

Nord-Norge 2040 – Vi kan forme vår framtid

Audun Iversen, June 2011

1. Project / publication	<p>Olsen, B.E. and Iversen, A. (2009). <i>Nord-Norge 2040 – Vi kan forme vår framtid</i> [Northern Norway 2040 – We can shape our future]. Report 22/2009. Tromsø: Nofima, 31 pages.</p> <p>http://www.nofima.no/filearchive/Rapport%2022-2009.pdf</p> <p>Also published with comments and reflections as an appendix to Konjunkturbarometeret, spring 2009, see http://www.kbnn.no/filarkiv/File/arena_vaar-2009.pdf</p>
2. Initiator	Sparebank1 North Norway.
3. Objective	The aim of the project was to stimulate learning processes and strategy formulation by identifying driving forces and factors that will shape the future of the region.
4. Geographical delimitation	Northern Norway
5. Time horizon	2040
6. Thematic focus	The study has a broad approach to social development and emphasis how systems of resource management, knowledge and culture interact and are moulded in the encounter between local and global processes.
7. Images of the future	Eight images of the future are outlined: one positive and one negative image regarding the future for the fisheries, energies, tourism and cultural sector, respectively.
8. Key driving forces	<p>The most important driving forces are knowledge, responsibility, boundaries, and distribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge: Will there be more or less focus on knowledge?• Boundaries: Will boundaries between countries and regions be consolidated or dismantled?• Responsibility: Will our responsibility towards environment, later generations, and so forth, increase or be reduced?• Distribution: Will the world and nation's resources be distributed more equally or more unequally? <p>The four driving forces are plotted into a graph, in which the scale moves from or towards the same center. Thus, each scenario can be visualized by a radar chart/spider chart. The model also hints to a north-south and east-west dimension. One can think of responsibility as an eastern characteristic, a commitment to knowledge and technology as a western dimension, a focus on distribution as a southern issue, and a focus on borders and property rights as a northern value.</p>

9. Uncertainties / wildcards	<p>There are wildcards within all sectors. Additionally, there is much uncertainty included in the four central driving forces.</p>
10. Accomplishment and collaboration	<p>The study is dialogue-based. A group of around 25 persons, including actors from the commercial sector, academic institutions, cultural actors and persons from voluntary organizations were invited for a one-day workshop. Brainstorming and structured discussions laid the basis for the framework of the analysis. Key actors from the four sectors were invited for group interviews, in which the model was discussed and in which each scenario was substantiated.</p>
11. Method	<p>Only qualitative methods were used.</p>
12. Sources of information	<p>There are no references to data sources or literature in the report.</p>
13. Strengths	<p>The driving forces that formed the basis of the model and the scenarios differ somewhat from most other studies. The participants were asked to think not only about how technology might change in the next 31 years, but also to consider how our thinking and inter-human relationships might develop within this time horizon. This resulted in “soft” main driving forces.</p>
14. Weaknesses	<p>Relatively brief scenarios were built, and for the sake of straightforwardness, only two scenarios were made for each sector. Therefore, the work resulted in purely positive or negative scenarios.</p> <p>If more time had been available (and more pages of text), this could have resulted in several qualitatively different scenarios.</p>
15. Attention and significance	<p>The bank (Sparebank1 North Norway) itself has used the study. In addition, the study received some media attention. However, it has hardly influenced the public debate.</p>
16. Relevance for the Fram Centre	<p>The driving forces that lay the basis for the model and the scenarios are different from the majority of other studies, and the approach that was chosen might be</p>

	relevant for the discussions about future scenario work in the context of the Fram Centre. Nofima was responsible for this study and is already a partner of the Fram Centre.
17. Additional comments	The author of this review participated in the Northern Norway 2040 project.