FOREST REFINE PARTNER – BIOFUEL REGION

Forest Refine is a cross-border research project between Sweden and Finland about the raw material supply to biorefineries. Forest Refine has seven participating organizations, three from Sweden and four from Finland. This presentation of the participating organizations is about BioFuel Region in Sweden.

BioFuel Region was founded in 2003 and is a partnership between municipalities, businesses, regional associations, county councils, and universities in the four northernmost counties. Today there are seven people employed, situated in Piteå, Sundsvall and Umeå. The organisation is funded by its members and from current projects.

WHY?

Overall aim is to become a leading region in the transition to a sustainable society, economically, socially and ecologically. The driving forces behind working with the transition to renewables are to contribute to the fight against climate change, increase self-sufficiency and regional development.

WHAT?

Focus areas are renewable energy with emphasis on transports and products based on biomass.

HOW?

Working together with the members to develop the region's raw material, skills, business and society by:

- Promoting our region – north Sweden
- Cooperating with members
- Networking – triple helix
- Exchanging knowledge
- Influencing opinion
- Engaging young people

CURRENT PROJECTS

- **Biogas Norr** – A networking and regional cooperation among biogas actors in the four northern-most counties to develop production and market for biogas
- **Electrical Vehicles** – A network to establish and promote electrical vehicles in north Sweden
- **Forest Refine** – effiecient raw material supply to biorefineries
- **KNUT** – School project engaging young people and teachers on energy-, resource- and climate-issues
- **Place Branding** – A joint project between key actors aiming to promote our region as a unique place for developing new products from the forest
- SECRE - Social Enterprise in Community Renewable Energy - will develop services that allow social enterprises to apply renewable energy solutions in local economic development.

BIOFUEL REGION IN FOREST REFINE

Magnus Matisons at BioFuel Region is project manager in Forest Refine and he is coordinating all five sub-projects within Forest Refine.


Forest Refine, raw material supply

a cross-border project on to Nordic biorefineries

Magnus is cooperating with national, regional and local stakeholders. In this important work networking with the academia, politics and business he is lecturing and initiates collaboration between stakeholders such as joint outreach activities. He is also part of a national network highlighting these issues and the need for long-term rules and legislation. Magnus is an important part of Sub-project 5, Outreach activities and communication, when lecturing about the fossil-based economy and the need of transition towards a bio-economy based on biomass from forest.

The aim of the sub-project is to communicate the results of how effective raw material supply can be developed. The objective is to facilitate communication among project partners and to reach out with the results from the researchers and the analyses of accumulated knowledge. Communication and outreach will be done using three languages, English, Swedish and Finnish.

Responsible for outreach and communication activities within Sub-project five are Barbro Kalla at BioFuel Region in Sweden together with Katri Kulkki at Central Ostrobotnia rural institute in Finland. Her work covers writing news, editing and promoting info sheets written by the researchers, writing the monthly newsletter together with Katri and translating it to Swedish. This cross-border team is also planning and implementing outreach and communication activities and updating the web page; www.forestrefine.se

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