

## Low Carbon Supply Chains For Forest Products in the East of England

### Introduction

**InCrops Ltd has been funded to carry out a developmental project in order to stimulate supply chain development based on the use of natural resources available locally in the region and utilisation of these in the construction and related sectors.**

There is a need to catalyse and deliver a step change within the supply, value adding and use of wood in construction in the East of England to boost the delivery of low carbon and low impact solutions to meet increasing demands for lower impact housing and other buildings in the region.

Published below are a series of work packages that make up this project:

Potential consultants or organisations are invited to provide bids for the one or more of the individual work packages or elements of these packages.

**Work Package 1: Mapping exercise:** the issues, the resources, understanding the sector, spatial characteristics, identifying opportunities and constraints.

Mapping is proposed to capture the structure and form of the existing supply chain stakeholders and a wider field of potential end users. Businesses in the supply chain, local communities, house builders, manufacturers, regulators will all form part of this landscape. The earlier adopters of potential wood technologies and their supply chains will be identified.

**Work Package 2: Forest characterization:** the potential for production of low carbon products and mensuration of low carbon end products. Data will be gathered and analysed on harvest volumes and projections of future forecasts. Calculations will be made of volumes of sawn timber and products that might yield per hectare. Volumes of carbon stored will be estimated.

**Work Package 3: Supply chain modelling,** The main areas of focus are on structural, joinery and flooring wood products e.g. window (oak, chestnut), twin laminate beam (pine), flooring (ash, hornbeam), interior joinery (hornbeam) structural post and beam (pine). The organisation and management of a stakeholder event in order to bring together and establish relationships between individuals, companies and organisations with an interest in the supply chain development and implementation.

**Work Package 4: Corsican Pine strength assessment.**

This task addresses a key priority barrier for the uptake and use of Corsican pine.

The aim of the task is to construct a sample of around 200 pieces collected from as wide an area as possible, to reflect the incidence of Red Band Needle Blight in the East of England. Ideally the section size depth would be 150mm (standard reference depth for structural timber) as this would make the comparison more accurate but is not essential as standard adjustments exist to adjust varying section sizes to the reference size. The sample should be ungraded and reflect the full quality range of the material from poor to good with the vast majority reflecting the average quality of the material produced.

The material will be tested to destruction following the procedures in BS EN 408 to determine strength, modulus of elasticity and density. The analysis of the resultant data would be according to BS EN 384.

**Work Package 5: Drafting Phase II proposal for further funding** and establishment of advocacy group including local reference and early adopters.

The three priority supply chains identified will be presented in the proposal in the context of what needs to be addressed to enable them to be kick started. This is likely to include aspects of supply chain analysis and research, addressing technical barriers and market penetration.

**Interested parties wishing to be considered for this consultancy opportunity should respond to Penny Wright, Project Administrator, with the following information by Friday 5th March 2010 to [penny.wright@uea.ac.uk](mailto:penny.wright@uea.ac.uk).**

Please include

- A resume of previous experience together with CVs of staff that will be involved in delivering the work and for an organisation, a resume of technical competence and experience.
- A quantification of the proposed costs and per diem rate per work package or element within each work package
- A proposed timescale for conducting the work and delivery of the end report for each work package.