

Project: Policy development to facilitate the implementation of nature-based solutions in the Nordic countries

1. Utlysningen gjelder følgende prosjekt / **Project name**

Project Name Policy development to facilitate the implementation of nature-based solutions in the Nordic countries
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2. Deltagere / **Participants**

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Steering group	Name of the programme Nature-based Solutions in the Nordic Region Leader of the Steering Group Irene Lindblad, +47 99424907, Irene.Lindblad@kld.dep.no Participants in the Steering Group NO – Anna Planke Anna.planke@kld.dep.no Klima- og miljødepartementet NordGen - Lise Lykke Steffensen lise.lykke.steffensen@nordgen.org SE - Anki Weibull anki.weibull@naturvardsverket.se Naturvårdsverket IS – Salome Hallfreðsdóttir, salome.hallfredsdottir@mar.is , Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries FI – Lotta Manninen Lotta.manninen@gov.fo , Miljøministeriet FO – Kolbrún í Haraldsstovu kolbrun@savn.fo Tjóðsavnið DK – Eva Juul Jensen Eva.Juul.Jensen@nst.dk Miljøministeriet Danmark NMRS - Marie Karlberg markar@norden.org

3. Sammendrag av prosjektet / **Summary of the Project**

Nature-based solutions were defined by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022 “*actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits.*”

This project, aiming to provide advice for policy development intended for national, regional and local administration, is the third part of a thematic programme with five projects on nature-based solutions.

The first project was a [synthesis](#) of literature and experiences in the Nordic countries prepared by NIVA and partners, completed in November 2022. The second project is composed of [8 pilot projects](#) across the Nordic countries and runs until the end of the programme in December 2024. The results from these will be [summarised](#). The fourth project, *Guidelines and best practice for implementation of nature-based solutions in the Nordic countries*, aims to provide guidelines and best practise to implementations of nature-based solutions targeting the local levels in the Nordic countries. There is also a fifth project running all four years 2021-2024 on Crop wild relatives ([Nordic Crop Wild Relative conservation - NordGen](#)). The projects are part of the work of Nordic Council of Ministers to fulfill the Vision 2030 that the Nordic Region will become the most sustainable and integrated region in the world - see: [Our Vision 2030 | Nordic cooperation \(norden.org\)](#) and [FULLTEXT01.pdf \(diva-portal.org\)](#).

This project - the policy delivery - is intended to promote and support nature-based solutions at national, regional and local level administrations and communities. It will provide specific advices and suggestions on how the Nordic countries can develop policies to mainstream and upscale their implementation of nature-based solutions. The delivery should give advice and suggestions for policy development, both in general and for each Nordic country, taking the countries' existing policies and legislation in consideration. Based on results from project 1, 2 and 5, the delivery is intended to suggest specific improvements or changes that can be made in current policies and legislations: regulations, strategies, sector integration, economic incentives and provide examples of successful strategies and policies already developed by some countries, regions, cities, or local communities.

The delivery is also intended to cover how the Nordic countries can include nature-based solutions in their follow-up and implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework from the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), how it may be included in countries nationally determined contributions: NDCs under the Paris Agreement and in the implementation of other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) like the Ramsar convention, and in the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Program. The delivery will contain a handbook with suggestions and advice in regard to national strategies, planning work/guidelines etc.

The difference between project three and four:

The third and fourth project are somewhat alike in its form, with similar deliveries. The third project differ from the fourth, by targeting national, regional and local administration and aims to provide specific advice for policy development, taking the existing legislation and policies into account. The fourth project is aimed at local level and aims to provide guidance on best practice and methods. The fourth project is aimed to be more practical and hands-on for those operating in the field.

4. Oppdragsbeskrivelse / **Commission**

Purpose

The handbook and communication materials will provide guidelines on how the countries can follow up and implement national strategies and international conventions on nature-based solutions based on results from the previous projects.

The purpose is to guide the national, regional and larger local administrations on how to “make things happen” to upscale the implementation of nature-based solutions. This can be suggestions regarding strategies and specific measures e.g. planning and process design, funding, cooperation, regulations, elements recommended in strategies etc. It is important that these topics are considered in the context of existing policies and measures in the different Nordic countries. It should also include advice for long-term monitoring and evaluation in the follow-up after implementation.

The tools developed in this delivery will, together with deliveries from project 4 on best practice methods and guidelines for practical implementation, form the basis for countries, regions, and local communities in their implementation and up-scaling of nature-based solutions. The project will contribute to the ambition of the Nordic Ministers of Environment to stepping up the Nordic Region's commitment to nature-based solutions, as declared by the Ministers in their meeting 2. November 2022 ([Nordic Ministerial Declaration on nature-based solutions](#))

Background

The synthesis on nature-based solutions in the Nordic region shows that:

- Clear political willingness and prioritization are needed to mainstream NBS
- Institutional structures and policy instruments are essential to implement NBS
- Common standards and guidance can support increased adoption of NBS
- Long-term monitoring and evaluation of implemented NBS is central
- Adaptive management to increase resilience is very important
- Sustainable use and management should be prerequisites for NBS
- The knowledge-base in all phases of NBS projects should be strengthened
- Further research on NBS is needed to reduce uncertainties and overcome knowledge-gaps
- Participatory approaches can strengthen collaboration and stakeholder involvement in NBS

The guidelines/handbook must be based on the results from the [synthesis](#), the pilot projects and a not yet published report named "Synergy between climate and biodiversity objectives in laws, policies and management practices", funded by Nordic Council of Ministers (available by contacting the contact person mentioned in section 2).

Description of the need

The Nordic countries have different approaches to planning and implementing nature-based solutions for biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation. Implementation mechanisms and guidance to different target groups may also vary across the Nordics. There is a need for guidelines and practical advice specific for each Nordic country on how to facilitate these kinds of solutions to broaden their implementation and make them preferable over technical solutions - or use the two combined - with larger total success for climate and biodiversity targets than today.

Most decisionmakers and administrations in the Nordic region are aware of the urgent need to initiate climate and biodiversity measures and many are also familiar with nature-based solutions, at least to some extent. However, there is a need to inform further and more systematically about how to approach these solutions in policy development.

The steps in details

- *Tekniske krav og eventuelle avgrensninger / Technical requirements and possible limitations*

Production of the guidelines/handbook will require collaboration across different Nordic countries and result in knowledge-sharing both within and outside the Nordics.

Communication material such as podcasts, posters or story-maps, workshops, and a short video is part of the project to provide information dissemination.

Contacts and links to relevant documents can be provided through the project coordinator.

- *Hvordan skal oppdraget gjennomføres / How the assignment will be completed:*

Objectives

- Broad participation across Nordic countries is required – all Nordic countries should be addressed, due to differences in existing policies in regards to nature-based solutions.
- The handbook should describe specific advices for policy development and suggest guidelines to facilitate the implementation process of nature-based solutions.
- The handbook should extract the most important aspects for the Nordic countries and their habitats, from the synthesis and existing literature on nature-based solutions.
- Workshops and results from these, as well as site visits and meetings with relevant experts, will contribute to the gathering of information across different institutions and organizations in 2023/2024.
- The handbook should explore different thematic aspects (conservation, restoration, other nature-based solutions) and guide how to implement these and suggest how to develop the policy to support such implementation.
- Co-ordination with NordGen on their work on crop-wild relatives (project 5 in the programme) is required.

- Deliverables

- A handbook that collates concrete advice and suggestions of policy development for implementing nature-based solutions in the Nordic countries based on knowledge from project 1, 2 and 5 and the report on synergies between climate and biodiversity (available by contacting the contact person in section 2), and provides concrete advices for policymakers at national, regional and local levels in all Nordic countries.
- Specific advices regarding how the Nordic countries can develop policies to include and support nature-based solutions in their follow-up and implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework from the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), how it may be included in countries nationally determined contributions: NDCs under the Paris Agreement and in the implementation of other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) like the Ramsar convention, and in the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Program.
- A short video and story maps, podcasts or similar communication material describing guidelines to facilitating and implementing nature-based solutions in the Nordics, preferably targeting policymakers and decisionmakers.
- Communication materials for use at events, COP etc. such as posters.
- The handbook and summary can be delivered electronically and will be published on TemaNord. Some printed copies should be made available in cooperation with the Nordic project coordinator, who also coordinates the communication plan for the programme.
- *Fremdriftsplan / Work schedule*

2023

Advice regarding how the Nordic countries can develop policies to include nature-based solutions in their follow-up and implementation of the relevant conventions and agreements.

Analysis of successful implementation processes based on project 1, 2 and 5, and the mentioned report on synergies between climate and biodiversity.

The draft handbook should be provided in December 2023

2024

Analysis of successful implementation processes based on project 1, 2 and 5.

A handbook describing specific guidelines and advices for policy development in the different Nordic countries, to facilitate and implement nature-based solutions.

Workshops and communication materials for use at events, COP etc. such as posters.

A short video and other communication such as story maps or podcasts on implementing nature-based solutions in the Nordic countries.

Final delivery of the handbook with summary is due by November 2024.

What should be delivered (in which form, format, and language)

English and two Nordic languages with additional summary in Finnish, Icelandic and at least two other Nordic languages. The reason for this is that one of the main success criteria of the project is that information material is easily accessible and widely distributed.

The handbook should be delivered electronically.

Factsheets, posters, or other communication material should include relevant logos and acknowledgement of the Nordic Council of Ministers (agreed with the project coordinator).

The video and other electronic communications for social media have to be in Finnish, Icelandic and at least two Nordic languages and can be in accessible electronic file format (English).

Time of delivery

Project deadline November 2024

The timing of the contract

March 2023 – November 2024. Contracts are signed for one year at a time.

Budget

2023: DKK 500.000

2024: DKK 800.000 including communication and publication (video, podcast, factsheets etc.)

The project is financed with funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers and must have relevance and value for at least three of the Nordic countries and autonomous regions (Greenland, Åland and the Faroe Islands).

These are absolute requirements that must be met in order to proceed in the tendering process

The supplier must be a legally established company (company certificate required) and have experience in carrying out projects.

Further proposals

- The supplier should have experience from similar projects of relevance.
- The supplier should have sufficient execution capacity.

6. Tildelingskriterier / **Assessment Criteria**

The assessment will be based on a holistic evaluation in which the offers are assessed based on the following objective criteria:

- 1) Understanding on the assignment (25 %)
- 2) Competence and experience (25 %)
- 3) Offered price (50 %)

7. Tidsplan (veiledende) / **Schedule (preliminary)**

Dates for

- **Announcement:**
January 2023
- **Deadline for questions:**
2 weeks after announcement
- **Providing the offers:**
7th March 2023
- **Choosing the supplier:**
20th of March 2023
- **Signing the contract:**
March 2023

8. Vejledninger og skabeloner / **Guidelines and templates**

For guidelines and templates visit Norden.org: <https://www.norden.org/en/information/about-funding-nordic-council-ministers>

Read more about the programme: us.fo/nbs and nordicsituation.com