



Fourth Meeting of the Management Committee of COST-Action FP0802

Agenda

0. Welcome to participants
1. Adoption of agenda
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Report from the COST Office
5. Progress report of working groups
6. Action planning
 - 6.1 Annual Progress Conference (preparation and/or feedback from DC)
 - 6.2 Action Planning (including meetings)
 - 6.3 Action Budget Planning
7. STSM status, applications
8. Publications, dissemination and outreach activities
9. Request for new members
10. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)
11. Non-COST country participations
12. Web news
13. AOB
14. Closing



0. Welcome of participants

1. Adoption of agenda

2. Minutes of last meeting



3. Matters arising

Decisions of Management Committee since last meeting:

- **approval of final budget & support grant** for WS “Mixed numerical and experimental methods applied to the mechanical characterization of bio-based materials”, Apr 11, Vila Real amounting to € 1,020
- **approval of revised budget for 2011**, budget increased by EUR 6,100 to EUR 121,100



Report from COST Office



4. Report of COST Office

Rapporteur

Martin Greimel



5.1 Progress reports of working groups

WP1: Wood microstructure

Short note by WG leader *Lisbeth Thygesen*

WP2: (Hygro-)Mechanical properties

Short note by WG leader *Michaela Eder*

WP3: Modelling of the material behaviour

Short note by WG leader *Kristofer Gamstedt*

5.2 Report of workshop in Vila Real

Workshop “Mixed numerical and experimental methods applied to the mechanical characterization of bio-based materials”,

April 27-28, 2011, Vila Real, Portugal

- Organizers: Jose XAVIER, Joao PERREIRA, Jose MORAIS
- 36 participants from 14 countries (40 ESR = 83 %!),
13 oral presentations and 10 posters
- Highlights:
 - Presentation and discussion of strategies on how to **combine** of **experimental** and **numerical approaches** in investigating mechanical and transport properties of wood (and other biological tissues)
 - **Successful application** examples from **other fields** (plenary lecture by Stephane Avril, leading scientist on full field measurements on soft tissues)
 - Intensive **discussions**, particularly among **young researchers**

5.2 Report of training school in Jyväskylä

Training School “X-ray tomography”, August 15 – August 19, 2011,
Jyväskylä, Finland

- Jointly organized by COST Action FP0802 and Jyväskylä Summer School
- 45 applications from 17 countries
27 trainees from 11 countries (16 receiving financial support by COST)
- Introduction to
 - X μ CT equipment, physical basis/measurement principle
 - X μ CT image processing (pre-processing, segmentation, analysis)
 - Available image processing algorithms and tools
 - Application of X μ CT to wood
- Highlights
 - Introduction into **rapidly evolving field**
 - Training at **excellent equipment**
 - Training by **experts** in the field, focus on knowledge beyond textbook contents based on **personal experience**

MC approval for TS final support grant amounting to € 540 needed!

5.2 Report of workshop in Helsinki

Workshop “Hierarchical structure and mechanical characterization of wood”, August 24-25, 2011, Helsinki, Finland

- Organizer: Pekka SARANPÄÄ, Ritva SERIMAA
- 37 abstracts submitted, review by WG Leaders
- final scientific program consists of
 - 2 keynote lectures
 - 17 oral pres. & 14 poster presentations
 - thematic session: 1 keynote & 3 oral presentations
- **56 registered participants** from 16 different countries
 - 31 Early Stage Researchers (55 % of all participants)
- Highlights:
 - **Thematically focused sessions** on thermo-hygro-mechanically modified wood in cooperation with COST Action FP0904
 - **WG-reports:** state-of-the-art review, discussion of remaining knowledge gaps



Workshop – final budget

MC approval of budget & support grant needed!

(1) Room and technical equipment rental	€ 560
(2) Photocopying, printing of programme, Book of Abstracts	€ 990
(3) Phone, fax, mailing costs, letters of confirmation	€ 0
(4) Personnel	€ 1,705
(5) Local transport	€ 0
(6) Coffee breaks and light refreshment	€ 1,250
(7) Meals / dinner	€ 4,355
(8) Others	€ 200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	€ 9,060
Registration Fees	€ 7,350
COST	€ 1,710
TOTAL INCOME	€ 9,060

support grant € 30 per registered participant: 57 * € 30 = **€ 1,710**



Action planning



6.1 Annual progress conference

Annual report at DC FPS meeting on in March 2011

Evaluation statement by DC:

*“The DC commented that the Action is **well on track** and **running very smoothly**. The **high number** of **STSMs** and the **quality** of the **training school** are viewed as **outstanding** by the DC. The DC commends the Action’s efforts towards **interdisciplinarity** (e.g. the joint workshop with IE601 and the key lectures given by high profile experts from other fields (bringing new knowledge and techniques into the Action)). The **attempts** to give **gender balance** and **ESR participation** high attention are well regarded by the DC. The Action’s **intention** to **establish stronger links** with **industry** during the upcoming period is **noted** as **very important** by the DC. The DC also commended the Action for already beginning to **think about** how to **ensure continuity** of the **network beyond** the **end** of the life of the Action..”*

6.2 Action planning: 2012 – Annual workshop

Main workshop, 2012, Edinburgh, UK

- Organizers: Forest Research, Napier University, University of Glasgow
- Suggested dates: Oct 17-19 or 24-26, 2012
- Suggested format: **three days** meeting,
 - two days **scientific program** (oral presentations and posters)
 - half a day for **dissemination**
 - half a day **evaluation session** of MC with COST evaluation panel

MC approval of meeting & support grant needed!

6.2 Action planning: 2012 – Annual workshop

■ Expectations of COST

➤ Main objectives:

- Dissemination of outcome to key stakeholders
- Facilitate final evaluation by evaluation panel (led by rapporteur)

➤ Program

- Half a day focused on dissemination main outcomes and impact of Action for the general audience (including stakeholders), either condensed in single session or spread throughout conference
- Half a day (min 3 hours) closed session with MC and evaluation panel (presentations by Chair and WG leaders, explaining how Action as a whole and individual WGs met objectives (from MoU) and delivered deliverables (both from MoU), outcomes and objectives, at least one success story
- Optionally 1-2 days scientific program (presentations from Action members, not more than 1-2 external 'invited expert' speakers)

6.2 Action planning: 2012 – Annual workshop

■ Plans

➤ Dissemination

- Presentations based on review papers, **content-related summary** of activities in Action
- Presentation of senior member of Action, evaluating the **achievements** of the Action **in relation** to **objectives** and **remaining** questions and **challenges**
- **STSM session**
- *Invitation of representatives from industry / associations / technology platforms to meeting*
- *Encouragement of (local) students to participate in workshop*



6.2 Action planning: 2012 – Annual workshop

- Plans

- **Evaluation**

- Presentations by **Working Group leaders** about **findings/research work**, pointing out particular activities in Action
 - Report of **Chair** about **outcome** (papers, projects) and **industrial background** of work by individual participants **(your help/input is required!!)**
 - Summary of **activities** (workshops, STSMs, Training Schools, etc. – some numbers) and presentation of **success stories** by **Chair**
 - Ideas for **follow-up activities** / continuation of network (European Society of Wood Mechanics, other COST Actions)



6.2 Action planning: 2012 – Training school

MC approval of training school & support grant needed!

possibly in Montpellier, France

6.3 Action budget planning (Jan – Dec 2012)

MC approval needed!

A. SUMMARY BUDGET

(1a) Travel/hotel for final workshop (WG-&MC-Meeting) (Edinburgh)	€ 57,200
(1a) Workshop support grant	€ 2,400
(1b) Travel/hotel for joint meeting with FP0904 (Delft)	€ 8,800
(1b) Workshop support grant	€ 300
(2) Short-term scientific missions	€ 15,000
(3) Travel/hotel for Training School	€ 12,200
(3) Training School support grant	€ 600
(4) Dissemination – publications	€ 0
TOTAL SCIENCE EXPENDITURE	€ 96,500

B. SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

15 % of total science expenditure	€ 14,500
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C. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

€ 111,000



Administrative issues



7. STSM status, applications

- In years 1 and 2: 16 STSM completed
- call Feb 2011: 7 STSM approved (8 applications)
- call Jun 2011: 4 STSM approved (5 applications)

- + Good experience with call system
- + Increasing quality of applications and reports
- + Improving spread of regional distribution of countries of both host and home institutions of grantees
- + Numerous presentations of STSM results to be expected at workshop in 2012 (would be nice anyway at final conference)

8. Final publication

- Series of review papers in Wood Science and Technology
- Length 46,000-50,000 characters incl. blanks
- Schedule:
 - Tentative titles and list of authors by end September
 - Completion of two manuscripts by end September to serve as 'examples'
 - Collection of papers by end 2011
 - Internal review until March 2012, afterwards submission to WST
 - Publication late 2012 / early 2013 (after default review procedure of journal)
- COST pays online access!
Springer asks for € 2,000 per article!

8. Final publication

Themes, authors, coordinators:

1. Spatially resolved micro-spectroscopy of wood and fibers

Lisbeth Thygesen (coordinator), Karin Fackler, Burgi Gierlinger

2. Properties of fibers and fiber networks

Michaela Eder (coordinator), Joanna Hornatowska, Lennart Salmén

3. Micro-tomography

Jan van der Bulcke, Ritva Serimaa, Markku Kataja, ...
Lennart Salmén (coordinator)

4. Mixed experimental and numerical methods

Kristofer Gamstedt (coordinator), Thomas Bader, Karin Hofstetter

5. Wood/moisture interrelations

Emil Tang Engelund, Staffan Svensson, ...
Karin Hofstetter (coordinator)

10. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers

■ Gender balance

- Steering Committee – 60 % women
- Management Committee – 25 % women
- Working Groups – 24 % women
- Workshop – 29 % (Vila Real), 28 % (Helsinki) women

■ Early Stage Researchers

- Steering Committee – 40 %
- Management Committee – 19 %
- Working Groups – 37 %
- Workshop – 83 % (Vila Real), 55 % (Helsinki)

11. Non-COST country participations

Hydro-Quebec, Canada (contact *Louis Gastonguay*):

utility company; research programme dedicated to wood poles, interested in wood microstructure characterization, strength determination

Scion, New Zealand (contact *Chris Lenth*):

research institute in forestry science; strong background in growing and utilisation of plantation trees and wood drying, interested in all three working groups

University of Canterbury, New Zealand (contact *Clemens Altaner*):

New Zealand School of Forestry; research efforts in sustainable land management, forest engineering, understanding reduced forest variability, forestry as a business



12. Web news

Public area

- information on MC- & WG-members
- STSM-information
- minutes/presentations of MC- & SC-meetings
- presentations of Workshop

Internal area

- user name, password: to be requested from the Action Chair
- literature for Training Schools
- STSM reports



13. AOB

14. Closing