

SELECTED BEST PRACTICES CASE STUDY

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. **Case Study name:** PYC EN BOIS
- b. **Location:** Hautes6Pyrénées
- c. **Priority issue:** Mobilization of additional wood resources on steep slopes in mountain territories.

2. CONTACT INFORMATION

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3. CONTENT: Information gathering and analysis

a. **Type of practice:**

Extraction

Transformation

Demand

- b. **Position in the value chain:** Equipment for the mobilization of the untapped forest resource on steep slopes in order to supply the industries of the territory according to the best use of the harvested wood or, in priority, lumber (sawnwood), then the wood of industry (papa to paper) and finally the wood energy.

c. **Structure:**

- o **Size of the company:** it is a group of 3 public authorities and 10 private companies or associations.
- o **Presence in other sectors of activity:**
- o **Required investments:** A set of 2 synchronized winch machines (harvester + carrier) replaces 12 to 15 traditional loggers / longshoremen, which are now very difficult to recruit for these sections of 1st thinning with a steep slope.
- o **Sources of funding:** In France some public funding can be targeted towards this tool: Feder, Ademe (State), Region.
- o **Work team:** Private companies, communities, administrations and support structures.

- **Agents involved:** Sanguinet sawmill, Fiber Excellence (pulp manufacturer), Pyrenees Bois Energies (wood pellet manufacturer), Estera (supplier of heat and wood energy sales services), Union Grand Sud of the Communes Forestières, Office National Forest, Departmental Union of Energies Hautes-Pyrenees, Nature Midi Pyrenees, National Botanical Conservatory of the Pyrenees, Regional Center of forest ownership.

d. Field of:

- Disadvantaged groups integration**
- Entrepreneurship and company start up**
- Social responsibility of the company**
- R&D Research**
- Equal opportunities between women and men**
- Others:**

e. Implemented business model:

- **Idea / activity opportunity:** defined by local needs in consultation between owners, operators and support organizations / associations. It involves mobilizing additional volumes on steep slopes: Achievement of silvicultural improvement works, Animation of private and public owners, Material investments: forest services, specific operating equipment, improvement of wood energy platforms.
- **Marketing model:** the idea is to exploit more and to put in place a call for expressions of interest from industrialists or craftsmen to transform this wood. The goal is to revive the use of wood and improve the management of the forest.
- **Customer profile:** owners, managers, operators.

f. Economic impact: Mobilizing the untapped forest resource on steep slopes allows:

- Revive the business of exploitation
- Support the installation of industrialists or sawmills
- Respond to the demand, especially to the craftsmen of the construction, the cabinetmaking, the joinery ...
- Support other uses: wood energy, pulp ...

g. Degree of innovation:

- **In products or services:** specific machines for the operation of steep slopes
- **In organizational methodology:** grouping of different actors from the upstream to the downstream sector.

- **In marketing and marketing:** the principle of launching a call for expressions of interest to use exploited timber. In marketing and commercialization.

4. RESULTS

- a. **Effectiveness or degree of compliance with the objectives:** Effective in terms of support for material investments (operating gear).
- b. **Effectiveness or achievement of the results related to the resources used:** a result partially achieved because they are very expensive equipment and it is difficult to find the operators ready to make the investments without the subsidies. However, since the beginning of the project more than 23 000m³ of wood have been mobilized, including 15 000 m³ in the project area (mountain and piedmont of the department of Hautes-Pyrénées).
- c. **Scope or extent of the influence of the practice. The practice has influenced** the different actors who continue to work together. The municipalities have found that solutions could be found for the mobilization of wood +.
- d. **Degree of efficiency:** the equipment is completely effective on the steep slope even if other problems must be treated in parallel for optimum use (service, efficiency of financial devices in this sense, training ...)
- e. **Degree of sustainability:** today these equipments continue to be used on the sector of the three PETR but also in the bordering departments.
- f. **Transferability:** difficult because of the cost of the equipment. But the process as a whole is all low transferable.
- g. **Products:**

5. CONCLUSIONS

- a. **Impact and usefulness of the good practice:** the approach is convincing and could develop on the whole of the Pyrenees.
- b. **Main lessons:**
 - Private-public partnership is a prerequisite for good project coordination in the forestry sector. This project has brought together different actors around the table and made them work together with the difficulties that it can also pose.
 - This project has provided significant support for companies that have been able to make the necessary investments and thus participate in a mobilization of wood +. The equipment has proven its effectiveness in mountain areas and has met the expectations of municipalities involved in operations. However, the different project partners have repeatedly raised the

issue of financial support schemes for the service because the current conditions of the EAFRD are not favorable to ongoing steep-slope projects.

- No progress has been made in mobilizing support for silvicultural improvement of stands. A finding that is the same nationally. Indeed, the preferred financing mechanism to advance on this issue will be the Carbon Fund of the Region, with more attractive conditions than those proposed by Dynamelio (DYNAMIC Bois).