

Report for annual networks

Submit the report to sns@slu.se by 24:00 CET, 1st of March the year after the network period.
The report should not exceed 2000 words.

Please adjust the size of the boxes to the length of your answer.

1. Title of the network:	Ecological restoration for sustainable forest use
2. Network code:	N2022-05
3. Main applicant:	Rannveig Jacobsen
Email:	Rannveig.Jacobsen@nina.no
Institution:	The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research

Activities

4. Place of the activities:	Norway and online
Duration of the activities (start date, end date):	1) Preparations: January to August. 2) Seminar: 29-31 August 2022. 3) Networking / communications for project development and applications: September 2022 until present.

5. Provide a short network summary, including:

a) The purpose of the network/main problems/background

Main problem /background: Forestry in Scandinavia with its' intensive harvesting practices has led to the simplification of tree species composition and homogenization of forest structure, thus inducing low resilience of boreal forests to global change. Specifically, climate scenarios for the next 100 years are not 'good news' for the large-scale use of spruce in forestry. Increasing storms, and a future warmer and moister climate, particularly during winter, will harm spruce growth (and survival) over large southern regions due to increased insect and fungal attacks, and increased frequency of severe summer droughts will set back growth and survival and increase the risk of wildfires. In addition to reducing the resilience to climate change, forestry has also been the main driver behind a large-scale biodiversity crisis, and forest biodiversity is presently under the combined pressures from fragmentation, degradation, and climate change.

Purpose of the network/goals: To promote sustainable forest use by exchanging experiences among researchers and practitioners on ecological restoration methods for meeting the demands and challenges of the future. Map the interest and needs with regards to forest restoration of stakeholders such as forest owners/the forest industry, and the national environmental agencies of the participating Nordic countries. Form a core group of researchers from Nordic and other relevant countries that develop applications for forest restoration research projects to national or international funding calls.

b) A description of the main activities of the network

- 1) Preparation for the seminar where partners and SNS were encouraged to spread information about the upcoming seminar through their channels to reach as many academic and non-academic actors interested in ecological restoration methods for sustainable forest use as possible.
- 2) A two-day in person seminar (two half days with a full day in between) with presentations, field visit to a

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restoration site, workshops, and plenty of time for discussions.

3) Online networking and communications among seminar attendees, extending also to people who were not present during the seminar, to further discuss and develop project ideas to apply for funding through national and EU funds.

c) Did the network develop and deliver as planned? If not, please explain why

Organising the seminar took much more time and effort than anticipated. Therefore, we have had less time to develop the report as specified in the application. However, we have a publicly available book of abstracts summarizing the potential for using forest restoration for sustainable forest management in the Nordic countries as presented at the seminar. We continue to work on a review on this topic which we aim to publish by 2024.

At least two separate groups of researchers and practitioners have pursued to develop project ideas that sprung out of the seminar. However, due to the capacity of the researchers and the nature of the calls for the February deadline this year, 2023, both initiatives have been postponed with hopes of more favourable topics for next year.

Outcomes

6. Published outputs achieved as a consequence of the network (peer-reviewed articles, other publications)

A publicly available book of abstracts summarizing the potential for using forest restoration for sustainable forest management in the Nordic countries as presented at the seminar.

7. Other practical outputs of the network (workshops, conferences, scientific meetings, policy recommendations, conferences, large-scale project applications, websites or databases etc.)

In person seminar on ecological restoration methods for sustainable forest use in Norway 29-31 august 2022. This seminar included both presentations, discussions and two workshops.

8. How and within which areas was the network beneficial for the Nordic region (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the autonomous areas of the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland Islands)?

Shared knowledge of restoration methods for sustainable forest management in north European countries with similar ecological conditions as in the Nordic countries is beneficial to the entire Nordic region. Forest restoration methods might increase sustainability and introduce novel opportunities for biodiversity off-setting for the forestry sectors in Nordic countries, while on a larger scale forest restoration might be implemented to improve national forest management and biodiversity protection.

Participation

9. Number of participants

Country	PhD students & Post-docs	Other researchers	Stakeholders	Communication officers	Gender			Total
					Women	Men	Other	
Finland		1				1		1
Iceland		1			1			1
Norway		8	10	1	9	10		19
Sweden	3	2			3	2		5
UK	1	3	2		3	3		6
Spain			1			1		1
Latvia		1				1		1

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Schweitz		1			1		1
Total	4	17	13	1	17	18	35

Gender equality actions

In the beginning of the network period, you were introduced to the [gender equality guidelines](#) and asked to perform at least one action point from each step during your network period. Fill in the following evaluation scheme with the actions performed and the outcome. It is new for SNS to introduce these gender equality guidelines to our funded networks, so SNS would really appreciate your feedback on the guidelines and how they have worked for you.

11. Evaluation scheme

a) Outcome of completed planning step:	Balance between male and female speakers, early career, and established researchers, we also tried to get a balance between researchers and non-researchers / practitioners
b) Outcome of completed action step (at least one action point):	Attention to gender balance in who is talking and who is heard in meetings: We had a good gender balance among speakers and speaker time. Feedback from participants indicated that everyone felt happy with the time allocated to presentations, questions, and discussions. Gender-neutral language in communications: In our communications we always strive to be inclusive and gender-neutral.
c) How did the actions/tools work for your network:	It made us very conscious about the balance between female and male participants. However, we did not actively ask how people self-identified (e.g., male, female, other). People were very inclusive and respectful to each other during the seminar as well as in communications before, and after the meeting.
d) How could SNS provide more support to your network in the work toward gender equality:	
e) General feedback to the gender equality guidelines:	

Economic report

12. Received grant from SNS (SEK):

200 000 SEK

13. Costs	SNS funding	Co-financing	Total
Travel	58 836	1 349	60 185
Accommodation and meeting costs	108 405		108 405
Other costs (salaries in relation to communication, organizing the seminar, participation in the seminar, working on developing project ideas, and reporting)		413 868	413 868

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Total SUM (SEK)	167 241	415 217	582 458
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14. Allocation of SNS funding

Country	Partner organization	% of total
Norway	The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	100
Total SUM (%)		100

15. Economic result (deficit or surplus)

On 23.01.25 NINA repaid the SNS funding not used during the network period in 2022 (34 079 NOK). Using the conversion rate as of 23.02.01 (1.05) this would sum to 35 670.06 SEK.

16. Optional: Comments to the economic reporting

On 22.06.13 NINA received the SNS grant of 200 000 SEK in NOK. With the conversion rate of 0.9693 this amounted to 193 860 NOK. NINA used the SNS funding to reimburse travel and accommodation for seminar participants.

Travel expenses paid for with the grant amounted to 56 211 NOK (~58 835.52 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01).

Accommodation and meeting costs paid for with the grant amounted to 103 570 NOK (~108 405.42 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01).

The remaining 34 079 NOK (~35 670.06 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01) were transferred back to SNS on January 25th 2023.

Co-financing per participating institution and person responsible for auditing the accounts in each of the participating institutions:

Finland, Natural Resources Institute: Travel and accommodation = €118.92 (~1 348.80 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01). Salaries = €2607.78 (~29 577.64 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01). Person responsible for auditing the accounts = Jukka Hämäläinen, asiakaspalvelu@palkeet.fi

Norway, Norwegian Institute for Nature research: Salaries = 250 478 NOK (~262 172.17 SEK, conversion date 23.02.01). Person responsible for auditing the accounts = Mette Estenstad from Deloitte AS, Postboks 5670 Sluppen, 7485 Trondheim, Norway, mestenstad@deloitte.no, +47 958 16 606.

Sweden, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences: Salaries = 92399 SEK. Person responsible for auditing the accounts = Anders Alanära, anders.alanara@slu.se

UK, RSPB Centre for Conservation Science: Salaries = £2,361.38 (~29 719.38 SEK, conversion date 23.02.09). Person responsible for auditing the accounts = Pip Wiggins, Pip.Wiggins@cairngormsconnect.org.uk

Germany, Technical University of Munich: Unfortunately, the German partner (Sebastian Seibold) was unable to attend the seminar or find a replacement. Therefore, we have no costs associated with this partner to report.

17. Provide a popular science piece for dissemination in SNS' various channels (maximum 700 words) with emphasis on application of results and benefits for the Nordic society.

Please see separate document for instructions

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I hereby declare that the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge
(Please adjust the number of signature boxes to the number of applicants)

Signature of the main applicant

	NINA	13.02.23
Signature	Organization	Date
Rannveig Jacobsen		
Printed name		

Signature of the department head at the department of the main applicant

	NINA	16.02.23
Signature	Organization	Date
Kristin T Teien		
Printed name		

Second applicant's signature, place and date

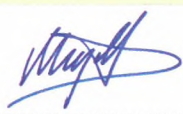
	NINA	16.02.23
Signature	Organization	Date
Björn Nordén		
Printed name		

Third applicant's signature, place and date

	SLU	
Signature	Organization	Date
Therese Löfroth		
Printed name		

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Forth applicant's signature, place and date

	SLU	13/2 - 2023
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Signature	Organization	Date
Magnus Löf		

Printed name		

Fifth applicant's signature, place and date

	Natural Resources Institute Finland	Feb 14th 2023
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Signature	Organization	Date
Anne Tolvanen		

Printed name		

Sixth applicant's signature, place and date

	Cairngorms Connect	14 February 2023
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Signature	Organization	Date
Mark Hancock		

Printed name		

Seventh applicant's signature, place and date

 <small>Digital unterschrieben von Sebastian Seibold Datum: 2023.02.15 10:26:34 +01'00'</small>	Technische Universität Dresden	15.02.2023
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Signature	Organization	Date
Sebastian Seibold		

Printed name		