



# **A Nordic Research Programme on Green Growth/Bioeconomy**

**Presentation at Nordregio Forum  
Keflavik 12-13 November 2014**

**Gunnel Gustafsson  
Director, NordForsk**

# NordForsk



- NordForsk is a *platform* for joint Nordic research and research policy development in the Nordic countries.
- It was established by the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2005.
- New statutes and new composition of the Board from 2014
- The aim of the organisation is to *facilitate* cooperation in all fields of research when this *adds value* to work being conducted nationally.
- Basic funding is provided by the Nordic Council of Ministers and additional funding by stakeholders especially the Research Councils in the different countries ("The 2/3 principle").
- The Board approved a new strategy for 2015 – 2018 which will be followed by an implementation plan



## The Prime Ministers Initiative on Green Growth 2011



The Green growth initiative launched in 2011

The OECD definition is: «*Green growth means fostering economic growth and development while ensuring that natural assets continues to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies. To do this, it must catalyse investment and innovation that will underpin sustained growth and give rise to new economic opportunities*».

In 2013, the NordForsk Board decided to investigate the potential for a research programme consisting of three integrated elements:

- Climate change and adaptation to climate change
- Understanding societal change/social science and humanities
- Bio-economy/the bio-based society

## NORDIC CENTRE - A PLATFORM FOR COLLABORATION IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN GREEN GROWTH



- The **Green Growth Research and Innovation initiative** is a new collaboration between NordForsk, Nordic Energy Research and Nordic Innovation (the Nordic Centre). The Nordic Centre will address Green Growth in areas where the three institutions have joined forces to find societal solutions based on both research and innovation. This will engage industry, society and research communities.
- The Green Growth is a development of the Top-Level Research Initiative on Climate, Energy and Environment (TRI), proposed by the Nordic Prime Ministers in 2007, with more emphasis on sustainability and the environment.

## The collaboration under the green growth umbrella is based on three pillars



- **Society** A green transformation of society that surpasses sustainability but includes wellbeing and welfare of the citizens. Resilience of the societies to uphold the principles of the Nordic social model while simultaneously transforming to a green economy.
- **Economy** A competitive and innovative business sector which utilizes the inherent resources in the entire value chain; with efficient and sustainable energy and transport solutions and full employment benefiting local and regional development.
- **Environment** Promoting sustainability of the natural resource base. This implies clean energy for energy intensive industry and long distance shipping and innovative products, methods and technology for optimizing resources from agriculture, forestry, water, aquaculture and fisheries.

## Governance, duration and funding of the Green Growth initiative



- **The process, so far -**

- **A governance structure for the collaboration is agreed upon**

- In short: Programme Committee; a Programme group with an appointed leader, Reference group, and Expert panels.
- The collaboration is with dedicated resources from NordForsk, Nordic Energy Research and Nordic Innovation (both administratively and with regard to funding and communication)

- **Duration of the programme**

- Preparatory phase: 1 year (Starting Q1 2015)
- Programme phase: 5 years

- **Funding.**

Common pot appr. 100 MNOK so far.



Thank you for your attention!

[www.nordforsk.org](http://www.nordforsk.org)