


NERI

National Environmental Research Institute, Denmark

Summary Profile

 NERI is a government research institute affiliated to the Danish Ministry of the Environment. NERI provides data and the scientific basis for environmental policy and decisions pertaining to biodiversity and the environment. Primary clients are the national, regional and international authorities in the field of nature conservation, environment and energy.



www.neri.dk

National Environmental Research Institute

The National Environmental Research Institute, NERI, is a research institute under Denmark's Ministry of the Environment. In Danish, NERI is called Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser (DMU).

NERI's capabilities are:

Atmospheric pollution:

- Air pollution monitoring and forecasting
- Dispersion models
- Atmospheric chemistry
- Human exposure and health effects

The aquatic environment:

- Monitoring and modelling of water courses, catchment areas and the marine environment
- Lake ecology
- Estuarine and marine ecology
- Water Framework Directive implementation

The terrestrial environment:

- Monitoring of biodiversity and the terrestrial environment
- Soil, Plant and Animal ecology
- Landscape and Coastal zone ecology
- Biodiversity research including ecological genetics, population diversity and dynamics
- Game ecology in support of nature management and conservation
- Habitat Directive implementation

Global change and the Arctic environment:

- Monitoring of the Arctic environment
- Effects of Climate change
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- The Climate Convention and the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Risk assessment of Xenobiotics and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO):

- Analytical and environmental chemistry
- Ecotoxicology
- Microbial ecology
- Implementation of GMO Conventions

System analyses:

- Sector analyses
- SOE reporting
- Impact assessment
- Forecasting models
- Integrated environmental information systems
- Environmental economics and sociology
- Environmental indicator systems

NERI's 2003 budget amounts to EUR 32 Million, of which 60% comprises the appropriation under the Danish Finance Act while 40% derives from programme research and contracts. There are currently 440 staff members, of which approx. half are scientists and environmental engineers.

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Department of Atmospheric Environment
Department of Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology
Department of Marine Ecology
Department of Policy Analysis*

*Environmental Monitoring Co-ordination Section
Department of Terrestrial Ecology
Department of Freshwater Ecology
Project Manager for Surface Waters*

Department of Wildlife Biology and Biodiversity

Main tasks

NERI has the responsibility for monitoring programs and reporting the environmental state of the atmosphere, catchment areas, springs, streams, lakes, and coastal and open marine areas as well as the state of terrestrial habitats and species in Denmark – in compliance with the EU Directives and International Conventions. NERI monitors and reports the Arctic environment (terrestrial and aquatic) in Greenland as part of the international Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme.

The monitoring and surveillance systems are continuously assessed, and deliver a comprehensive background material for administrative and political decisions. Data and results are disseminated to national and international authorities as well as on the Internet.

NERI is responsible for producing the Danish state of the environment (SOE) reports which serve as the technical background for the strategic environmental planning of the Danish government. NERI also advises The European Environment Agency (EEA) on SOE reporting.

NERI plays an important role in supplying the follow-up of international conventions (i.e. HELCOM, PARCOM, CORINAIR) with scientific background and data information. NERI has a wide experience in working as contractors for the EEA and the Commission. NERI has been appointed as National Focal Point of the European Environmental Agency.

The research and advisory activities for the Danish Government are focused on interdisciplinary and integrated analysis and assessment of complex environmental problems, including social aspects and environmental economics.

International Environmental Assistance

NERI has developed expertise in environmental assistance to countries in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. Projects are funded by a.o. EU, UN, DANIDA or DANCEE, and they are carried out in co-operation with other institutions and private consulting companies.

Selected recent projects:

- Assistance to implementation of the EU's Ambient Air Quality Directive, Latvia 1999 - 2002; Romania 2001 - 2002
- Fauna passages under selected roads; Education, Monitoring and Construction, Estonia 2000 - 2003
- PHARE-Twinning: Air and Water monitoring, Lithuania 2000 - 2002
- Support to Environmental Monitoring, EU Accession Countries 2001 - 2003
- Twinning, Integrated Tropical Coastal Zone Management, Thailand 2001 - 2004
- Waste dumps at Thule Airbase, Greenland 2002 - 2003
- Regional Programme for Environmentally Sound Grasshopper Control in West Africa, 2002 - 2005
- Environmental Information and Reporting, Vietnam 2003 - 2006



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