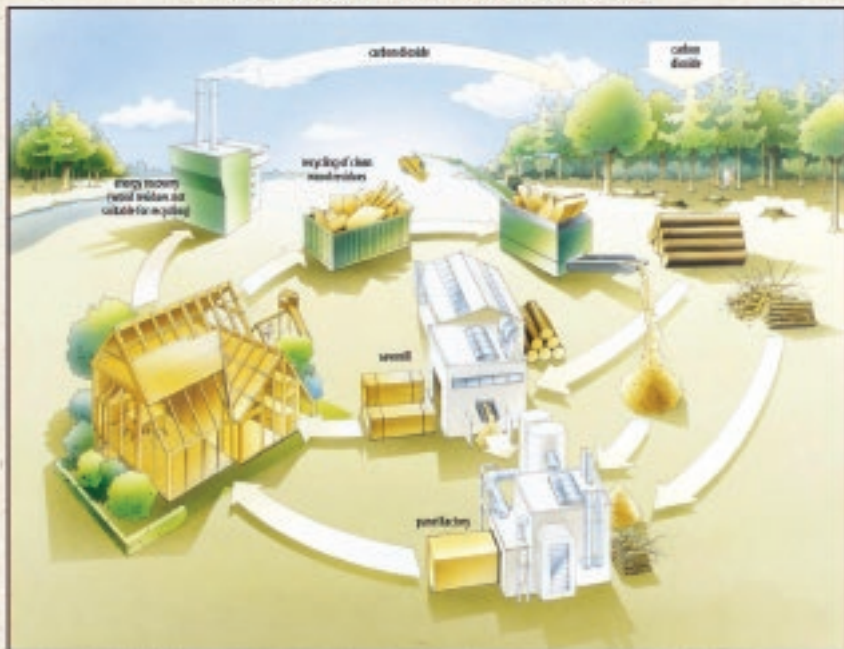




## EUROPEAN PANEL FEDERATION

WOOD - BASED PANELS

### Wood and wood-panel products: sustainable and renewable



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