















XVII International WoodEMA 2024 Scientific Conference

# GREEN DEAL INITIATIVES, SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT, MARKET DEMANDS, AND NEW PRODUCTION PERSPECTIVES IN THE FORESTRY-BASED SECTOR

Sofia, 15-17 May 2024

Title of the paper:

THE USE OF ENGINEERED WOOD PRODUCTS IN SUSTAINABLE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION IN MACEDONIA

Name of the authors: Marija Miloshevska Janakieska¹, Manja Kitek Kuzman², Dick Sandberg³

#### Affiliation:

- 1 Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, International Balkan University, Skopje, Macedonia
- 2 Department of Wood Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 3 Wood Science and Engineering, Lulea University of Technology, Skelleftea, Sweden



SOFIA UNIVERSITY

ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSK





Šiaulių akademija RESEARCHERS

EXCELLENCE













**Engineered Wood Products** Композитни производи од дрво

> Pioneering the Future of Architecture with V Пионер во иднината на архитектурата со дрво

Marija Miloshevska Janaki Manja Kitek Kuzman Dick Sandberg









NETWORK











Application in construction | Примена во градежништвото

























EWPs based on Veneer | Композитни дрвени производи произведени од фурнири

#### LVP Laminated veneer product Производи од ламелиран фурнир

→ STRUCTURAL | Конструктивни Surface, profiled | Површински, Обликувани







КАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ | Производите од ламелиран фурнир (LVP) се произведуваат со лепење на фурнири во калапи со однапред одредена форма под притисок и обично на покачени температури, со што се скратува времето на зацврстување на лепилото. Процесот што се користи за изработка на такви производи обично се нарекува свиткување (свиткувањето е во една насока, додека формирањето се однесува на свиткување на фурнирот во две насоки, создавајќи различни сложени тридимензионални форми). Обично се користи во производството на компоненти за мебел и ентериери со сложени форми, како и за столарија, на пример за прозорци. Производите од ламелиран фурнир во облик на школка се типични компоненти обликувани за столици и други елементи во ентериерот. Ламинацијата им нуди на дизајнерите широки можности од аспект на креативна слобода. Големата предност на производите од обликувани фурнири е тоа што овозможуваат да се добијат производи со кривини со мал радиус со ламинирање на тенки фурнири од секаков вид дрво. Еден таков пример е просторно сложената форма на лушпата од јајцето. Производите од ламиниран фурнир со облик (LVP) се генерално поцврсти од производите направени со свиткување фурнири со иста дебелина. Може да се користат сите видови фурнири, но некои полесно се обликуваат од другите. Лепилото е од исклучителна важност за финалната функција на ламинираниот фурнирски производ од дрвена граѓа. Најчесто се користат лепила уреа-формалдехид (UF), но за нивно производство се користат и меламин-уреаформалдехид (MUF), полимер изоцијанат (EPI), полиуретан (PU) и епоксиден (EP).

















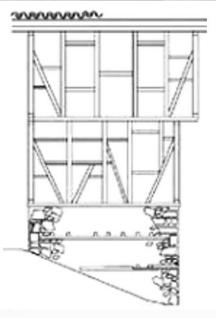
### In Macedonian architectural history, wood has held a high position, serving as a construction material, for both structural and non-structural elements.





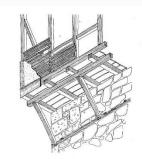


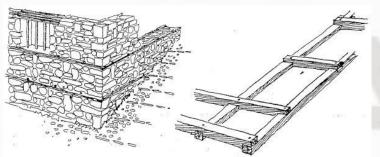














The Ottoman Era Houses in Ohrid, Macedonia – the wooden structural system (bondruk system) of the traditional Macedonian house

















After the earthquake in Skopje in 1963, several countries helped the city by building new structures, from different structural materials. In order to meet the housing needs of the people left without home in the earthquake, new system of timber prefabricated houses was introduced in Macedonia. These houses were built on several locations in Skopje and they were called Swedish and Finnish prefabs or Swedish timber houses. Prefabricated wood houses were ideal solution since wood is low in weight in relation to its load-bearing capacity and strength, the material ideally suited to industrial construction, making transport, erection and installation on site much easier.



















Despite its significant historical usage, modern-day Macedonia predominantly employs wood in mountainous regions small houses, in the interior design or as a decorative element on the facades because of the beautiful aesthetic appeal. In recent decades, material choices in Macedonia have become increasingly limited, with designers, investors and companies sticking to conventional materials. The widespread use of steel and concrete, particularly following the 1963 earthquake in Skopje, has diminished the importance of wood.



House in Blatec, near Pehchevo, Macedonia - wooden elements in the structure and on the facade



House in Blatec, near Pehchevo, Macedonia - façade partially covered with wood











Some basic types of prefab. timber houses in Macedonia [www.geo-ing.com]

House in Pehchevo, Macedonia - façade completely covered with wood







Šiaulių akademija RESEARCHERS' EXCELLENCE





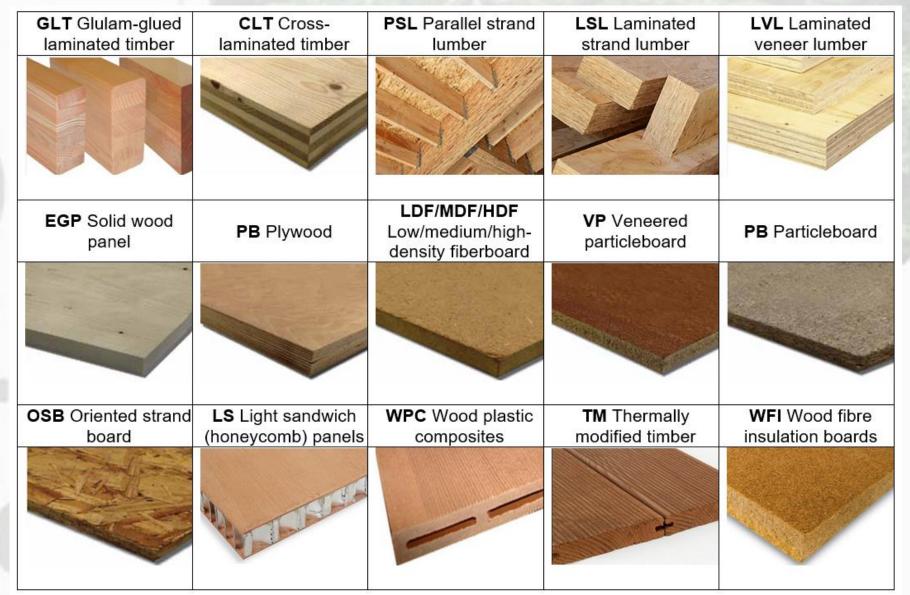






Nowadays, progressive construction
practices across Europe, including
Macedonia, are increasingly
focused on environmentally friendly
materials, particularly wood and
various EWPs. However, the debut
of novel products within the
Macedonian construction industry
often encounters limited awareness
and heightened uncertainty among
consumers.

Nonetheless, the situation is changing in the last few years, due to the impact of European trends, and wood application is increasing. People's awareness is slowly evolving and they are beginning to see the positive features in living and using sustainable EWPs.











































Furniture from massive wood from company "Treska Mebel Trade" [Масивно дрво - Треска Мебел Трејд (mebel-trade.com.mk)]

















## The application of EWPs in projects is especially interesting for architectural students and young architects who are inspired by European practices for sustainable and biophilic design





Project for Botanical Garden in Skopje, designed by Faton Kalisi









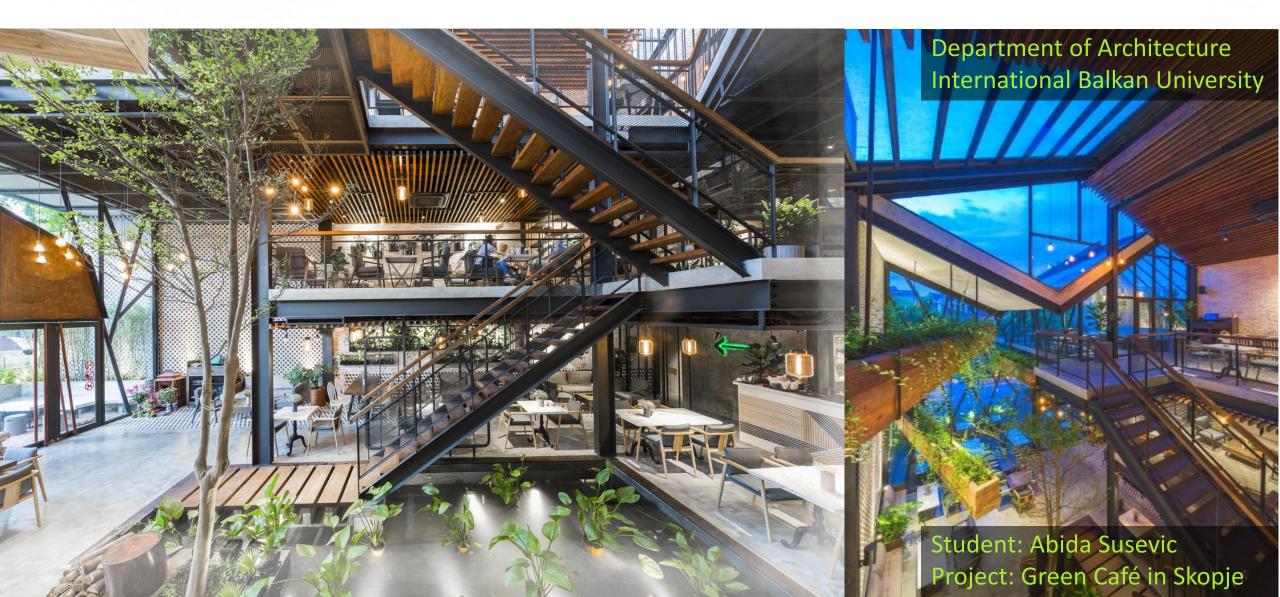
Международно Висше Бизнес Училище International Business School

















Šiaulių akademija RESEARCHERS' EXCELLENCE NETWORK





























## In Macedonia, the wood sector has a very long tradition and has always been an important segment of country economy. To get a better picture of the importance of the forest sector, some additional information regarding relevant forestry statistics is presented in Table bellow.

Population*	2 093 599
Total area (km²)**	25 713
Surface area of forested land (km²)***	10 015
Forested area (%)***	39.71%
Number of naturally occurring tree species	319
Growing stock (m <sup>3</sup> )	75.94 · 10 <sup>6</sup>
Annual growth of growing stock (m³ forest)	1.62 · 10 <sup>6</sup>
Annual harvest (m³ forest)	1.34 · 10 <sup>6</sup>
Hardwoods (m <sup>3</sup> )	-
Softwoods (m³) Sawn wood	-
Consumption Per Capita (m³/y)	0.1

<sup>\*</sup> Worldometers. Available online: https://www.worldometers.info/world-population (Accessed on 24th of March 2024)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Worldbank.org. 2020. Available online: https://www.worldbank.org/en/home (Accessed on 24th of March 2024)

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> World Data Atlas – North Macedonia – Forest Area – 2021. Available online: <a href="https://knoema.com/atlas/North-Macedonia/topics/Land-Use/Area/Forest-area">https://knoema.com/atlas/North-Macedonia/topics/Land-Use/Area/Forest-area</a> (Accessed on 24th of March 2024)

















#### **Architects' Perception of EWPs in Macedonia**

#### **Methods**

A survey questionnaire was constructed and developed by an international group of architects as a part of a larger survey. The study methods included a two-stage survey; in the first stage, personal interviews were conducted, and then, based on input from these in-person interviews, the second stage an exploratory web-based survey was designed. The survey questionnaire was in English.





















































#### **Objectives of the study**

- To evaluate the perception Engineered Wood Products (EWPs) by architects in the Macedoniam construction market;
- To characterize information sources and their perceived value used by architects;
- to identify EWPs information needed by architects;
- to evaluate cooperation between architects, wood engineers and civil engineers.

#### The specific goals of the study were:

- (1) to identify the use of modified wood in a process of architectural planning,
- (2) to assess architect's knowledge of modified wood and their advantages.

The study provides an updated overview of the perception of modified wood products among architects.



















- 98 completed answers in Macedonia.
- All have the tittle architects, some also engineers.
- 38% of respondents were men and 62% women.
- Respondents had an average of 5-15 years of experience.



















#### Results

	GLT Glulam-glued laminated timber	CLT Cross- laminated timber	PSL Parallel strand lumber	LSL Laminated strand lumber	SWP Solid wood panel	LVL Laminated veneer lumber	PW Plywood	LDF/MDF Low/medium/ high-density fiberboard	VP Veneered particle board	PB Particle board	OSB Oriented strand board	LS Light sandwich panel
9/25/2	6	18	25	37	6	23	7	13	17	18	3	40
No	6.6%	19.8%	27.5%	40.7%	6.6%	25.3%	7.7%	14.3%	18.7%	19.8%	3.3%	44.0%
Yes	85	73	66	54	85	68	84	78	74	73	88	51
	93.4%	80.2%	72.5%	59.3%	93.4%	74.7%	92.3%	85.7%	81.3%	80.2%	96.7%	56.0%

Table. Respondent familiarity with EWPs

















#### Results

	Glued laminated timber				Solid wood panel	Laminated veneer lumber	Plywood				Oriented strand board	
	GLT	CLT	PSL	LSL	SWP	LVL	PW	LDF/MDF /HDF	VP	PB	OSB	LS
points	254	49,5	45,8	42,1	237,7	112,3	286,8	107,4	98,7	43,6	292,9	74,8
ranks	3	11	12	14	4	5	2	6	8	13	1	10

Table. Respondent familiarity with Top 5 Ranked EWPs























#### Results

Respondents were asked if they think there has been an increased use of new EWPs in the last 5 years. 35% think that the use has increased, while more than 50% think it remained the same.

Further on, respondents were asked to identify their clients' perceptions of EWPs. Their responses suggest that clients in Macedonia generally want to have more information about EWPs. Additionally, around 5% from Macedonia believe that their clients are not interested in EWPs.





The project "NOW", by a team led by Bekir Ademi, architect from Project Studio "BINA", is representing Macedonia at the "17. Biennale Architettura 2021"











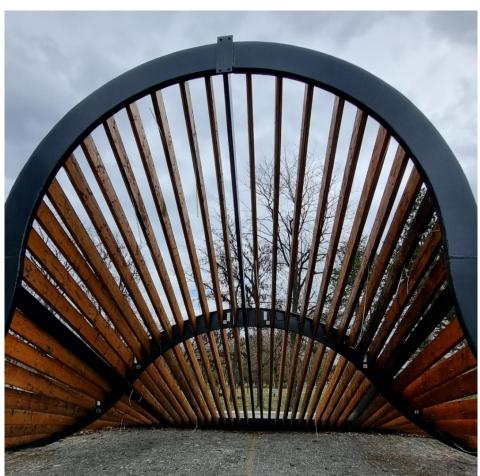






#### **Conclusions**





Summer Scene City Park Skopje built 2022

















#### Thank you for your attention!

