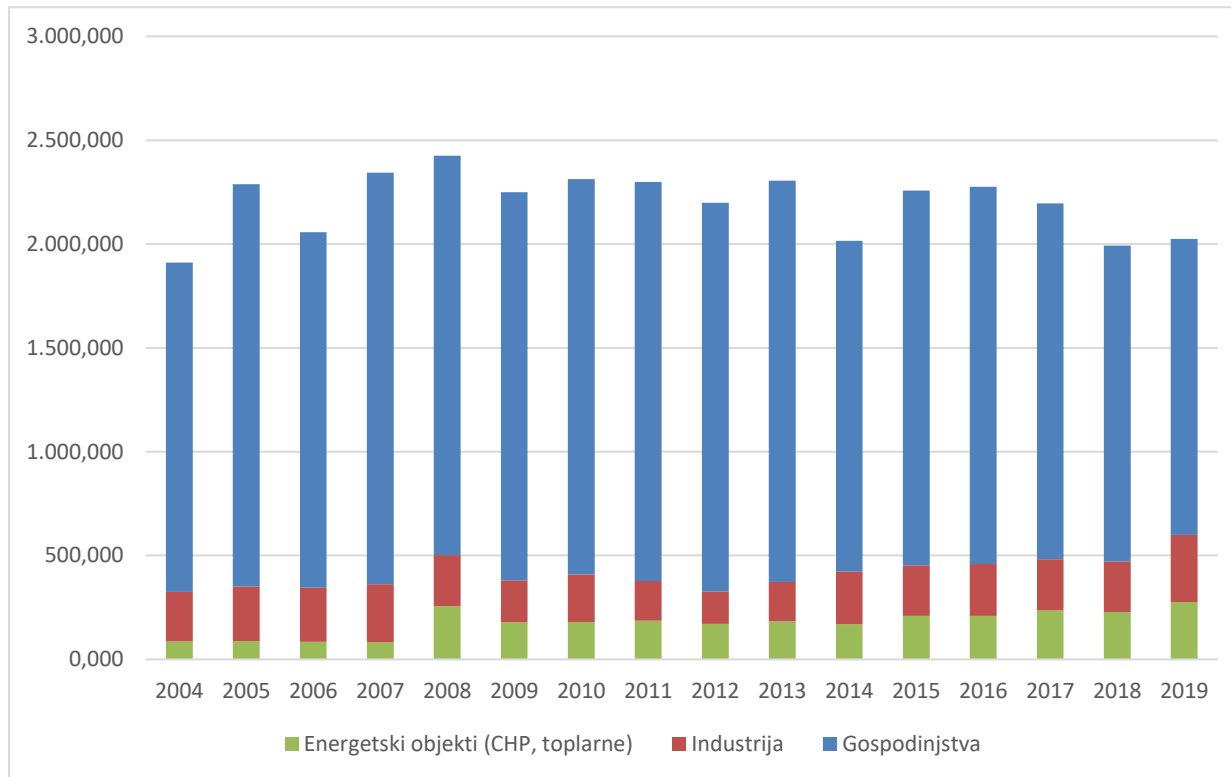


Strategy for Wise Use of Wood for Energy Purposes

- Use of wood for heating in Slovenia
- Significant problems in forest management
- Purpose and goals of strategy development
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- Situation analysis - key findings
- Main measures
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Use of wood for heating in Slovenia

Raba lesa za ogrevanje stavb (vir: Gozdarski inštitut Slovenije) - **households in blue**



Number of small wood burning appliances

- Put into use by the year 1997: 109.235 devices,
- Put into use by the year 2011: 76.279 devices,
- Put into use by the year 2015: 19.301 devices

- **Over 200.000 devices twenty years old**

Significant problems in forest management

- Forests cover 59% of the area
- The annual increase in Slovenian forests is 9.1 mil. m³ of wood
- More than 6.5 million m³ of wood could be cut down annually
- More than 460,000 owners are registered in the land register
- 68% of these own less than 1 ha of forest
- Only 2% of private forest owners manage forests larger than 15 ha
- Extremely poor age structure of forest owners
- Poor equipment of forest owners with modern tractors and forestry equipment

Purpose and goals of strategy development (1)

1. to use wood as a domestic and renewable resource for raw material and energy wisely and efficiently, so that owners have the highest possible long-term income and that raw materials for wood industry and fuel for fulfilling energy requirement are provided;
2. to efficiently process and use round timber from Slovenian forests in Slovenia, primarily in the wood industry and secondarily for energy purposes;
3. to realise more timber-felling potential in accordance with applicable forest management plans and regulations on forestry and nature protection, which will increase the quantity of round timber on the market and have a positive impact on wood processing and the use of wood for energy purposes;
4. to ensure high efficiency of the use of wood for energy purposes;
5. to support the construction of modern and efficient shared boiler rooms using wood biomass where the spatial distribution of buildings allows it; this would support the substitution of individual combustion units and reduce particulate matter emissions from outdated combustion units;

Purpose and goals of strategy development (2)

1. to provide opportunities and resources to ensure that all damaged timber from forests affected by storms and pests is promptly and usefully used;
2. to establish a competence centre for heating with wood, together with the mobile demonstration centre for small combustion units;
3. to improve the conditions for the more active role of advisory services in the forestry, agriculture and energy sectors in promoting the efficient use of wood biomass for energy purposes;
4. to additionally stimulate the interest of forest owners for forest management in areas with the large share of deciduous trees and in low yield-forests;
5. to improve the cooperation and coordination of decision-makers, experts and other stakeholders involved in the use of renewable energy sources

Stakeholders in strategy development

- Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (ecology)
- Ministry of Infrastructure (Energy)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (Forestry)
- Slovenian Forest Service
- Forestry Institute of Slovenia

Situation analysis - key findings

In Slovenia, there is an extremely complex connection between:

- the success of the Slovenian wood industry
- fragmented forest ownership
- spatial arrangement of settlements and methods of heating,

therefore, the issues of forest management, a successful timber industry and wood heating (renewable energy) can only be addressed together.

Main measures - by groups (1)

- INCREASING THE REALIZATION OF THE PLANNED FELLING
- SMART USE OF WOOD
- WOOD USE IN WOODEN BIOMASS REMOTE HEATING SYSTEMS AND GROUP BOILERS
- QUALITY ASSURANCE OF WOOD FUELS
- MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF MODERN AND EFFICIENT SMALL HEATING INSTALLATIONS

Main measures - by groups (2)

- **USE OF GREEN CUTTINGS FROM NON-FOREST AND PARK AREAS**
- **MANAGEMENT OF SUDDEN EXCESS WOOD - SANITARY CUTTING AND HARVESTING OF WOOD AFTER WEATHER**
- **PROMOTION OF SMALL FOREST OWNERS FOR ACTIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT**
- **SUPPORT FOR WORKS IN PRIVATE FORESTS**

Implementing the strategy and financial resources

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY**

No additional new documents are being adopted, and ministries and institutions are implementing it directly.

- **FINANCIAL RESOURCEST**

he country's existing financial resources are used, and additional effects are achieved through more coordinated planning.

Done so far and how to proceed?

- The strategy has not yet been adopted, but the measures are already being implemented in the national document OPERATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE CONSERVATION OF GOOD OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY (The document was adopted by the Government in November 2021).
- The WOOD INDUSTRY ACTION PLAN is being amended, and there is a possibility to merge the Strategy with this document.
- A possible energy crisis due to the war in Ukraine may affect further development (in the event of a sharp increase in the use of wood for heating).