Description of innovation

Innovation	
Title	Forest Information Standard
Picture	
Domain	Digitalization
Source of wood	Stemwood
Location	Finland
Implementers	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finnish Forest Centre, Forestry Development Centre Tapio, Bitcomp Oy
Actual status	Running
Approach	Forest information is standardized so that actors engaged in the forest sector could develop and use harmonized information systems. Although basic concepts and measurement units have been defined for decades, almost every actor has implemented them differently in their information systems. Converting and transferring information is difficult or almost impossible between systems. Forest information standards facilitate the use of open materials and data transfer between actors. This improves operational efficiency and international competitiveness of forest sector.
Main results	Standard defines the structure, data types and codes used in different schemes. Forest information standards are based on XML-format (geometry: GML). Data to be exchanged with standards is: special feature data, forest compartment data, forest use declaration, timber trade, harvesting and operations. The projects outcome is: documentation, schemas, guidelines, practises. The outcome will be written XML files which are transferred between different systems. XML is used as it is international data standard, a method to structure electronic documents. XML-documents (=files) are readable and alloes to import data into all systems capable of reading such documents. The structure of XML-documents can be validated automatically so

	it follows its definitions (=schema).
Lessons learned	The development of information exchange interfaces is not finished. The goal is a situation where all forest industry systems would read, write and send via a forest information standard.
Contact information	https://bitcomp.com/bitcomp-finland/
Link to website	http://www.metsatietostandardit.fi/metsatietostandardit/en, https://www.bitcomp.fi/metsatietostandardit/
Code	IN_DE_04

Innovation assessment

Region	Finland
Time scale	Since 2008
Mobilization Potential	1 m³/ha
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood
Sustainability Potential	Positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	Positive
Ease of implementation	Medium
Economic impact	High with fully digitalization
Job effect	Better qualified staff / better operations and transport
Income effect	Positive
Specific knowledge needed	High, complex approach- Introduction to XML schemes
Costs of implementation	Ca. 3000 € / LogBuch unit; annual costs around 150 € (webportal) / few working hours
Technical readiness level	Applicable in 5 years
Key information for adoption	Involve all relevant stakeholders in the development