

## **Centre of Advanced Research on Forestry serving Urbanised Societies (CARE-FOR-US)**

### **Background**

In urbanised societies of Europe, the green structure of cities and their surroundings, in which forests and other tree resources play a major role, provide urban societies with an essential range of goods and services. Recent years have seen the development of *urban forestry* as an integrative, multidisciplinary approach to the planning and management of all forest and tree resources – ranging from street trees to peri-urban woodlands – in and near urban areas for providing multiple benefits.

### **Nordic aspect**

Nordic institutions, working together with Baltic institutions to an increasing extent, have played a leading role in the recent development of an urban forestry R&D community in Europe. As a logic next step in Nordic-Baltic urban forestry research, SNS set up the Nordic-Baltic Centre of Advanced Research on Forestry serving Urbanised Societies (CARE-FOR-US) in January 2005.

### **CARE-FOR-US has the following main objectives:**

- To strengthen and develop networking and collaboration among leading urban forestry research capacities in the Nordic and Baltic countries, thus building a critical mass and optimise the use of Nordic and Baltic applied R&D resources.
- To develop and carry out innovative, demand-driven urban forestry research and development based on a sound overview of the state of the art and strengths of the different networking partners.
- To improve the dissemination of Nordic and Baltic urban forestry R&D findings to relevant audiences within and outside the region.

### **Results**

One of the first tasks of CARE-FOR-US was to identify research needs regarding urban forestry in the Nordic and Baltic countries. Two surveys on 1) recent (post-2000) and ongoing R&D activities respectively, and 2) research needs were executed among researchers and those commissioning and using research in the region. This activity resulted in a scientific publication and a list of projects available on the CAR's homepage [www.sl.life.ku.dk/care-for-us](http://www.sl.life.ku.dk/care-for-us)

The findings of the surveys form the basis for the activities initiated by the CAR in order to avoid overlap, coordinate efficient use of national funding, support the development of new research agendas and strengthen ongoing research at the various institutes by adding a more international view, and to initiate new projects.

### **Contacts**

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**Budget** The total budget for research undertaken in the CARE-FOR-US field in the Nordic and Baltic countries, for the period 2005-2009, is estimated to be about 10 million Euro. SNS is contributing with roughly 300,000.00 Euro, 3% of the total budget. The SNS contribution is primarily used for coordination of ongoing and future research within the field.