

European Conference of Defence and the Environment

ECDE 2024

KRISTIN THORSRUD TEIEN
CICERO



EUROPEAN
CONFERENCE OF
**DEFENCE AND THE
ENVIRONMENT**

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**Nature-based solutions:
Important for climate adaptation,
biodiversity conservation, society, and
security**

**ECDE 2024: Defence, climate and environment –
coinciding, not conflicting possibilities, 13.06.2024.**

Kristin Thorsrud Teien, Department Director, CICERO

CICERO Interdisciplinary climate research

- One of the environmental institutes in Norway, established in 1990
- Major scientific contributions to our understanding of the climate system
- Around 100 employees
- Five departments, of which three research departments:
 1. System and Mitigation
 2. Society and Policy
 3. Atmosphere and Climate impacts



~100 employees



7 research groups



>100 academic publications in 2022



>100 ongoing research projects



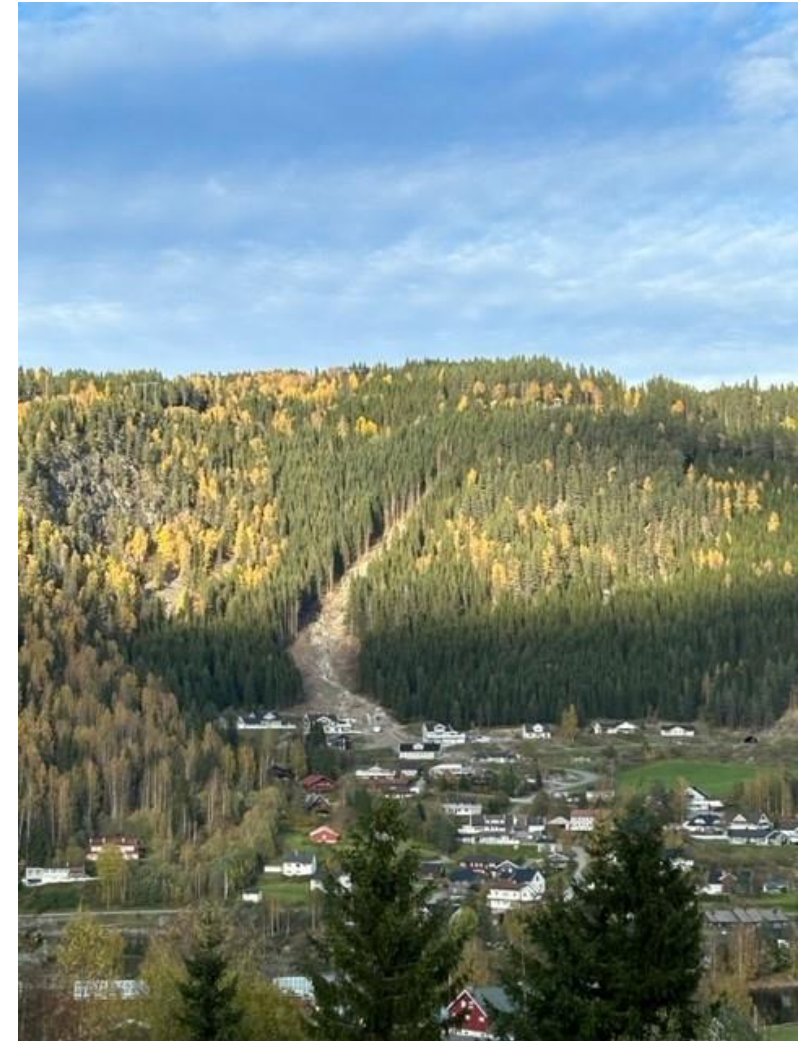
~ 90 user partner



NOK 120 M turnover in 2022

Extreme weather in Europe in 2023: A wake-up call?

- The extreme weather event “Hans” in Southern Norway, August 2023
- The flood in Greece, September 2023



The costs of extreme weather

- Last 10 years: The insurance companies in Norway have compensated NOK 30.3 billion for damage to buildings and contents after weather events
- The largest compensation comes after extreme precipitation over towns and cities
- Asphalt on streets, roads, and parking lots prevents natural drainage of the water, and the water finds it's way into buildings
- It is important to think long-term in long-term land use planning land use and when planning for new buildings and settlements
- Further information: [ekstremvarrapporten-2023.pdf \(if.no\)](#)



European climate risk assessment (1)

- Extreme weather events compromise food and water security, energy security and financial stability, and the health of the general population and of outdoor workers; in turn, this affects social cohesion and stability.
- In tandem, climate change is impacting terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.
- Climate change can exacerbate existing risks and crisis, and climate risk can cascade from one system or region to another
- This can lead to system-wide challenges affecting whole societies, with vulnerable social groups particularly affected.
- **Several climate risks have already reached critical levels, and most climate risks identified could reach critical or catastrophic levels by the end of this century.**



European climate risk assessment (2)

- Hundreds of thousands of people would die from heatwaves, and economic losses from coastal floods alone could exceed EUR 1 trillion per year.
- Climate risks to ecosystems, people and the economy depend on non-climatic risk drivers as much as on the climate-related hazards themselves.
- The extent to which we can avoid damages will largely depend on how quickly we can reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, and how fast and effectively we can prepare our societies and **adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.**
- **Urgent and coordinated action is needed at all governance levels**

[European Climate Risk Assessment — European Environment Agency \(europa.eu\)](https://europeanclimate.eu/)

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Global risks for the next 2 and 10 years

- Climate and environmental risks are at the core of global risk perceptions over the next 10 years.
- These risks are the ones we are least prepared for.
- Interactions between loss of nature, pollution, consumption of natural resources, climate change and socio-economic drivers will **"constitute a dangerous mixture"**.
- [WEF The Global Risks Report 2024.pdf \(weforum.org\)](https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-risks-report-2024)

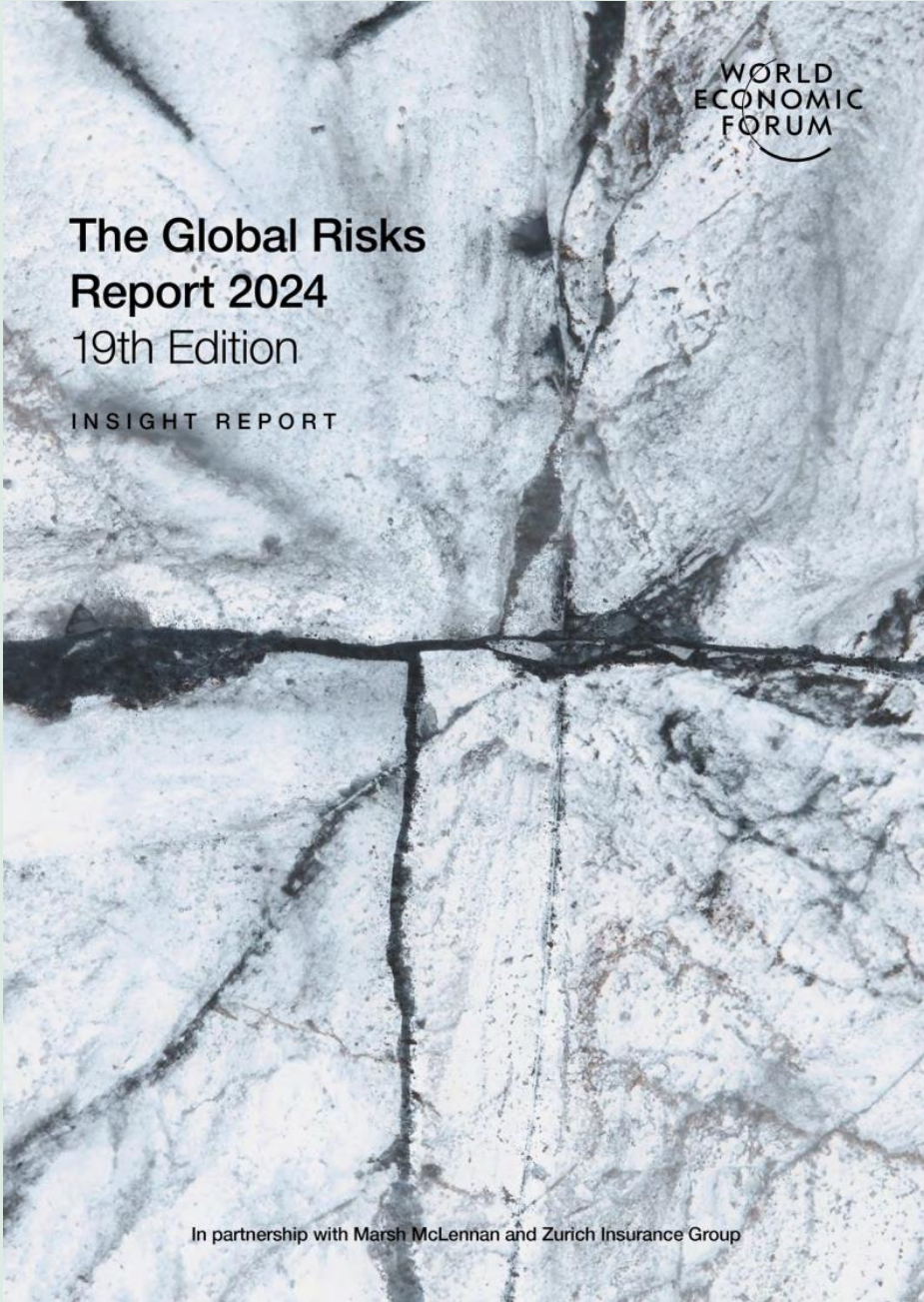


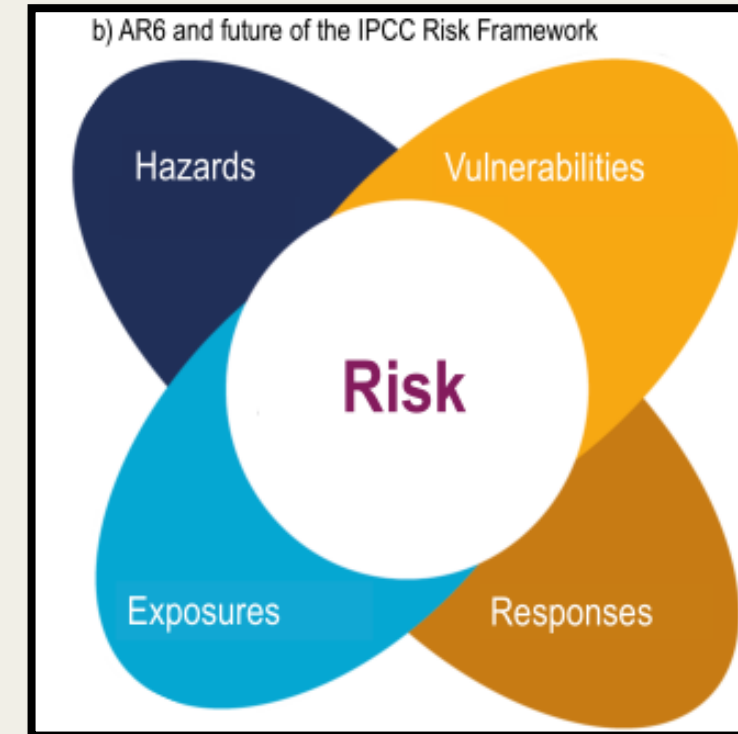
FIGURE C | Global risks ranked by severity over the short and long term
Please estimate the likely impact (severity) of the following risks over a 2-year and 10-year period.



We need to introduce solutions for adaptation

- MYRIAD-EU is set to change the way disaster risks are managed. Through its systemic and forward-looking approach, the project will offer new ways to assess trade-offs and synergies between economic sectors, hazards and their scales.
- Develop **tools and solutions** to reduce and manage risks in their regions more effectively: Mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk response
- **Coordinated solutions** between sectors (for examples) to avoid for example land use conflicts, competition for water (dealing with shortages and surpluses of water) and so forth..
- Several benefits: Economy, health and well-being, biodiversity, social justice etc.
- More information:
 - [MYRIAD-EU About MYRIAD-EU - MYRIAD-EU \(myriadproject.eu\)](https://myriadproject.eu)
 - [Anne Sophie Daloz \(cicero.oslo.no\)](mailto:Anne.Sophie.Daloz@cicero.oslo.no)

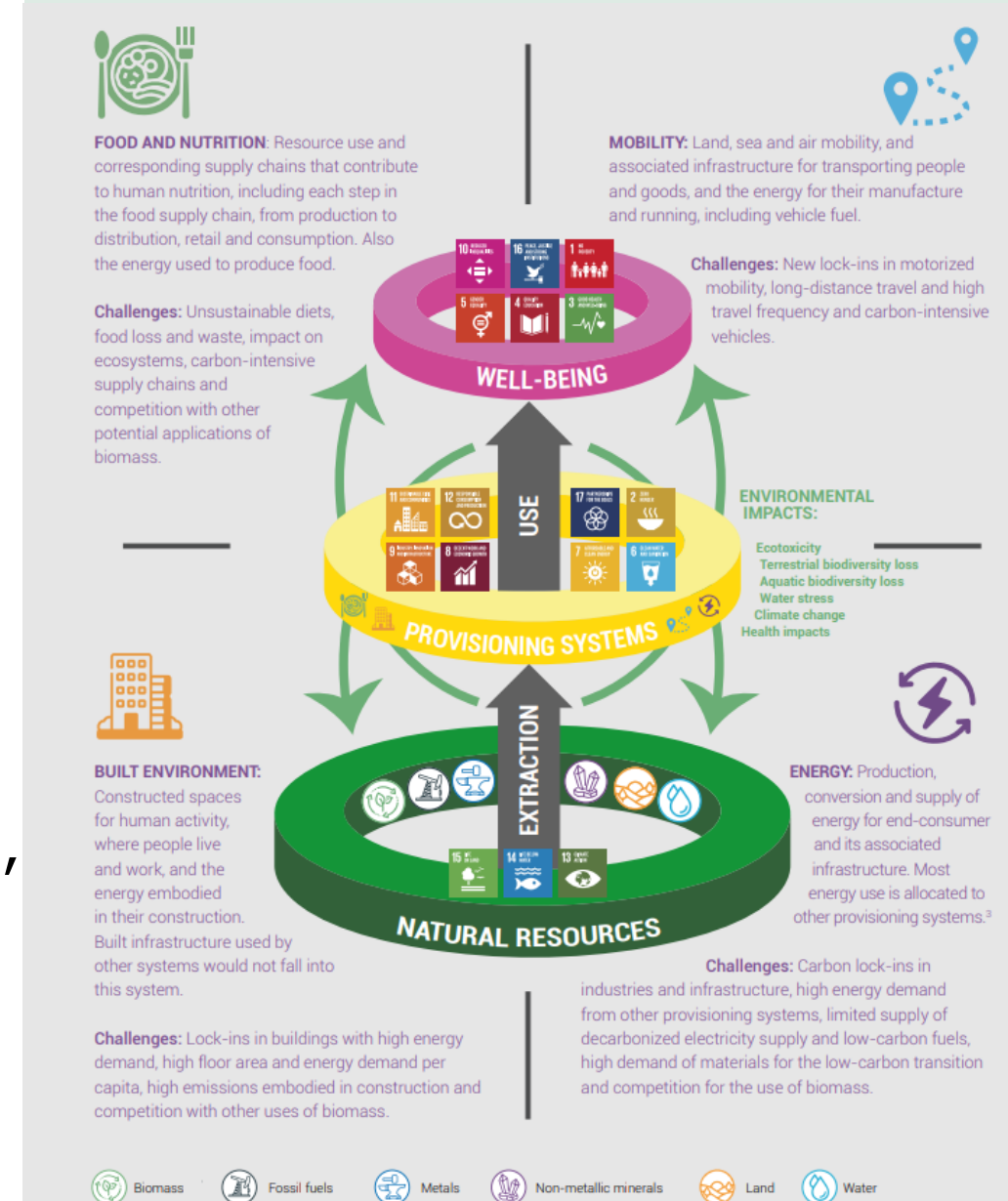
Climate risk



Source: IPCC-SPM.3

Global Resources Outlook 2024

- The International Resource Panel has developed Global Resources Outlook 2024 with a Summary for policy-makers:
 - [Global Resources Outlook 2024 | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)
- Combined, the resource-intensive provisioning systems of the built environment, mobility, food and energy, account for:
 - about 90 per cent of global material demand,
 - 70 per cent of climate impacts and
 - more than 80 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress



Global Resources Outlook 2024: The pressure on natural resources expected to increase

- There is a need for urgent global transformation towards the sustainable use of resources.

FN: Bruken av verdens naturressurser kan øke med 60 prosent fram mot 2060

KLIMA: Utvinning og bruk av jordas ressurser kan øke med opp til 60 prosent innen 2060 og truer både klimamål og økonomisk velstand, advarer FN.



MAL: Overforbruket av naturressurser truer klimamålene, advarer FNs ressurspanel. Bildet viser ekstremregn i Singapore. Foto: David Gubinski / AP / NTB

KLIMA: Utvinning og bruk av jordas ressurser kan øke med opp til 60 prosent innen 2060 og truer både klimamål og økonomisk velstand, advarer FN.

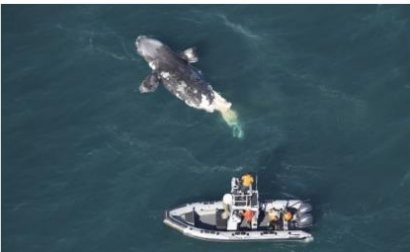
FN: Ressurspanelet sier i 2024-utgaven av rapporten om bruken av verdens naturressurser at enorm utbygging av infrastruktur, økt ettersest etter energi og økt forbrukerkonsum i de siste 30 år, særlig i velstående land, har tredoblet forbruket av naturressurser.

– Og utover etter mer naturressurser, all fra mat til fossilt brennstoff, øker med et gjennomsnitt på over 2,3 prosent i året, heter det i rapporten som ble lagt fram i Nairobi fredag.

OMLØP WWF Verdens naturfond sier i en kommentar at den merkelige økonomien må innrettes slik at den opererer innenfor planens tilgrensning. Norge bør innføre et mål om reduksjon av materialforbruket. Det betyr at det i større grad må rettes inn mot å forvalte naturressurser som allerede er i omlop, fremfor å fokusere på avfallsbehandling, sier WWF.

FNs ressurspanel sier at det er bedring i de velstående landene som i all hovedsak driver opp forbruket. De forbruker seks ganger mer naturressurser enn innbyggerne i fattige land og er ansvarlige for ti ganger større klimaeffekter enn dem som bor i lavinntektsland.

– Vi trenger sterkere og mer inngripende virkemidler som skatteordninger og statlig støtte som bidrar til at det blir billigere å velge sirkulært fremfor å ta ut stadig flere urerte ressurser, sier generalsekretær i WWF Verdens naturfond, Karoline Andaur.



LIV I HAVET: En ung hval er funnet død utenfor kysten av Georgia i USA. Endringer i klimaet kan få alvorlige følger for livsmåten til utrykkelsteuerte arter. Foto: Georgia Department of Natural Resources via AP / NTB

Bend the trend

Pathways to a liveable planet as resource use spikes

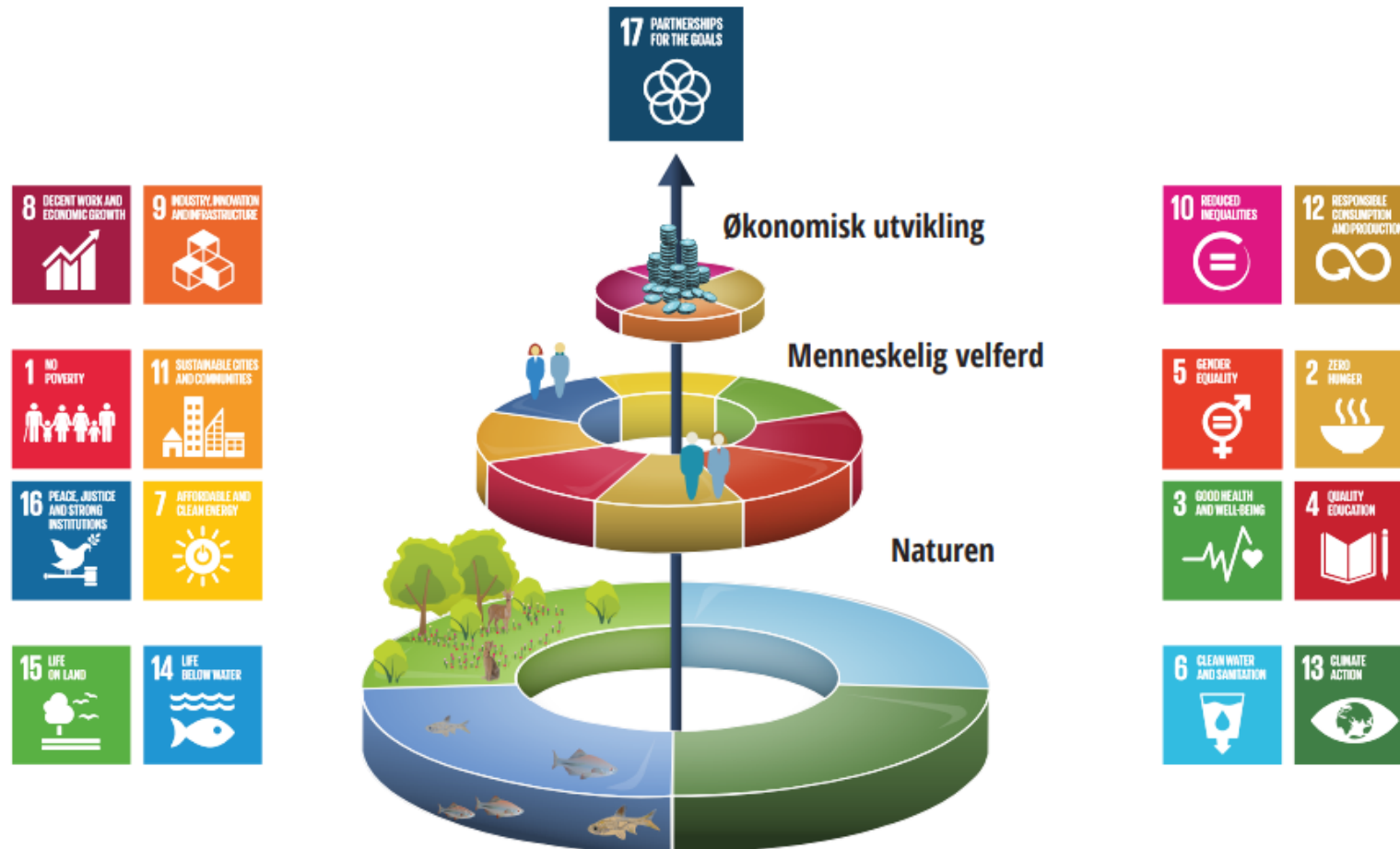
Summary for policymakers

Global Resources Outlook 2024



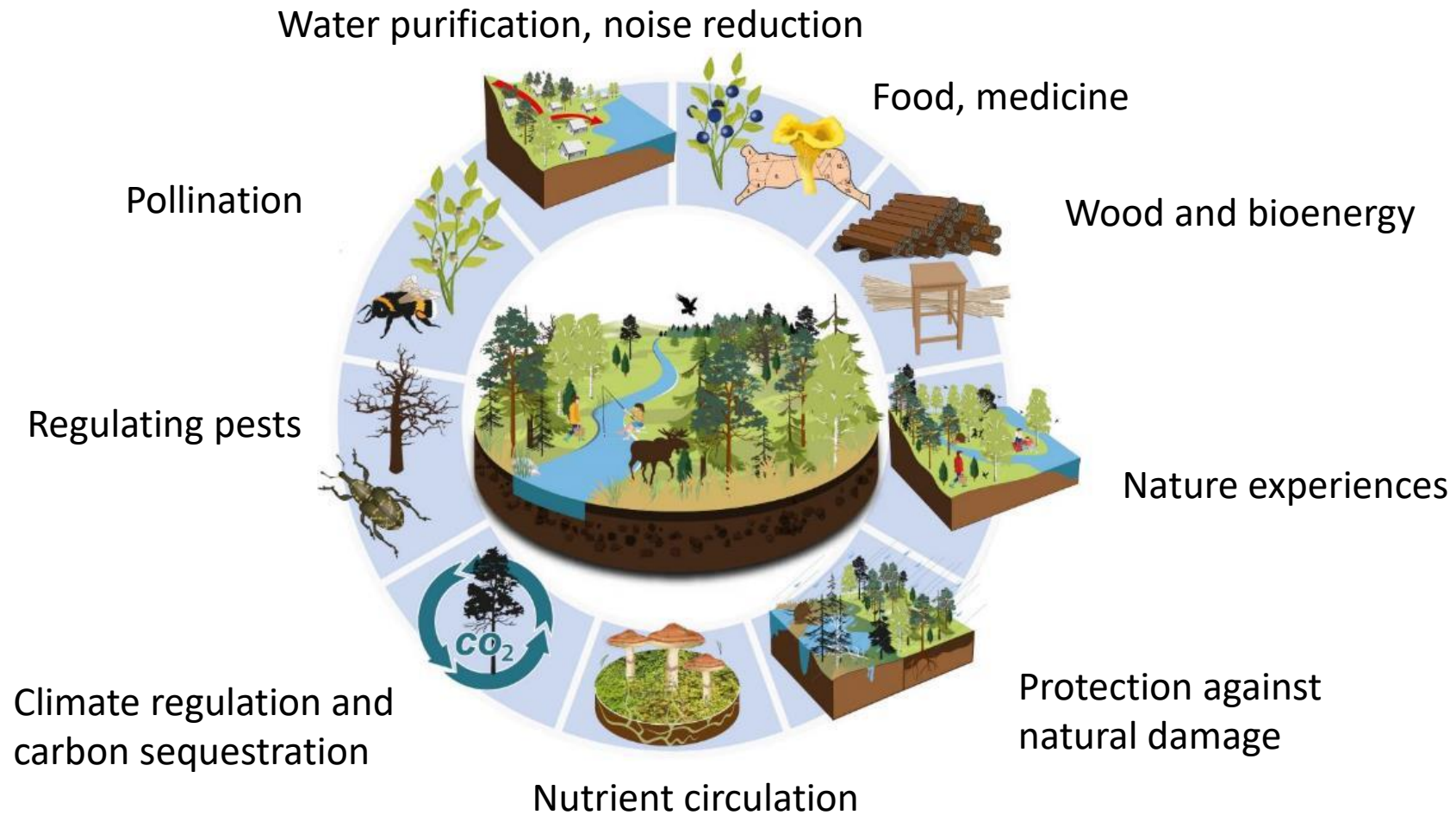
The messages from this report could not be clearer: It is no longer whether a transformation towards global sustainable resource consumption and production is necessary, but how to urgently make it happen.

Climate, nature, and environmental goals are fundamental for reaching other Sustainable Development Goals



Figur 1: Figuren er en illustrasjon hvor FNs 17 bærekraftsmål kan settes i sammenheng, og viser hvordan økonomisk utvikling og menneskelig velferd avhenger av en sunn og bærekraftig natur (biosfære) i bunn. (Credit: Azote Images for Stockholm Resilience Centre)

Robust ecosystems produce important ecosystem services



Kilde: Naturvårdsverket, Sverige

Land-use, land-use change, nature degradation and fragmentation: Impacts for biodiversity and climate

- Land degradation and land use change cause 25 % of global greenhouse gas emissions
- Nature will be more vulnerable to climate change
- Nature is important for climate change adaptation
- Robust ecosystems are necessary for our survival on earth



Foto: Heiko Junge, NTB



Foto: Mikkel Soya Bølstad



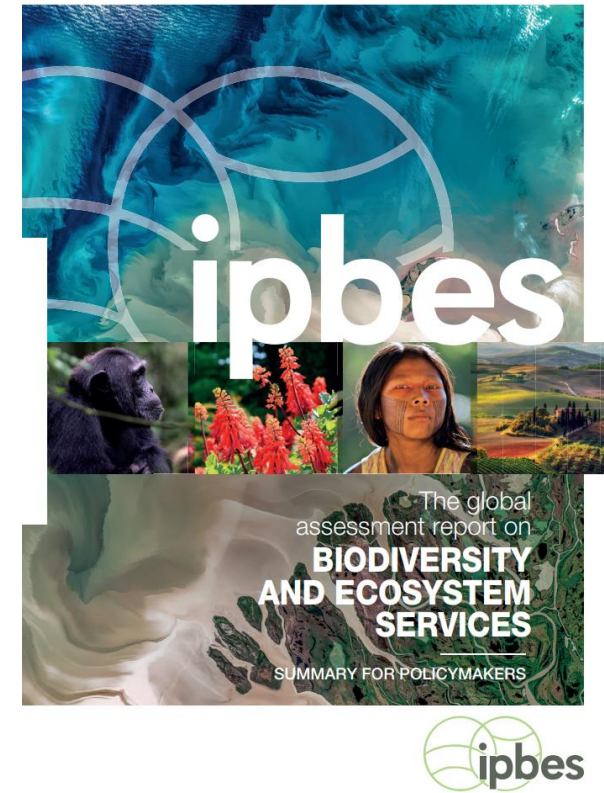
Foto: Nye Veier



Foto: Næringsliv Norge

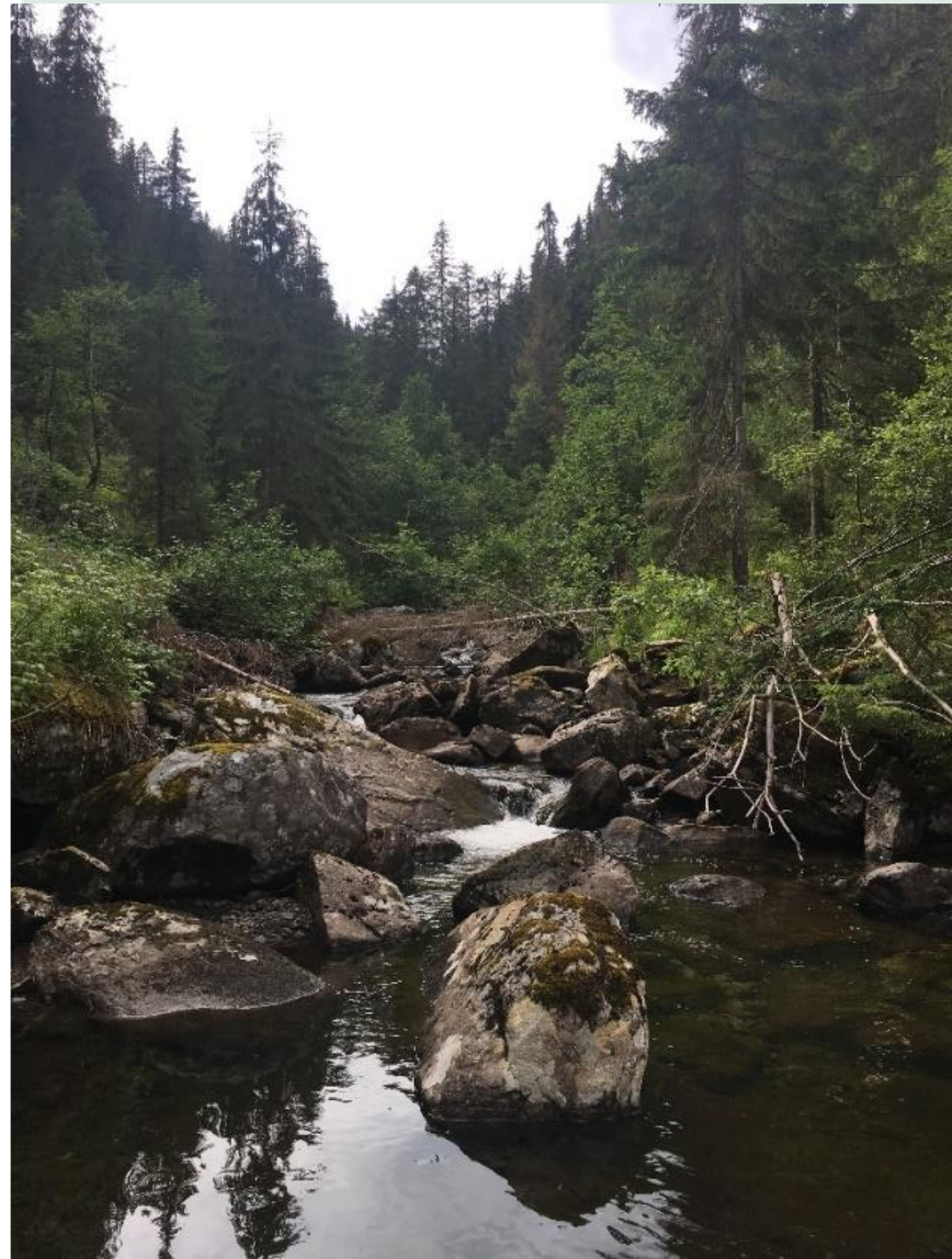
IPBES 's global assessment report from 2019

- 75% of the Earth's land area is significantly altered
- 1 million species threatened with extinction
- The extraction of natural resources and production of that have tripled in the last 50 years. Large parts of resource extraction are not sustainable
- 3.3 billion people suffer from destroyed nature
- Nature destruction costs 10% of the world's economy
- [Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services \(zenodo.org\)](https://zenodo.org/record/3396321/files/Summary_for_policy_makers_of_the_global_assessment_report_on_biodiversity_and_ecosystem_services.pdf)



Why nature conservation is important for climate

- Natural ecosystems take up large amounts of carbon. Cutting emissions is not enough.
- Ecosystems in good ecological condition are more resilient to climate change and thus significant for adaptation.
- Nature conservation and healthy ecosystems are a good investment in climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Between 30 and 50 per cent of the world's land, lakes and oceans must be effectively protected.
- Weakened and degraded nature need to be restored.
- Nature conservation and climate measures must be planned and implemented hand in hand.
- Sustainable land planning and nature-based solutions are important climate adaptation measures. Advantages:
 - biodiversity, carbon sequestration, water regulation and many other social goods and services.



Global Biodiversity Agreement adopted in 2022



2022 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING – MONTRÉAL



<https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>



UN
environment
programme

CBD



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Distr.
LIMITED

CBD/COP/15/L.25
18 December 2022

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

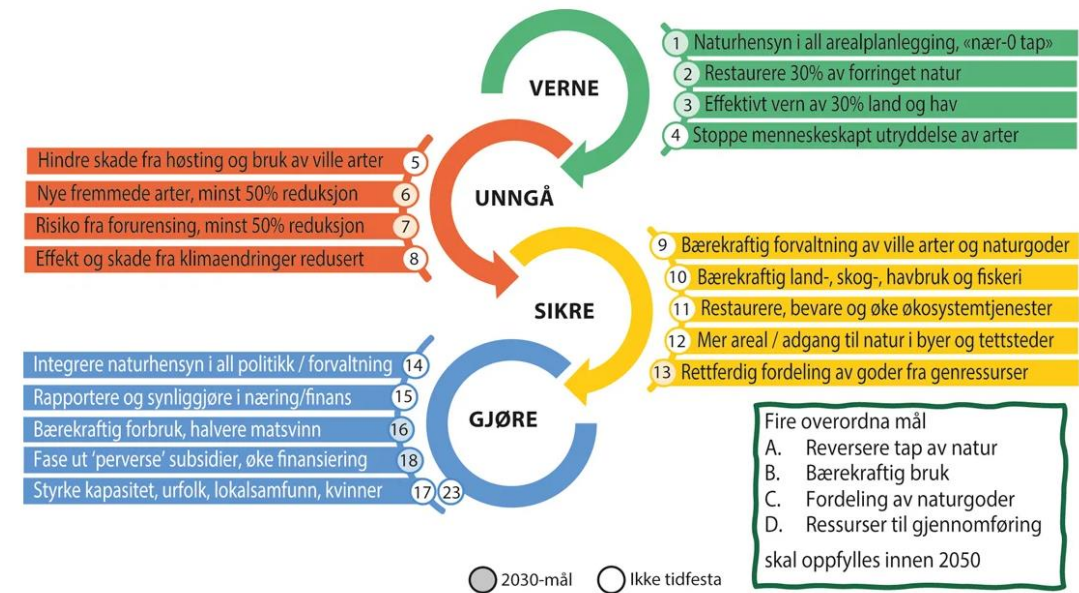
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Fifteenth meeting – Part II
Montreal, Canada, 7-19 December 2022
Agenda item 9A

Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity framework

Draft decision submitted by the President

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

- Global biodiversity framework
 - [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(cbd.int\)](https://www.cbd.int)
- Broad framework, global targets
- National Strategies and Action Plans should be developed
- A Norwegian white paper about the follow-up will be launched in the autumn of 2024.
- The previous action plan was adopted by the Parliament in 2016:
 - [Meld. St. 14 \(2015–2016\) - regjeringen.no](https://www.regjeringen.no)



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Nature-based solutions

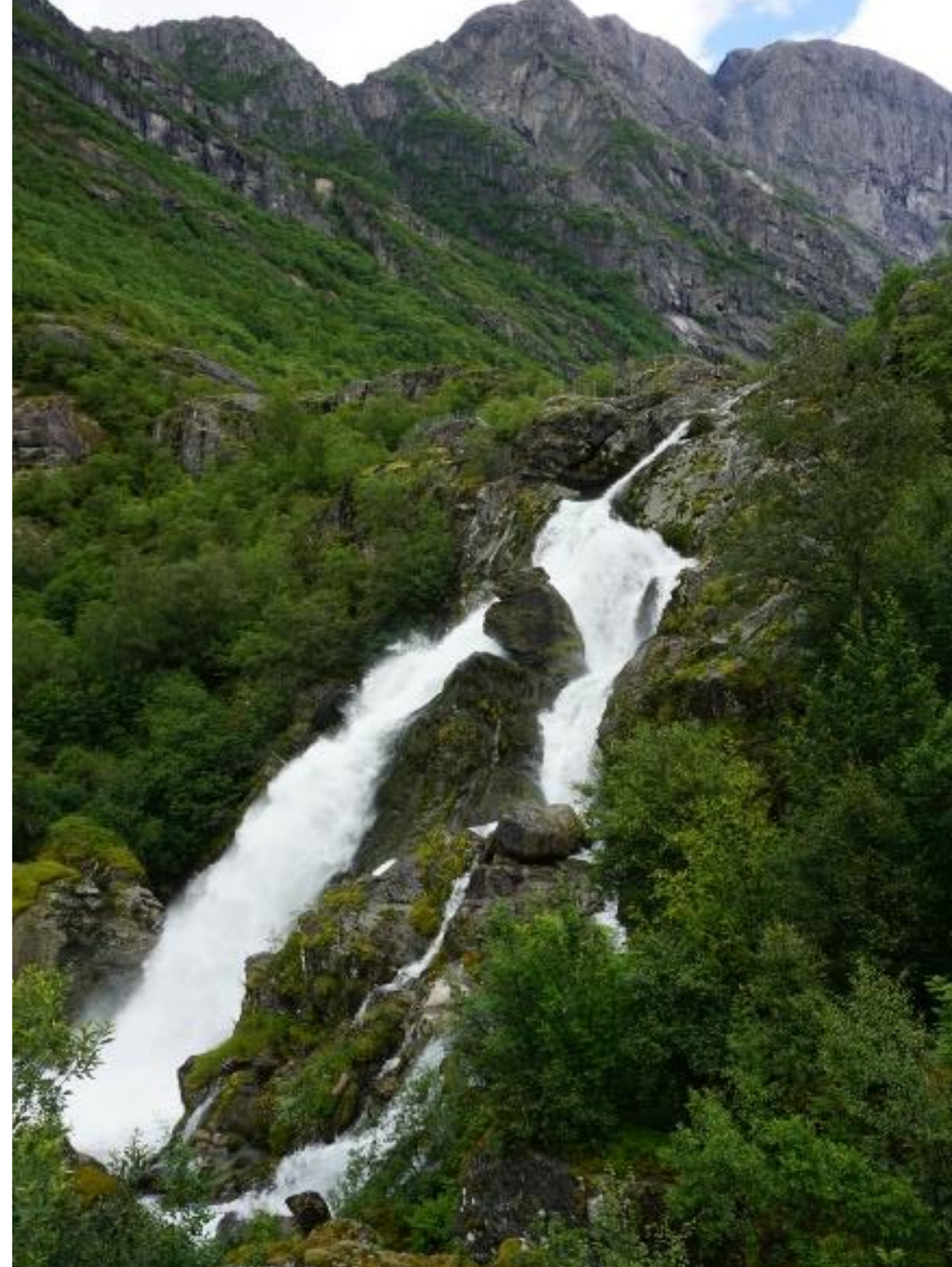
- Nature-based solutions included in targets 8 and 11 in the Global Biodiversity Framework
- Definition:
 - *actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits. ([Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly \(UNEA-5\)](#))*
- Nature-based solutions involve solving societal challenges by starting with natural processes and ecosystems. This is based on the use of nature or "mimicking" nature's own solutions.



What are nature-based solutions?

1. Protecting nature and robust ecosystems
Example: Protection and management of carbon-rich areas such as old forest
2. Restoring degraded habitats and ecosystems
Example: Restoration of wetlands
3. Restoration of natural functions
Example: Reopening of streams and rivers
Green areas that can soak up the water
Green roofs and facades
Establishment of rain beds

Nature-based solutions should mimic wild nature as much as possible and should be connected to existing nature as far as possible.



Norwegian regulations of land use for climate adaptation and nature-based solutions

- **State planning guidelines** for planning of climate and energy, and climate adaptation:
 - [Statlige planretningslinjer for klima- og energiplanlegging og klimatilpasning - Lovdata](#)
 - Ensure that municipalities and county authorities **avoid or limit risks, vulnerabilities, and disadvantages**
- When planning new areas for development, it should be considered how climate change can be taken into account. Emphasis should be placed on **good overall solutions and safeguarding ecosystems and land use of significance for climate change adaptation**, which can also contribute to increased quality in outdoor areas.

- **Nature-based solutions should be used.** If other solutions are chosen, an explanation must be given as to why nature-based solutions have not been chosen. Examples: open waterways, overall blue-green structures, and proper stormwater management.
 - [Vurdere naturbaserte løsninger - Miljødirektoratet \(miljodirektoratet.no\)](https://www.miljodirektoratet.no)

Illustration: Forsvarsbygg



Thank you for your attention!

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Følg med på nye smarte løsninger

Enkel oppdemming av fjellvann kan samle opp store nedbørsmengder, og vannet vil brukes lengre tid ned til dalbunnen. Bare noen dager før «Hans», ble dammen Svintjøenna i Sen-Fron kommune tappet ned for å kunne ta imot mer vann. En 2,5 meter høy mur, en sluse og et overløp er de viktigste delene av den helmekaniske løsningen som kan dempe flomtopper. Tiltaket var til stor hjelp da ekstremværet slo til. Prosjektet ble blant annet støttet av det EU-finansierte PHUSICOS-prosjektet. Det ble også lagt ned en betydelig dugnadsinnsats. På bildet (f.v.): Fylkesrådmann i Innlandet, Aud Hovde, Ole Johan Kolseth (grimus motor), ordfører i Sen-Fron, Ole Tvette Muritzøien og Jon Olav Skurdal (en av dameierne).

Lag dekorative regnbed

Ved å lede vann fra tak, veier eller andre flater mot et regnbed, kan vannstrømmen forankres og en plutselig belastning på avløpsnettet unngås. Et regnbed er vanligvis en fordyptning eller en grunn grøft som er fyllt med en beplantet jordblanding av sand, kompost og jord, som tillater vannet å sive ned i bakken. Her er et eksempel fra Thorvald Meyers gate i Oslo.

Bytt ut asfalt med permeable dekker

I motsetning til tette dekker som asfalt, vil permeable (gjennomtrengelige) dekker tillate regnvannet å sive ned i bakken, redusere overbelastning av avløpsnettet og hindre flom. Også gressarmingsstein, som er stein med hulrom som kan fylles med grus eller jord, kan bidra til drenering av flater, samtidig som de kan kjøres på med bil eller sykkel. Her er et eksempel på sistnevnte fra Stavanger.

Grønne tak og fasader

Grønne tak, som her på Forum Expo i Stavanger, kan bidra til å redusere overvannsproblemer ved at regnvannet absorberes av det grønne dekket. Moss, gress, busker, klatreplanter og annen vegetasjon på tak og utvendige flater forserer også vannrenningen. Grønne tak og planter kan i tillegg bidra til bedre luftkvalitet.

Gjenåpning av nedgravede bekker

Hovinbekken i Oslo og Ilabekken i Trondheim er to eksempler på gjenåpning av gamle bekker som ble gravd ned eller lagt i rør for lenge siden. En gjenåpning kan bidra til å dempe flom og overvannsmisser. Når det styrtregner, kan for liten kapasitet i vannsystemene gjøre at vinned flommer nye veier på overflaten. Da følger ofte vannet veier hvor det historisk har ligget bekker. Bildet er fra Ilabekken i Trondheim.

European Conference of Defence and the Environment

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DAGMAR HAGEN

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research



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Ecosystem restoration to improve degraded ecosystems and mitigate climate change.

Example from large-scale restoration of a military training area into national park in Norway

Dagmar Hagen, NINA
Svein Solli, NDEA



Functioning ecosystem
is essential

Nature under pressure

infrastructure, renewable energy, forestry, mining, recreation, military

- ▶ 75% of global land area severely altered
- ▶ 85% of global wetlands degraded
- ▶ 1 mill. species are threatened

IPBES 2019: knowledge gap on
«impacts of war and conflict on nature and support of ecosystem services»

Infrastructure



Training



War & defence



Climate change mitigation & nature & sustainability

- Intact nature areas are the best carbon-storage and carbon-capturing systems on earth

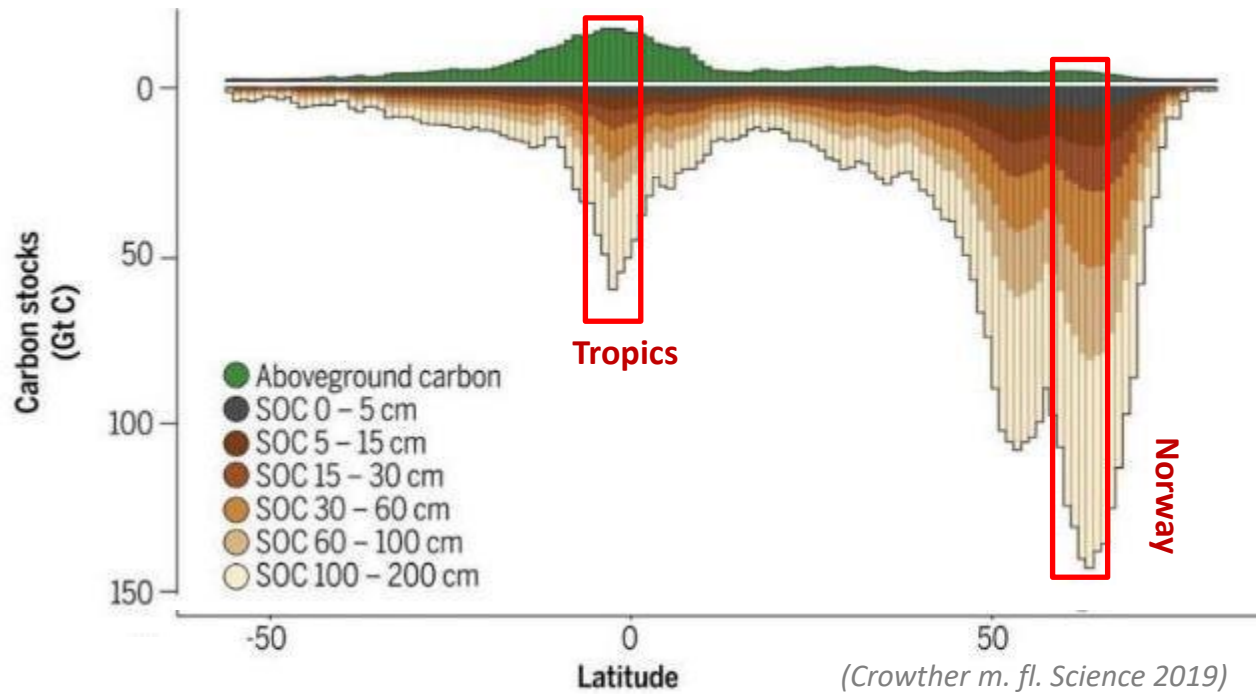


Foto: M.O.Kyrkjeide/NINA

Ecosystem restoration: a target, a goal and a tool

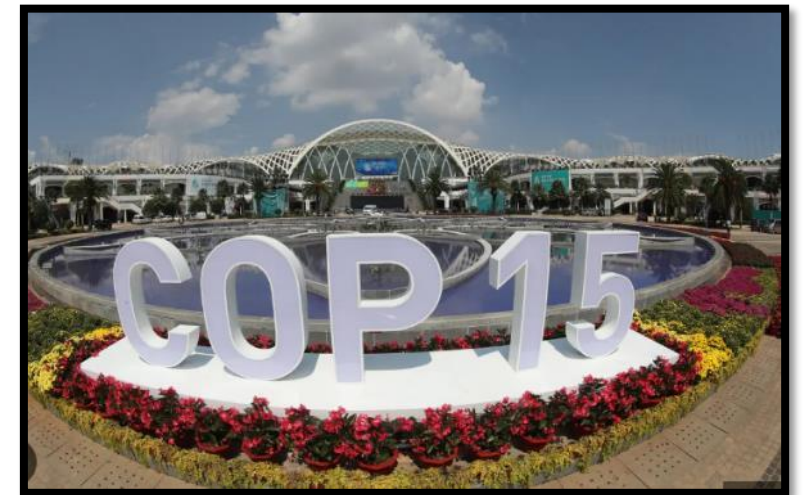
“any intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem from a degraded state” (IPBES 2018)

2021 – 2030 UN Decade

“aims to massively scale up the restoration of degraded and destroyed ecosystems”

2022 Kunming-Montreal COP 15 target #2

“Have restoration completed or underway on at least 30% of degraded terrestrial, inland waters, and coastal and marine ecosystems [by 2030]





1923 – 2008

Norwegian Parliament 1999

restore to...

"considerable nature benefit"

"nature protection"

"civilian use"

"restore back to natural state"

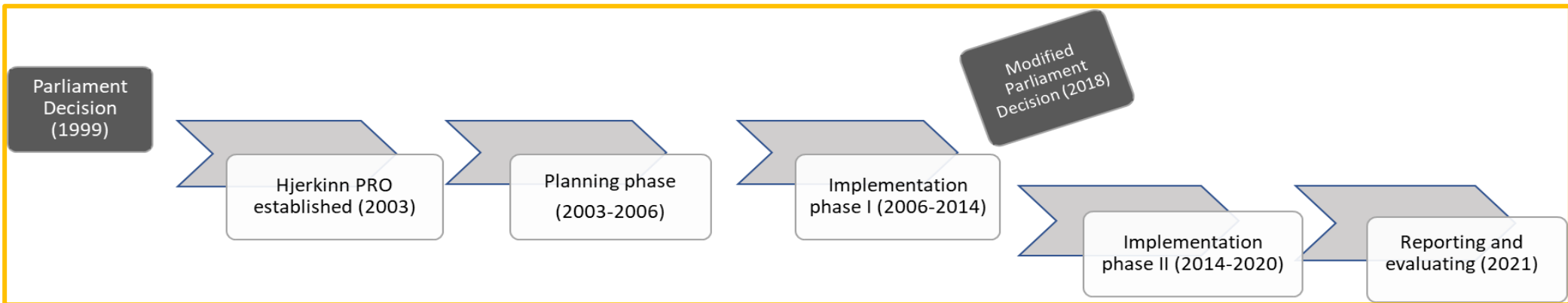


Photo: P. Jordøy



Photo: Forsvaret

Hjerkin PRO 2003 - 2020
From military battlefield to
National Park



- Input

- ▶ 165 km² area
- ▶ Alpine landscape (1000 – 1700 m asl)
- ▶ 100 years of heavy military use
- ▶ 580 mill NOK (400 + 180)

- Crucial conditions

- ▶ Large scale (size and complexity)
- ▶ Unexploded ordnances – overall risk
- ▶ Pollution (within area solutions)
- ▶ Time (20 yrs project)

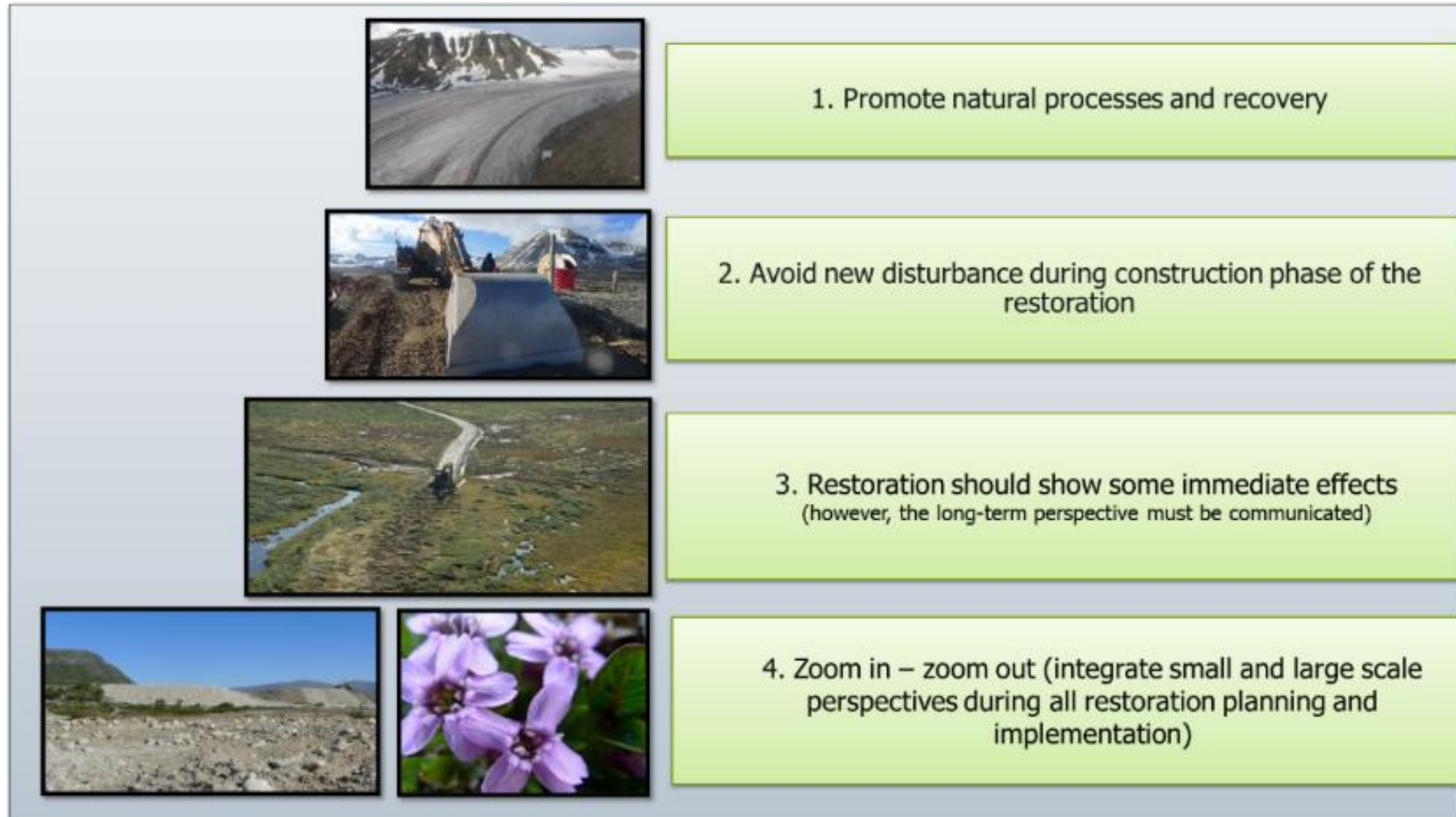


Militær manngard på Hjerkin



60 km roads
Military infrastructure
>100 buildings

Guiding principles for ecosystem restoration at Hjerkinn





Implementation



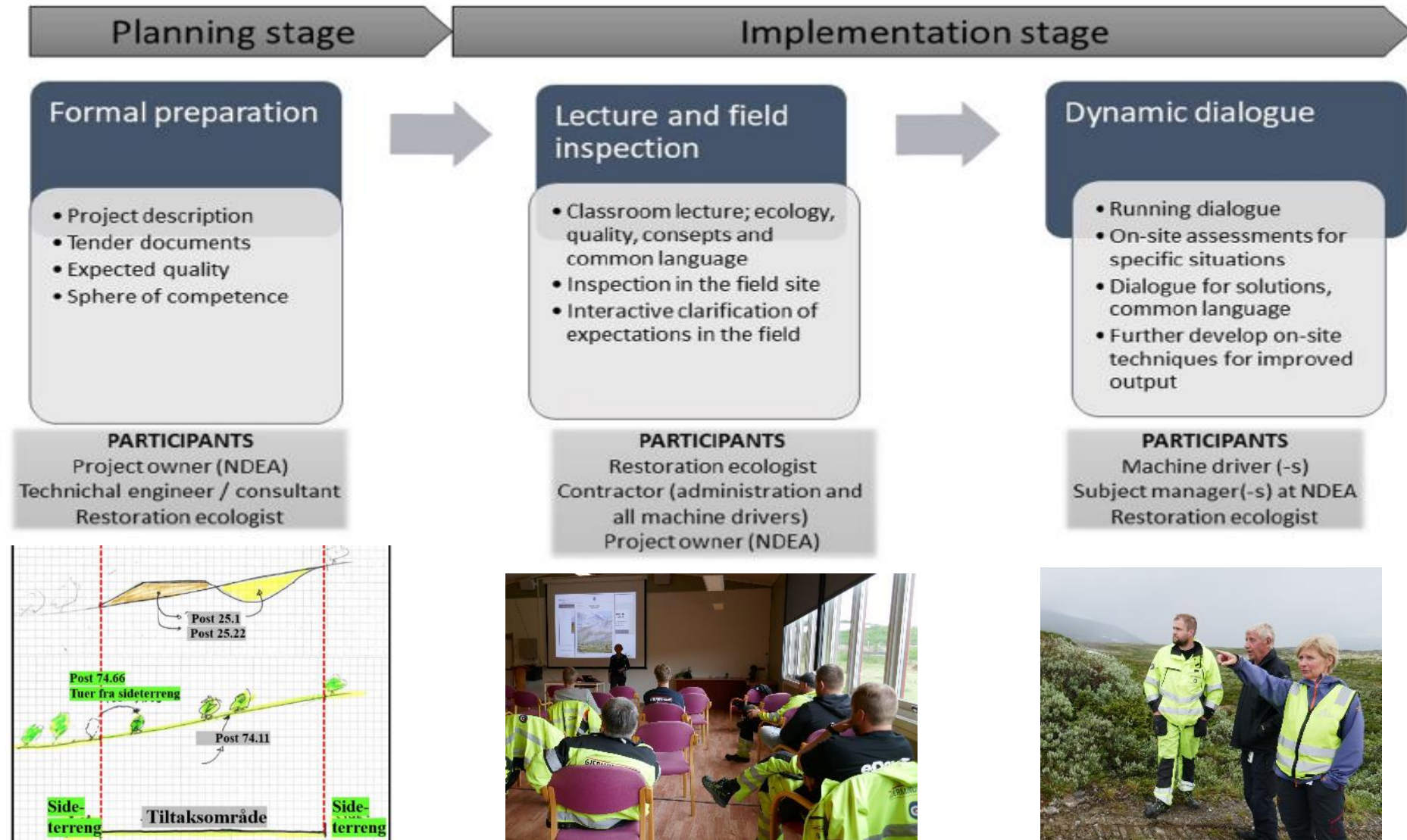
Remove roads and military infrastructure

- Reverse construction
 - ▶ Planning
 - ▶ Tenders
 - ▶ Implementation
- Remote control
 - ▶ Safety
 - ▶ Technology
 - ▶ Quality



Green training

“a three-step model for communication and dialogue in developing quality on-site solutions for restoration
(Hagen et al. 2022. Journal for Nature Conservation)



-Vi blir stort sett enige til slutt.
-Til slutt.

NRK
Nytteter



September 2019
September 2020



June 2019
September 2019



Festuca ovina



Juni 2017

August 2017

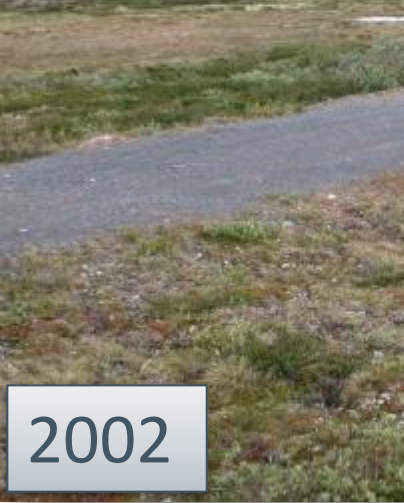


- 1. Promote natural processes and recovery
- 2. Avoid new disturbance during construction phase of the restoration
- 3. Restoration should show some immediate effects (however, the long term perspective must be communicated)
- 4. Zoom in – zoom out; (integrate small and large scale perspectives during all restoration planning and implementation)

Quarry, gravel deposit



Testing and monitoring restoration



2002



2009



2015

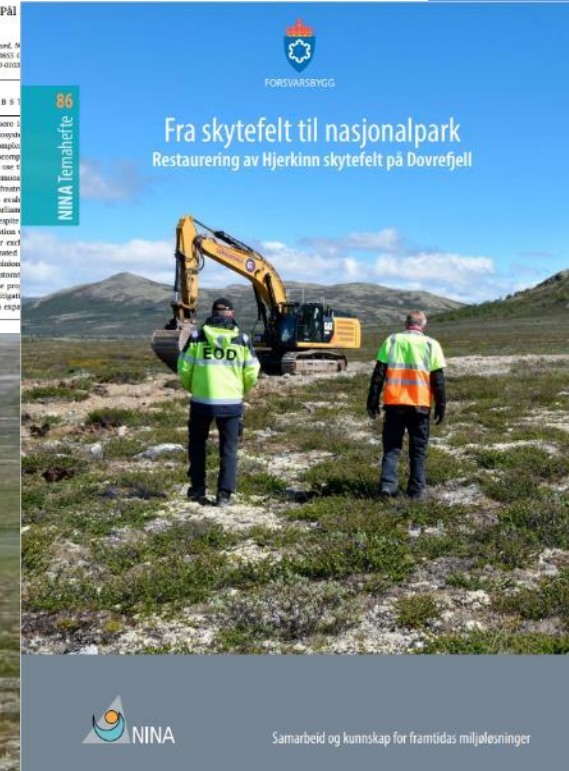


2020



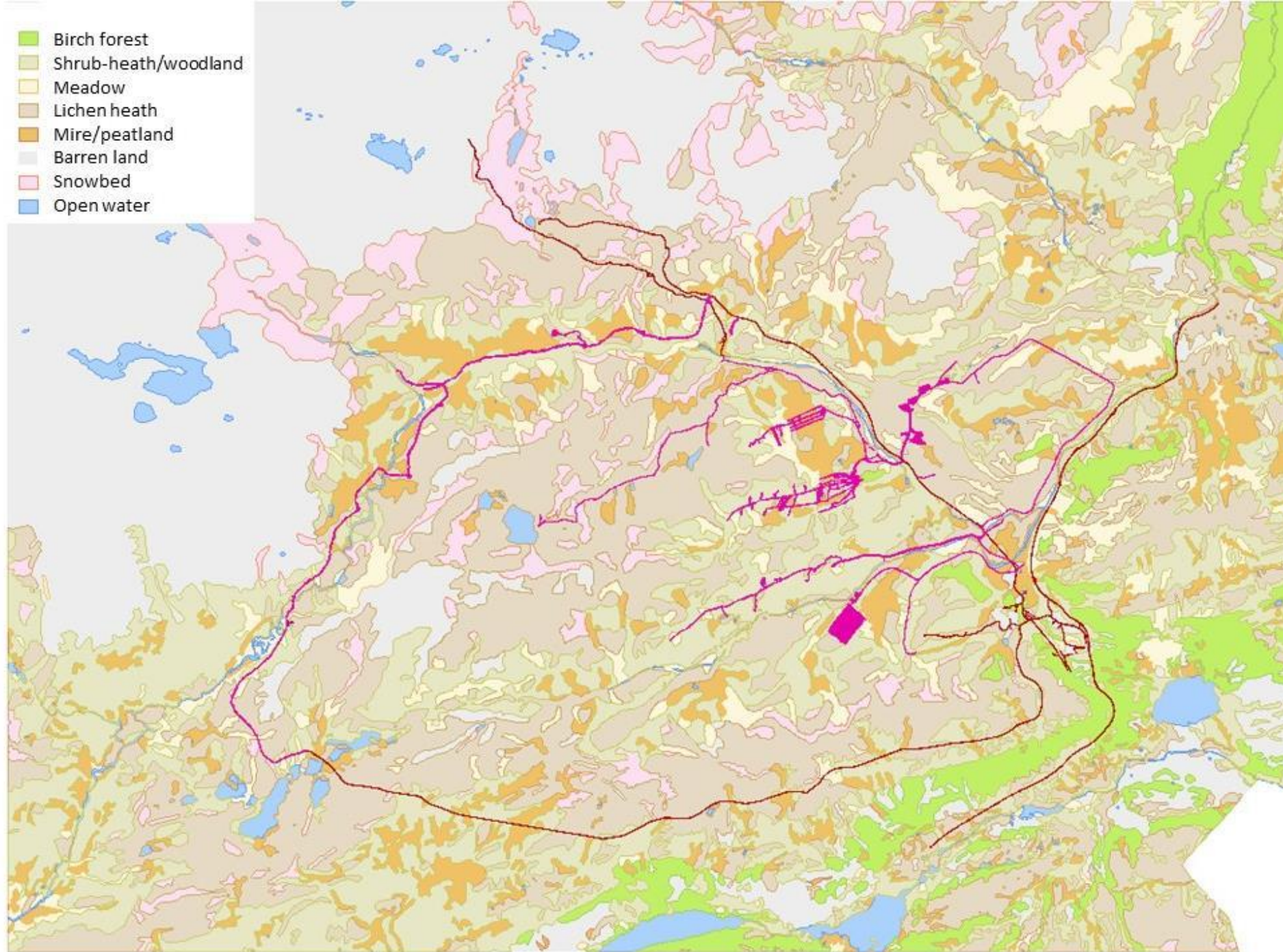
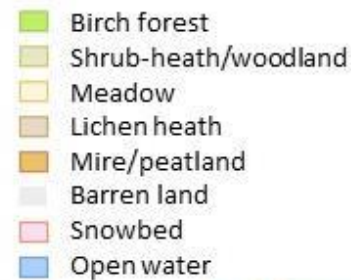
Measured outcome

- 130 km² National Park
- 12,19 km² prime summer habitat for wild reindeer
- 19000 UXO og 540 tons garbage removed out of area
- 1103 household / yr carbon seq
- 47 000 native Salix planted



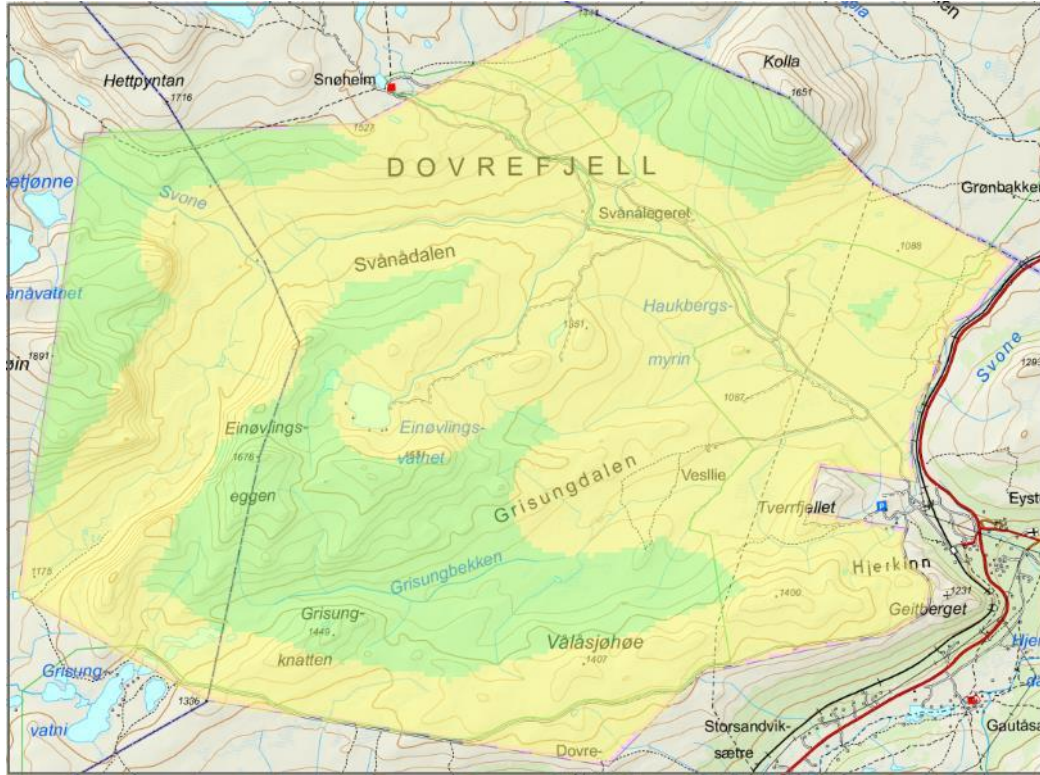
Sequestering the equivalent annual energy use of 1103 household every year

Habitat restoration

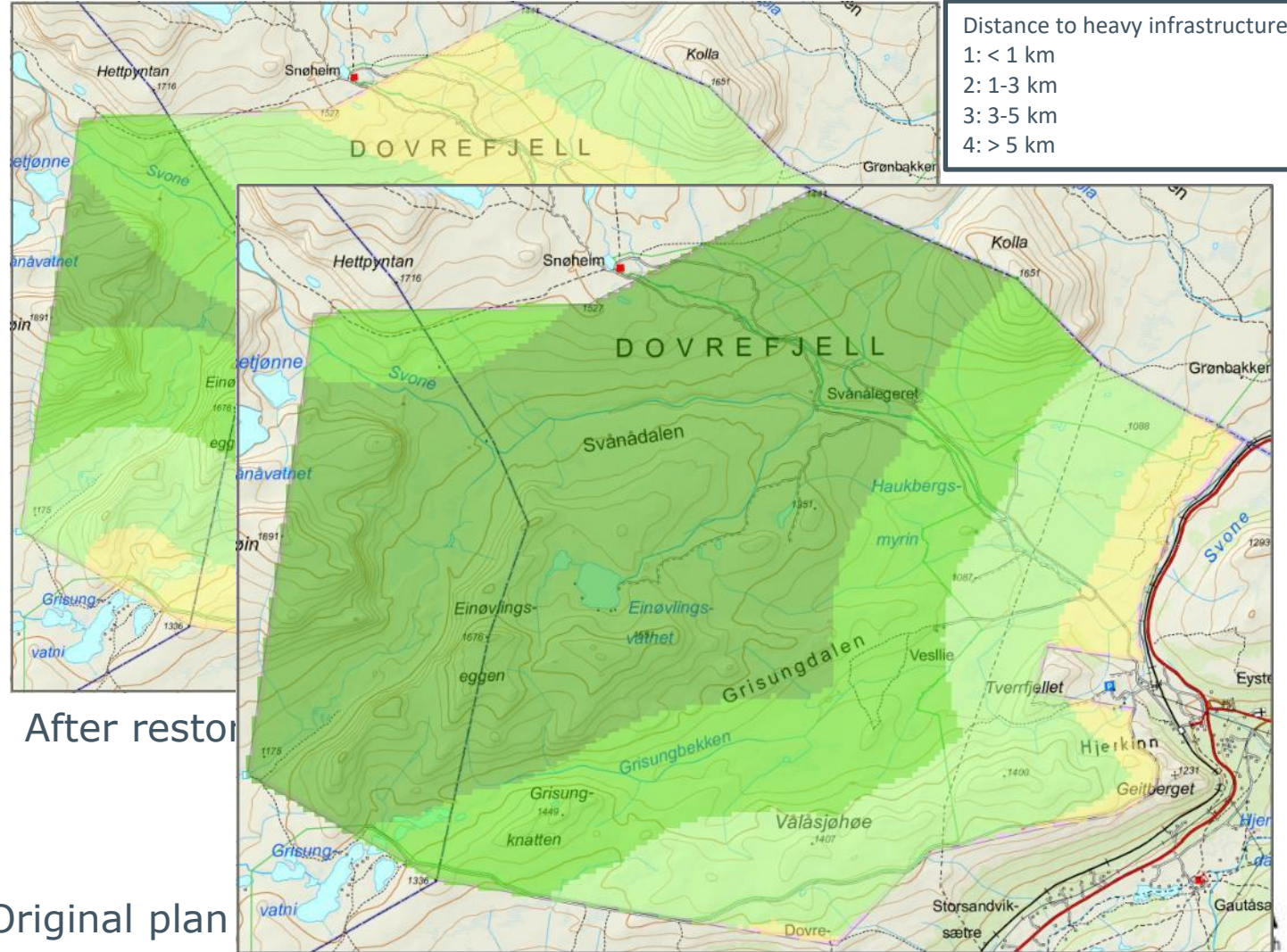


Habitat	Areal data	Share
Peatland	580	11%
Meadow	462	9%
Snowbed	34	< 1%
Birch forest	13	< 1%
Lichen heath	2428	46%
Shrub-heath	1697	32%

Interference-free area



Before (during military use, 2003)



After restoration

Original plan

Knowledge transfer – across businesses, countries and ecosystems

- Goal formulation – planning – implementation - measure outcome
- Science + practice = ❤️
- Share good and bad experiences and develop solutions
- Communicate
- Complete it!



Methods



Solutions



Cooperation



Goal formulation



Codes of conduct



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svein.solli@forsvarsbygg.no

Ecosystem restoration and global commitments (IPCC, IPBES, UNEP, WEF/WB)

- ▶ Climate change mitigation
- ▶ Reverse biodiversity loss
- ▶ Human health and wellbeing
- ▶ Reduce nature risk and social vulnerability

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ECDE 2024

COLM CASSERLY
cbec Europe



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Nature-based solutions for river environments: case studies from Norway, Iceland and UK

13 June 2024

Colm M Casserly
cbec Europe

European Conference of Defence and the Environment - Oslo



Climate Change

Wetter Winters

- Increase in frequency and magnitude of high-low events (risk to infrastructure)

Drier Summers

- Reduction in summer low flows (droughts/thermal stress/habitat loss)

Non-typical Events

- Extreme rainfall events during the summer (Eco-system stress)

Military Assets - Requires long-term vision

What can we do?

- We can design resiliency into our landscapes

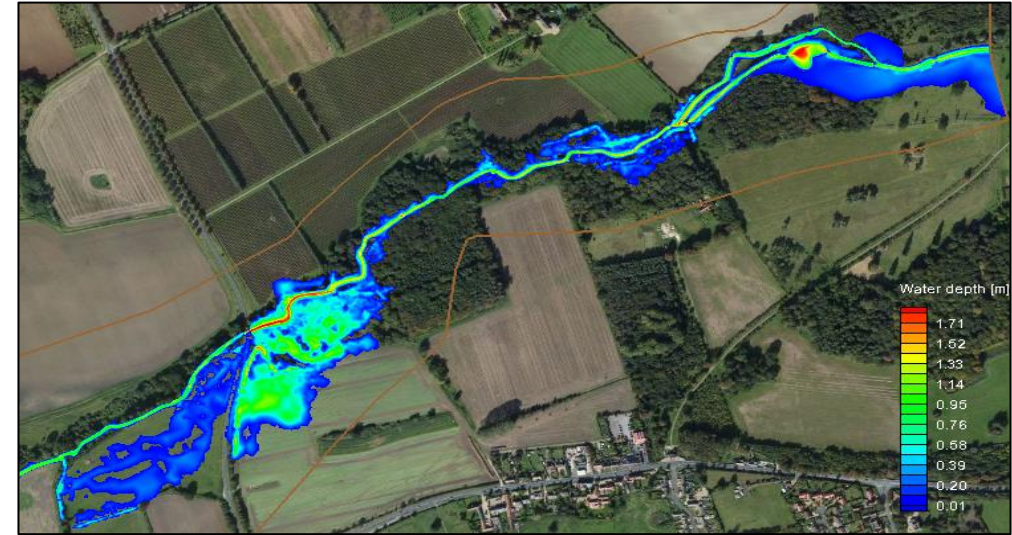


Multiple overlapping benefits – Asset protection, carbon storage, Habitats, WFD 

Flood Management

Drawbacks of Traditional Approaches

- High capital costs
- Ecological degradation
- ➔ Increase flood risk elsewhere



Catching & detaining water where it falls

- Slow the flow!

Increase catchment roughness

- Reduce drain density
- Reforestation / Riparian

Construct space for water

- Wetlands, backwaters
- Water quality benefits



Beltie Burn, Aberdeenshire (2019-2020)



UK Ministry of Defence Property

Design treatment wetlands

- System of cells – Heavily planted
- Pollutants are safely emitted to the atmosphere or 'locked' into the sediment
- Can treat run off from military installations
- Designed to account for climate change



Sturry ICW – River Stour, Canterbury, England



Assisted Recovery (700 m)

- Removal of flood embankments
- Large Wood Placement
- Gravel Augmentation



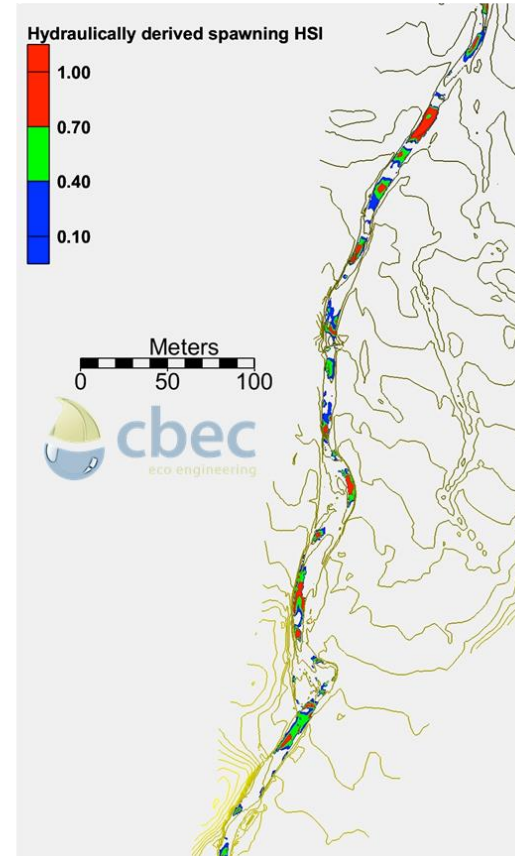
Allt Lorgy, Scotland

Results

- Increase in spawning habitat

Ecological Benefits

2014 MODELLED SPAWNING HABITAT



HSI	2011	2014
>0.50	14%	23%
>0.75	4%	8%

2011-13 = 0 redds

2014 = 5 redds

2015 = 11 redds

2016 = 14 redds

2017 = 31 redds

2018 = 29 redds





Constraints

- Military base
- Urban infrastructure
- Airfields
- **Other assets (Bank protection)**



Green Burn, Near Aberdeen Airport

Hard Bank Protection (rip-rap, rock revetment, boulders, gabions, concrete)

- Not natural (or sustainable)
- Deflects erosive power elsewhere
- Often fail – undermining or out-flanking



Large Wood Structures

- Natural Material – How bank naturally stabilise
- Habitat benefits
- Generally cheaper to implement
- Energy dissipation
- Climate resilient - Deforms / adjust as channel shape evolves

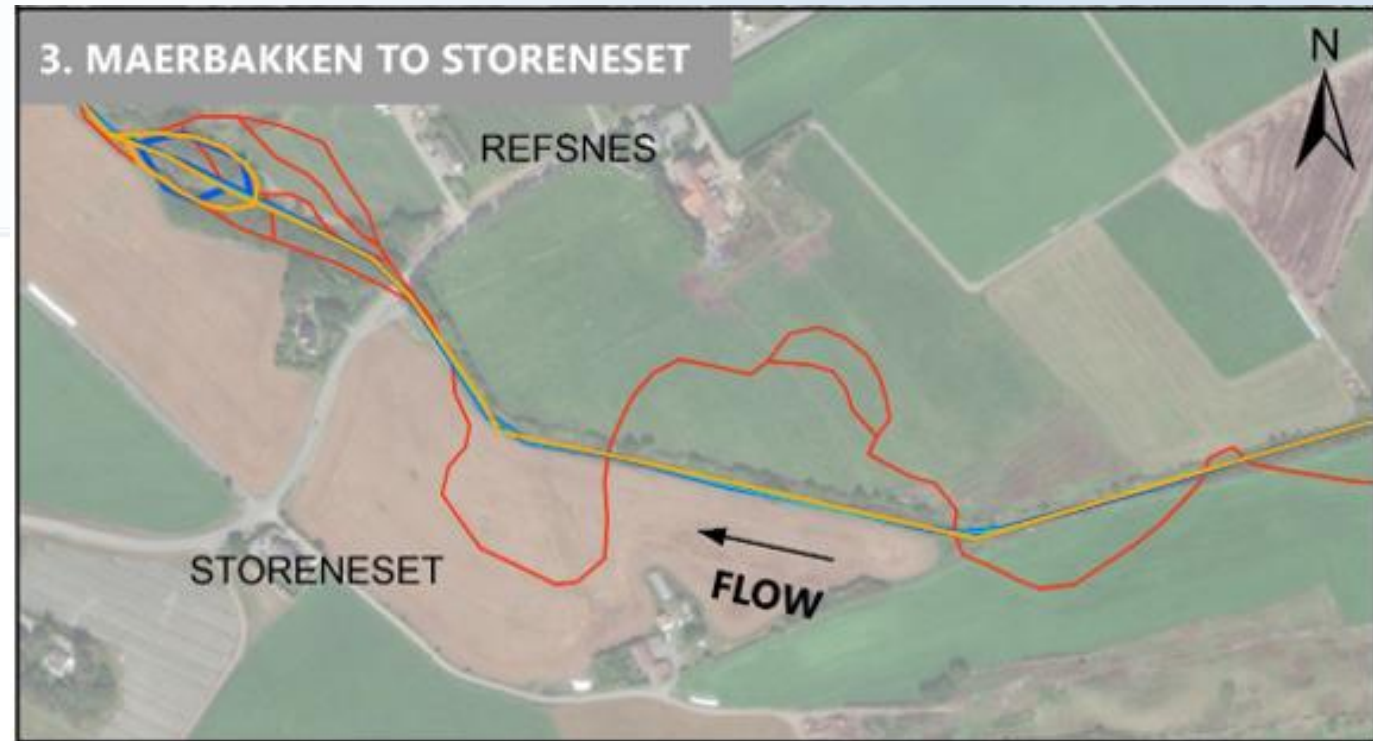


Andakilsá River, Iceland

Source: Jaerbladet

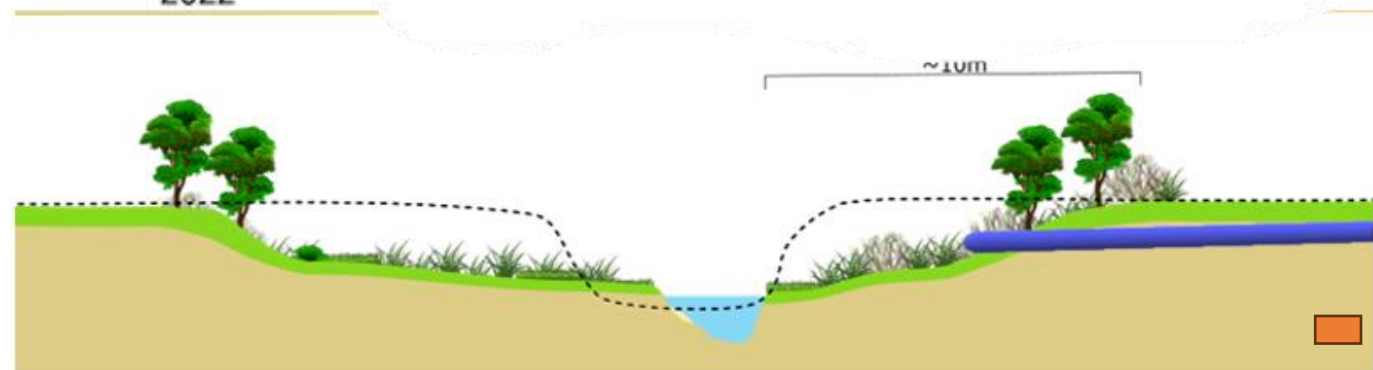


- Channelised in 1950s
- Problems with flooding
- Erosion issues
- Desire to dredge again
- Degraded habitat



Historic Position of Roslandsana

- 1953¹
- 1966²
- 1974³
- 2022⁴



Thank you for your attention!
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East Tullos Burn (2012-2014)

European Conference of Defence and the Environment

ECDE 2024

TIMO KANERVA
Defence Properties Finland



EUROPEAN
CONFERENCE OF
**DEFENCE AND THE
ENVIRONMENT**



Adaptation to Climate Change – A study of impacts on state properties

ECDE 2024

Timo Kanerva
Sustainability Director, Defence Properties &
Senate Properties Finland



Contents

1. Senate Group
2. Key risks of climate change for property owners
3. Adaptation and risk management
4. Case: Risk of flooding
5. Conclusions

Work environment partner of the Finnish government

- The Finnish Government's internal service centre and an unincorporated state enterprise under the Ministry of Finance
- We look after the State's properties, build new buildings, renovate and repair old ones and develop and sell buildings no longer required
- We ensure that premises intended for use by the Defence Forces are available without disruption in all security situations and emergencies



Senate Group



Shared services and
processes



Senate Properties

Central government property specialist and facilities partner, responsible also for the development and sale of government properties.

Synergies and cost benefits are achieved through shared administrative services and processes across the group.

Defence Properties Finland

Strategic partner of the Finnish Defence Administration for properties and associated services in all security situations.

Senate Group in figures



Buildings

8 500



Premises

5 900 000 m²



Total turnover

967 M €



Investments

657 M €



Customers

100 000



Balance sheet

5,3 bn €



Premises user satisfaction

75 %



Group employees

1 290

Key risks of climate change for property owners

Adaptation plan for climate change

- According to the real estate strategy, Finnish state property owners must have a plan for preparing for and adapting to climate change in the long and short term.
- A climate change adaptation plan was prepared in autumn 2022 – spring 2023.
- The plan was drawn up for the entire Senate Group.

Objectives:

1

Identify the most significant climate risks for the real estate sector and the means by which they can be managed

2

Define the key measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change

3

Identify buildings located in flood risk areas

Key impacts and risks of climate change in Senate's operating environment

Flooding and heavy rain

Increased rainfall, heavy rainfall, rising sea levels and melting snow cause an increase in flood risks, which has financial consequences.

Moisture stress for buildings

Increased rainfall, rising temperatures and increased cloudiness increase the moisture stress of buildings, which affects the service life and healthiness of buildings. Important from an economic, health and safety perspective.

Heat

Rising temperatures and the heat island effect puts a strain on building services technology and increases the need for cooling. Significant from the point of view of health and well-being.

Disturbances for operative functions

Extreme weather phenomena affect operations, for example, through disturbances in electricity and heat distribution and various property damage cases.

Changing market and expectations

Climate change causes changes in global markets and stakeholder expectations, which affects, for example, in the availability and costs of materials. This may have significant financial impacts.

Other impacts and risks of climate change on the real estate sector

Changes in soil bearing capacity

The increase in precipitation causes changes in the bearing capacity of the soil, which further weakens the storm resistance of various structures.

Changing winters

The rise in the average winter temperature, temperature fluctuations above and below zero, the increase in precipitation. These increase e.g. slipperiness and darkness, and decrease the need for heating and ploughing.

Biodiversity loss

The changing climate and densification of cities accelerate biodiversity loss.

Changing lifestyles

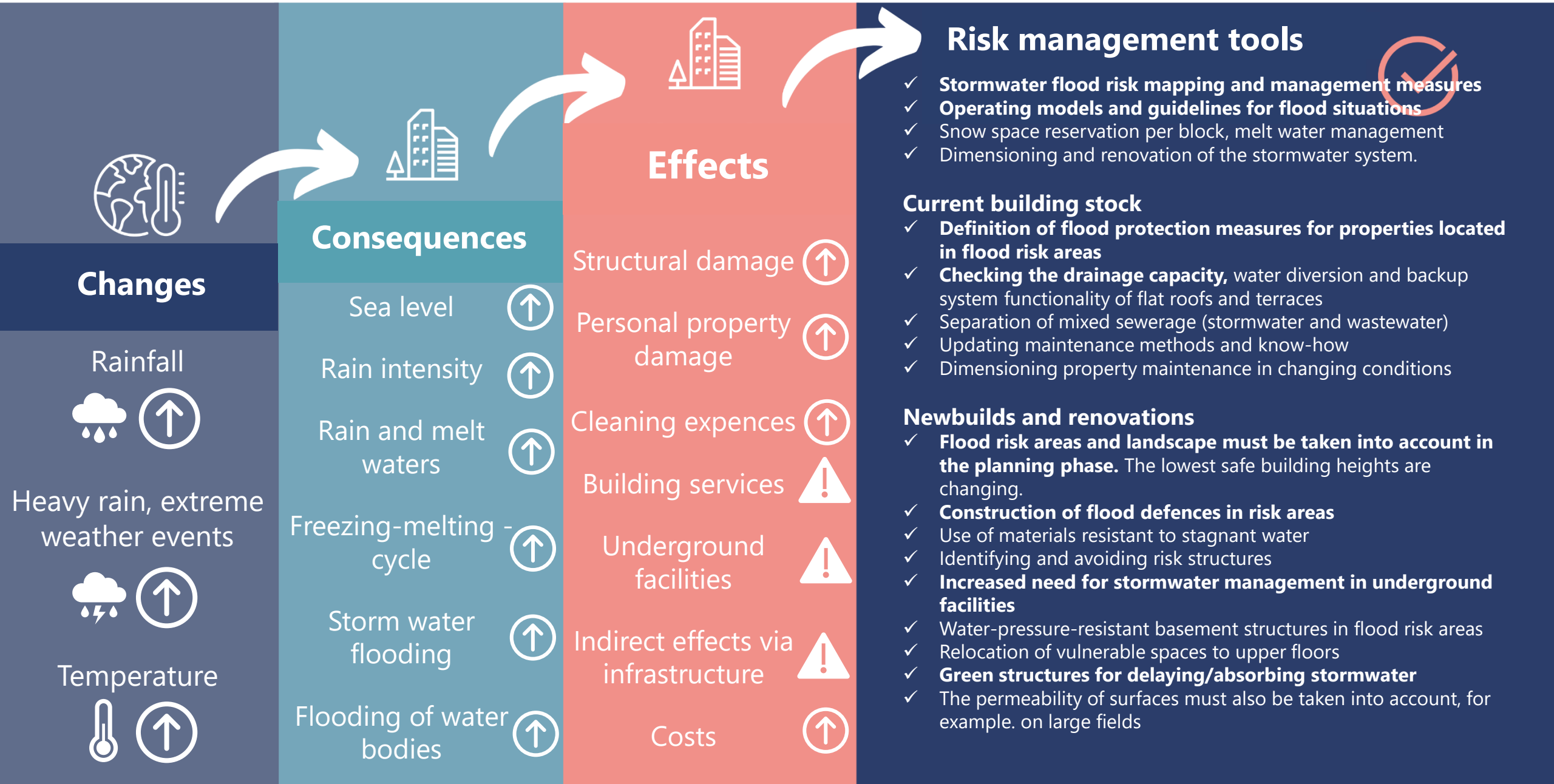
Climate change challenges consumer culture, and a sustainable lifestyle also applies to the real estate sector.

Climate fugitives

The deterioration of living conditions in certain areas may increase the flow of refugees to Nordic countries. This may indirectly affect the real estate sector through customers' changing space needs.

Adaptation and risk management

Example 1: Flooding and heavy rainfall



Changes

Rainfall



Heavy rain, extreme weather events



Temperature



Consequences

Sea level



Rain intensity



Rain and melt waters



Freezing-melting cycle



Storm water flooding



Flooding of water bodies



Effects


Structural damage 

Personal property damage 

Cleaning expences 

Building services 

Underground facilities 

Indirect effects via infrastructure 

Costs 

Risk management tools

- ✓ Stormwater flood risk mapping and management measures
- ✓ Operating models and guidelines for flood situations
- ✓ Snow space reservation per block, melt water management
- ✓ Dimensioning and renovation of the stormwater system.

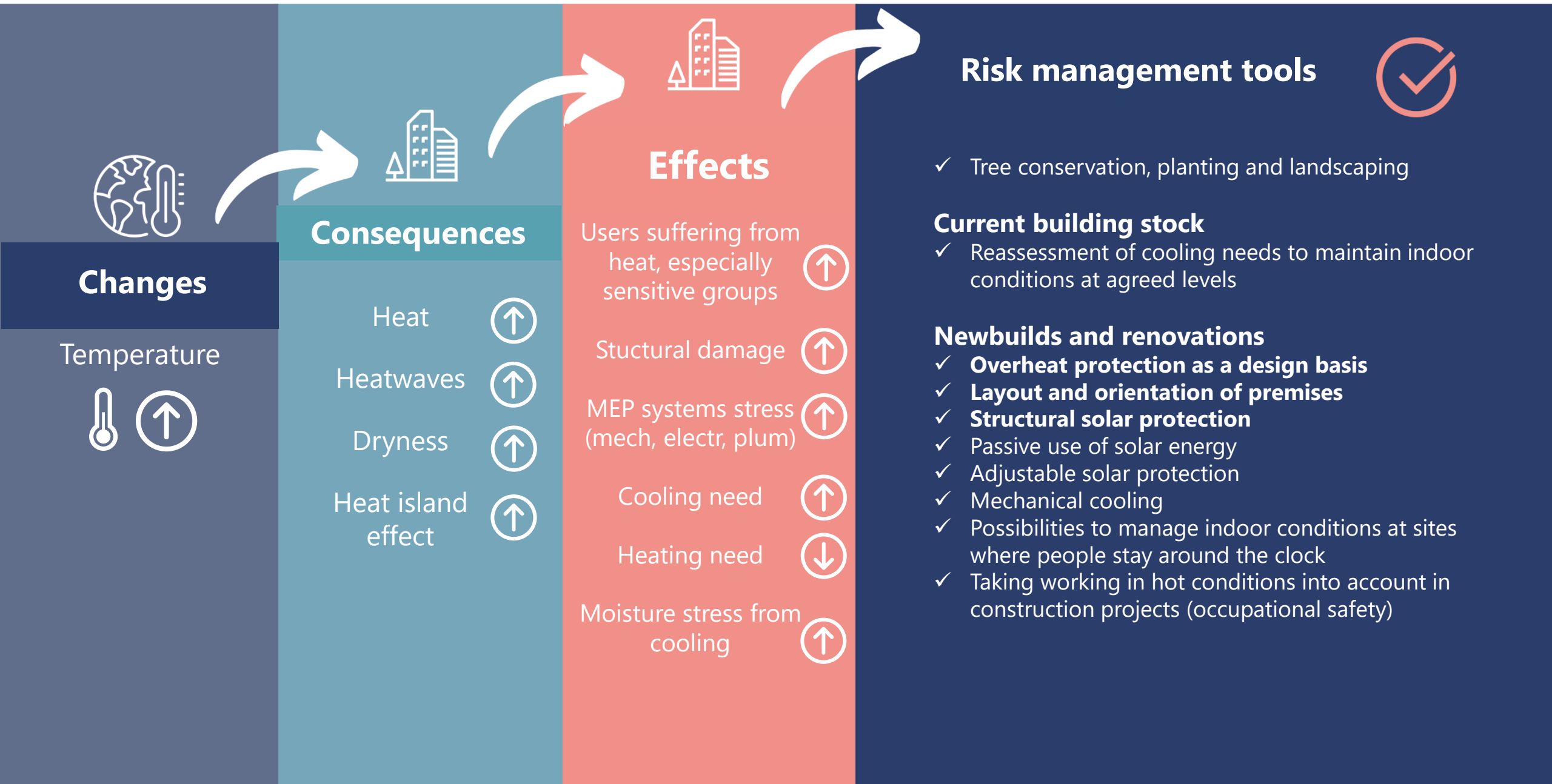
Current building stock

- ✓ Definition of flood protection measures for properties located in flood risk areas
- ✓ Checking the drainage capacity, water diversion and backup system functionality of flat roofs and terraces
- ✓ Separation of mixed sewerage (stormwater and wastewater)
- ✓ Updating maintenance methods and know-how
- ✓ Dimensioning property maintenance in changing conditions

Newbuilds and renovations

- ✓ Flood risk areas and landscape must be taken into account in the planning phase. The lowest safe building heights are changing.
- ✓ Construction of flood defences in risk areas
- ✓ Use of materials resistant to stagnant water
- ✓ Identifying and avoiding risk structures
- ✓ Increased need for stormwater management in underground facilities
- ✓ Water-pressure-resistant basement structures in flood risk areas
- ✓ Relocation of vulnerable spaces to upper floors
- ✓ Green structures for delaying/absorbing stormwater
- ✓ The permeability of surfaces must also be taken into account, for example. on large fields

Example 2: Heat



Changes

Temperature



Consequences

Heat 


Heatwaves 

Dryness 


Heat island effect 




Effects


Users suffering from heat, especially sensitive groups 

Structural damage 

MEP systems stress (mech, electr, plum) 

Cooling need 

Heating need 

Moisture stress from cooling 

Risk management tools

- ✓ Tree conservation, planting and landscaping

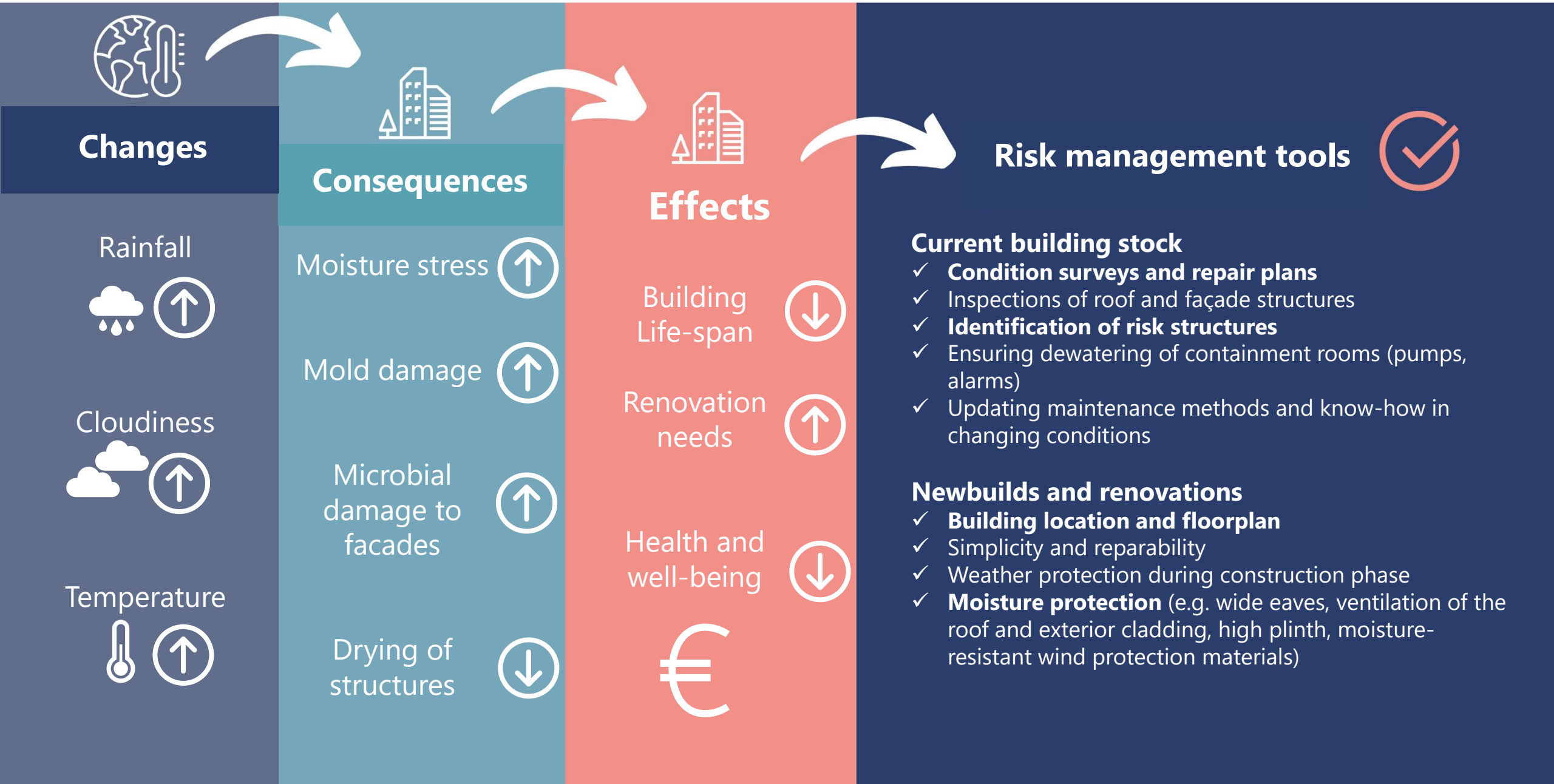
Current building stock

- ✓ Reassessment of cooling needs to maintain indoor conditions at agreed levels

Newbuilds and renovations

- ✓ **Overheat protection as a design basis**
- ✓ **Layout and orientation of premises**
- ✓ **Structural solar protection**
- ✓ Passive use of solar energy
- ✓ Adjustable solar protection
- ✓ Mechanical cooling
- ✓ Possibilities to manage indoor conditions at sites where people stay around the clock
- ✓ Taking working in hot conditions into account in construction projects (occupational safety)

Example 3: Moisture stress



Case: Risk of flooding

Flood risk survey

- A flood risk survey was conducted to determine which state-owned properties and buildings are located in flood risk areas.
- Purpose of mapping of the entire property mass was to **determine the extent of flood risks** and **identify the need for adaptation measures** in risk areas.
- The survey was based on public information on flood hazard and flood risk maps prepared by Regional Environmental Authorities (ELY Centres).

Some results:

1

Inland water body floods

- **17** buildings in the risk area for rare flooding (1/100 yrs)
- **24** buildings in the risk area for extremely rare flooding (1/250 yrs)

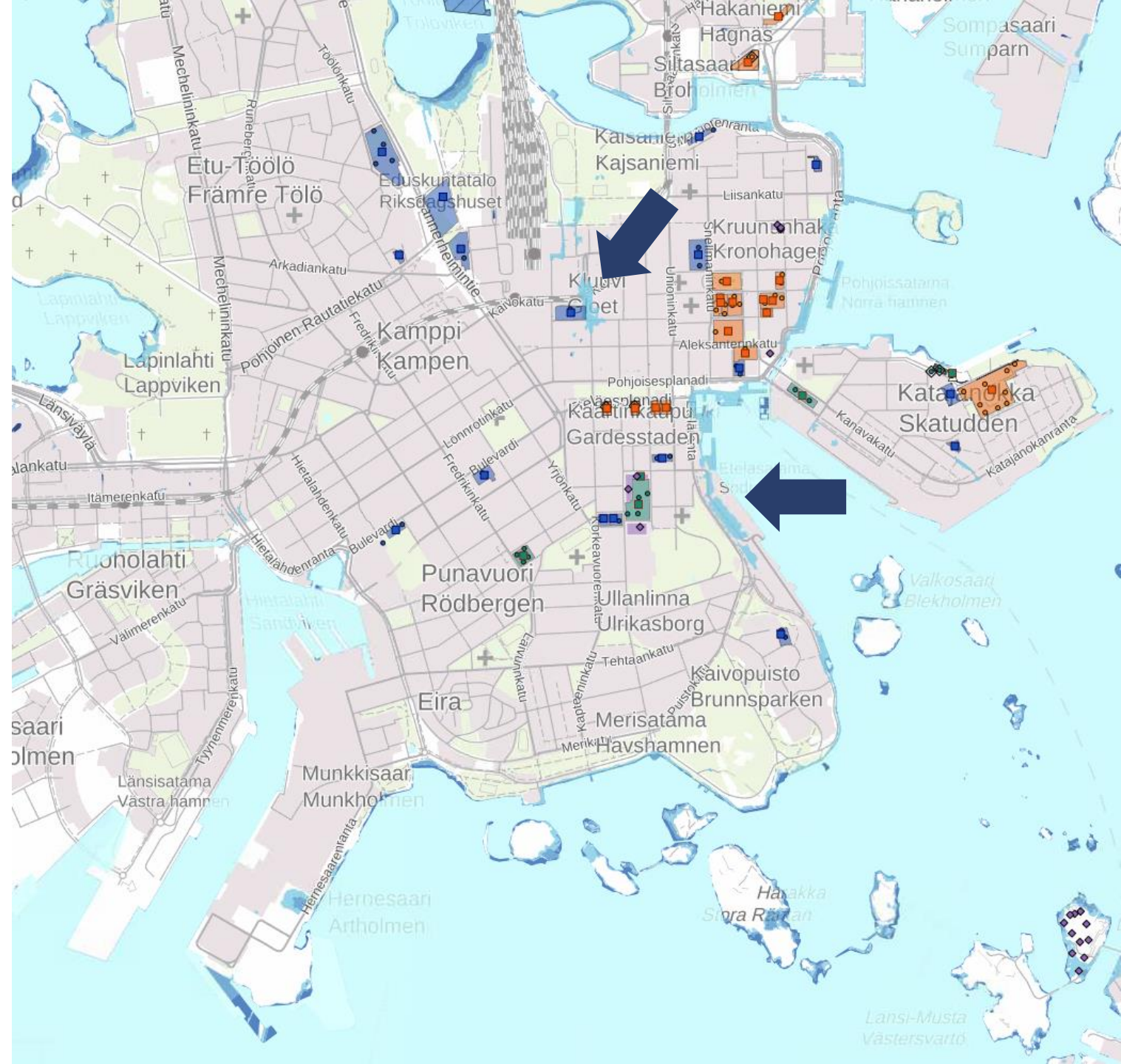
2

Sea water floods

- **32** buildings in the risk area for rare flooding (1/100 yrs)
- **34** buildings in the risk area for extremely rare flooding (1/250 yrs)

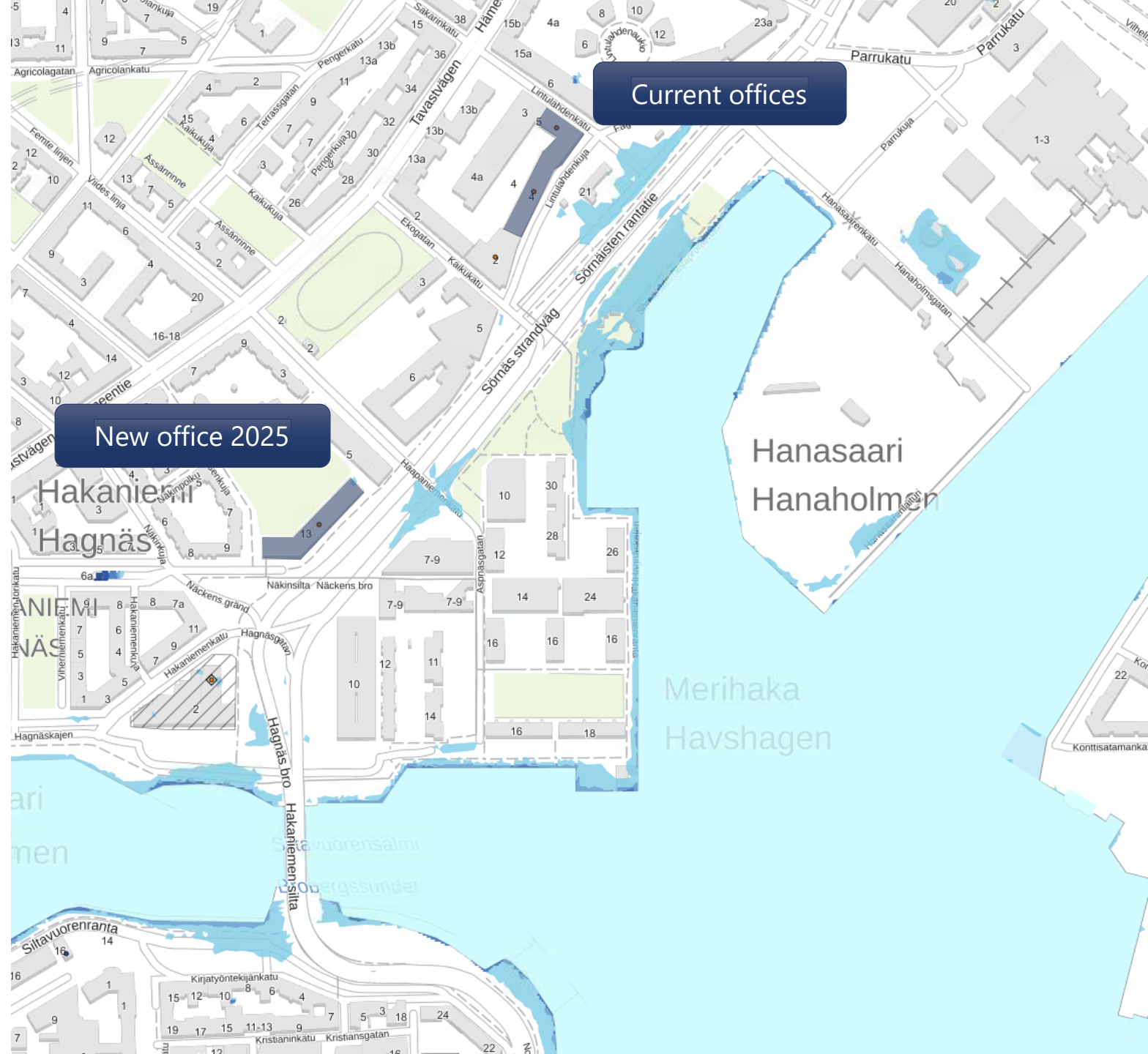
Examples: Helsinki City Centre

- Flooded areas in risk at **rare flooding** (1/100 years)
- Several areas at risk on the coastline and also in certain areas inside the town



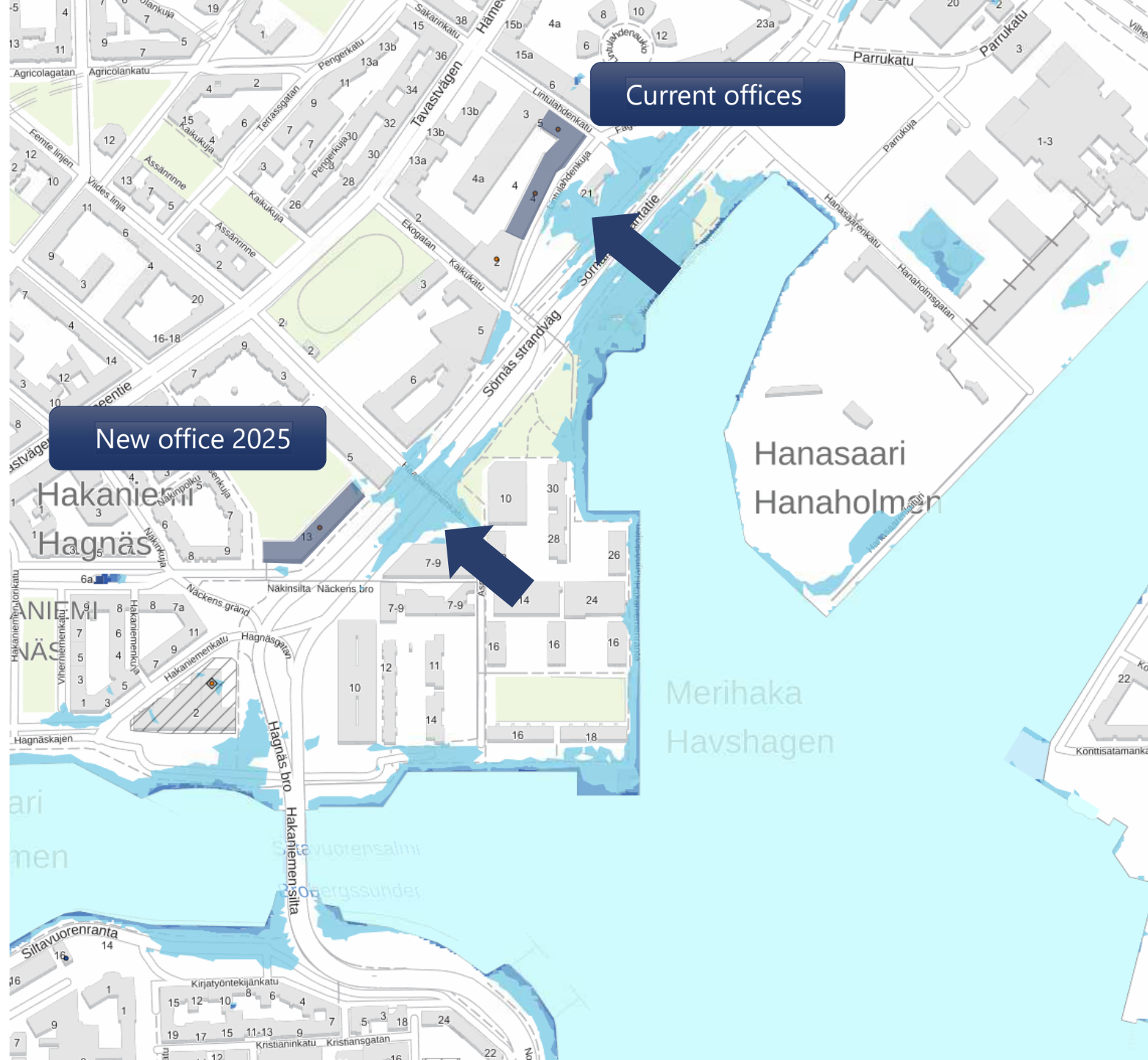
Senaatti main offices

- Flooded areas in risk at **rare flooding** (1/100 years)
- Senaatti's main offices are currently located at Lintulahdenkuja 4.
- New shared office premises at Sörnäisten Rantatie 13 from 2025.
- Severe flooding estimated already at 1/100 flood scenario.



Senaatti main offices

- Flooded areas in risk at **extremely rare flooding** (1/250 years)
- Flood water would cover large areas near Senaatti's premises.
- Floodings has to be taken in to consideration when planning the new premises.
- **Note:** climate change will change also the propability of extreme weather and flooding!



Conclusions

Key actions at Senate Group

- Climate risk management included in the planning process of construction projects
- Impacts of climate change addressed in property management
 - Possible increase in the need for cooling.
 - Prevention of slipperiness
 - Effects of extreme weather events (rainfall, winds, temperature)
- Moisture stress and risk structures included as part of regular building inspections.
- Stormwater flood risk mapping will be conducted
- The rescue plans of properties located in flood risk areas are complemented with instructions for flood situations.

Be prepared!

- Adaptation to climate change is one of the key challenges property owners have to address in the future.
- A study and risk assessment of the most significant climate risks for your real estate portfolio will
 - Improve awareness
 - Help to prepare and be resilient
 - Save costs in the long term.



Thank you!