



NORDREGIO

Nordic Centre for Spatial Development

Planning for Climate Change: The Adaptation Challenge A Nordic perspective

11 September 2007
SAS Radisson Seaside Hotel
Gräsviksstranden 3
Helsinki, Finland.

Draft programme: minor changes may
be made



Global climate change has been at the top of the international political agenda in recent years. In this period the public discourse has changed from a discussion of the extent to which climate change is a man-made phenomenon to the question of how to respond to climate challenges. How do we quickly and efficiently mitigate future climate changes?

Another burning question, which as yet has not had as much public attention, is the question of how we adapt to the climate changes which we know will come during the next decades regardless of possible successful national and international efforts of reduction of carbon dioxide emissions?

The Nordic Council of Ministers and Nordregio, Nordic Centre for Spatial Development have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in this conference devoted to discussing these questions as well as related issues:

- What are the challenges posed by climate change with regard to the spatial development and planning in the Nordic Countries?
- How do we cope with these challenges, what are the needs for developing new knowledge and competences?
- What are the possibilities to harness technology and innovation in meeting both mitigation and adaptation challenges?
- How can Nordic cooperation contribute to these endeavours?

The conference will address Nordic politicians, administrators and planners. The conference will be held in both Scandinavian languages and English. Please note that the number of participants is limited and the deadline for registration is August 27, 2007. See <http://www.nordregio.se/event070911.htm> for registration.

For more information about the conference please contact Lisa Van Well (lisa.van.well@nordregio.se) or Richard Langlais (Richard.langlais@nordregio.se). For information regarding conference registration please contact Sophie Didriksson (sophie.didriksson@nordregio.se)

Preliminary agenda

Tuesday, September 11th Morning session

TIME	ACTIVITY
10.00	Welcoming remarks: Finland's Minister of the Environment, <i>Paula Lehtomäki</i> Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers, <i>Halldór Ásgrímsson</i>
10.15	Keynote address "Challenges of climate change for Nordic cooperation: a Finnish perspective" Finland's Minister of the Environment, <i>Paula Lehtomäki</i>
Setting the scene for climate change adaptation	
10.30	"What science tells us about the challenges of climate change for the Nordic region. Nordic responses on the international stage": <i>Bert Bolin</i> , Professor Emeritus in Meteorology, Stockholm University Founding Chair of the IPCC, 1988-97
11.00	Coffee break with snack
11.30-12.45	Planning for climate change: the present view of future challenges
	"Problematizing the adaptation challenge and the role of Baltic Sea Cooperation in dealing with future challenges": <i>Philipp Schmidt-Thomé</i> , Geological Survey of Finland "Implementing a national adaptation strategy: Lessons from the Finnish experience": <i>Susanna Kankaanpää</i> , Research Programme for Global Change, Finnish Environment Institute
12.45-13.30	"Reflexivity Panel": Opportunities for adaptation through Nordic collaboration The "Reflexivity Panel" is an opportunity for candid discussion about the real value-added of Nordic collaboration in adaptation strategies. Panel participants will digest the important points of the morning speakers and provide contextual feedback. The panel will include a few of the speakers for the day as well as those below: <i>Member of the Nordic Council (to be announced)</i> <i>Oras Tynkkynen</i> , MP, Green Party, Finland Specialist on Climate Policy Issues in the Prime Minister's Office
13.30-14.30	Lunch

Tuesday, September 11th
Afternoon session

TIME	ACTIVITY
14.30	Adapting and responding to climate change challenges through spatial planning
14.30-15.45	<p>"A voice from the arctic: How Greenland has dealt with climate change in the past, present and future and the role of spatial planning": <i>Klaus Georg Hansen</i>, Head of Division, Spatial Planning Division, Ministry of Environment and Nature, Greenland Home Rule</p> <p>"Climate cooperation in the Oslo region: vulnerability to a climate change and strategies for adaptation": <i>Eivind Selvig</i>, Partner, AS Civitas, Norway</p> <p>This on-going work attempts to indicate the possible social, human and environmental implications of changing climate, while exploring the economically viable measures that might be enacted to adapt to these changes., The cooperation also raises questions of vulnerability and risk, and how one can plan for robust solutions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15.15-15.30 Coffee break</p> <p>"The challenges and opportunities of climate change adaptation in Iceland": <i>Trausti Valsson</i>, Professor of Planning, Faculty of Engineering, University of Iceland</p>
15.45-16.15	"Reflexivity Panel" reconvenes for brief comments that link the morning and afternoon sessions, questions and comments from the floor
16.15-16.30	Concluding and summary remarks



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