

The Secretariat for International Forestry Issues

THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS IN CANADA AND SWEDEN

SIFI strengthens Sweden's commitment in international forestry issues

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS

p 2

CANADA'S PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

p 4

THE CANADIAN FOREST SECTOR'S TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

p 4

THE PERSPECTIVE OF AN INVESTOR

p 5

SWEDISH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

p 6

THE SWEDISH FOREST INDUSTRIES' VISION

p 6

CANADIAN AND SWEDISH FOREST MANAGEMENT – PARALLELS

p 7

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE CANADIAN BOREAL FOREST AGREEMENT

p 8

FOREST KINGDOM SWEDEN

p 9

SWEDEN'S CURRENT FORESTRY MODEL FAILS TO DELIVER

p 9

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SILVICULTURAL SYSTEMS IN CANADA

p 10

THE SWEDISH MODEL – A LONG HISTORY OF INTENSE MANAGEMENT

p 11

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

p 11

CALENDAR 2012, SUMMER ACTIVITIES


p 12

EDITORIAL

THE 8TH ISSUE OF SIFI'S NEWSLETTER summarises the 28th May conference on the transformation of the Canadian forest sector and Swedish experiences. For centuries they have been leading forest nations. Both countries are boreal with rural communities that are dependent on forestry and the forest industry. However, there are also major differences; of scale, ownership, silviculture, industrial structure, etc. The conference identified important issues needing attention during the intense process of transformation that both countries are going through. The day was opened by Åke Barklund, Managing Director of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA), and Kenneth Macartney, Canadian Ambassador to Sweden. The morning session focused on innovation and investment processes. The afternoon session was opened by the Swedish Minister for Rural Affairs, Eskil

Erlandsson, and focused on the development of forestry models. Professor Sten Nilsson closed the session by presenting an outlook for the forest sector, concluding that the future of the forest sector in the Northern Hemisphere will depend on who the sector takes on as a partner and how innovative that partnership will be.

This project is the result of several years of collaboration between the Canadian Embassy and the Secretariat for International Forestry Issues (SIFI) at KSLA. I would like to thank all participants, the Swedish planning group, the Canadian Embassy and especially the trade commissioner Maria Stenberg, whose professional guidance ensured that the project was such a success.


Fredrik Ingemarson, editor

Key messages from the transformation process

The joint Swedish-Canadian conference described the transformation process in each country and identified important issues to manage in these developments.

The discussions showed that both countries are in need of new partnerships between organisations within the forest sector and those outside of it.

FREDRIK INGEMARSON, PROGRAM MANAGER & EMMA BERGLUND, PROGRAM CO-ORDINATOR
THE SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY ISSUES (SIFI)

Investment and innovation processes

Mario Gibeault of the Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources & Wildlife gave an introduction and stated that after being a leading forest nation for 350 years Canada faces a number of significant challenges in forest management and related industries.

The Biopathways process was described by Catherine Cobden, CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC). She concluded that emerging market potential is four times greater than the current market and that partnerships will be a significant part of the new business model.

Status quo is not an option

Don Roberts, Managing Director of CIBC Market Inc., concluded that the recession within the Canadian forest industry is leading to a situation where the status quo is simply not an option. He pointed out that “the best way to go is not geographically – the way forward is to change the game and if you don’t move someone else will!”

Prof. Kaj Rosén, Research Manager at the Forest Research Institute of Sweden, presented the European and Swedish Research and Innovation Landscape. He concluded that we do not have any comprehensive analysis such as Biopathways in Sweden; advances are made at company level.

Jan Lagerström, Research Director at the Swedish Forest Industries Federation, pointed out that although the federation does not carry out in-house innovation it inspires producers through projects such as *Ekoportal2035*.

The solutions are outside the sector

Prof. Sten Nilsson, fellow of KSLA, gave a historical review concluding that Sweden’s innovation is driven by individual companies whereas in Canada it is driven by FPAC. “As the solutions lie outside the sector it is very important to have more partnerships outside your home!”

Lennart Rådström, fellow of The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and KSLA, was sceptical about omitting the traditional sector. He considered that we need to focus on value change, optimisation and added value products.

Jonas Brändström, Chief Strategy Officer at Vinnova, pointed out the need for cross-sector innovations and added that Vinnova is building arenas for partnerships in innovation.

Forestry models fail to deliver

Eskil Erlandsson, Swedish Minister for Rural Affairs, presented the Forest Kingdom and referred to the media debate on forestry. He concluded that “it is easy to lead a crusade against clearcutting, but it is *not* so easy to explain how we are going to combat climate change without using the potential of the forest”.

Avrim Lazar, former CEO of FPAC, presented the process associated with the Boreal agreement. He concluded that the reputation of the forest industries has been much improved. “It has changed the sense of respect of the forest industry.”

The development of silvicultural systems in Canada was presented by Prof. Suzanne W. Simard, University of British Columbia. She concluded that there have been 300 years of progress towards today’s social-ecosystem management, but it is still essential to bring innovation into Canadian forest practices.

Håkan Wirtén, Secretary General at WWF, pointed out that since Sweden’s current forestry model fails to deliver WWF introduces a new ecosystem based model based on multiple-use.

Managing director at Bergvik Skog, Elisabet Salander Björklund, pointed out that in Canada the amount of virgin forest is huge whereas in Sweden it is close to zero, and that differences in ownership structure and scale have led to silviculture of different intensities in the two countries.

Jonas Rönnberg, Vice Dean of the forest faculty at The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, drew parallels between Canadian and Swedish silvicultural practices. He concluded that stakeholder involvement is working but fragmentation at landscape level and lack of knowledge are challenges to face in both countries. ○



*Conference panel at the morning session, from left to right: Sten Nilsson, Lennart Rådström, Catherine Cobden, Don Roberts, Jonas Brändström and moderator Jan Fryk.
Photo: Emma Berglund.*

Canada's public ownership

Canada is a huge country with vast forests that have always been a motor for economic development as well as a source of jobs for the population. The forest industry in Canada has prospered over the years, and has become a leader in many sectors, including pulp and paper and lumber.

MARIO GIBEALT, QUEBEC MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES & WILDLIFE

The fact that most of Canada's forests are under public ownership has shaped the country's forest management, since forests must be managed with due consideration for the needs and values of different users. All kinds of mechanisms have been developed so that everyone concerned can influence policy development and forest planning. An exhaustive and stringent legal framework

structures the use of Canada's public forest heritage, and has enabled companies that so wish to obtain forestry certification. Today, Canada's forest industry faces a number of significant challenges, and must reposition itself, become more innovative and move towards products with a smaller ecological footprint. ○

The Canadian forest sector's transformation agenda



Catherine Cobden. Photo: Emma Berglund.

Canada's forest products industry is renewing itself following difficult times, transforming itself into a leaner, greener industry based on a strategy to increase productivity and competitiveness, diversify markets and products, grow our green credentials and maximize the fibre value.

CATHERINE COBDEN, ACTING PRESIDENT AND CEO,
FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

The Biopathways Project

The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) initiated The Biopathways Project. It was a year-long study to determine how to best support the forest products industry by identifying the right transformational strategies. Investigators examined 16 traditional and 11 emerging bio-industries to assess how wood fibre could create bio-energy, bio-chemicals and other bioproducts.

By building bridges to connect traditional forestry companies with emerging bio-firms via its Biopathways Partnership Network, FPAC's goal was to enable Canada's forest products industry to profit from the bio-economy in order to sustain and create jobs, increase revenues and create a healthier environment.

Vision 2020 – Canada's Natural Advantage

FPAC's new industry-led vision outlines where the forest industry sees itself by the year 2020. Through its accompanying goals, the vision will challenge companies, governments and other partners to find innovative ways to further transform the sector to reach its potential.

Under the brand of "Canada's Natural Advantage", the FPAC vision states that "by 2020, the Canadian forest products industry will power Canada's new economy by being green, innovative and open to the world. It is a place to grow and prosper." ○

The perspective of an investor

In Canada the average return on capital employed in the forest products industry is unacceptably low. Given the historical returns, forest product companies should be embracing change. If not, what are we protecting?

DON ROBERTS, VICE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR CIBC MARKET INC.

From the capital market's perspective, the status quo is not an option. Simply changing the geographical footprint will not solve the problem. You need to change the game and if you don't move, someone else will!

Investment in bioenergy holds many uncertainties

Looking at investment drivers when asking whether or not to invest in bioenergy, it is clear that there is a lot of uncertainty. The targets for biomass electricity for China, Europe and Brazil together reach costs of 175 billion dollars. If these goals are met the price of fibre will rise. The question is whether or not the goals will be met? If we look at the price of alternative sources of electricity, even if the price for biomass would decrease, the competitors (e.g. solar, wind) will decrease more.

North America leading in second generation biofuels

Looking into second generation biofuels North America dominates the investments in this field. We expect the aggregate investment to significantly increase over the next 5-10 years, with most of the rise occurring in the US and Brazil. Within the second generation technologies, capital is increasingly being invested in thermo-chemical approaches, as opposed to bio-chemical approaches.

Technology and partnerships are critical to make this happen. The most important thing to remember is to use existing infrastructure and that size matters, big is often worse! The oil industry tends to forget the cost of delivering the biomass.

Partnerships and the right operating environment

Forest companies do not have the skill sets or capital to undergo transformative change on their own. There is a need for partners with expertise in technology, construction, marketing and distribution and finance. To mitigate technology risk, most forest companies want to be "first to be second" when adopting new technologies. Does this always make sense?

Many governments are broke, so they cannot provide much financial support. If they do spend, it should be in supporting the earliest stage R&D and training. As usual, governments can help provide the right operating environment. They can provide TLC: "Transparency" – clear rules & processes, "Longevity" – match policies/support to the length of the asset and "Certainty" – minimal policy changes over time. Increasingly, governments can play the role of "convener" and "information broker". ○



Tembec's softwood pulp mill in Skookumchuck, British Columbia, Canada. Photo: Tembec .

Swedish research and innovation

Swedish strategies and processes developed to guide and support research and innovation are dependent on EU-wide policies and funding instruments.

KAJ ROSÉN, RESEARCH MANAGER, THE FORESTRY
RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SWEDEN



The current political priorities, promoting resource efficiency and a transformation of society towards a bio-based economy, create a golden opportunity for the forest-based sector to take a leading role in that process. The demanding challenge for the forest-based sector is to speed up the transformation of research results into innovations. To succeed in that the private sector has to play a leading role.

European funding increasingly important for R&I

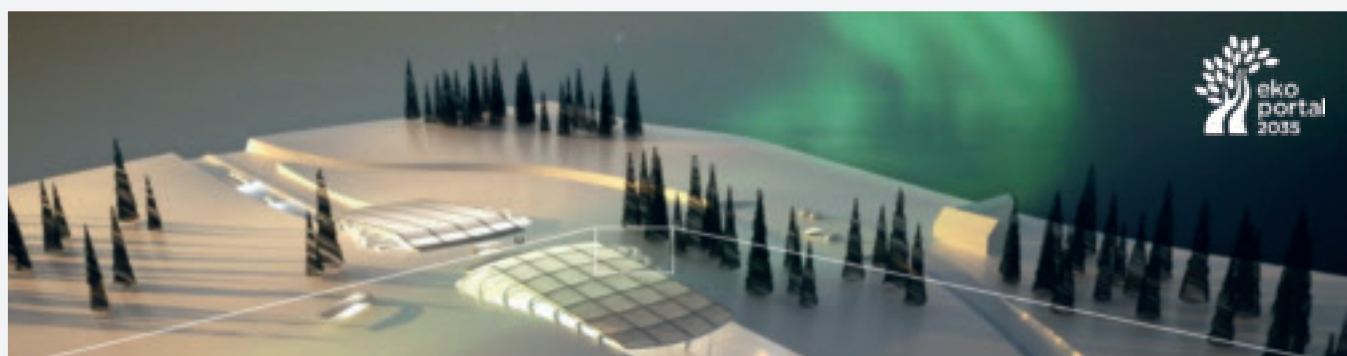
The forest-based sector tries to take advantage of the growth in EU funding for Research and Innovation (R&I) through its Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform. This Platform is supported by more than 20 National Support Groups, most of which have developed their own National Research Agendas.

The Swedish National Support Group is industry driven in a joint venture with the major national funding

organisations. The Swedish National Research Agenda has primarily been developed to meet and prioritise the R&I demands of the Swedish forest-based sector.

A new bill on Research and Innovation is being prepared

The Swedish government is currently preparing a bill on Research and Innovation, which will be presented to Parliament in the autumn of 2012. In this process, the government has asked a large number of organisations to give their views on the development of society and the R&I needed to meet future demands. The Royal Academy of Agriculture and Forestry submitted a report, “A bio-based economy for the sustainable development of society” (in Swedish), supported by more than 20 stakeholder organisations representing the whole bio-based sector. The input from the forest-based sector was mainly based on the content of the Swedish National Research Agenda.



Ekoportal2035 – a visualization of a world based on renewable materials.

The Swedish Forest Industries' vision

The Swedish Forest Industries Federation has launched a vision for the forest sector called *Ekoportal2035*.

Jan Lagerström, Research Director, the Swedish Forest Industries Federation

The Forest Industries' vision for year 2035 is that the output in the Swedish forest-industry cluster will have doubled by then, with at least half of this growth coming from new products. *Ekoportal2035* is a platform to inspire investors, com-



panies and financiers. It is an attempt to visualize scenes of a world in which a significant proportion of materials and products are based on renewable raw materials.



Canadian and Swedish forest management – parallels

The debate over forest management is heated in both Canada and Sweden. The Canadian Boreal Forest agreement might be a way to start those negotiations at a more productive level.

JONAS RÖNNBERG, ASSOC PROF, VICE DEAN, FORESTRY FACULTY, SWEDISH UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES/SIFI

What is the point in an agreement (the Boreal) that seems to desperately quiet the ENGOS and drastically reduce forest operations on land under FPAC member tenure? Isn't it so that a healthy dialogue and discussion is needed to develop and push all stakeholders for development? Ceased operations on 29 million hectares are not a lot in Canada where forest land covers almost 400 million ha.

The debate over management is heated

In British Columbia, where most of the land is under government tenure, in fact the debate over management, or the lack of the same, is heated. From a scientific point of view, the importance is of course sustainable actions. It may be so that the parties have been too far away from each other to actually promote a sound debate and in this case, the Boreal agreement will be a way to start those negotiations at a more productive level. Several questions arise from this though, e.g. what is the importance for Sweden, what can be learnt and could the Swedish forestry model serve in any significant way?

Sweden is small compared to Canada but our forestry is rather resource efficient: we leave too little dead wood in the forests, we could produce more wood fibre and ecosystem services, and we have been going through a sometimes painful certification process.

The Swedish welfare serving as a model

On the other hand, in a time when the Swedish forestry sector is looking for a chance to get some impact at the global level, the Swedish welfare serving as a model could be one such opportunity. With sil-

viculture and hands on forest management, Sweden has experience from over 100 years of successful reforestation campaigns involving the National Forest Inventory (NFI) serving accurate figures as a base for efficient forestry.

The bottleneck for further development

The lack of more intensive management tightly associated with set-aside areas with the aim of preserving biodiversity will remain a bottleneck for further development of the Swedish forestry sector. At the same time, the Canadian forestry sector will be suffering from an overestimation of the mid-term production prognosis. The lack of management and monitoring, especially in young stands is another problem continuing to put pressure on their intact natural and planted forests. Harvesting operations and market opportunities must better serve the demands for sustainability. The set aside areas in Sweden would need to increase at the same time as the ones in Canada need to remain.

This can only be done through better involvement of stakeholders and a changed tenure system, where Sweden seems to be ages ahead. Alternatively, strong politicians are a necessity with opinions based on scientific facts rather than political idiocy. It might seem utopic that this is going to be the case in the nearby future.

Meanwhile, my fear is that we will see continuous attacks on the Swedish forestry model resulting in marginalization of the country as a forest nation and the Canadian timber being logged and transported to China for further refinement.





Lessons learned from the **Canadian Boreal Forest agreement**

Photo: © Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC)

The relationship between the environmental community and the Canadian forest industry had been adversarial for many years. The battle was seen as a fight between competing values: saving jobs and saving forests. The green groups fought to halt logging but rarely succeeded. The industry fought to maintain its good name but its reputation suffered because of the claims of the green groups. No one was winning.

AVRIM LAZAR, FORMER PRESIDENT AND CEO, FPAC

A shared commitment to find solutions

The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) initiated quiet conversations with the green groups. The objective was to move away from an adversarial relationship to a shared commitment to find solutions. Both sides agreed that solutions must work for both sets of values: jobs and nature conservation. While this was not easy, both sides came to understand that practical solutions for specific problems are easier to find than theoretical solutions to general problems. The two groups also discovered that their collective intelligence often found solutions that would not have occurred to one group working in isolation.

Nine ENGOs and 21 large forest companies

The result was the Canadian Boreal Forest agreement, signed between 21 large forest companies and nine aggressive Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations including Green Peace Canopy and Forest Ethics. The agreement sets out an ambitious detailed schedule

for working together on issues such as forest certification, protected places and species, and climate change. The agreement has been in place for two years and progress has been slow but the constructive engagement has been maintained, problems are being solved, conservation is being supported and reputation of the participating companies has been greatly enhanced.

"What an example for the industry to stand up for and be proud of! You have to be seen to be green and then you have to work with the green groups."

The lessons are many

The lessons from this experience are many. First, it can be done! Second, the cultural and historical obstacles to constructive engagement are far more difficult than the actual problems that need to be solved. And third, working effectively in a solution oriented process is a highly skilled endeavor and the needed skills must be taught and supported.





Minister for Rural Affairs Eskil Erlandsson.
Photo: Emma Berghund.

Forest Kingdom Sweden

Forest Kingdom is a vision about how the great potential of Sweden's forests can be fully realised. Sweden and Canada face the same challenges when it comes to innovation, the development of new forest-based products and responding to the debate on the environmental consequences of forestry.

ESKIL ERLANDSSON, SWEDISH MINISTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS

There is no clear definition of what is included in the Swedish forestry model, but important aspects are: Co-operation, understanding and consensus. The success of the Forest Kingdom concept rests on the involvement of different stakeholders. Ten Forest Kingdom ambassadors have been appointed to spread knowledge and contribute to business development in their areas – be it large scale industry, tourism or research. They work on a voluntary basis and are company directors, forest owners or innovative entrepreneurs.

Much to learn from developments in Canada

There are clear connections between Canada's Biopathways and Swedish Forest Industry Initiatives, which are in turn fully in line with the ideas in Forest Kingdom. The Canadian Boreal Forest agreement is another important example, but in Sweden with its preponderance of private forest owners it is not easy to simply copy the model. Still there is much we can learn from these processes.

A crusade against clearcutting

The two countries face the same challenges in the debate on the environmental consequences of forestry. In 1993 Sweden's forest policy goals for environment and forest production were given equal importance with the principle of *freedom under responsibility* for forest owners. This is one of the keys to the success for the Swedish forestry model. But, this is now a controversial issue in Sweden. It is easy to lead a crusade against clearcutting, but it is *not* so easy to explain how we are going to combat climate change without using the potential of the forest. Forest Kingdom is one way of playing an active role in these discussions.

I am convinced that by continuing the joint Swedish-Canadian projects we will be able to achieve our goal of creating a sustainable and competitive forest sector.



Sweden's current forestry model fails to deliver

Håkan Wirtén, secretary general, WWF Sweden

The Swedish forest policy needs a fresh start. A holistic approach to the forest is crucial and the long-term objectives should be within nature's limits. Sweden's current forestry model fails to deliver key environmental aspects, handle increased pressure, demands and conflicts about the land. WWF calls for an ecosystem based forest policy with clearly defined limits and goals. At the conference WWF launched ten steps towards a more sustainable 2020:

1. New ecosystem based forest policy.
2. Moratorium on intensification.
3. Protect at least 17% and all forests with high biological values.
4. Environmental consideration based on critical thresholds.
5. Ensure space for large scale ecological processes.
6. Systems for handling invasive and exotic species.
7. Ensure long-term production of ecosystem services.
8. Stimulate continuous cover forestry.
9. Strengthen consideration to water resources.
10. Develop landscape governance.



The development of silvicultural systems in Canada

Canada's forests are of vital importance globally because of their extent, biodiversity, carbon storage, hydrology and supply of wood to North American and Asian markets.

SUZANNE W. SIMARD, PROFESSOR, DEPT. OF FOREST SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Little incentive to improve forest productivity

Over 90% of the silviculture systems applied in Canada involve clear-cutting and planting or seeding to spruce, pine or fir. This even-aged system is appropriate in many areas, but there is considerable opportunity for partial cutting, selection or commercial thinning systems in certain forest types.

The industry largely meets minimal reforestation standards on harvested land. However, there is little incentive to practice intensive or restorative silviculture to improve forest productivity or help meet mid-term timber supply shortages. This lack of incentive comes partly from the high risk of mortality of old-growth forests, uncertainty in volume-based tenures and, importantly, improper global market valuation of forest products. Stumpage revenues from the boreal forest are too low to provide for tenure holders to invest in intensive silviculture.

Transformation of the industry toward sustainable forest management and social forestry

Professional innovation and public engagement in forest management has increased slowly in the past few decades. Major friction originating from First Nations blockading operations on lands under treaty negotiation, and ENGOs protesting clear-

cutting and employing market-place boycotting strategies, has motivated governments to transform the industry toward sustainable forest management and social forestry. Milestones of these movements are British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest, Quebec's L'Erreux Boreale and Sustainable Forest Development Act, and the Canadian Boreal Forest agreement.

Opportunity for experimentation with forest management practices

At present, 8% of Canada is in legally protected areas and up to 40% of Canada's forest is under some form of protection such as certification. The large extent of primary forest that still exists in Canada and the tension over its management provides opportunity for engagement and experimentation with sustainable forest management practices.

The development of silviculture and forest management in Canada has been shaped by seven important factors:

1. The vast extent of old primary forest.
2. The short, 300 year history of forestry.
3. Public ownership of 93% of the forest land.
4. A largely urban population.
5. Licensing of most (~80%) of the cut to large companies at low stumpage rates.
6. Weak regulation of the industry.
7. Historically low knowledge of the wide diversity of forest ecosystems and silvicultural systems.

Photo: © Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC).



The Swedish Model – *a long history of intense management*

In Sweden virtually no forest has been left untouched by man, but in Canada, with its vast forest areas, natural forests are still being felled.

ELISABET SALANDER BJÖRKLUND, MANAGING DIRECTOR, BERGVIK SKOG

Ownership differences

In Sweden most of the country's forests are privately owned by families or corporations. In Canada more than 90% of the forests are publicly owned and the forest industry companies are granted leases for which they pay a small fee. In Sweden forests have been cultivated for more than 500 years. The forest industry as we know it began to emerge in 1850 and thereafter. At the begin-

Illustration: Martin Holmer (in The Swedish Forestry Model, KSLA).



ning of the 20th century the forests were in a poor state and forestry legislation was introduced. In Sweden virtually no forest has been left untouched by man, but in Canada, with its vast forest areas, natural forests are still being felled.

Sweden has more intense silviculture

Sweden has a more intensive approach to silviculture. The main reasons for this are the ownership structure and the legislation with two equal goals; production and the environment. Coming to the Canadian Boreal Forest agreement – searching for solutions in dialogue instead of open conflict – will in most cases lead to a better and more stable development. In both countries certification has contributed to the development of environmental considerations. In Sweden, some NGOs have nevertheless chosen to leave the Swedish FSC certification process and also the dialogue project administered by the Swedish Forest Agency.



Take home messages

Hervé Deschênes, VP business development at FP Innovations, and Åke Barklund, managing director of KSLA, highlighted the following key messages to take home from the day:

- Sweden and Canada have a lot in common and a lot to gain by developing a model for collaboration in Research and Development (R&D) and Innovation.
- R&D and Innovation are two different approaches – both are needed!
- Cross-sectorial innovations and partnerships for innovations are required.
- The industry should take the leading role in the unavoidable transformation of the sector.
- Governments should support the transformation by providing the right operating environment.
- Legislation for forestry and environment should be operated at the same geographical level to facilitate the discussions.
- There is a need to develop silvicultural systems adapted to different owners objectives and users rights.

Calendar 2012



July

2–6 July	Second Meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on ABS (ICNP-2)	UNEP New Delhi, India
6–13 July	Ramsar Conference of the Parties (COP) 11	Ramsar Bucharest, Romania
8–12 July	2012 IUFRO – All Division 5 Conference	Lisbon, Portugal

August

7–10 August	Biodiversity Asia 2012; Science, Policy and Governance	Society for Conservation Biology Bangalore, India
12–19 August	A challenging future for the Boreal forests – can all demands be met?	SLU Umeå, Sweden
30 August	Committee for International Forestry Issues (KIS)	KSLA Stockholm, Sweden

September

6–15 September	IUCN World Conservation Congress	IUCN Jeju, Korea
24–28 September	Committee on Forestry (COFO) 21 st session	FAO Rome Italy
26–27 September	Agricultural research and development	SLU Uppsala, Sweden

More activities at www.sifi.se/kalendarium.

Summer activities at SIFI

SIFI's steering group, the Committee for International Forestry Issues (KIS), will have its third meeting of the year in the end of August. The topics that will be discussed include the application for the *XXV World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations* (IUFRO) in 2019. The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is willing to take on hosting of the congress provided that the government supports the application. Another topic is the upcoming seminar on experiences from Swedish development assistance in Vietnam.

Emma Berglund works as a trainee at SIFI during the summer. Her tasks will include reviewing how the think tank can increase cooperation with students by implementing the Exports of forest knowledge from Sweden and Finland project. The report, prepared in

collaboration with the Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, will be ready during the summer.

A report entitled *The global need for food, fibre and fuel*, which sums up most important issues associated with the management of natural resources globally, is now available for download on the website.

Please visit our website for more information on projects and conferences or to subscribe to the newsletter. Our aim is that the newsletter, along with the website, will serve as a forum for discussing developments in the Swedish forest sector, in the spirit of the Academy. Finally, the editor would like to thank the retiring Managing Director of KSLA, Åke Barklund, for his crucial advice during the establishment of the think tank. Without his explicit support SIFI would not have reached the results achieved so far.



Our financiers:

Kungl. Skogs- och Lantbruksakademien
Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet
WWF Sweden
Swedish Ministry of Rural Affairs

ABOUT SIFI

The Secretariat for International Forestry Issues (SIFI) consists of a committee (KIS) and a supporting office. The Royal Swedish Academy for Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA) is hosting SIFI. Steering group for the work is KIS and in addition there is a function for resource base development with representatives from different parts of the Swedish forest sector.

SIFI:s NYHETS BREV KOMMER 4 GÅNGER/ÅR

Redaktör & ansvarig utgivare: Fredrik Ingemarson,
fredrik.ingemarson@ksla.se

Grafisk form: Konkret AB och Ylva Nordin
Sekretariatet för internationella skogliga frågor
Box 6806 (Drottninggatan 95 B), 113 86 Stockholm
Tel: 08-545 477 11, Fax: 08-545 477 10, www.sifi.se