

Highlights from the workshop

- Supplementary feeding is a response to difficult grazing conditions and other forms of land use.
- Supplementary feeding is **not considered a long-term solution** to resolve crises with regard to inaccessible grazing resources.
- Supplementary feeding is **avoided as long as possible**, but the need to start feeding before starvation and emaciation in order to allow reindeer to adapt to the feed is recognized.
- **Practices and reasons for supplementary feeding** vary within and between the reindeer husbandry areas in Norway, Finland and Sweden.
- Principal reasons for supplementary feeding can be **difficult grazing conditions** during winter due to ice layers and/or deep snow, presence of **carnivores, competition with other forms of land use** or **lack of grazing resources** resulting from these competitions.
- Implementation of supplementary feeding **requires specific knowledge** and skills.
- **Knowledge exchange** about supplementary feeding between herders is necessary and helpful to learn from each other.
- Increased necessity of supplementary feeding may threaten reindeer husbandry **traditions and culture**, as well as the intergenerational **transfer of experience-based knowledge**.
- **Thriving reindeer** is the most important aspiration for reindeer herders. **Advantages** of supplementary feeding include increased reindeer **survival**, better **control of the herds** and **reduced losses to predators**.
- **Major challenges** with feeding are increased **disease risks** associated with feeding and transmission of infectious or spreading diseases, changes in reindeer **behavior** as well as the **financial burden** and workload.
- **Increased knowledge** about quality requirements in supplementary food for reindeer is needed.