NTNU – Norwegian University of Science and Technology

NTNU is Norway’s largest university with 38,000 students and 6,400 full-time equivalents. NTNU has the main responsibility for higher education in technology in Norway. In addition to programmes in technology and the sciences, we offer a rich variety of disciplines in the social sciences, humanities, medicine, teacher education, architecture and fine arts. The whole university works together across all disciplines to create knowledge for a better world.

Through interdisciplinary cooperation, NTNU’s strategic research areas address complex challenges of great importance for society.

**NTNU Energy** – developing knowledge about renewable and environmentally friendly energy for the world community
**NTNU Health** – innovative solutions to complex health challenges
**NTNU Oceans** – knowledge for a sustainable ocean
**NTNU Sustainability** – knowledge for change

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**NTNU OCEANS**

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The NTNU Oceans pilot programmes are multidisciplinary and highly innovative research studies where researchers and PhD students from different fields of expertise collaborate to increase the knowledge base.

Children and young people represent the key to create sustainable coastal communities in the future. The NTNU Oceans Pilot on Norway as a sea nation focuses on coastal communities, generations and sustainability. It aims at establishing a deeper knowledge base of the interplay between generations, knowledge, identities and working life. Childhood and intergenerational relations represent a particular focus of investigation.

Historically and today, Norway is a sea nation. Coastal communities are characterized as being in transition with regard to economies, working life, demography, and social-cultural life. Increasing ethnic diversity in many communities represents a challenge for education and inclusive societies. Modern technology has led to an increase in productivity with a decrease in the number of employees in the fishing industry, causing depopulation in some societies. Local identity, well-being and a sense of belonging to place and nature are important reasons for staying. Activities connected to coastal culture and relevance of education with regard to future work life is vital.

Across three generations and five countries, (Norway, Australia, Ireland, Cyprus and Faroe Islands) the programme explores work, everyday life and knowledge among children and their families, past and present. More specifically, it focuses on how informal learning and local knowledge are experienced, transmitted, shared and practiced by children and adults. Innovative models and practices will be developed for intergenerational and intercultural transmission of knowledge in schools and communities.

“Norway as a sea nation” includes studies of indigenous people, cultural heritage, global and national policies and representations of coast in literature and art.

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Photo: Anne Trine Kjørholt

Photo: Håvard Fossum from the film «Tongue Cutters»

Photo: Jon Petter Bremstein
• Local practices, national politics and global trends
• Multicultural societies
• Comparative perspective across countries

Global perspective

• The value of nature
• Cultural heritage and social life
• Identity and belonging
• Representations in literature and art

The coast as home

• History and diversity of coastal childhoods
• Intergenerational relations
• Life phase and gender

Childhood in transition

• Local knowledge and formal education
• Environment-knowledge-work dynamics
• Virtual learning

Coastal life continuity and change

• (De)population
• Technological innovations
• Political interests and regulations
• Historical perspectives

Education, learning and knowledge

• Psychosocial health across gender, generations and ethnicities
• Well-being and belonging

Health and well-being

• Local practices, national politics and global trends
• Multicultural societies
• Comparative perspective across countries

Global perspective