



norden

Nordic Forest Research

Network no: N2016-05


Send the report to SNS@slu.se and efinord@efi.int

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	Nordic Network in Forest Policy Science (NFPS)
2. Activity title	Nordic Network in Forest Policy Science (NFPS)
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax, e-mail)	Vilis Brukas Associate Professor Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre Box 49; 230 53 Alnarp; Sweden mob: +46 (0)70 545 34 99 vilis.brukas@slu.se
4. Duration	The activity started 01/01 2016 and ended 31/12 2017
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 115,000 SEK Total activity cost (estimate): 250,000
6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)	<p>The specific aim for the application (targeting 2016) was to connect the Nordic Network in Forest Policy Science with its long-standing counterpart, the Network of Forest Policy Scientists in the German-speaking countries. This was intended to enable strengthening the position of the Nordic network in Europe, to get acquainted with the well-established forest research environments in the Central European countries and to connect researchers from both regions to get better insights into the latest developments of the scholarship of forest policy science.</p> <p>The activities were conducted as planned. We held a conference titled "The 1st International Forest Policy Meeting" hosted by the Georg August University in Göttingen, on March 16-18, 2016. The event was coorganised by the representatives of the forest policy network of German-speaking countries (under coordination by Assoc. Prof. Lukas Giessen) and the Nordic network (Assoc. Prof. Vilis Brukas). The conference was attended by totally 66 participants. From these, 22 participants come from the Nordic and Baltic countries, with the following distribution between countries: Sweden: 9; Finland: 4; Latvia: 4; Norway: 2; Denmark: 1; Lithuania: 1; Russia: 1. As for gender, there were 12 male and 10 female participants. The 3-days conference included parallel sessions of presentations grouped around actual topics in forest policy and an excursion to a forested landscape, taking up issues of land-use. The concluding plenary workshop evaluated the event as a great success. It was decided that such joint conferences would be held every two years and the next conference is preliminarily scheduled in 2018 in the Netherlands. Overall, the network has successfully achieved its main interim aim of consolidation, by connecting the respective regional networks in German-speaking and the Nordic countries.</p>

<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>The network has produced a policy brief as intended. Also, based on the contributions to the conference, a special issue in the Journal of Forest Policy and Economics is currently under preparation. It is expected to contain contributions as from the German-speaking as from the Nordic countries.</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>The Nordic Network in Forest Policy Science exists since 2010. It is a regional hub of scientific networking within the wide discipline that is scattered thematically and organisationally among numerous faculties in the Nordic countries. Raising the cumulative research capacity is an important current priority that has been pursued by strengthening the collaboration with scientists in the Central Europe. In 2016, the Nordic network and its counterpart in the German-speaking countries co-organised the 1st International Meeting in Forest Policy Science. Hosted by the Georg August University Göttingen (Germany), the 3-day conference was attended by 66 participants, including 22 researchers from the Nordic and Baltic countries under support by EFINORD-SNS. The event was highly welcomed by the research community that previously lacked a venue for sharing research ideas and results across Europe. The increased networking between Central and Northern Europe has already generated beneficial spin-offs, such as initiation of research consortia under EU Horizon 2020 (e.g. the <u>ALTERFOR</u> project) or planning thematic sessions in the upcoming <u>IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress</u> (September 2017). Building on current successes, the networks intend organising such joint conferences biannually, rotating between countries in the Central and Northern Europe. The next conference is planned in the Netherlands in 2018.</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: 2017-02-23</p> <p>Signature of project leader/coordinator: </p>