

Project name	Nordic overview of instruments, measures and barriers to achieving the objectives of the LULUCF Regulation	
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Steering group	<p>This project is overseen by two Nordic Council of Ministers programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Nordic Environment and Economy Programme. And • the Nordic Biodiversity Subprogramme, <p>Each programme has designated representatives for this tender, listed below:</p> <p>Representatives of the Nordic Environment and Economy Programme</p> <p>NO - Skeie Inge, inge.skeie@fin.dep.no , Ministry of Finance</p> <p>SE - Björk, Lisa, lisa.bjork@naturvardsverket.se , The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p>FI - Magnus Cederlöf, magnus.cederlof@gov.fi , Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Representatives of the Nordic Biodiversity Subprogramme</p> <p>DK - Eva Juul Jensen, ejj@sgav.dk, Styrelsen for Grøn Arealomlægning og Vandmiljø</p> <p>SE – Jessica Alvsilver, jessica.alvsilver@naturvardsverket.se, The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency</p>	

1. Summary of the project:

The Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector contributes to annual net removals (the sum of emissions and removals) of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. The EU has adopted a target to increase net removals in the land use sector. Net removals should increase by 15%, to 310 million tonnes CO₂e compared to the 2016–2018 average, by 2030. The EU has subsequently set an EU-wide net removal target of an additional 42 million tonnes CO₂e by 2030 compared to the 2016–2018 average. Under the LULUCF Regulation, Member States have national commitments aimed at enhancing removals in the land use sector. The land use sector also plays a key role in achieving biodiversity conservation targets. For example, the EU Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR) sets binding targets for Member States to restore and recreate nature on both land and sea. The regulation is part of the EU's commitment to fulfil the objectives of the Kunming Montreal Agreement. In some cases, the objectives provide opportunities for synergies, in other cases trade-offs between objectives are required. How are these synergies and conflicts of objectives analysed from a Nordic perspective? How is governance implemented in the Nordic countries to optimise society's resources to achieve climate and biodiversity goals?

The EU is not on track to meet its target of increasing net removals in the land use sector until 2030. In several European countries, net removals in the land use sector are decreasing. Sweden has a relatively high net removals in the land-use sector, but the trend in forest land is declining sharply. This is partly due to reduced growth and increased logging. In Finland, the forest sector has gone from being a sector that is a provider of net removals to one that contributes to net emissions. This means that the entire land use sector is now a source of emissions in Finland. To reach the Paris Agreement target of a global temperature increase below 1.5°C, both emission reductions and net removals need to increase rapidly. To achieve this, the trend must be reversed and land carbon sinks increased in the coming years.

Measures to protect and restore biodiversity can increase natural carbon sinks and favour ecosystem services such as climate regulation and adaptation. At the same time, many ecosystems in the EU are in poor status. There are thus potential synergies between the implementation of policies and measures to achieve the objectives of the LULUCF and Nature Restoration Regulations. In some ecosystems, these synergies are more prominent, e.g. forest wetlands. In others, there are clear conflicts of objectives that require trade-offs between objectives.

The aim of the project is to assess the respective challenges and opportunities for the Nordic countries to fulfil the LULUCF regulation and how they are balanced with

biodiversity objectives. Where are synergies and conflicts of objectives? How are they addressed in the development of policy instruments to achieve the objectives of the land use sector? To what extent are there integrated instruments that address both objectives simultaneously? Are opportunities to minimise negative side-effects on biodiversity taken into account when designing LULUCF instruments? How is the current knowledge base and available data considered when designing policies?

2. Commission

Objectives

The project is to provide an overview of the Nordic countries' implementation of the LULUCF Regulation and how biodiversity objectives are addressed in the work. The aim is to contribute with a compilation of instruments and measures that have been implemented and are planned, an overview of how the countries handle trade-offs and synergies between the objectives of the LULUCF and the Nature Restoration regulations, and provide recommendations for further studies.

It is important that the analysis covers different types of instruments and policy packages, e.g. categorised as standards, administrative, economic and information-based instruments. The possibility of trading LULUCF units between Member States in order to fulfil their commitments is also one of the instruments in question. The study will also include a deliberation on the appropriate level of policy instruments, e.g. whether they should be national or EU-wide. The study should elaborate on how cost-effectiveness should be handled in cases where policy instruments steer towards several objectives simultaneously.

Target group

Governments and authorities in the Nordic countries, researchers and analysis institutes.

Tasks

In the project, the consultant shall:

- 1) Analyse countries' strategies to implement the LULUCF Regulation. The analysis should take into account that the commitments for Member States differ for the periods 2021-2025 and 2026-2030. The analysis should include examining the potential conflicts that may arise between the LULUCF net removal enhancement objectives and the NRR conservation objectives, and how these are addressed by countries in the design of policy instruments. For example, the consultant could examine the extent to which the “do no significant harm” principle is used in implementation. What practical lessons can be learnt?
- 2) Categorise instruments to achieve LULUCF objectives and analyse their ability to simultaneously maximise carbon removals (under LULUCF) and benefit biodiversity (under NRR). If possible, also include instruments aiming at increasing biodiversity with indirect positive effects on carbon sink. Discuss the appropriate administrative level for policy instruments. Discuss how the choice of policy instruments can make it possible

to minimise any negative effects of increased carbon sinks on biodiversity. Discuss what indicators and monitoring mechanisms are needed to ensure that the policy design leads to actual increases in carbon sequestration and nature restoration?

- 3) Summarise lessons learned, propose further studies and include policy recommendations in the report

Output (deliverables)

- At the start of the project a short popularised description of the project (max 1 A4) in English and in a Scandinavian language (Swedish, Danish or Norwegian) to be used in communication about ongoing projects.
- A written report providing a structured compilation, analysis, and clear recommendations for further studies. The report must be in English and prepared to the standards required for publication in the Nordic Council of Ministers' publication series.
- An executive summary highlighting key findings and policy-relevant messages, designed for a broader audience in English and one of the Scandinavian languages.

Communication of results

Effective communication is critical to the success and impact of this project. The contractor shall develop and implement a dedicated communication strategy to ensure timely, clear, and accessible dissemination of progress, results, and key insights.

The communication plan must:

- Define clear communication objectives
- Specify dissemination channels and formats (e.g. written summaries, infographics, presentations, webinars).
- Include a plan and timeline for at least one webinar to present and discuss the final results with relevant stakeholders.
- Deliver a PowerPoint presentation summarising results, for use by the Nordic Council of Ministers and the project steering group.

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

The main deliverable is a written report in English, to be published through the Nordic Council of Ministers' publication series. The report shall include:

- An overview of the Nordic countries' implementation of the LULUCF Regulation and how biodiversity objectives are addressed in the work..

- A compilation of instruments and measures that have been implemented and are planned in the Nordic countries,
- An overview of how the countries handle trade-offs and synergies between the objectives of the LULUCF and the Nature Restoration regulations
- A deliberation on the appropriate level of policy instruments, e.g. whether they should be national or EU-wide
- A suggestion on how cost-effectiveness could be addressed in cases where policy instruments address multiple objectives simultaneously.
- A section with recommendations.
- An executive summary highlighting key findings for a broader, policy-oriented audience in English and one of the Scandinavian languages.

In addition, the project must deliver:

- A communication strategy
- At least one webinar after publication to present the results and engage stakeholders.
- A PowerPoint presentation summarising results, for use by the Nordic Council of Ministers and the project steering group.

Budget

The total budget is **700,000 DKK**. All proposals must be submitted in **Danish Krone (DKK)**. Offers in other currencies will **not** be accepted.

50 000 DKK of the budget should be set aside to cover the costs of publishing the main report in the Nordic Council of Ministers' publication series and for other communication activities needed to disseminate the results of the project.

Tender submission

Criteria for tender submissions

Proposals must be submitted in Danish Krone (DKK). Offers in other currencies will not be accepted.

Proposals can be written in a Scandinavian language (Danish, Norwegian or Swedish) or in English.

All projects that are granted funding need to meet the Nordic Council of Ministers' conditions: <https://www.norden.org/en/information/how-apply-funding-nordic-council-ministers>

Projects funded with resources from the Nordic Council of ministers must, where relevant, comply with the three cross-sectoral perspectives:

- Sustainable development
- Gender equality
- Integration of child and youth perspectives

Successful integration of these perspectives is essential to achieving the vision of the Nordic Region as the world's most sustainable and integrated region by 2030.

Projects financed with Nordic funds must comply with the three cross-sectoral perspectives. More details can be found here: <https://pub.norden.org/politiknord2020-719/>

Additional specific requirements for this project:

- The project must cover **a minimum of three Nordic countries**, this includes Greenland, Åland, and the Faroe Islands.
- The proposal should clearly describe:
 - The approach to ensuring Nordic relevance and coverage.
 - How cross-sectoral perspectives will be integrated in the project design, analysis, and communication.
 - The planned methodology and work plan, including timeline and division of responsibilities.
 - Proposed team composition and relevant qualifications.
 - Budget in DKK, with clear specification of costs, including estimated publication costs.

Project organisation

The proposal should describe the planned project management approach, including coordination across the Nordic countries, stakeholder engagement, and quality assurance.

The project team must include experts from at least three Nordic countries, ensuring broad Nordic coverage and relevance.

The project must include status meetings with participation from the steering group and programme representatives. The consultant must ensure active participation from relevant organisations and stakeholders in these meetings.

Language

The final TemaNord report must be written in English, with a summary in a Scandinavian language (Danish, Norwegian, or Swedish).

The proposal itself may be submitted in a Scandinavian language or English.

3. Eligibility Requirements

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

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

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 including Greenland, Åland and the Faroe Islands.

Further proposals

- The supplier should possess relevant experience in comparable projects.
- The supplier should have sufficient execution capacity

4. 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 of the assignment (20 %)
2. Competence and experience (20%)
3. Communication (10%)
4. Offered price (50%)

5. Schedule

Application deadline: **05.10.2025**

Deadline for questions: **22.08.2025**

Choosing the supplier: **28.11.2025**

Project start: **01.01.2026**

Project completion: **31.12.2026**

6. Background documents

The LULUCF (Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry) Regulation ((EU) 2018/841):
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02018R0841-20230511>

European Climate Law ((EU) 2018/1999): <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R1119>

EEA report 17/2024: **Enhancing Europe's land carbon sink:** [Enhancing Europe's land carbon sink | European Environment Agency's home page](#)

Enhancing Carbon Sequestration in Forests, Agricultural Lands and Wetlands in the Nordic Countries - Technical Measures and Policy Instruments:
<https://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn:nbn:se:norden.org:diva-12230>