



PRACTICE ABSTRACT

Digitalisation: Needs and Impacts

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TIMBER REGULATION WOOD-ENERGY TRACEABILITY IN ITALY

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The Apennine Region Living Lab works around the following focal question: “How to strengthen the adoption of digital tools to support the **wood-energy traceability over the whole supply chain** in conformity to the compulsory EU Timber Regulation (995/2010) in Italian forests?”.

Every year tons of **timber without a clear traceability** are imported in Italy. In order to foster production of wood from legal sources, the EU has enacted the **European Timber Regulation** (EUTR – Reg. n. 995/2010), prohibiting illegal timber from being placed on the European market. Such a system strongly relies on data flows allowing both risk assessment and mitigation.

The Living Lab elaborated a socio-cyber-physical (SCP) system able to identify entities, relationships and activities related to their focal question. Entities refer to three domains: **social** (forestry entrepreneurs, forestry managers and their associations; EUTR managing and supervisory authorities; civil society and local communities; European, national, regional and local public institutions; consultants and advisory services; consumers and end-users), **physical** (inputs and machinery; mountain areas with their forests and their physical infrastructures such as roads, electricity, etc.; collected and processed timber; hard copy documents) and **cyber** (tools for digital payments such as electronic invoice and point of sale; IT portals and digital platforms; social media). In more details, the SCP system revolved around the entity of the **forestry entrepreneur**, being the one able to catalyse main relations and activities in the wood-energy sector under analysis.

Living Lab

EU Timber Regulation
wood-energy traceability in Italy

Key Digital Technologies

Tools for digital payments (electronic invoice and point of sale), IT portals and digital platforms, social media

Keywords

Traceability, wood-energy, certification, EUTR

More info: <https://desira2020.eu/firewood-traceability-italy/>



The Living Lab identified some relevant impacts of the digitalisation process on traceability of biomasses for energy purposes, which are here listed:

- an **increasing transparency and traceability** due to the increase of digital payments to buy woody biomasses for energy purposes;
- an acceleration of **communications** between EUTR managing authorities, public administrations and forest companies involved in the production of biomass for energy uses thanks to the presence of digital platforms with data and information;
- the positive influence of these digital platforms in the **speed up of documentary checks** in compliance with EUTR requirements.

Legend

- Type of entity
- Social
 - Cyber
 - Physical
- Type of relationship
- S-S
 - S-P
 - P-P
 - S-E-P

