

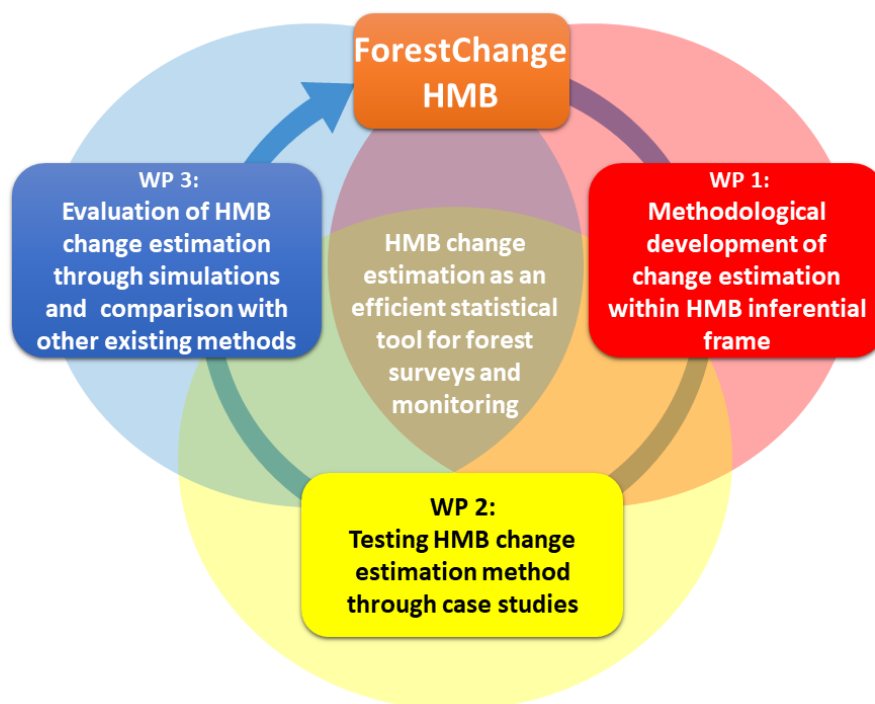
**“Sensor Fusion to Map Forest Biomass Change over Space and Time” project financed by the Swedish National Space Agency welcomes new member – Dr. Indu Indirabai**

Our WP 4.02.06 officeholder Dr. Indu Indirabai has started her employment at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Umeå in October 2020. She has a doctoral degree in Environmental Science from the Cochin University of Science and Technology, India. Her PhD work focused on estimating the biophysical parameters in tropical heterogeneous forest ecosystem by integrating various multispectral, hyperspectral as well as LiDAR data (including both spaceborne and terrestrial data) and has examined the potential of optical imagery and spaceborne LiDAR point cloud for structural as well as biophysical characterization of two important forest ecosystem in Western Ghats of India. At the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), she will be working on further development of statistical theory to support hierarchical model-based (HMB) inference of forest attributes change using fusion of different remotely sensed and field data sources.

The HMB inference is a newly developed statistical framework to assess uncertainty due prediction of forest attributes in cases when different steps of data collection were planned and several modelling levels were employed. The project, financed by the Swedish Space Agency (SNSA), expands the HMB theoretical framework to make it available for change estimation, and mapping changes with corresponding uncertainties. The project also includes case study evaluations, and assessments of in which conditions the new approach may be preferred over existing methods. This project has a strong potential to open up new possibilities for conducting cost-efficient forest resource surveys in geographical areas where field reference data are sparse or available only as non-probability samples, as is the case in most tropical and many boreal areas.



Project overview:



Project Leader, Coordinator IUFRO WP 4.02.06

Associate Professor Svetlana Saarela

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

