



YHYS Colloquium 20.11.2015, Tampere

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TIKO-project 2013-2015


 **METSO**
Forest Biodiversity

Orchestrating small experiments to catalyze large impact: a case of cross-boundary forest planning

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Forest advisor's profession in change

- Forest owners' increasingly diverse and evolving demands
 - Multi-objective ownership, more urbanizing lifestyles
- New forest legislation in 2010s
 - More freedom for land owners to choose between management regimes (e.g. continuous cover forestry)
- Deregulation of forestry organizations
 - *State-funded services* (regulation, subsidies, general extension) and *market services* (forest planning, timber sales, forestry operations) clearly separated
 - Free market for different service providers

Forest biodiversity action programme METSO – supported by research





Policy programme 2008-2025 based on Government decision

Aims to halt the decline of forest biodiversity

Offers subsidies to land owners for voluntary protection

Relies on communication and collaboration

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What?

Increasing the impact of METSO research and development on forestry practice

Combining scientific and experiential knowledge (interaction between researchers and practitioners)


Integration with organization's strategic management (bosses participating)

Participants' own experiments in their everyday work (operationalizing experiment culture)

Sharing the results of experiments in peer community

Principles

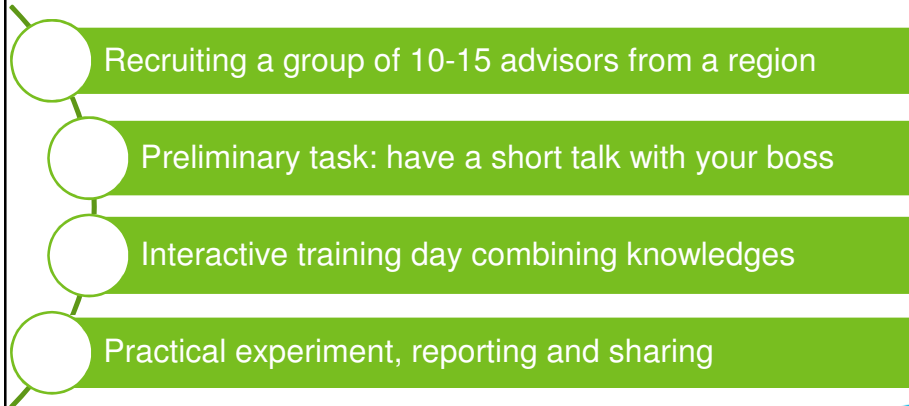
→ Institutional adaptation

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Our practical effort

Transferable training model for forest advisors

- Objective: How to enhance the services related to multiple-use and nature-oriented forest management?



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Programme of a training day



9:00 – 9:30 Introduction and motivation

9:30 – 12:00 Contemplation of three themes

Theme I: *Forest professionals: time to score!*

Theme II: *Knowledge production, sharing and use*

Theme III: *From talk to concrete practical action!*

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:00 Field trip to a near-by forest

- One participant presents the challenge
- Action suggestions are discussed (preferably the owner is present as well)
- Wrap-up and reflection over coffee

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Tasks after the training day: instructions to participants

- From among the day's themes, choose a small practical development **idea that you would like to try** in your own forest planning or advisory work
 - Your idea may relate to e.g. marketing, information sharing, enquiring after the land owner's wishes or cross-boundary perspective in biodiversity-oriented forest planning
 - **Conduct** the experiment in your genuine work process
- **Report** your experiment (Moodle/intranet)
- **Participate** the "Lync coffee chat" on the given day when all participants' experiments are shared and discussed

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What did the participants say as insights after the pilot training day? (Experiment candidates)

- "[I realized] ...how easily forest biodiversity can be increased through one's own work with so tiny everyday observations"
- "Multiple-use forestry could be planned simultaneously for several holding units if land owners are interested"
- "[I figured out] ...what kind of thickets and stuff one can concretely create for the benefit of the game species"
- "[I could add] ...more descriptions of potential protection areas to forest plans"



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Discussion: matters to solve

- Balancing the roles of scientific and experiential knowledge in catalyzing ideas for experiment acts
 - Pragmatic and simultaneously visionary ideas
- Learning not to be afraid of failure
- Engaging land owners' views in service co-construction
 - We see land owners as important players in service experiments
- Maintaining the experiment culture in organizations
 - Post-project role of researchers and state officials
 - Fostering practitioners' sense of ownership

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Future challenges

- Widening the experimenting to an inter-organizational network
 - Turning competition to collaboration, or "coopetition"
 - Making sure that learnings are contemplated and used



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