

Northern Dimension: Towards a *More* Sustainable Future



**Northern
Dimension**

www.northerndimension.info

The Northern Dimension

The Northern Dimension (ND) is a common policy of the EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland that provides proven instruments and platforms to jointly tackle common challenges.

The Northern Dimension area covers the European North, including the Arctic, Barents and Baltic Sea regions, and North-west Russia.

During its 20 years of operation, the four thematic partnerships of the ND solves acute problems through concrete achievements:

- The ND Environmental Partnership (NDEP) has contributed to the cleaning of the Baltic Sea by catalyzing wastewater treatment projects in Northwest Russia and Belarus, and reduced the danger of radiological contamination of the Arctic Sea by addressing the legacy of the operations of Soviet nuclear infrastructure.
- The ND Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being (NDPHS) has combatted acute health challenges such as HIV/AIDS by cross-border exchange of information and sharing of best practices.



The Northern Dimension focuses on concrete problem solving and people-to-people cooperation in the ND area.

The Partnerships flexibly re-direct their thematic focus on new emerging challenges and opportunities according to priorities on the Partners' agenda.

- NDEP initiates projects on minimizing black carbon emissions.
- NDPHS works on healthy ageing and societal implications of COVID-19 epidemic.
- ND Partnership on Transport and Logistics (NDPTL) focuses on digitalization of transport and emission-free transportation.
- ND Partnership on Culture (NDPC) catalyzes new business opportunities at the crossroads of creative industries and other sectors of the economy.
- The ND Business Council (NDBC) facilitates co-operation in emerging business areas such as the circular economy.
- The ND Institute (NDI) funnels research knowledge to decision-making, and provides multi-stakeholder platforms for the co-creation of solutions to acute societal challenges.



Changes in climate, technology and demography transform societies in the globalizing world. New challenges and opportunities emerge in areas such as environment, health, transport and people-to-people interaction. Addressing them requires cooperation across national and regional boundaries.

Signature Achievements of the ND

The success of the ND is based on its pragmatic approach, that

- Builds on existing cooperation and people-to-people networks
- Focuses on concrete projects that address global challenges through local and regional action

The ND is a truly common policy that builds on equal cooperation between its partners, and where the receiving countries cover the majority of the ND projects' cost.

The ND is an efficient instrument for financing large-scale projects. ND partner donations catalyze funding from international financiers.

The wastewater treatment plant projects of the **ND Environmental Partnership** in Northwest Russia and in Belarus have significantly reduced pollution of the Baltic Sea. The NDEP projects on nuclear and hazardous waste treatment on, for example, the nuclear fleet support ship Lepse and spent fuel storage facility at Andreeva Bay have considerably reduced radiological and environmental risks in the Arctic.

The ND Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being channeled funding from the European Commission to the Northern Dimension Antibiotic Resistance Study NoDARS. The project investigated the levels of specified antimicrobial resistance (AMR) at selected locations in the ND area. The results of the study help to evaluate and suggest improvements for existing national treatment recommendations and AMR strategies within the ND region.

The ND Partnership on Transport and Logistics facilitated the development process of the Gdansk Deepwater Container Terminal extension. The extension of DCT Gdansk benefits the ND area both in terms of providing a gateway from Northern Europe to the Mediterranean as part of the Baltic-Adriatic Core Network Corridor as well as improving the links to the Far East.

The **ND Partnership on Culture's** online hackathon "HackCreative: An Industry Transformed" brought together more than 300 participants from 30 countries around the world to develop ideas on how to support the industry during the COVID-19 crisis. From 26 ideas developed during the hackathon, three were selected to share a cash prize fund of 10 000 euros provided by Swedbank.

The **ND Business Council's** Working Group for ecology initiated the establishment of the Water Excellency Center network that brings together various stakeholders in the ND area to exchange experience in water supply and wastewater disposal technologies and in the sustainable use of natural resources.

The **ND Institute's** annual Future Forum has become a platform for dialogue between the research community, decision-makers and other ND stakeholders on acute societal challenges and solutions to them.



Contact Information

ND Institute
www.northerndimension.info

**ND Environmental
Partnership**
www.ndep.org

**ND Partnership on
Transport and Logistics**
www.ndptl.org

**ND Partnership in Public Health
and Social Well-being**
www.ndphs.org

ND Partnership on Culture
www.ndpculture.org

ND Business Council



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The Northern Dimension's four thematic areas served as inspiration for four different symbols and ideas that were combined into one trustworthy and approachable mark. With a structure that divides the mark in four, it symbolizes an equal collaboration between the partners.

2020