

Result of the SWOT analyses, internal and external issues characterising biomass supply chain for fuel wood in Slovakia

Internal strengths

- S1. Lower costs comparing to other fuels
- S2. Fuel wood sufficient sources within rural area
- S3. Economic advantage for the forest owners and other producers

Internal weaknesses

- W1. Increase of the emissions production
- W2. Lower comfort of operation and high elaborateness
- W3. Limited extent of utilization – only for smaller heating systems
- W4. Utilization of wood of higher quality (pulpwood, etc.)

External opportunities

- O1. Possibility of energy efficiency increase regarding heat production and emissions reduction (modern boilers)
- O2. Complex wood utilization increase
- O3. Fuel wood utilization as component part of the economically weaker population support
- O4. Increasing demand for the fuel wood
- O5. Favourable prices of fuel wood boilers

External threats

- T1. Growing conflict between wood utilization in pulp-paper industry and heat production
 - T2. Legislative tightening – emissions limits
 - T3. Lack of finances for the modern boilers purchase
 - T4. Utilization of outdated boilers of low efficiency
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