



International Workshop:  
**Challenges and Opportunities of Eco-construction in Southeast Europe**  
- Zagreb, Croatia / 24th of April 2019  
(Zagreb Fair, Avenija Dubrovnik 15, South Entrance)

**Introduction**

The transition of a fossil-based to a bio-based industry addresses some of the main challenges identified in the Danube region. The dependency on fossil resources will be reduced and climate change targets will be supported by reducing the greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore the eco-innovations will support the regional development by diversifying the local economy and creating new employment opportunities. The development of new bio-based value chains from primary production to consumer markets needs to be done by connecting enterprises from different regions and industries. Accordingly, those bio-based value chains require the adoption of new technologies and high capabilities of firms to act in interconnected value chains (VCs).

**The Role of the Eco-construction Sector**

One of those bio-based value chains, which can support further development of the bio-based industry, is also the eco-construction sector. With a long tradition, the wood-processing industry in the Danube region is very well developed with know-how, research capabilities, quality and design. There are numerous benefits of the eco-construction for further development of the whole Danube region economy system, but the experts are still looking for the best approach to the main challenge linked to shifting of the society perception and bringing of the public awareness towards the need and importance of using of the bio-based materials in the construction industry.

**Gaps and challenges**

The industry and its customers are currently more price-oriented and do not think so much about the environmental impacts. The main driver in construction is still energy efficiency but the concept of resource efficiency is catching up. Therefore, eco-construction is an emerging market in the construction industry. The demand for environmental-friendly products increases from year to year and due to a relatively wide variety of possible products. With the increase of new breakthrough technologies and production capabilities, costs of the eco-based composite materials and prefabricated structures will be reduced, thus making it more affordable to a wider range of customers.

**The international workshop "Challenges and Opportunities of Eco-construction in Southeast Europe"**

The workshop aims to answer some of the questions arising because of high potential for the intense development of the eco-construction in the Danube region:

- **What could be the role of the architects and designers?**
- **How to implement more bio-based materials in the construction projects?**
- **Why is eco-construction important for further development of tourism?**
- **How can eco-construction support transformation towards bioeconomy?**
- **What is the importance of innovations in the eco-construction projects?**

**Objectives**

1. To initiate creation of the platform, which will support the development of the bio-based industry and eco-construction in Croatia and other countries of the Danube region
2. To create proposals for the eco-innovations and project ideas among relevant stakeholders by involving most innovative SMEs



### Target Participants

1. SMEs (all sectors linked to the eco-construction: wood processing industry, construction, textile, plastics, concrete...)
2. Architects
3. Institutions (R&D, relevant policy makers, educational, financial...)

### Event Level

National, European, International

### Language

The workshop will be held in English and Croatian

### About DanuBioValNet project:

*The DanuBioValNet project (Danube Transnational Programme) is aiming at establishing bio-based industry networks across the Danube Region. The emerging transnational cooperation of clusters will foster bio-economy and eco-innovations and lead to a strengthening of the regional economies. Consequently, with this project the partners pursue a strong strategic orientation beyond the immediate and medium-term economic objective of strengthening the regional economy. It is the strategic goal to establish cross-border strategic partnerships, particularly in developing regions, with the help of powerful cluster organizations. In this way, project results will be sustained beyond an immediate effect and the creation of strategic investments, especially in emerging industries such as the bio industry, will be enabled and facilitated. This will be achieved mainly by newly emerging or transforming value-added chains, which are increasingly being transnationally established and further developed as a result of the increasing internationalization of value-added processes. Accordingly, the main objective is to facilitate eco-innovations in the bio-based industry by improving framework conditions and making better use of clusters, potential and diversity of the Danube region.*

### Organizers

[Croatian Wood Cluster](#) as a project partner of [DanuBioValNet project](#)

Supported by [Croatian Ministry of Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts](#)

### Registration and Contact

The participation is free of charge. Due to organization reasons, it is necessary to pre-register by sending a filled form to the e-mail [projekti@drvniklaster.hr](mailto:projekti@drvniklaster.hr) (the form can be found in the end of this document).





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## Workshop Programme

### PART A: WORKSHOP

<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>10:30 – 10:40</b>	<b>Welcome speeches</b> Organizer: Croatian Wood Cluster Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts Croatia
<b>10:40 – 10:50</b>	<b>Introduction to the workshop, background and objectives</b>
<b>10:50 – 11:10</b>	<b>Key note lecture</b> <b>Why does cross-sectoral collaboration need a supporting bioeconomy strategy - The experience from Austria (Framework, Challenges and Approach) / Prof. Dr. Hubert Dürrstein, Institut für Forsttechnik, Department für Wald- und Bodenwissenschaften, BOKU - Universität für Bodenkultur Wien</b>
<b>11:10 – 12:10</b>	<b>Panel overview</b> <b>Eco-construction in Europe and Danube Region: Current state, the latest research results and some best practices of eco-construction - Moderator: Croatian Wood Cluster</b> <i>Introductory remarks:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>About hempcrete and some other eco-construction products / Beton Lučko Ltd. Zagreb (tbc)</b></li> <li>• <b>Eco-construction and passive houses / Faculty of Architecture, Zagreb Eco and esthetics - is it possible? / Centre for Creative Economy of Southeast Europe (tbc)</b></li> <li>• <b>Wood biomass ash and construction products / Faculty of Civil Engineering, Zagreb</b></li> <li>• <b>Role of clusters in circular construction / Construction Cluster of Slovenia</b></li> <li>• <b>Eco-construction and general public: Price and prejudices / Green Construction Croatia</b></li> </ul>
<b>12:10 – 13:30</b>	<b>Parallel sessions/workshops - Objectives:</b> <b>1. To discuss the opportunities and challenges to start/boost the eco-construction in Croatia and the Danube region</b> <b>2. To discuss the possible establishment of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration among participants</li> <li>• Development of innovative eco products and/or services</li> <li>• Development of innovative eco-construction project in tourism</li> </ul>
<b>13:30 – 13:45</b>	<b>Conclusions and recommendations of the working groups</b>
<b>13:45 – 14.30</b>	<b>Lunch and networking</b>

### PART B: SIDE TOUR

<b>14:30 – 18.00</b>	<b>Side tour: Visit of selected projects/companies in Croatia</b>
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**Registration Form**

PARTICIPANT'S DETAILS			
TITLE	NAME	SURNAME	
POSITION AT COMPANY/INSTITUTION	E-MAIL	TEL/GSM	
COMPANY/INSTITUTION			
NAME	COUNTRY	WEB	
I AM INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING TOPICS (please mark with an X):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Eco-construction products	<input type="checkbox"/> Passive houses	<input type="checkbox"/> Clusters	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eco-construction projects	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood biomass ash	<input type="checkbox"/> Green construction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovations	<input type="checkbox"/> Design	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (what):			
OTHER REMARKS THAT YOU THINK THAT COULD BE IMPORTANT FOR THE ORGANIZER:			

Thank you for the interest for taking part on the workshop. Please send the filled form to [projekti@drvniklaster.hr](mailto:projekti@drvniklaster.hr)

For any further questions do not hesitate to contact us via phone (+385 91 539 76 83) or email ([projekti@drvniklaster.hr](mailto:projekti@drvniklaster.hr))

See you in Zagreb!

