

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

Internal strengths

- S1. Automatic / autonomous operation
- S2. Cheaper than pellets
- S3. Use of low-quality wood
- S4. Developed supply side
- S5. Useful also for larger Systems (micro and district heating systems)

External opportunities

- O1. System of subsidies for modern boilers
- O2. Rural development program – support for buying machinery (wood chippers)
- O3. Strong foreign market (Austria, Italy)
- O4. Large potential in use of wood chips in public buildings

Internal weaknesses

- W1. Expensive technologies for production and use
- W2. Large storage room
- W3. Low energy content per volume
- W4. Problems with dust
- W5. CEN standards for quality are not used in practice, in some cases they are also hard to use (determination of particle size distribution)
- W6. System for pricing is not known or transparent (buying/selling according to volume, weight, energy)

External threats

- T1. High number of small producers
- T2. No system for QA/QC
- T3. More stringent legislation about emissions
- T4. More strict legislation about ash disposal
- T5. No system for trace of origin of raw material