

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

---

### Internal strengths

- S1. Automatic/autonomous operation of heating system
- S2. Higher energy content per volume/less storage space needed
- S3. Use of wood residues (from industry)
- S4. Easy to use also in urban areas
- S5. Easy way of transporting – also on larger distances
- S6. High energy efficiency comparing to the fuel wood

### External opportunities

- O1. Domestic pellets market strengthening
- O2. Rural development program – support for buying machinery (wood chippers)
- O3. More intensive utilization within SMEs

### Internal weaknesses

- W1. Expensive technologies for production and utilization
- W2. Wood pellets price
- W3. Problems with dust formation
- W4. Changing quality of pellet producers
- W5. Weak domestic market, lower stability of supplies
- W6. Limited lifetime of domestic pellets producers and their dependence on export

### External threats

- T1. Longterm low competitiveness of pellets within domestic market
- T2. Longterm security of supply not ensured
- T3. Lack of finances for technologies purchase
- T4. Remaining dependence on technologies import (high prices)
- T5. Competition with other fuels, especially gas and fuel wood