



Activity report SLU Water Forum 2020-05-21- 2020-09-14

Below follows a summary of the activities and work within SLU Water Forum between mid-May and mid-September 2020. After this there is a short outlook on future plans and activities of the Forum. Note: the activities within SLU Water Forum has during this period of time naturally been affected by summer holidays at SLU.

Samverkansforum SLU och Uppsala kommun

June-September. The Activity plan for the collaboration between SLU, Uppsala kommun (UK) and Uppsala Vatten and Avfall AB (UV) focusing on water was finalized in the end of June

(<https://internt.slu.se/globalassets/mw/riktade/vattenforum-internt/samverkansprojektet/aktivitetsplan-uk-slu-vatten-2020-2022-version-2020-06-24.pdf>). Some minor adjustments of the plan have later (August-September) been undertaken.

Following this, planning of and invitation to the first “Dialogue-meetings” with researcher from SLU and officials at UK and UV has been scheduled to October. The meetings will be held via video accordingly:

1/10: Hållbar dricksvattenförsörjning och ansatser och åtgärder för att skydda grundvatten vid urban utveckling

7/10: Framtidens vatten och avloppssystem – möjligheter till innovativa lösningar i nya bostadsområden.

8/10: Hållbar vattenresursförvaltning i lokala avrinningsområden för ytvatten, till exempel med avseende på föroreningar, biologisk mångfald och förvaltningssystem.

15/10: Tekniker för dagvattenrening annat än dagvattendammar

19/10: Hantering av översvämningsrisker från landsbygd till stad, till exempel med avseende på åtgärder i landskapet, förvaltningssystem och finansiella incitament.

Each meeting will include between 7-15 people in total from SLU, UK and UV. The representation and interest from SLU are generally good (between 4-10 researchers has signed up for each meeting). During each meeting, researchers from SLU will present their expertise, ongoing research project and current collaboration with UK and UV, whereafter officials from UK and UV will share

their needs and objectives on the topic for each meeting. After these initial presentations, a discussion focusing on developing existing and initiating new collaboration between the partners will be initiated. Currently we are outlining the contribution of the participants from SLU, and detailing the arrangements of the meetings.

On the 11/9, Jens Olsson participated in a meeting between the coordinators for the existing "Samverkansavtal" between UK and SLU. During the meeting, special attention was devoted to collaboration on water, and Jens Olsson presented SLU Water Forum and the Activity plan including planned focus for the Dialogue meetings as outlined above.

Evaluation applications "seed-money" SLU Water Forum

June-September. Seven applications were submitted and evaluated by Jens Olsson, Torleif Härd, Helena Hansson and Marnie Hancke. Four applications were granted funding and applicants was informed about a preliminary decision on the 1/7. An official decision from the dean was later signed on the 3/9

(https://internt.slu.se/globalassets/mw/riktade/vattenforum-internt/utvecklingsprojekt/20200903_deb_saddmedel_inklbilaga.pdf)

Presentation Access day UUSI

3/6 (via video). Jens Olsson participated with a presentation on SLU Water Forum at Access day arranged by Uppsala University Sustainability Initiatives (UUSI, <https://katalog.uu.se/orginfo/?orgId=X35:41>) focusing on cooperation on future challenges related to water in Uppsala. From SLU, Lisa Beste and Marnie Hancke also participated in the Access day.

Webbinar "Svenska årtiondet för havsforskning"

8/6. Jens Olsson participated in the webinar focusing on the contribution from Sweden for the upcoming decade of ocean science.

Meeting Helgi Schiöth (UU) and Karin Wiberg on potential future cooperation

10/6. As a result of the presentation on SLU Water Forum given at the UUSI Access day, Jens Olsson and Karin Wiberg was invited to a meeting with professor Helgi Schiöth at UU on potential future cooperation on aquatic pollutants and chemicals of emerging concern.

Meeting Henrik Josefsson (UU) on potential future cooperation on water between SLU and UU

11/6. Jens Olsson and Henrik Josefsson (coordinator Water thematic area within UUSI) discussed future cooperation on water between SLU and UU. UU will focus their work on groundwater (access, conflicts, quality and quantity) and contaminants in water. UU seeks further collaboration within these focal areas with SLU.

Meeting SMI at SLU

12/6. The second meeting of the group at SLU for coordination of SLU:s work related to SMI (Smartare miljöinformation). Relates som "Planeringsforum för Vatten och hav" in which Jens Olsson is representing SLU.

Meeting with "Strategi VA" at Uppsala Vatten

16/6. Jens Olsson gave a presentation on SLU Water Forum to the "Strategi VA"-

group at Uppsala Vatten. The group consists of heads in the Uppsala Vatten organization. Henrik Josefsson at UUSI also participated in the meeting and gave a presentation on the UU-water related work to the group. The “Strategi VA”-group are very interested in keeping existing collaboration with SLU and even expand it further. Jens and Henrik was hence invited to future meetings with the group to further discuss and develop collaboration between the partners.

Mapping knowledge needs on water at SLU

June. So far, only a few groups/persons/departments have submitted their contribution to the mapping of current and future knowledge needs on water in light of environmental and societal challenges. The input is summarized in Appendix 1. Additional input from more experts at SLU is welcomed. A tentative plan is to use the existing information as summarized in Appendix 1 as the basis for additional input and future synthesis (as one or several review article/s?). This will be discussed with WaterCOG later this autumn.

SLU Water Forum news-feed and Twitter

May-September. Publication of news on the SLU Water Forum:s webpage (<https://www.slu.se/centrumbildningar-och-projekt/slu-vattenforum/>) and posts on the Forum:s Twitter account (@SLUwater) is now an ongoing and weekly activity.

Meeting SIWI

30/6. Follow-up meeting with Elin Weyler at SIWI on potential cooperation between SIWI and SLU. The current level cooperation is influenced by the layoff of personnel at SIWI. Potential future cooperation includes participation by Kevin Bishop in a seminar day on water and climate arranged in September, participation in a potential “cluster group” at SIWI focusing on climate, landscapes and resilience in a water perspectives. A seminar to outline the focus of the planned “cluster-group” is planned for the autumn 2020 in which SLU:s participation is anticipated.

Möte ”Samverkansforum hav och vatten”

25/8. Jens Olsson participated via video. The future of the forum is uncertain from 2021 as a result of a re-organization of the existing fora-structure. The focus for the forum concerning “hav and vatten” during autumn 2020 will therefore be to focus on information on “Svensk vattenstandard” within each partner of the forum.

SLU Water Forum highlights “the Baltic Sea day”

27/8. To highlight SLU:s work related to the Baltic Sea, we (Jens Olsson, Lisa Beste and Ann-Katrin Hallin) made a news post from SLU during “the Baltic Sea day” (<https://www.slu.se/ew-nyheter/2020/8/slu-uppmarksammar-ostersjodagen/>) and devoted special attention to Baltic Sea-related news from SLU at Twitter and Facebook. The news post and associated social media activity seems to have rendered some attention. The Facebook post reached 3 800 persons, and on SLU:s and SLU Miljöanalys Twitter accounts, the posts reached between 1 000 - 2 000 recipients (the fourth most viewed post on SLU:s Twitter account during August). The views on SLU Water Forums Twitter during the last 30 days peaked at the 27/8 with 2 920 views (about the same number of views as during the World Water Day in March 2020).

Internal web page SLU Water Forum

3/9. An internal web page for storing documents and sharing information on the

activities, operation and work of SLU Water Forum has been created by Lisa Beste and Jens Olsson. See <https://internt.slu.se/riktat/lasta-interna-sidor/vattenforum/> (Swedish) and <https://internt.slu.se/en/targeted-info/locked-internal-pages/water-forum/> (English).

First newsletter SLU Water Forum

4/9. A first newsletter from SLU Water Forum was published in early September (<https://www.anpdm.com/newsletterweb/4644504A714340584178454159/494A594575454358477943415A43> in Swedish and <https://www.anpdm.com/newsletterweb/4644504A7143475F4179414759/494A594575454358477943415A43> in English). The newsletter contained a “blog-post” by Jens Olsson, past and future activities and news, information on Baltic Sea Science Center, recent policy briefs on water at SLU, recent key publications, recent PhD-thesis and upcoming PhD-dissertations.

SLU Youth Institute

September. Jens Olsson was contacted by Karl Lundén at SLU Youth Institute (<https://www.slu.se/en/collaboration/international/slu-global/projects-and-themes/slu-youth-institute/>) to forward a request for supervision by SLU experts on water-related thesis work by high school students.

Plans/activities during autumn 2020

Evaluation of SLU Water Forum

By 30/9. A self-evaluation will be undertaken by Jens Olsson on the activities and work within SLU Water Forum during the past year. The self-evaluation will be focused on how the main aims of SLU Water Forum as outlined in the *Strategy and workplan* of the forum for the years 2019-2020 has been followed and approached.

Samverkansforum SLU och Uppsala kommun

October. The first Dialogue meetings will be held, hopefully resulting in extended collaboration between SLU and UK. Jens Olsson will tentatively also participate in a coming meeting with the “Strategi VA”-group at Uppsala Vatten to present the outcome of the first Dialogue meetings and future collaboration between SLU and UK.

Start of projects funded på SLU Water Forum “seed-money”

Autumn. The projects will start during autumn 2020 (and likely extend into 2021). Jens Olsson will be in close contact with the project leaders to follow the progress within projects, and also to participate in potential workshops as outlined in the project plans.

Third meeting with SLU WaterCOG

November. The third meeting with WaterCOG will be held during November 2020 (date tbd later). Likely focus of the meeting will be to:

- discuss the progress and work of SLU Water Forum during past year (relates to the self-evaluation mentioned above) and since the last WATERCOG meeting
- to share news and information on water related work at SLU including research calls of interest

- and also to continue the internal discussions and work on the “knowledge need survey” and how to increase interdisciplinary cooperation on water at SLU.

Cooperation SIWI and SLU

Autumn. Dialogue with SIWI on future cooperation and involvement of researchers at SLU in coming activities of SIWI.

Publication-record SLU Water Forum

Autumn. The work initiated during spring 2020 will be continued during autumn 2020 with the ultimate aim to visualize and communicate (both internally and externally) water related research at SLU.

Strategy and workplan SLU Water Forum 2021-2022

Late autumn 2020. The current strategy and workplan of SLU Water Forum will be updated for 2021-2022. This work will be based on the self-evaluation of SLU Water Forum and discussions with WaterCOG on the topic.

Planning of an application for a joint interdisciplinary research program focused on water at SLU

Autumn. Continued discussions in WaterCOG and with other key competences at SLU. We will also make use of the achievements within the projects funded by SLU Water Forum “seed-money”, the publication record of SLU Water Forum, and the continued mapping of knowledge needs on water at SLU.

List of “water-experts” at SLU

Autumn. Produce a similar list of experts on water at SLU as done for the “Baltic Sea-experts” at SLU during spring 2020 (<https://www.slu.se/om-slu/pressrum/ostersjoexperter-slu/>). The “water-expert” and “Baltic Sea experts” lists should be added to the SLU Water Forum web pages.

Second newsletter SLU Water Forum

Early 2021. The second newsletter will summarize the activities and work within SLU Water Forum during autumn 2020.

Second news-drive Water Forum

If relevant and feasible, a second news-drive by SLU Water Forum will be launched during autumn 2020.