

Send the report to SNS-secretary *Katrine Hahn Kristensen*
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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	
2. Activity title	The Nordic-Baltic Cooperation group for Forest Inventory
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax, e-mail)	Prof. Gintautas Mozgeris Institute of Forest Management and Wood Science Aleksandras Stulginskis University Studentų str. 11 LT-53361, Kaunas r. Lithuania Tel. +370 37 752291, mobile tel.: +370 687 12140
4. Duration	The activity started 20 August 2013 and ended 23 August 2013
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 19500 EUR, Total activity cost (estimate): 40000 EUR Actual event cost: EFINORD-SNS grant 8869.80 Euro, Total activity cost 18867.20 Euro
6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)	<p>The activity included meeting and scientific conference and field trip of the Nordic-Baltic Cooperation group for Forest Inventory, held at Institute of Forest Management and Wood Science (former department of Forest Management), Aleksandras Stulginskis University, Lithuania, 21-23 August, 2013. Aim of the event was to bring together research scientists and practitioners from Nordic, Baltic and other countries in the EFINORD area to share experience and future research ideas on the forest inventory and other methods to estimate the current status and the dynamics in forests and forest landscapes with special focus on climate change, land-use and land use changes and forestry, biodiversity and their effects on wood supply.</p> <p>The meeting consisted of two days conference with scientific presentations and country reports on the subject followed by a one day field trip. More than 50 participants from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Ireland, Poland, Latvia and Lithuania attended the meeting. Poland and Ireland were two new countries in the EFINORD area which joined the network activities. Among them there were 28 international participants, 25 participants represented Nordic countries. Number of participants who did apply for SNS-EFINORD travel and accommodation grants was 11. Number of participants doing PhD studies was 17; however there were also many young researchers who had just finished or not yet started their doctoral studies, too.</p>

	<p>International flight expenses and accommodation in Kaunas were covered for all participants PhD students and residents of Iceland who did the grant application. The number of female participants was 5. This figure approaches our plan for gender balance if only international participants are taken into account. Forest inventory specialists from North-West Russia were also contacted, however they could not attend the meeting.</p> <p>26 oral presentations were made at the following thematic working sessions: “Forest Inventories for Sustainable Forest Management & Forest Modelling for Forest Inventories”, “Current Status and Future Prospects of Remote Sensing in Forest Inventories”. There were 8 country reports presented on the status of forest inventories and forest management planning, focusing on methods, issues, solutions, underlining the role of innovative techniques, research and education. 7 poster presentations were displayed at the conference, too. All material of the conference, including video-recorded presentations, is available from the conference website. EU FP7 Project “Future-Oriented Integrated Management Of European Forest Landscapes” (INTEGRAL) was introduced at the conference, too.</p> <p>Two field trips were organized after the conference focusing on methods for multisource and multipurpose inventories: (i) visit to Dubrava forest where the roots of Lithuanian sampling based inventory, the ancient woods, Lithuanian forestry and protected areas were introduced in details and (ii) field excursion (Kaunas – Dėgšnė forest – Prienai State Forest Enterprise – Stakliškės – Gojaus forest – Trakai – Vilnius international airport or Kaunas), where the issues related to stand-wise forest inventory and carbon accounting were discussed.</p>
<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>Website of the meeting and scientific conference was established at http://www.asu.lt/forest_inventory_conference/en/56374. Abstracts by all registered participants are available from the conference website or at http://www.asu.lt/file.doc?id=58171. Hardcopy version of the book containing abstracts and brief profiles of the participants was published and distributed among the participants. All presentations including the country reports were video-recorded and made available at http://www.asu.lt/forest_inventory_conference/en/56146. Material of the conference is supposed to be used by ASU in the study process. Selected papers will be published in peer reviewed journal Baltic Forestry. The journal has appointed a guest editor for the issue related to the event who is the coordinator of the network. The publications will include both original research papers and review papers (based on country reports). Currently the manuscripts of the papers are in the process of reviewing, organizers expect 10-11 manuscripts to be submitted. Depending on the reviewing procedures the publishing may take place in 2014.</p> <p>Conference was introduced at the official web site of Aleksandras Stulginskis University http://www.asu.lt/pradzia/lt/56221/.</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>Availability of timely and accurate information on the forest and its surroundings is a general prerequisite for sustainable forest management. Thus, it is extremely important that the forest inventory methods are continuously revised, disseminated and improved both internationally and locally. More than 50 forest inventory research scientists and practitioners from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Ireland, Poland, Latvia and Lithuania met at Aleksandras Stulginskis University, Lithuania, 21-23 August, 2013 to have a bi-annual meeting and scientific conference of “The Nordic-Baltic Cooperation group for Forest Inventory”. More than 30 oral and poster scientific presentation were made on the topics discussing the role of forest Inventories for sustainable forest management, forest modelling for forest inventories and current status and future prospects of remote sensing in forest inventories. Each country attending presented a report summarising latest facts on the status of forest inventories and forest management planning, focusing on methods, issues, solutions, underlining the role of</p>

	<p>innovative techniques, research and education. After the conference the participants took part at two field trips to get introduced with the methods for multisource and multipurpose inventories in Lithuania. All material of the conference, including video-recorded presentations, is available from the conference website at http://www.asu.lt/forest_inventory_conference/en/. Selected papers based on the presentation done at the conference will be published in peer reviewed journal.</p> <p>The event received joint SNS-EFINORD funding to the network “The Nordic-Baltic Cooperation group for Forest Inventory”. It was supported by Aleksandras Stulginskis University and the Ministry of Environment of Republic of Lithuania, too.</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: 12/19/2013 Signature of project leader/coordinator: </p>