

Renewable Resources



Sustainable Future

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Renewable Resources – Sustainable Future

A cross-sectoral forum on the contribution of renewable natural resources to European competitiveness, sustainability and well-being will be arranged during Finnish EU presidency in Helsinki, on November 2, 2006.

European societies and businesses increasingly depend on efficient resource utilisation, as well as sustainable production and consumption patterns. A renewable resource base – like biomass, air or water – offers a wide range of new opportunities both for competitive businesses and sustainable policies. Hence, the utilisation of renewable natural resources is gaining large-scale interest in European countries and beyond.

The forum “Renewable Resources - Sustainable Future” aims to contribute to competitiveness, sustainability and well-being in Europe. It is cross-sectoral, bringing together key actors from different sectors in Europe. This informed people’s forum is open for a limited number (40-50) of invited participants, and it gathers an unusual combination of decision-makers and opinion leaders. Participants hold a central position in regards to the sustainable use of renewable natural resources for social benefits, competitiveness and well-being in their respective countries, or in Europe.

The event is future-looking and output-oriented. It uses interactive approaches and modern group work methods to provide new insight to the potentials of renewables, and to compile messages to ongoing policy and strategy processes. The working methods of the forum are adopted from the successful “Forest Academy” communication concept (www.smy.fi/PMA/eng) designed for interactive cross-sectoral dialogue.

Particularly forests and wood illustrate a renewable natural resource with multiple potentials. These potentials are related to, for example, construction, energy, environment, and rural development. After the forum, on 3.11.2006 an excursion focusing on wood in construction and energy production is arranged.

The forum is a joint effort of major players in the Finnish forest sector: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finnish Forest Industries Federation, Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners MTK, Finnish Forest Foundation and Finnish Forest Association.

Further information:

www.smy.fi/renewableresources

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