



# *Well-being from forests 2008–2013*

*A research programme by  
the Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla*

**METLA**

forest · knowledge · know-how · well-being

# Research programme called Well-being from forests (HYV)

This programme looks for means to utilise forests in diversified ways so that forests will serve the needs of the individual and our changing society in a comprehensive manner.

The aim of this multidisciplinary research programme is, in particular, to incorporate touristic and recreational use of forests into other forms of utilisation by producing information on:

- Integration of different forest uses
- Economic values and benefits of forest recreation and tourism
- Demand and development trends of forest recreation and tourism
- Social and cultural values of forests
- Operational environment of nature entrepreneurship and the development of new products and services



The implementation of the research programme has been scheduled for 2008–2012. The programme started as a group of projects in 2007 and new projects will be launched in stages during the programme period. The programme will be conducted in cooperation with various sector research institutes, universities, development organisations and companies.

## Forests are a source of well-being

Forests offer diverse opportunities for traditional forest uses as well as for new business opportunities serving the needs of urbanizing societies.,

In order to be able to match these various forest uses with one another, it is important to follow the principles of sustainable use in forest utilisation. Besides ecological sustainability, they include economic, social and cultural sustainability. An important part of social and cultural sustainability is the acceptance of various cultures and providing people with an opportunity to influence decision-making related to their environment and the utilisation of natural resources. Moreover, key targets include managing ecological impacts of forests recreation and tourism, developing markets and compensation mechanisms for non-wood benefits of forests and providing new opportunities for means of livelihood for local people in rural areas.

## Research Projects

- Developing services for efficient utilization of forest resources for the welfare of forest owners and society
- Environmental and recreation services of forests: economic impacts, valuation, and business opportunities
- Impacts of forest management practises on landscape and recreational values
- Multicultural Urban Nature - Integrating Multicultural Information in Urban Nature Policy and Planning
- Land-use planning for sustainable tourism destinations
- Natura-based recreation monitoring and assessment
- Sustainable multiple use of forests in northern Lapland
- The meaning of tourism and recreation in rural development and landscape
- **CARE-FOR-US** :Nordic-Baltic Centre of Advanced Research on *Forestry serving Urban Societies*
- Multicultural Urban Nature - Integrating Multicultural Information in Urban Nature Policy and Planning

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