

NORWAY AS A SEA NATION:

COASTAL COMMUNITIES, GENERATIONS, SUSTAINABILITY

This project aims to establish a deeper knowledge base of the dynamic interplay between education, identity and society across three generations in coastal communities in five countries.

Norway as a sea nation is a research programme which is part of NTNU Oceans. **Norway as a sea nation** (2016-2023) includes the international comparative research project Valuing the past, sustaining the future. **Education, knowledge and identities across three generations in coastal communities across five countries**, funded by the Research Council of Norway (2016-2021).

Children and young people represent the key to create sustainable coastal communities in the future. 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.

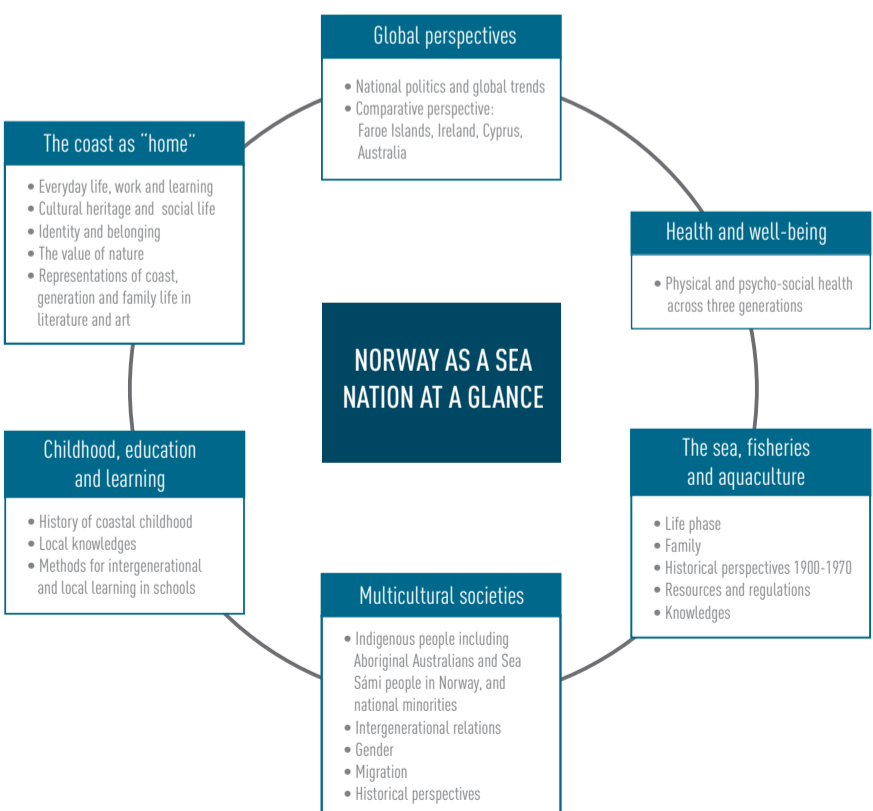
Historically and today, Norway is a sea nation. Coastal communities are characterized as being in transition with regard to economies, working life, demography, and social and cultural life. Changes in fishing and other marine-based industries has caused depopulation of some coastal societies. Local identity, well-being and a sense of belonging to place and nature are important reasons for staying. Relevant education and activities connected to coastal culture are also important for young people's future work-life and belonging to coastal communities. At the same time, increasing or changed ethnic diversity in many communities places new or different demands on education and processes of social inclusion.

Across three generations and five countries (Norway, Australia, Ireland, Cyprus and Faroe Islands), the **Norway as a sea nation** project explores work, everyday life and knowledge among children and their families, past and present. More specifically, it focuses on how formal and informal learning and local knowledge are experienced, transmitted, shared and practiced by children and adults, people born in specific communities as well as migrants. **Norway as a sea nation** also includes studies involving indigenous peoples and national minorities, cultural heritage, global and national policies and representations of the coast in literature and art.

Innovative models and practices will be developed for intergenerational and intercultural transmission of knowledge in schools and communities.



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