

Summary notes from the Barents Forest Sector Network, 13-14 June 2018, Umeå, Sweden

Participants

Tatu Tornianen, Pasi Poikonen, Finland
Terje Hoel, Norway
Tomas Hallberg, International Barents Sekretariat
Vladimir Dmitriev, Victoria Zubkova, The Federal Forestry Agency, Russia
Camilla Widmark, Göran Sjöberg, SLU, Sweden
Staffan Norin (Chair), Per Hallgren (coordinator), Lars Andersson, Daniel Thorell, SFA Sweden
Johanna Johansson (invited researcher), Södertörn University, Sweden
Mikael Bergström, Ylva Sardén, County boards of Västerbotten and Norrbotten, Sweden

Notes from the meeting

Overview of the program and presentations

During the two day meeting we had the opportunity to both exchange a research view and experiences from invited researchers and the participating national focalpoints. The theme of the meeting were sharing experiences, views on, and development of bioeconomy in the different countries. As shown in the attached presentations (se below) and demonstrated by all presenters there is a large emphasis in the Barents region and all the Barents countries on the development of Bioeconomy, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Attached to this notes is the slides shown at the meeting, which the meeting had the opportunity to take part of and discuss:

Tomas Hallberg presented the Barents Cooperation and The International Barents Sekretariat, IBS (P1).

Camilla Widmark presented a forest economic view of bioeconomy (P2)

Johanna Johansson presented a political science view on bioeconomy in Barents (P3)

Vladimir Dmitriev presented Forest Bioeconomy in Russia – experience and prospects (P4)

Tatu Torniainen presented Current forest bioeconomy developments in Finland (P5)

Terje Hoel presented Forest based bioeconomy in Norway (P6)

Conclusions

- The BFSN meeting support the chairs suggestion with a road map for meetings during 2018 and 2019. The meeting further enhanced with

suggestions of increased cooperation with other groups, and with more specified suggestions for topics and :

- Meeting in Norrbotten, Sweden, 17 – 18 October. Preliminary invitation will be sent out as soon as possible. The meeting put forward that if possible the meeting may be a joint meeting where we invite the working groups for economy, energy and environment. The main topics for the meeting would be to expand on the topic of forest resources utilized in bioeconomy as substitution materials in house building and energy, and the issue of climate change, adaption and mitigation.
- Meeting in Stockholm 29th of January. Preliminary invitation will be sent out as soon as possible. The meeting will be back to back with the final meeting for the WAMBAF project.
- Spring meeting 2019, probably in April, eventually a distance meeting, partly joint meeting with the WG of education. If physical meeting. Focus on education and agreeing on the details for Forest Forum.
- Forest Forum
 - Main session concerning labour and competence supply and forest education
 - Gender equality and multiplicity in forestry
 - Supply of forest machine drivers and forest management labour
 - Supply of forestry officials
 - Public knowledge of bioeconomy, forestry and other forest values.
 - Corporate bilateral meeting point
 - Handing over to the Norwegian chair for 2020-2021
 - During the meeting many interesting proposals were put forward, however, the meeting suggested to focus on the most realistic items, and limit the topics.
- During the meeting several projects of relevance for the Barents cooperation presented there projects as information. The meeting appreciate the overview of on going cooperate projects, and agree to further examine and provide the chair with information on ongoing cooperative projects that might be of concern for the BFS Network. The chair will, if manageable investigate further and compile a list with basic information about and contact information to projects. IBS will be asked to support the effort with infrastructure and some assistance.
- The chair will work together with SLU and the future Bioeconomy network (currently EFINORD) to establish a interdisciplinary expert group in forest circular bioeconomy to assist BFSN. Neither BFSN, nor “EFINORD” Bioeconomy network, can provide financing to researchers in the expert group.