

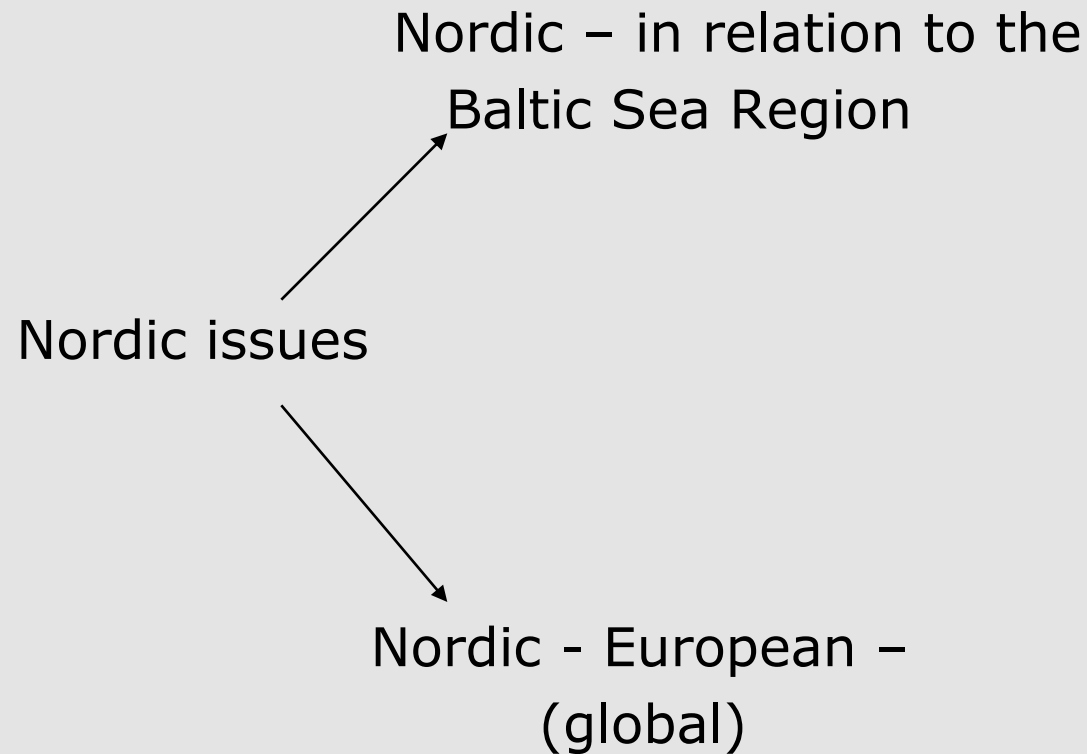
Sustainable Development **- the social dimension**

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Nordic Council of Ministers

- Governments of Denmark, Finland, Island, Norway and Sweden
- Greenland, Faroe Islands and Åland Islands
- 11 ministerial councils for different areas
- Secretariat based in Copenhagen

Three main perspectives in Nordic co-operation



Nordic – Baltic Dimension



- Major Baltic Sea region engagement since beginning of 90 'es
- Offices in Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad
- 1/5 of the budget allocated to activities in the Baltic Sea countries and other neighbourhood areas

Sustainable Development

Brundtland Commission
1987: the three pillars:
Ecological,
economical and social



“Sustainable development is ... development that meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

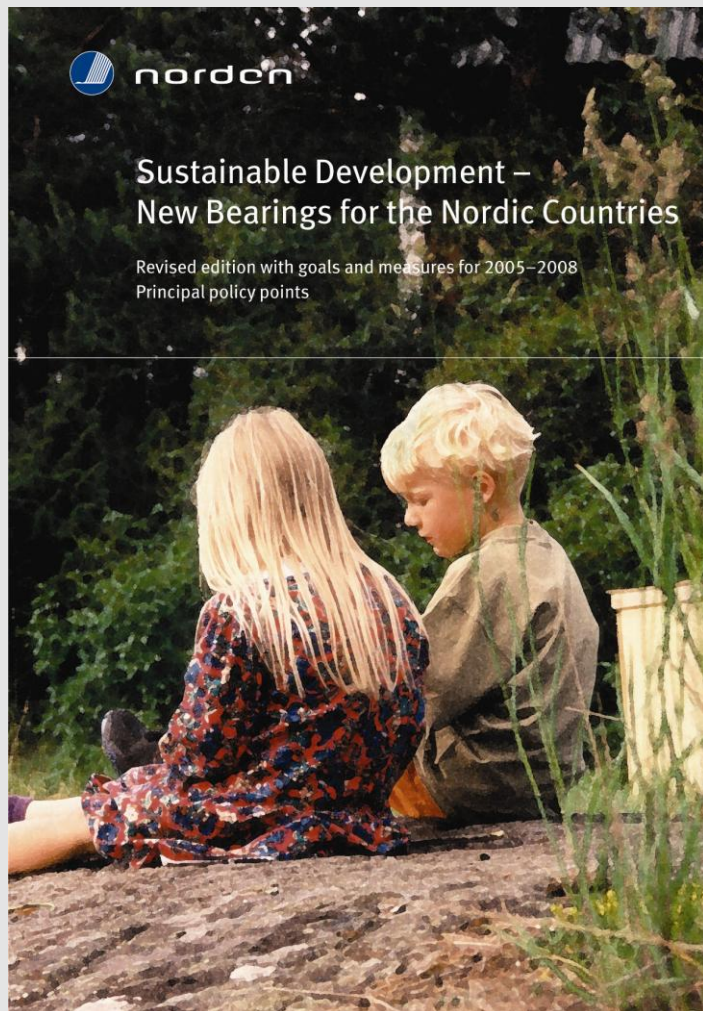
- **Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration 1992 and World Summit on SD in 2002.**
- In November 1998, the Nordic Prime Ministers adopted a Declaration on a Sustainable Nordic Region.

SD strategy until 2020

Sustainable Development – New Bearings for the Nordic Countries



norden
Nordic Council of Ministers



First period

2001 -04

Revised strategy

Goals and initiatives

2005 - 08

Goals-Actions

Monitoring-Follow-up

Seven cross-sector issues:

- ✓ Production and consumption
- ✓ **Social dimension**
- ✓ Atmosphere and Climate
- ✓ Biodiversity
- ✓ The Oceans
- ✓ Chemicals
- ✓ Food Safety

Five sectors

- ✓ Energy
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Forestry
- ✓ Fisheries

Participation
Local Agenda 21
Adjacent Areas

The pillars of sustainable development

The Brundtland Commission's Key Concepts for Sustainability:

- **Today's needs should not comprise the ability of future generations to meet their needs ,**
- **A direct link exists between the economy and environment ,**
- **The needs of the poor in all nations must be met ,**
- **In order for our environment to be protected, the economic conditions of the world's poor must be improved ,**
- **In all our actions, we must consider the impact upon future generations.**

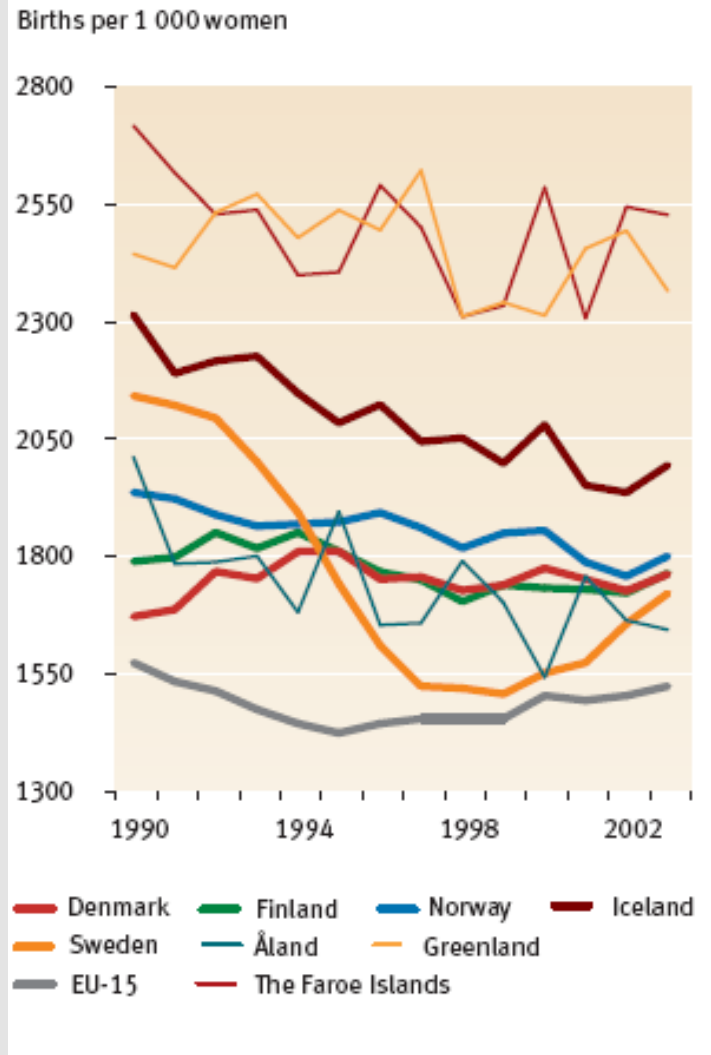
Welfare

- Gender equality, to reconcile working and family life
- Accessibility for disables in working life
- Access for disadvantage groups to the labour market
- Promote social condition for good health
- Promote education and training for sustainable development
- Demographic development

- The Nordic population is aging due to longer life and lower birth rate
 - A quarter of public spending is age related
 - Increased the pressure for public spending
- ... this is a major challenge for the Nordic countries...

Nordic Key Indicators on SD

Birth per 1.000 women





Thank you !