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## Multisectorality emphasised in the second phase of the Forum

*Future Forum on Forests will continue its work until spring 2008. The factors affecting the changes in the forest sector will be assessed more multisectorally in the second phase of the Forum. The second phase aims at providing more information and insight on the new possibilities for the sources of livelihoods in the forest sector.*

### Why the multisectoral viewpoints?

In the Forum's first phase the future analyses were primarily based on the expertise of the forestry professionals. The most essential part of the Forum's work concentrated on the assessment of future threats and possibilities.

In the second phase the aim is to assess the factors affecting the forest sector more multisectorally. By bringing forth multisectorality the Forum is expected to provide more new viewpoints on the opportunities for developing the sector further.

A new task in the Forum's second phase will be to propose how to find a more stable and solid basis for the currently quite disconnected future studies and foresight work in the forest sector.

### New information by networking

The Forum's basic mode of operation is well based on already existing ways to work. The most essential change will be the discontinuing of the workgroups of the first phase. Instead there will be a multisectoral foresight network established.

The foresight network will be analysing the developments of the essential factors in the forest sector and their effects on the forest-based livelihoods in Finland. The foresight network will consist of Finnish experts who are in contact with the developments of international science and technology through their own networking.

The foresight network will implement the future analyses in five different thematic areas. Although each area will prepare their own independent reports,

the overall reports by the areas together will form a broader view of the future developments affecting the forest-based livelihoods also outside the forest sector. One of the topics of the foresight network will most likely be the foresight work on the changes in international and EU policy from the viewpoint of the forest sector.

To acquire new information the Forum will have separate future analyses made on the essential developments in the forest sector. One of the reports will assess the means to secure wood supply of the privately-owned forests in the future. There will also be an assessment on the possibilities to develop the cooperation between research and development (R&D).

The Forum will continue organising future seminars. In addition to the seminars on more general themes, there will also be held smaller thematic seminars as well as seminars on invitation basis.

Forum's website is available at [www.metsaforumi.fi](http://www.metsaforumi.fi). The website will continue to act as the means of informing about the Forum's activities, events and results as well as about future studies available elsewhere. The electronic newsletter will be published four times a year with the latest news on the Forum's activities.

### Forum's new implementation team

The Future Forum on Forests is implemented by the University of Joensuu. The University Rector Perttu Vartiainen will continue as the Chairman of the implementation team. Other members of the team are Paavo Pelkonen, Jakob Donner-Amnell, Heli Peltola and Anssi Niskanen

(all from the University of Joensuu), Heikki Hassi (SciTech-Service Oy Ltd), Mikael Hildén (Finnish Environment Institute), Seppo Kangaspunta (Ministry of Trade and Industry) and Kari Mielikäinen (Finnish Forest Research Institute). As the foresight network begins its work, the implementation team will be supplemented by the coordinators of the foresight network.

#### Other foresight networks available

To support the multisectoral approach the Forum aims to deepen its cooperation with other foresight networks available. The Ministry of Trade and Industry in Finland has established a forum for foresight work which aims to advance the different ways of producing as well as utilising information on the future. The foresight network of the Finnish Government aims to provide coordination on the foresight work between different ministries and the Prime Minister's office.

The Finnish National Fund for Research and Development (SITRA) will establish a national foresight network in cooperation with the above-mentioned organisations which will be a part of SITRA's Innovation programme. This particular network aims at identifying significant future challenges and possibilities from the viewpoint of the Finnish society and to tighten the cooperation between Finnish organisations in future foresight work, among other things.

The Education Intelligence project of the Confederation of Finnish Industries aims to sound the know-how and educational needs of industry and commerce by the year 2015. There will be six possible future clusters of success, one of which being the forest cluster.

#### Publications of the Forum's first phase

A summary of the results of the Forum's first phase has been published as a book titled 'Successful forest sector and the challenges in the future' (only available in Finnish). The book can now be ordered from Metsäkustannus ([www.metsalehti.fi](http://www.metsalehti.fi)) at the cost of 19 euros.

Publications from the working groups of the first phase are also available. 'The Future of Wood Procurement and Harvesting' (report of the combined working group of silviculture and forest technology) and 'Ecological sustainability, environmental change and forest management' of the working group on environment can be ordered from the Joensuu University Library (only in Finnish) at <http://www.joensuu.fi/library/english/eindex.htm>. The publications are also available as pdf files for which links can be found on the Future Forum on Forests' website.

The reports of the Forum's working groups on forest industry and social sustainability will be published later this year.



Other foresight networks:

A forum on foresight work by Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry and The Finnish National Fund for Research and Development  
[www.ennakointifoorumi.fi](http://www.ennakointifoorumi.fi)  
(in Finnish)

Foresight network by the Finnish Government  
[www.ennakointiverkosto.fi](http://www.ennakointiverkosto.fi)  
(in Finnish)

The Education Intelligence project by the Confederation of Finnish Industries EK  
[www.ek.fi/ek\\_suomeksi/tulevaisuusluotain/englanti/index.php](http://www.ek.fi/ek_suomeksi/tulevaisuusluotain/englanti/index.php)

Electronic information service on foresight work (ENSTI) by the Finnish National Board of Education  
[www.oph.fi/SubPage.asp?path=1,443,3086,3987](http://www.oph.fi/SubPage.asp?path=1,443,3086,3987)  
(in Finnish)

Forest-based sector technology platform  
[www.forestplatform.org](http://www.forestplatform.org)

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Future Forum on Forests on the Internet:  
<http://www.metsafoorumi.fi>

The newsletter of the Future Forum on Forests aims to provide updated information on the activities and results of the forum. This informal newsletter is produced and distributed electronically and you can find it on the Internet on <http://www.metsafoorumi.fi/news.htm>. You can also order it to your email address by sending an email to [saija.miina@joensuu.fi](mailto:saija.miina@joensuu.fi).