



Nordic Solutions to Global Challenges

An initiative by the Nordic prime ministers



"The prime ministers of the Nordic countries want to bring Nordic Solutions to Global Challenges. These Nordic solutions will be effective tools in our common work to reach the United Nations Sustainability Goals before the year 2030."

***Erna Solberg
Prime minister of Norway***

Nordic Solutions to Global Challenges

The five Nordic prime ministers have launched the initiative Nordic Solutions to Global Challenges – to help meet the global sustainable development goals – by sharing Nordic knowledge and experiences.

Decades of co-operation have helped promote economic growth, protect the environment and maintain our social values in the Nordic Region. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden have led the way in gender equality, green transition and welfare solutions. In dialogue with the rest of the world, Nordic solutions can be adapted, refined and deployed to meet some of the most pressing global challenges such as rapid urbanisation, climate change and ageing populations.

The initiative consists of six flagship projects on the themes **Nordic Green**, **Nordic Gender Effect** and **Nordic Food & Welfare** – all of which build on acknowledged Nordic strengths and problem-solving potential.

INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

The Nordic flagship projects are helping to set the international agenda, and are already involved in dialogue about sustainability with UN bodies and other global stakeholders, including the WHO, the ILO and the World Economic Forum. By mobilising a wide range of policy experts, researchers, private-sector players as well as Nordic embassies, export councils and international stakeholders, the projects respond to the increased global interest in Nordic sustainability policies and products. A few examples:

The flagship **Nordic Climate Solutions** used the UN Climate Conference in May 2017 as a warm-up for the mutually supportive projects on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR) and Nordic Green to Scale. At coming UN climate convention conferences of the parties (COPs), project results will be presented to push global green transition.

The Nordic Gender Effect at Work gained momentum at the Commission on the Status of Women this year, where UN Women and the ILO acknowledged the initiative's urgently needed focus, that is to raise the voice for gender equality in the face of a changing global landscape.

Nordic Sustainable Cities showcased Nordic design and sustainable urban planning at COP 22 in Marrakech and the C40 Mayors Summit in Mexico City. At the UN General Assembly, **Nordic Food Policy Lab** will establish opportunities to advocate for innovative policies encouraging consumers to choose more sustainable food.

Nordic Welfare Solutions and **Nordic Energy Solutions** have now reached a phase where they are working with specific industries in selected markets abroad.



NORDIC GREEN

Councils of ministers involved: Environment, Energy, Regional Policy, Business Development

Nordic Sustainable Cities concentrates on building networks and exporting sustainable solutions for urban development in close collaboration with national agencies and business. *Implemented by: Nordic Innovation and Nordregio.*

Nordic Energy Solutions seeks to share Nordic energy models and know-how with regional energy markets in different parts of the world and assist in the design of renewable energy systems and attractive markets. *Implemented by: Nordic Energy Research.*

Nordic Climate Solutions focuses on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR) and how progressive Nordic solutions in environmental economics, green technology and environmental policy can be deployed in the developing world. *Implemented by: the Nordic Council of Ministers' Secretariat, NOAK and KOL.*

NORDIC GENDER EFFECT

Councils of ministers involved: Gender Equality, Labour

The Nordic Gender Effect at Work

showcases Nordic investments in gender equality – solutions for parental leave, childcare, work flexibility and equity in leadership – and advocates for the economic and social benefits of gender equality at work. *Implemented by: the Nordic Council of Ministers' Secretariat.*

NORDIC FOOD & WELFARE

Councils of ministers involved: Fisheries and Aquaculture, Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Business Development

Nordic Food Policy Lab disseminates lessons learned from Nordic policies on nutrition, food waste and New Nordic Food, involving consumers in a transition to more sustainable food systems. *Implemented by: The Nordic Council of Ministers' Secretariat.*

Nordic Welfare Solutions builds co-operation between export promotion organisations and business clusters to promote, showcase and export solutions within identified Nordic strongholds such as digital health and sustainable hospitals. *Implemented by: Nordic Innovation.*

The ministers for Nordic co-operation have allocated DKK 10 million p.a. to the initiative, making it one of their top priorities for the period 2017–2019. The total budget, including co-funding, is expected to be min. DKK 74 million.

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to global challenges**



Nordic
Co-operation

Nordic Solutions to Global Challenges is an initiative by the prime ministers from the most integrated region in the world. The Nordic Region promotes sustainability and progress toward the UN Sustainability Goals, sharing knowledge of three themes: Nordic Green, Nordic Gender Effect and Nordic Food & Welfare.

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