

## Managing future Nordic and Baltic forests

Policy brief for the SNS-EFINORD Network: “Nordic Forest Growth and Yield Research”

Contact: Kjell Andreassen, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy research (NIBIO) <http://www.nibio.no/>

**The aim of the Growth and Yield network activities are to exchange knowledge and join common problems about how to manage the future Nordic/Baltic forest, the core of G&Y experts. Managing forest to adapt the new climate, to enlarge tree biomass production, to increase the substitution of fossil fuel with bioenergy from forest and to increase the carbon storage are among the most important measures to mitigate a changed climate.**



*The core subject of Growth and Yield, managing forests, are one of the most important actions to mitigate a changed climate – one of the most important problems in most countries to day. The Network is relevant in a Nordic setting since about half of the areas in the Nordic and Baltic forest is dominated by forest land (except Island) and the total productive forest area is about 63 mill. ha in these countries, a correct forest management is very important. The annual increment is about 280 mill m<sup>3</sup>. In addition to the importance and problems for the forests regarding a changed climate, the forests of the Nordic and Baltic countries are very important resources and support the building sector, the wood processing industry and the energy sector. The forest resources are extensively utilized and contribute significantly to the economy in these countries. In addition, the forest is also a crucial ecosystem and several ecosystem services are based on forest trees. The main goal of the network is to exchange knowledge within Growth and Yield research and to increase the Nordic/Baltic collaboration and joined projects within this field.*

Book of abstracts from the network meeting in 2017 can be found here. The implications and conclusions can be summarised as:

- Adapt forest management and new silvicultural methods to a changed climate
- Use forest for both CO<sub>2</sub> absorption and CO<sub>2</sub> storage
- Increase the forest production/products for bioenergy to substitute fossil fuel
- Increase forest production and timber quality to improve the bioeconomy
- Improve the outputs from forest including ecosystem services