



SARAH COGOS

From France to Sweden



Project: **Fire management and reindeer herding in Malå in the 20th century**

Research topic: **Environment**

Swedish Institution: **SLU, Umeå**

French Institution: **Paris-Sud University**

Dates of mobility: **21/05/2018 to 28/06/2018**

Program: **SFVE-A (ex ÖMSE)**



PRESENTATION

[Sarah Cogos](#) is an independent researcher in environmental anthropology and documentary filmmaker. She graduated with a joint PhD degree in environmental sciences at the [University Paris-Saclay](#) and at the [SLU](#) (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) in Umeå. She focuses her research on the relationships between human societies and their environment. She conducts field surveys with local actors and her approach is qualitative and based on the methods of ethnology, which include the conduct of semi-directed interviews and participant observation.

ACTIVITIES IN SWEDEN

Sarah Cogos travelled to Härnösand in the frame of her PhD thesis entitled “How to restore the functioning of socioecological systems? Local and scientific knowledge about fire regimes in the boreal forest”. Her main goal was to collect information from the archives of Domänverket (national forestry institution) concerning fire management in the district of Malå in Västerbotten in the 20th century. Moreover, this visit allowed her to discover the experiences conducted by J.E. Wretlind and to gather the information on the relationship between forest managers, Sami farmers and fire issues.

The four main objectives of this study were thus to first quantify the extent of burning in the region of Malå, secondly to understand if, and how the interests of reindeer Sami farmers were taken into account in the fire management in the 40s and 50s, thirdly to understand the implications of fire management for reindeer breeding today and fourthly to compare the visions of forest managers and reindeer farmers concerning the implications of historical fire management for their respective activities.