

NERI

Climate and the environment



NERI's climate-related work covers the impact of climate change on nature and the environment, i.e. fresh water and sea water, as well as animals and plants on land, in both Denmark and the Arctic. This work includes scenarios for the dispersal of and projections regarding greenhouse gases, and economic assessment of adaptations to climate change.

NERI is responsible for the Danish Coordination Unit for Research in Climate Change Adaptation, and for the inventory of the Danish emissions of greenhouse gases in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol.

Research-based advice



NERI provides services and advice to public and private sector customers in all our areas of expertise.

Our advice is based on internationally recognised research. NERI is most frequently called on as a sub-supplier with specialist services and advice, and enters into working partnerships with companies such as consultant engineers.

NERI's customers and partners include Danish and international consultancy firms, ministries, the European Environment Agency, the European Commission and the United Nations Project Service Office.

Read more on our website



You can find much more information about NERI on our website at www.neri.dk.

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- Department of Atmospheric Environment
- Department of Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology
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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
AARHUS UNIVERSITY



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– the National Environmental Research Institute, Denmark



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
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The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI) is part of Aarhus University. NERI is responsible for collecting, processing and assessing information about nature and the environment as a basis for providing independent, research-based advice to the political/administrative authorities.

NERI's knowledge is used to provide a scientific basis for the environmental and political decisions concerning nature made by the Danish government and parliament, the ministries, regions and municipalities, and the community in general. NERI's knowledge is also used by the Government of Greenland and the European Union.

NERI's strategy



Quality and relevance are key concepts as regards NERI's management. Quality is ensured via international scientific publication (peer review), accreditation and in-house quality assurance procedures. Relevance is ensured by means of dialogue with the most important target groups.

NERI's strategy focuses on the following key services:

- **Strategic environmental research.** Within the area of environmental research, NERI must count among the best in the world.
- **Monitoring nature and the environment.** NERI must further develop tools, methods and models for use in monitoring, assessing the state of the environment, and administration.
- **Research-based advice to the authorities.** NERI's consultancy services have roots in research and are aimed at users.
- **PhD programmes.** NERI contributes to teaching university students, and to supervising and educating Master's and PhD students.
- **Communicating and transferring knowledge and technology.** NERI's communication and transfer of technology and knowledge provide the community with a basis for exploiting NERI's results.



NERI's competence areas

NERI's scientific work is organised in eight research departments.

Department of Arctic Environment

Research, monitoring and advice regarding the environmental impact of raw material activities and oil investigation in Greenland. Studies of the fate and impact of transboundary chemical pollution in the Arctic. Investigation of climate impact on terrestrial ecosystems in the Arctic. Research and advice regarding marine mammals.

Department of Atmospheric Environment

Monitoring and advice regarding air quality in Denmark, as well as regulation and sources. Developing decision support tools and integrated model systems for air pollution. Research and advice regarding air pollution and health, as well as human exposure. Advice regarding the impact of air pollution on nature. Research, monitoring and advice regarding air pollution in the Arctic, global processes and climate.

Department of Freshwater Ecology

Research into structure, function and biodiversity to shed light on the importance of climate change. Developing methods for restoring watercourses, lakes and river valleys, as well as analysing measures for reducing agricultural impact. Developing models. Developing monitoring methods, as well as research-based advice to the authorities regarding the implementation of directives, plans for the aquatic environment and action plans.



Interdisciplinary themes



Department of Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology

Environmental risk analysis of chemical substances and microorganisms. Research into sustainable biotechnology. Research and advice regarding human exposure to chemicals and microorganisms from the environment. Chemical and microbiological assessment of the state of the environment.

Department of Marine Ecology

Developing and applying ecological models for describing correlations between physical, chemical and biological conditions in the marine environment. Study of climate impact in the Arctic and Danish marine areas. Monitoring and advice regarding the marine environment and implementation of relevant EU directives. Developing and applying databases and management models.

Department of Policy Analysis

Report on the state of the environment, statement of emissions into the air, risk analysis and integrated analysis of the environment and the community. Social science analysis of the environment, including environmental economics, sociology and management. Impact on the environment – analyses of changes in nature and the environment, including environmental geography and scenarios, and risk scenarios.

Department of Terrestrial Ecology

Impact of agriculture, including pesticides, use of nitrogen, genetically modified plants and organic farming. Risk assessment of pollution with chemical substances. Environmental assessment of nanotechnological products. Research into and monitoring of the impact of acidification, eutrophication, and climatic and other kinds of stress. Developing methods for environmentally responsible pest control in Africa.

Department of Wildlife Ecology and Biodiversity

Research, monitoring and advice regarding wildlife ecology and biodiversity. Study of and advice regarding the impact on birds and mammals of disturbance from commercial and recreational activities. Developing methods and model tools for assessing the impact on nature of major technical plants, land use or climate change.

NERI's strategy for 2008–12 focuses on five themes that span the institute's competence areas:

- Climate change
- Biodiversity
- Energy and the environment
- The environment and health
- Assessments of the state of the environment and management models

An interdisciplinary approach to these societal challenges is required in order to provide a knowledge base that can support research-based advice to the authorities.