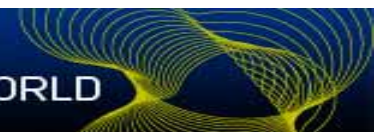




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BUILDING A BETTER WORLD



A photograph of a wooden gate in a green field with a dense forest in the background. The gate is made of weathered wood and is slightly ajar. The background is a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

Welsh Timber Futures
Building your Business with EU Knowledge

WELCOME !
... the GATE is now open

Professor Michael Benfield PhD

Overview

Introduction – WAG’s Vision – GATE \leftrightarrow WFBP

Forest Strategy “Woodlands for Wales”

World Class Forest Product Industries

Where we are today

How we got here

European & Global Challenges & Options

The (woodland) path forward

“Woodlands for Wales”

WAG Visions 2001

- 5 key areas
 - Woodlands for People
 - Woodland management
 - ***Wales as a location for world-class forest industries***
 - A diverse and healthy environment
 - Tourism, recreation and health

- Progress Report 2005

*“It has been vital to adopt a **partnership approach** ...*

*The **challenge** is to **maintain the positive impacts** achieved by **working together** whilst **addressing the external influences** such as the **global drivers** suppressing **timber prices** and the **problems of ‘rewarding’ woodland owners** who provide **non-market goods and services to society**”*

GATE (Gaining Added Value for Timber in Europe)

- Aim –to increase the use of timber in construction
- EU funded – FCW lead organisers
 - build new markets for timber
 - add value to forests and woodlands
 - change perception of timber as old fashioned building material
 - persuade architects, planners, buyers to use more beautiful wood
- 5 partner countries - Poland, Estonia, Slovenia, Germany, Wales
 - unrivalled pool of knowledge on use of timber – www.gate-project.org.
 - e.g. latest methods, engineered wood solutions, timber treatments
 - knowledge sharing networks – nationally and internationally
- **GATE ends in October. BUT all participants agree on value ...**
 - **linkages**
 - **merit in working together**
 - **need for this service**
 - **need for continuation**

World Class Forest Products Industry

- Key Strategic Objective ... *sustainability*
 - environment
 - economy
 - community

• Jakko Poyry

+

• *Fast sustainable* ()
growth &



WFBP composition

- *Timber framed housing, Furniture*
- *Transport and forest products*
- *Sawmilling*
- *Timber composites*
- *Timber engineering*
- *Board manufacture*
- *Wood energy*
- *Bio-fuels*
- *Joinery*
- *Timber importing and timber distribution*
- *Pulp and paper*
- *Planting, management and harvesting of forest products*
- *Craft businesses*
- *... other wood related businesses*

WFBP objectives

- ensure Welsh wood based industries competitive with world best
- expand & develop markets for higher value products and services
- encourage 1st choice wood culture in Wales & UK
- build innovative industry – understand & respond to customer needs
- make major contribution to Welsh ...
 - economy
 - environment
 - communities
- Initial Partnership workshop identified key priorities as :-
 - developing a "Knowledge Hub" – Wood Knowledge Wales (WKW).
 - establishing a marketing group – Wood Source Wales (WSW)
 - informing and influencing the National Assembly

Wood Knowledge Wales

- **WKW ongoing links**
 - **Field Officers – Bangor, Coed Cymru, W Timber Forum**
 - **Services to Sector**
 - **Project applications**
 - **Home Builders Federation**
 - **BRE**
 - **Nick**
- **WoodSource Wales - marketing**

Global Forest Networks

Future Requirements

- Draw together all strands from WAG policies
- Build on and develop links with other countries, e.g.
 - Canada – ‘Super-E’
 - Germany – ‘PassivHaus’
- EU leaders
- CO2 reduction
- Code for SH + BREEAM
- etc.

Recommendations

- **Wales Forest Business Partnership – via WKW – seen as successors .**
 - WKW takes over
 - Continuation
 - Future activities
 - What you can do
 - Promotion - ‘word of mouth’
 - Lobby – AM’s etc.
 - ‘Areas of assistance’ - Ask
 - Projects
 - Other actions
 - recognise how long it takes to establish initiatives

Sunrise over Kakamega Forest



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BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

