

STUDY VISIT FROM SWEDEN TO FINLAND

In May 2014, Forest Refine arranged a study trip to the BioValley Cluster in Finland. The purpose of the trip was to network and inspire by exchanging knowledge and experiences. Apart from Forest Refine partners, stakeholders from Umeå University, Regional board of Västerbotten and Forest owners association participated. Two intense and sunny days gave us the opportunity to learn more about the bio based economy in Finland and to compare with the Swedish experiences. The trip really raised interest for future cross border cooperation. Northern Sweden and middle Finland have many things in common and together we can continue to increase the revenue of the bioeconomy.



PROGRAM STUDY VISIT

20th of May in Pietarsaari/Jakobstad and Kokkola/Karleby

Study visits:

Pietarsaari, Alholmens Kraft
Kokkola Industrial Park

Presentations:

Research, Development and Education institutes at Kokkola
Laboratories at Centria University of Applied Sciences and Ketek Oy
Kälviä energy co-operative

21th of May in Kannus and Kokkola/Karleby

Presentations:

Federation of Education in Central Ostrobothnia
The Finnish Forest Research Institute Metla

Visit:

Kannustalo wood house factory

Workshop:

Exchange of experiences



Voices from the Swedish guests:

- *“Why don’t we co-operate more with Finland?”*
- *“We should have met before, together, we have complementary knowledge.”*
- *“We have seen many exciting things and met so many nice people.”*
- *“It was really interesting to discover how the fuel mix in the heating plant was tied in to the market and political actions.”*
- *“I would have loved to spent more time in the laboratories.”*
- *“It was fascinating to hear about the afforestation and harvesting of the peat land”*
- *“The cooperation between the partners breathed trust.”*
- *“I was suprised by the high amounts of chemical industries and also the lack of environmental disussions.”*
- *“Why haven’t we had more exchange of experience among people working in the forest? We are at different stages in different areas and would gain much by working together.”*
- *“Learning together with people from other areas of expertice adds a value to a study trip like this.”*
- *“It was nice for us in BioFuel Region to be able to bring together our partners that didn’t know each other before.”*



PARTICIPATORS - SWEDEN

BioFuel Region: Magnus Matisons, Arne Smedberg,
Barbro Kalla

Dept. of Forest Biomaterials and Technology, SLU:
Sylvia Larsson

Forest owners association: Mikael Forsman

Regional board of Västerbotten: Åsa Nilsson

SP Processum: Jonas Joelsson

Umeå University: Linda Pommer



PARTICIPATORS - FINLAND

Biovalley: Anne Pesola

**Energy and Resources/Peat, Geological Survey of
Finland:** Asta Harju

Federation of Education in Central Ostrobotnia:
Sanna Tuukkanen, Katri Kulkki

Kokkola University Consortium Chydenius:

Henna Lempiäinen, Ulla Lassi, Tero Tuuttila

Centria University of Applied Science: Lasse Jansson,
Jana Holm

Technology Center Ketek Ltd: Leif Hed

The Finnish Forest Research Institute Metla: Paula
Jylhä, Juha Nurmi

*“After ten years of cooperation with
Finland, we can state that we have
a winning concept. Together we can
strengthen our common position when it
comes to forest biomass as a contribution
to the bioeconomy.”*

Arne Smedberg, CEO BioFuel Region

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Botnia-Atlantica
Cross-border cooperation over mountain and sea



REGION
VÄSTERBOTTEN

