



Barents Forest Forum 2019

October 15-17, 2019, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå, Sweden

The Barents region in a bio-based future

Welcome to a conference on the multiple-functions the forest plays in a future bioeconomy. Over the course of three days, participants from industry, forest stakeholders, policy, research and development, and education will discuss the forest in a bio-based future in Northern Europe, with a particular focus on the Barents region.

The conference commences with a workshop focused on labour supply, equal opportunities and education. The conference continues with high-level practice-oriented presentations with focus on examples from Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden. There will be opportunities for networking and practical demonstrations in forest-related excursions. The conference is open to all.

For more information, see www.slu.se/BFF2019.

The Barents Forest Forum is a cooperation platform for forest sector stakeholders in the Barents region and is organized by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and Swedish Forestry Agency as one of the key events during the Swedish chairmanship of the Barents Forest Sector Network.

Program

October 15	
Pre-conference activities	
13.30 – 14.00	Coffee and registration
14.00 – 18.00	<p>Pre-conference workshop Working for a future forest sector Perspectives of education, equal opportunities, expectations of future employers, and labour supply.</p> <p>Facilitators: Fredrik Johansson <i>Business Director & Filip Hammarberg Designer, Daresay</i> & Lina Arnesson Ceder <i>Project Manager, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i></p> <p>Introductions by: Camilla Widmark <i>Network coordinator ForBioeconomy, & Head of Department of Forest Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i></p> <p>Herman Sundqvist, <i>Director-General, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p> <p>Ola Carlén <i>Program Director of studies, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i></p> <p>Bjørn Helge Bjørnstad, <i>Project Coordinator, Forestry Extension Institute, Norway</i></p> <p>Elin Olofsson <i>Business Developer, SCA</i></p> <p>Fredrik Gunnarsson <i>Head of the Labor Market Commission Unit, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p>
18.00 – 20.00	Open reception

Description of workshop

The aim of the workshop is to discuss future forest sector from a labour perspective, emphasising perspectives of young people in the region. Topics that will be covered during the workshop are education (focusing on forest-related education), equal opportunities, expectations on employers and on employees, and challenges of labour supply in the forest sector. The workshop will be led by a facilitator to ensure an interactive and broad discussion between high-level representatives of forest sector, in a broad sense, and young people from the four Barents countries. During the workshop, participants will be given opportunity to share experiences from respective countries and engage in in-depth discussions. The goal is to be able to reach a list of items – challenges and opportunities – that can be used in future work of the Barents Forest Sectors Network. The output from the workshop will also be further discussed during the second day of the conference.

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October 16 - Conference	
8.00	Registration
8.30 – 9.00	<p>Welcome session and opening speeches</p> <p>Moderators: Staffan Norin <i>Deputy Director-General, Head of the North Region, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p> <p>Camilla Widmark <i>Network coordinator ForBioeconomy, & Head of Department of Forest Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i></p> <p>Speakers: Magdalena Andersson, <i>County Governor, County Administrative Board of Västerbotten</i></p> <p>Herman Sundqvist, <i>Director-General, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p> <p>Göran Ståhl, <i>Dean, Faculty of Forest Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i></p>
<p>Session I: The forest in the bioeconomy – opportunities of a bio-based society Moderator: Malin Winberg, Moderator and Journalist</p>	
9.00	<p>Keynote: Forest in the bioeconomy transformation – where are we currently, and what opportunities lie ahead of us (tentative title) Sverker Danielsson, <i>Program manager, Mistra Digital Forests, Swedish Forest Industries Federation</i></p>
09:30	Break for coffee
10.00 - 11.00	<p>Country-specific talks of the theme of the session:</p> <p>Finland Tanja Lepistö <i>Project Manager, Smart Arctic Forest Network, Finish Forest Center</i></p> <p>Norway Foods of Norway - from wood to feed Gro Steine <i>Centre Coordinator, Foods of Norway, NMBU</i></p> <p>Russia Natalia Demidova <i>Deputy Director, Northern Forestry Research Institute, SevNIILKh</i></p> <p>Sweden Herman Sundqvist, <i>Director-General, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p>
11.00	Panel discussion:

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	Perspectives on bioeconomy and forests, labour supply, education and equal opportunities.
11.30 – 13.30	Lunch and “walk-about” Two lunch-stations
Session II: The forest in the bioeconomy – challenges and drivers in the transformation Moderator: Malin Winberg, Moderator and Journalist	
13.30	Keynote: Climate change mitigation as driver towards bioeconomy Pekka Leskinen <i>Head of Bioeconomy Programme, European Forest Institute (EFI)</i>
14.00	Country-specific talks of the theme of the session: Finland What is going on in wooden building industry in Finland Anu Nurkkala <i>Project Manager, Finnish Forest Centre</i> Norway Identifying potentials from new forest-based products in Norway Maja Tofteng and Vegard Salte Flatval <i>Senior Economists, Economics Norway</i> Russia Andrei Iugov <i>Head of sector, All-Russian Research Institute for Silviculture and Mechanization of Forestry, VNIILM</i> Sweden Hannele Arvonon <i>President and CEO, Sveaskog</i>
15.00	Break for coffee
15.30	Panel discussion Panel consisting of high-level representatives of forest sector, together with speakers of session II reflect on the discussions of the day. Representatives Johanna Buchert <i>President and CEO, Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE), Finland</i> Frode Lyssandræ <i>Director, Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Norway</i> Vladimir Dmitriev <i>Head of Department, Science and International Cooperation, Federal Forestry Agency of Russia</i> Herman Sundqvist <i>Director-General, Swedish Forestry Agency, Sweden</i>

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Session III: Conclusions and onwards	
16.00	<p>Barents Regional Council Magdalena Andersson, <i>County Governor, County Administrative Board of Västerbotten</i></p> <p>Staffan Norin, <i>Deputy Director-General, Head of the North Region, Swedish Forestry Agency</i> and Frode Lyssandræ, <i>Director, Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i></p> <p>Conclusion Herman Sundqvist, <i>Director-General, Swedish Forestry Agency</i></p>
16.30 – 18.00	<p>Workshop on report “The forest in the emerging bioeconomy in northern Europe” Open workshop for all participants and the purpose is to discuss an outline of a report on forests and bioeconomy to verify content of the report and discuss policy implications. Presentations and discussions lead by the author team: Knut Øistad, Pekka Leskinen, Maria Solokova, and Camilla Widmark</p>
19.30	<p>Conference dinner (Masters of Ceremony, Staffan Norin & Camilla Widmark)</p>

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October 17

Practical experiences of bioeconomy and sustainability in Sweden – excursions

Participants choose one excursion. There are two alternatives to choose from, of which one will be translated to/from Russian (Alternative 1).

Alternative 1: LANGUAGE	BIOECONOMY IN THE URBAN REGION English and Russian
	<p>Pick-up at Elite Mimer Hotel, Kungsgaten 75) at 8.00</p> <p>This excursion aims to develop understanding of how the urban area close to Umeå city is considering bioeconomy transformation in their day-to-day activities. We will combine outdoor visits in an urban forest area with indoor discussions on topics like innovation, sustainability, wood building and bioenergy. The excursion will be held in English with translation to/from Russian.</p> <p>Please note that <u>parts</u> of the excursion take place outdoors.</p> <p>Approx. time schedule: excursion starts at 8.00 and ends by 15.15 at airport (and 15.30 downtown).</p>
Alternative 2: LANGUAGE	BIOECONOMY IN THE REGION OF VÄSTERBOTTEN English
	<p>Pick-up at Elite Mimer Hotel, Kungsgaten 75) at 7.45</p> <p>The second excursion focuses on the region of Västerbotten. The aim is to discuss how local societies in connection to the urban area are facing challenges of bioeconomy transformation. Innovation, sustainability, knowledge exchange, forest ecosystem services and wooden buildings are examples of topics that will be covered through visits and short talks on the bus. The excursion starts in the city centre of Umeå and will take us on a journey through forest landscape, passing Vindel River, going back by coastal area of Västerbotten (approx. 250 km). The excursion will be held only in English.</p> <p>Please note that <u>parts</u> of the excursion take place outdoors.</p> <p>Approx. time schedule starts at 7.45 and ends by 17.45 by the airport (and 18.00 downtown Umeå)</p>