



norden

Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee

Network no: N2015-03

Send the report to SNS-secretaries Jonas Rönnerberg and Inga Bödeker (sns@nordicforestresearch.org)


REPORT NETWORK ACTIVITY (meeting, conference etc.)

Please notice that the size of text sections in the form can be adjusted if needed.

The length of the final report should not exceed 3 pages. Supplementary information can be attached.

1. Aktivitetsens titel	
2. Activity title	Nordic Network of Forest Regeneration
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax. e-mail)	Marek Metslaid Estonian University of Life Sciences Institute of Forestry and Rural Engineering Kreutzwaldi 5, 51014 Tartu, Estonia +372 7313193 marek.metslaid@emu.ee
4. Duration	The activity started 01/01 2015 and ended / 200 «(see the report)»
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 15 000 EUR Total activity cost (estimate): 30 000 EUR

<p>6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)</p>	<p>The Nordic-Baltic Network of Forest Regeneration aims to promote forest regeneration collaboration and exchange of information in the field of forest regeneration across the Nordic and Baltic regions. It actively seeks interactions with other relevant researcher networks in the region, as well as with internationally renowned experts from whole world. The network specifically aims to support and facilitate the participation and visible role of early stage researchers and participants of both genders.</p> <p>In 2015 (September 15–16) the network organized a Nordic-Baltic forest conference "Wise Use of Improved Forest Reproductive Material" in Riga, Latvia. The conference was organised jointly by EFINORD-SNS Nordic Network of Forest Regeneration, the NordGen Forest, the Estonian University of Life Sciences and the Latvian State Forest Research Institute "SILAVA".</p> <p>The conference brought together Nordic-Baltic forestry, management and research community. Major themes of the conference related to nursery production, seed orchard management, different aspects of forest regeneration, climate change, broadleaved tree species and future forestry.</p> <p>Altogether about 70 participants from Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and all Baltic States took part in the conference. The 14 oral presentations given, and complemented with poster sessions (11 poster presentations) during the coffee breaks, on the first conference day created good discussions. On the second conference day an excursion was organized and participants visited Riga pine forest, a nursery and some broadleaved stands.</p> <p>The speakers covered the topic "Wise Use of Forest Reproductive Material". Their presentations gave an overview of recent developments in a broad range of topics, from breeding of improved forest materials to planting and silviculture, and to the use of forest biomass for different industrial deliverables. It was also discussed the use of forest tree species from an historical point of view, taking the audience all the way back to Eocene (>50 million years ago). In the future, forestry sector faces several demands, and in the context of climate change sustainable production of forests and carbon sequestration are obvious, but also biodiversity conservation, including genetic diversity, are important.</p> <p>The breeding programs in the Nordic countries are now entering the 2nd generation seed orchards, which means that the seed orchards will be able to produce seeds which will increase the yield by 25-30 %. In this context it is also important to decide how much genetic variation is actually needed in the breeding population, to make sure that the Nordic countries are not only producing the best material for genetic gain and adaptation, but also for evolution and future viable and resilient forests.</p> <p>The choice of tree species is going to be important for the Nordic-Baltic forestry. Currently conifers are predominant in the Nordic-Baltic region. In Finland, however, birch has increased its importance, but there is still a lack of native birch for industry. In Finland, breeding work with birch has been ongoing since the 1970ties and it is done in the green houses. Production of broadleaves is important for biodiversity, forest health and vitality, for certification and adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>In total, the activities carried out in 2015 engaged about 80 people. About 1/4 of the participants were early-stage researchers (PhD students and young researchers). About 65% of the participants were male and 35% were female.</p> <p>On September 17, 2015, in the same venue, we also had EFINORD-SNS Forest Regeneration network annual meeting.</p> <p>The activity continued during spring 2016, as agreed with the former SNS secretary Inga Bödeker. On May 3–4, 2016 the network organized a Nordic-Baltic forest workshop "Forest Regeneration Targets in Nordic-Baltic Region" in Alnarp, Sweden. During the workshop we made a detailed plan for the next (2017) network activity; worked with the scientific paper (title " Forest regeneration in Nordic-Baltic countries - re-evaluation of current goals and criteria "), and network will continue this work and publish it; produced a layout and structure for up-to-date network homepage, which will be completed in the near future. A short description, "press release", was submitted to Inga Bödeker for information purposes (see the attachment).</p>
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<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>More information can be found on conference webpage: http://www.nordgen.org/index.php/en/content/view/full/2897/ and http://www.nordgen.org/index.php/en/content/view/full/3015 Judging by the participant's responses, the conference was very successful.</p> <p>It has also been covered in several international/local publications and press releases: International scientific journal Baltic Forestry (Vol. 21, No. 2, 2015, pages 393-394); Latvian newspaper "Čiekurs" ("Cone") (No. 3 (47), 2015, page 9); Estonian University of Life Sciences newspaper (24.09.2015 (253), page 4). Press release on Estonian University of Life Sciences website (14.09.2015): http://www.emu.ee/ylikoolist/uudised/pressiteated/uudis/2015/09/14/konverentsil-raagitakse-metsade-uuendamisest-ja-parendatud-metsakultiveerimismaterjalist (EST) Press release on Foundation Private Forest Centre website (14.09.2015) http://www.eramets.ee/uudised-1/sa-erametsakeskus/konverentsil-raagitakse-metsade-uuendamisest-ja-parendatud-metsakultiveerimismaterjalist/ (EST) Press release on Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences website (15.09.2015) http://www.slu.se/en/collaborative-centres-and-projects/future-forests/news-from-future-forests/2015/9/future-forests-participates-in-nordic-baltic-forest-conference-/ (ENG) Press release on Latvian State Forest Research Institute "SILAVA" website (22.09.2015) (LV)</p>
<p>8. Activity summary (about 1/3 page) for possible use in the News & Views section of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research</p>	<p>On September 15–16, 2015, Nordic-Baltic forest conference "Wise Use of Improved Forest Reproductive Material" was held in Riga, Latvia. The conference was organised jointly by the EFINORD-SNS Nordic Network of Forest Regeneration, the NordGen Forest, the Estonian University of Life Sciences and the Latvian State Forest Research Institute "SILAVA". The conference brought together Nordic-Baltic forestry, management and research community. Major themes of the conference related to nursery production, seed orchard management, different aspects of forest regeneration, climate change, broadleaved tree species and future forestry. Altogether about 70 participants from all Nordic and Baltic countries took part in the conference. The 14 oral presentations given, and complemented with poster sessions during the coffee breaks, on the first conference day created good discussions. On the second conference day an excursion was organized and participants visited Riga pine forest, a nursery and some broadleaved stands. More information can be found on conference webpage: http://www.nordgen.org/index.php/en/content/view/full/2897/.</p> <p>The activity was covered in several international/local publications and press releases: Metslaid, M. 2015. Nordic-Baltic Forest Conference: Wise Use of Improved Forest Reproductive Material (Chronicle). Baltic Forestry, 21 (2), 393–394. Latvian newspaper "Čiekurs" ("Cone") (No. 3 (47), 2015, page 9). Estonian University of Life Sciences newspaper (24.09.2015 (253), page 4).</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: <i>30.05.2016</i> Signature of project leader/coordinator: </p>