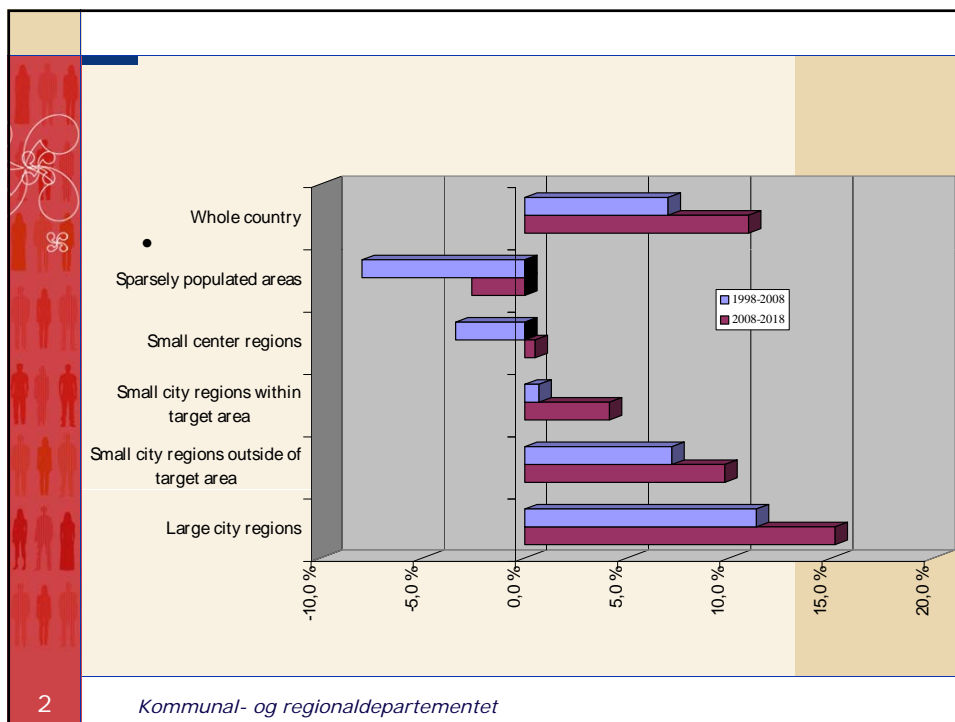



Regional Policy in Norway

Senior Advicer Tor-Egil Lindeberg

NORA – conference Alta October 2009






"Local growth and hope for the future"

- White Paper on rural and regional policy
- Renewed every fourth year
- Actions and efforts are lined out in yearly budgets and other papers


3 *Kommunal- og regionaldepartementet*



Characteristics

- Long distances to main markets
- Extensive mountain areas
- Insular and coastal regions
- Isolated border regions
- Artic and sub-arctic climate
- Demographic sparsity
- Extremely diffused urban system.
- Sharp differences regarding settlement structures, functional profiles and centralities.

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Norwegian white paper


- Freedom where to live
- Equal living conditions, utilize all resources
- Maintain settlement patterns, develop diversity
- Generate added value, employment and welfare

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- Attractive local communities
- Structuring policies to help local and regional politics
- Develop local business, entrepreneurship, innovation

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Main Strategies

- Jobs where you live
- Equal service
- Attractive places

Geographical focus:

- Places and regions outside the urban areas
- Northern part of Norway


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Facts about Norway

- 4,75 million
- 385 000 km².
- 14,6 persons per km².
(4,1 in NN)
- More than 2000 km from the south to the russian border
- 430 municipalities, 19 counties


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High North

- Huge resources in the area
- Increased marine production
- Oil and gas development
- New transport routes
- Climate change

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Regional Development

- Business Development
- Physical Infrastructure
- Arctic Knowledge
- East-West Cooperation

10 *Kommunal- og regionaldepartementet*

Challenges in Russia

Barents Region

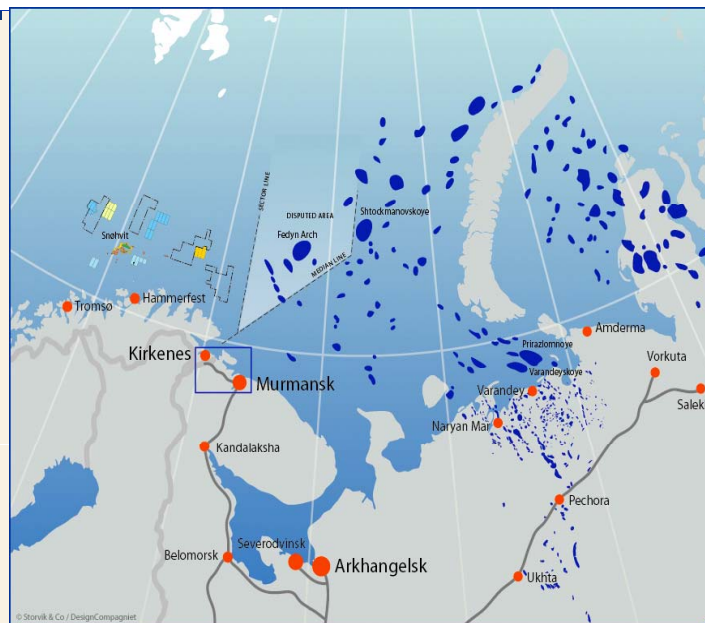
- Important to the Russian economy
- A market place

Oil and gas development will require:

- Industrial investments in facilities
- Infrastructure investment
- Norwegian important to Russia
- Improved maritime logistic


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Summary

- Prepare the ground to freedom of settlement
- Values must be developed and exploited in all parts of the country

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- Strategy of the whole government
- Onshore development and value, focus of KRD – our departement
- Innovative projects, national scope
- Regional advantages, knowledge based development and business development
- Tourism and arctic technologies

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