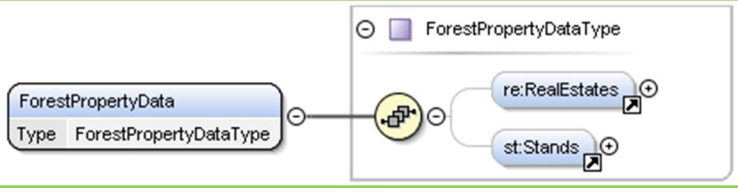
Description of innovation

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 standardised so that actors engaged in the forest sector could develop and use harmonised 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). The information standard is already used by metsään.fi,

	puumarkkinat.fi, kuutio.fi (will be used), organizations such as Tornator, Stora Enso, UPM, Metsä Group.
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 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_FI_03

Innovation assessment

Region	Finland
Time scale	Since 2008
Mobilization Potential	Not possible to assess
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood
Sustainability Potential	Positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	Positive
Ease of implementation	Medium
Economic impact	Fast and effective info transfer
Job effect	Positive
Income effect	Positive
Specific knowledge needed	Introduction to XML schemes
Costs of implementation	Not possible to assess
Technical readiness level	Applicable
Key information for adoption	Involve all relevant stakeholders in the development