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Nordic Forest Research (SNS)

Network no:

Send the report to SNS-secretaries Jonas Rönnberg and Inga Bodeker (bodeker.sns@slu.se)

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. Aktivitets titel	Developing Forest Energy Governance in Northern Europe	
2. Activity title	Developing Forest Energy Governance in Northern Europe	
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax. e-mail)	Blas Mola-Yudego School of Forest Sciences University of Eastern Finland PO Box 111 80101 Joensuu (Finland)	
4. Duration	The activity started 1/January 2015 and ended 30/April 2016	
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 10 440 EUR EUR	Total activity cost (estimate): 4437,08

<p>6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)</p>	<p>Workshop Developing forest energy governance in Northern Europe. December 2015 in Joensuu, Finland. There were attendands from all institutions involved in the SNS. The workshop focused on two objectives: the production of a common publications (on.going) and the discussion of future funding opportunities. The points discussed were: Framing the objectives and topic of the common paper, Define a structure, research needs and data, Definition of a message on bioenergy governance in Northern Europe and Enhance future cooperation.</p> <p>Research visit:</p> <p>Publications: (see below)</p> <p>Applications and Future Project collaborations: We are currently discvussion within the netwiork the application for SUMFOREST, inside the ERA Net "Sustainable forests for the society of the future".</p> <p>We are aiming at the continuation of the current SNS, including in the next round the University of Helsinki, in addition to the current partners.</p>
<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>Forest energy in Northern Europe, directions and challenges. Blas MOLA-YUDEGO, Moritz ALBRECHT, Javier AREVALO, Olalla DIAZ-YÁNEZ, Jarmo KORTELAINEN, Ioannis DIMITRIOU Almir KARACIC, Inga KIBIRKŠTIENĒ, Kristaps MAKOVSKIS, Mari SELKIMÄKI, Maxim TRISHKIN. To be submitted to <i>Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews</i>, September, 2016.</p> <p>Forest or plantations? Wood biomass potentials for energy in northern Europe. Blas MOLA-YUDEGO, Javier AREVALO, Mari SELKIMÄKI, Olalla DIAZ-YÁNEZ, Ruben VALBUENA, Antti HAAPALA, Ioannis DIMITRIOU. To be submitted to Special Issue in <i>Biofuels</i>, June 2016.</p> <p>(bold: direct collaborators or members of the SNS)</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 bioenergy sector is currently one of the fastest growing sectors, and is reshaping the natural resource production and governance geographies transnationally, nationally and locally. Bioenergy is seen as a promising solution for several current problems. On the one hand, it has been linked with climate change policies and sustainability of energy production. On the other hand it has been associated with such economic issues as regional development and self-sufficiency of regions. Both these arguments have been criticized which makes it a highly contested issue. The critical voices have emphasized the harmful environmental influences and regional inequalities caused by the bioenergy production.</p> <p>In this context, the current SNS has an important relevance as it aims at establishing a permanent network in countries with already successful bioenergy systems. The results, so far, have been implemented in two directions:</p> <p>In the one hand, as a more theoretical approach collecting relevant case studies and providing in depth analysis that can be translated into good governance examples underlying the problems overcome. Through the network, a detailed portfolio of successful cases have been identified and analysed. Examples of this cases are the bioenergy cooperative plant at ENO in Finland, where forest owners are stakeholders in the heat and power production plant. Another example focuses on Enköping in Sweden, in where multiple ecosystem services are provided by the cooperation of the municipality, the heat and power plant, the forest owners, the willow plantations nearby and the wastewater treatment plant. A paper is to be submitted to a special issue of the journal Biofuels, with the results of this study.</p> <p>In the other hand, contributing to and discussing a more empirical approach, collecting on-going conflicts based on bioenergy and mapping their patterns and relations. The SNS has been framed on an ambitious objective that pursues a collaborative database of existing bioenergy conflicts, based on the previous work on forest conflicts of some of the SNS participants. In November 2015 the database was made public, and in the SNS workshop December 2015 Developing forest energy governance in Northern Europe, the participants contributed to a discussion of the preliminary results and the addition of cases in the Baltic area. The current conflicts can be visualized at: http://www.debeg.org/en/bioenergy_conflicts_database/?PHPSESSID=45b285a45fc33cd72f8d9ab5473da620</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: 2 MAY 2016</p> <p>Signature of project leader/coordinator:</p> 