

Discussions with the roundwood consumer, sawmill BSW Latvia, were lively during the excursion of the BNFSG in November 2018.

Photo: Sari Karvinen)

## Roundwood market information needed for the Baltic Sea region

Baltic-Nordic forest statistics network has focused on improving roundwood market information provisioning in the region. The outcome of this collaboration is an updated online statistics service "Roundwood Markets in the Baltic Sea Region".

The Baltic-Nordic Forest Statistics Group (BNFSG) network was established in 1999 to maintain and develop cooperation in the field of forest statistics and information exchange in the Baltic-Nordic region.

Countries around the Baltic Sea consume annually over 300 million cubic meters of roundwood and also traded wood volume between the countries is remarkable. Thus, roundwood markets of the countries are closely linked and market changes in one country will affect the markets in other countries via roundwood trade flows.

Wood consumption is constantly growing, as the new wood processing capacities have been constructed and investment plans announced especially in the Nordic countries. Development and availability of timely and reliable statistical information on the roundwood markets in the whole Baltic Sea region is needed to support the forest bioeconomy sector and its development.

Common market area linking the Nordic and Baltic Sea countries calls for centralized market information. Development and maintenance of the joint online statistics service "Roundwood Markets in the Baltic Sea Region" is a respond to this challenge.

Collaboration within the BNSFG group shall continue to elaborate on better knowledge base on raw material markets for forest bioeconomy.

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