

Outcome for the Forest-based Sector in Horizon 2020 2014 Calls

Summary

In April, the European Commission finally released a dataset¹ covering the first signed Grant Agreements (projects) from Horizon 2020. The Grant Agreements have been signed in 2015 and come from the Horizon 2020 Calls for Proposals that was published in 2014.

The dataset includes 2400 projects and a total budget of € 3.68 billion. The total budget of the dataset is significantly lower than the average budget distributed annually in FP7 (€ 7 billion/year).

The Biobased Industries JU (BBI JU) Call is not included in the dataset provided by the EC.

23 projects with a total EU contribution of €67.8M have been identified as relevant to the forest-based sector (FBS) and answering to the FTP Strategic Research Agenda. We estimate that the first BBI JU call will add another 15-20 M€ to this amount. This corresponds to 1.8% to 2.4% of the EU funding going to projects important for our sector.

The projects have been identified by keywords searches (keyword list in appendix 1) and their relevance confirmed by the information available in the project abstract and list of participants.

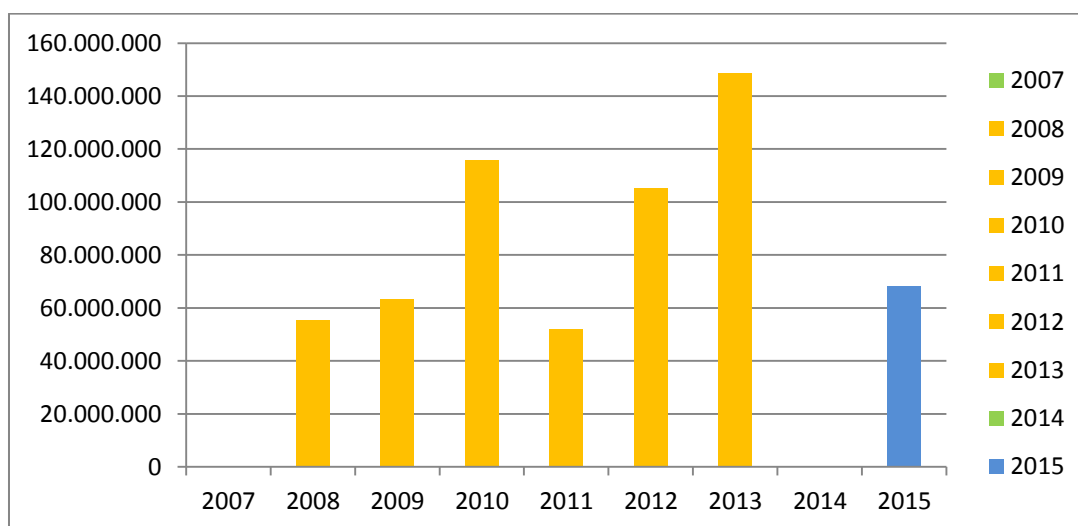
The information on the identified FBS-related projects and their partners has now been uploaded into the *FTP Research & Innovation Portal for the SRA* (www.forestplatform.net) where it is publicly available.

¹ <https://open-data.europa.eu/en/data/dataset/cordis-h2020-projects>

Comparing Horizon 2020 with FP7

FTP has previously published the FBS statistics for Framework Programme 7 (2007-2013). Figure 1 shows the EU-funding to the forest-based sector per year also including the data we now have for 2014 and 2015. The years 2007 and 2014 are empty because no Grant Agreements were signed in the two starting years of the Framework Programmes.

Fig 1: Funding to the FBS from FP7 and Horizon 2020 (2007-2015)



Success in 1st call of H2020 of 10 most successful organisations in FP7

The European Commission has made public some preliminary statistics which shows that more than 40.000 proposals were submitted during the first year of operation of Horizon 2020. We can conclude that the application success rate has dropped significantly from FP7 to the first year Horizon 2020. While, the success rate for FP7 was 1 in around 5.5 proposals in the Horizon 2020 Call closed last year, the success rate was less than 1 in 7 proposals.

Many of our sectors' major research institutes are missing from the list of H2020 project partners in the dataset. For instance EFI, PTS, and Innventia are not participating in any of the 2400 grant agreements. To find out how significant this is, we have compared the number of successful proposals in FP7 for ten of the most important research organisations for our sector with their participation in the grant agreement in the dataset.

Fig 2: Grant agreements signed by our research organisations in FP7 and in H2020 respectively

Research Organisation	Rank in FTPs FP7 database	Average projects/year in FP7	Projects in the first year of H2020	Rank in FTPs H2020 database
VTT	1	4	2	3
CNRS	2	2,4	3	1
Fraunhofer	3	2,4	1	15
EFI	4	1,7	0	-
BOKU	5	1,7	2	3
FCBA	8	1,3	1	15
SLU	8	1,3	3	2
METLA	15	1,1	1	15
Innventia	25	0,7	0	-
PTS	25	0,7	0	-
Sum:		17,4	13,0	
Normalised:		100%	75%	

EU-funding/ year (bn Euro): Normalised:	FP7	H2020 1st Call
	7,1	3,7
	100%	143%

Figure 1 show ten of the research institutes with the highest number of projects in the FTP database for FP7. On any given year of FP7, the ten research institutes would sign on average 17.4 Grant Agreements. In the H2020 dataset, the same organisations have signed 13 Grant Agreements, which is 25% less than on an average year under FP7.

Brussels, 2015-05-05

However, if we take into account that the EU budget distributed in the first call of Horizon 2020 is significantly lower than on an average year in FP7, the organisations have actually signed 43% more Grant Agreements than compared to FP7.

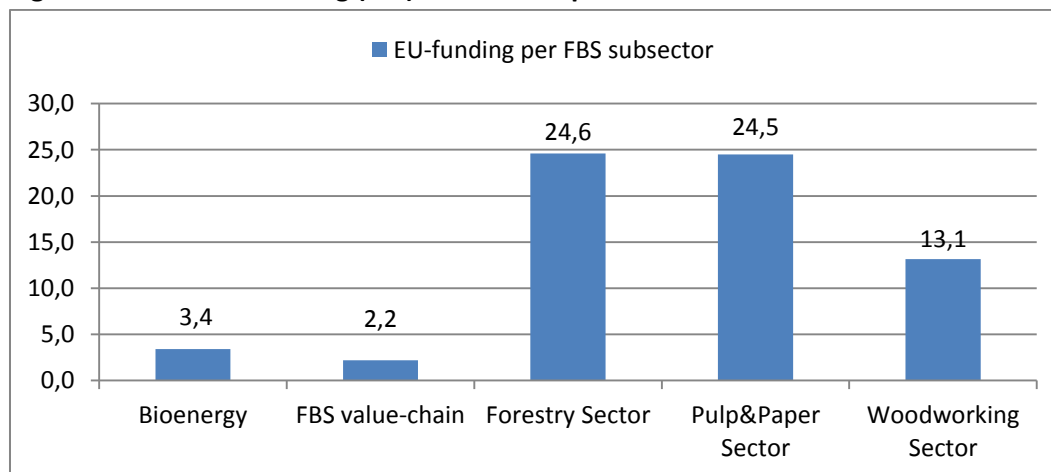
Funding per FBS sub-sector

In line with the Commission's current focus on Societal Challenges, the Call Topics of Horizon 2020 have been very "open" and less sector-specific than in FP7. Also the funded projects are more cross-sectoral which makes it difficult to identify relevant FBS projects. We have chosen to omit some 20 projects that arguably could be of interest to our stakeholder groups from the FBS statistics. We consider their contribution to the ambitions of the FTP Vision and SRA to be negligible.

The scope of those omitted projects range from tropical forestry, earth observation and climate change models, fast rotation coppice, molecular plant physiology, ecosystems and biodiversity, embodied energy in buildings, process technology and lignocellulosic biofuels.

As for the distribution of funding between sub-sectors, the EU contribution in million Euros is illustrated in figure 3.

Fig. 3: Horizon 2020 funding (M€) distribution per the different FBS sub-sectors



Number of FBS participants per country, H2020 first call and in FP7

Country rank 2014 Call Horizon 2020		
Partners	Country	Rank
13	Germany	1
10	Spain	2
9	United Kingdom	3
8	France	4
8	Belgium	5
7	Sweden	6
6	Netherlands	7
6	Italy	8
6	Austria	9
6	Finland	10
5	Czech Republic	11
4	Estonia	12

Source: www.forestplatform.net

Country rank FP7, 7 years	
Country	Rank
Germany	1
Spain	2
United Kingdom	3
Italy	4
France	5
Sweden	6
Finland	7
Netherlands	8
Belgium	9
Austria	10
Greece	11
Poland	12

Source: www.forestplatform.net

List of FBS-related projects funded from the 2014 Horizon 2020 calls

Project Acronym	Total Budget	EU-Budget	keywords	call	Sector	Full Proposal Title
PRODIAS	13.648.823,25	9.993.008,40	Process Industry	H2020-SPIRE-2014	P&P	PROcessing Diluted Aqueous Systems
MOBILE FLIP	9.767.979,00	8.606.175,00	Wood, Forest, Cellulose	H2020-SPIRE-2014	P&P	Mobile and Flexible Industrial Processing of Biomass
HISER	7.665.262,59	7.511.870,00	Wood	H2020-WASTE-2014-o	WW	Holistic Innovative Solutions for an Efficient Recycling and Recovery of Valuable Raw Materials from Complex Construction and Demolition Waste
nEUROSTRESSPEP	6.995.053,75	6.995.052,50	Forest, Forestry	H2020-SFS-2014-2	Forest	Novel biocontrol agents for insect pests from neuroendocrinology
EMPHASIS	6.636.038,75	6.526.038,51	Forest, Forestry	H2020-SFS-2014-2	Forest	Effective Management of Pests and Harmful Alien Species - Integrated Solutions
SteamBio	6.979.982,05	5.829.783,42	Forest, Forestry, Bioenergy, Cellulose	H2020-SPIRE-2014	P&P	Flexible Superheated Steam Torrefaction and Grinding of Indigenous Biomass from Remote Rural Sources to Produce Stable Densified Feedstocks for Chemical and Energy Applications
RIBuild	5.331.375,00	4.962.375,00	Timber	H2020-EE-2014-1-PPF	WW	Robust Internal Thermal Insulation of Historic Buildings
DIABOLO	4.998.970,00	4.734.594,50	Wood, Forest	H2020-ISIB-2014-2	Forest	Distributed, integrated and harmonised forest information for bioeconomy outlooks
PEGASUS	3.007.800,00	2.977.525,00	Forest, Forestry	H2020-ISIB-2014-2	Forest	Public Ecosystem Goods And Services from land management - Unlocking the Synergies
BioRES	1.865.411,25	1.865.411,25	Wood, Forest, Forestry, Bioenergy, Woody	H2020-LCE-2014-3	FBS	Sustainable Regional Supply Chains for Woody Bioenergy
greenGain	1.829.390,50	1.829.390,50	Forest	H2020-LCE-2014-3	Forest	Supporting Sustainable Energy Production from Biomass from Landscape Conservation and Maintenance Work
SECURECHAIN	1.809.586,25	1.809.586,25	Bioenergy	H2020-LCE-2014-3	Bioenergy	Securing future-proof environmentally compatible bioenergy chains
Bioenergy4Business	1.540.713,75	1.540.713,75	Forest, Bioenergy	H2020-LCE-2014-3	Bioenergy	Uptake of Solid Bioenergy in European Commercial Sectors (Industry, Trade, Agricultural and Service Sectors) – Bioenergy for Business
PARADISE	1.157.272,50	838.590,00	Forest	H2020-Galileo-2014-1	Forest	Precise and Robust Navigation enabling Applications in Disturbed Signal Environments
TOPWOOD	675.000,00	675.000,00	Wood, Forest	H2020-MSCA-RISE-20	WW	Wood phenotyping tools: properties, functions and quality
LORENZLIDAR	195.454,80	195.454,80	Forest	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	Forest	Classification of Forest Structural Types with LiDAR Remote Sensing Applied to Study Tree Size-Density Scaling Theories
AIFHoNSo	183.454,80	183.454,80	Forest, Forestry	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	Forest	Analysing Forest Hydrocarbons with Networks of Sensors
MAIDEN-SPRUCE	173.076,00	173.076,00	Forest, Cellulose	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	Forest	Tree growth, forest carbon storage and climate change in a Canadian boreal region using a model-data fusion approach
DENDRONUTRIENT	170.121,60	170.121,60	Wood, Timber, Forest, Forestry, Bioenergy	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	FBS	Disentangling the effects of CO2 fertilization, nutrient limitation and water availability on forest ecosystem processes: Estimating long-term consequences on SW European forests
Forests and CO	159.460,80	159.460,80	Timber, Forest	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	FBS	Co-Benefits and Conflicts between CO2 sequestration and biodiversity conservation in European Forests
PHLOEMAP	158.121,60	158.121,60	Wood, Forest	H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	Forest	Hydraulic functional traits as determinants of forest function and drought responses. Putting xylem and phloem attributes into the functional trait map.
BilletPro	71.429,00	50.000,00	Wood	H2020-SMEINST-1-201	Bioenergy	Development of a harvesting machine for short rotation plantations for the production of billets with advantageous properties in terms of handling, drying and storing
FlowcusinUp	71.429,00	50.000,00	Paper Industry	H2020-SMEINST-1-201	P&P	Scale Up of Microencapsulation Systems by using Flow Focusing Technology



Appendix 1: Search keywords used

Acoustics
Bioenergy
Biofuel
Biorefinery/bio-refinery
Cellulose
Electronic paper
Forest
Forestry
Harvesting
Hemicellulose/hemi-cellulose
Hygiene products
Lignin
NCC/nanochrystaline cellulose
NFC/nano fibrous cellulose
Packaging
Panel
Paper
Paper industry
Paper processing
Particle board
Peri-urban
Process industry
Pulp
Pulp & paper
Roundwood
Sawmill
Timber
Tree breeding
Tree farming
Waste paper/ Paper waste
Wood
Woody