

Contract No: FP7-ENV-2012-308630

Title: Innovative Poplar Low Density Structural Panel **(I-PAN)**

Duration: 01/10/2012 – 30/09/2015

Abstract:

I-PAN project is co-financed by the European 7th Framework Programme of Research and Development and aims at providing novel and environmentally friendly solutions in the field of the engineered wood (EW) panels. The EW panels sector is part of the woodworking industry, a sector of significant importance in Europe, and is substantially advanced both in terms of higher quality wooden materials and in terms of production and manufacturing of useful and valued products.

I-PAN main objective is the design of a breakthrough wood-based lightweight panel, adopting for 50% of its volume recycled wood and for the remaining 50% poplar wood by using the upper part of the poplar tree that is commonly underused. To this purpose, a novel manufacturing process will be designed and innovative adhesive resins will be developed in order to require less energy during the drying and pressing process, minimizing VOC emission and reducing the overall cost of production.

In order to reach this goal, a consortium of 8 partners, coming from 4 different EU countries (Germany, Greece, Italy and Spain) and including 4 SMEs, 2 large industrial partners specialized in manufacturing of wood-based panels and in the production of poplar made panels, a Research Centre and a University is involved.

CHIMAR task will be to develop the adhesive systems for the production of such breakthrough panels.