

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

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### Internal strengths

- S1. High potential sources of wood biomass in state and private forests
- S2. Great biomass potential for energy use and industrial utilisation
- S3. Good expert knowledge of biomass producers and suppliers
- S4. Increasing sales of fuel biomass
- S5. Support of the electricity production from biomass
- S6. Acceptable current prices of chips

### External opportunities

- O1. Improving cooperation between suppliers of biomass and improvement of their position towards end users
- O2. Improving the economic availability of forest biomass
- O3. Improving biomass production options on non-forest land
- O4. Updating and implementation strategies of production and energetic use of biomass
- O5. Improving of biomass producers and suppliers technological equipment and services
- O6. Standardization of biomass quality referring to prices
- O7. More objective distribution of public financial support between producers, suppliers and end users of biomass
- O8. Optimization of transport and storage of biomass in order to increase supply security

### Internal weaknesses

- W1. Insufficient economic availability of forest biomass
- W2. Lack of suitable transport machinery – trucks, lorries
- W3. Low transparency of biomass quality assessment in its supply by end users with a negative impact on the biomass price
- W4. Undue localization of biomass production and consumption sites
- W5. Different support for biomass producers, suppliers and end users from public
- W6. Lack of strategy of the biomass production and its use
- W7. Low cooperation between suppliers of biomass
- W8. Unbalanced biomass quality and quantity of additives – rocks, metals sources – end users supporting only

### External threats

- T1. Delaying of biomass production and energy use strategy elaboration and its implementation which threatens the sustainability of production
- T2. Permanent current economic instability and low transparency of relations
- T3. Deterioration of the business environment of the biomass production and supply
- T4. Seasonal consumption of biomass and climate impacts
- T5. Strong economic pressure of end users to suppliers