Introducing our new Youth Advisors

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20 years old, studying business administration in Bergen, from the region of Rogaland in Norway

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23 years old, studying Sustainability Studies in Lüneburg, from the region of Lower Saxony
Roadmap: 2024

12.03.24 First meeting of the NSC youth committee (from 18 to 20 approx.) (digitally) → Currently six registered young people

26–28.06.24 ABM of NSC (in Bergen)

September (date tbc) Participation event with SMART Regions Group (digitally)

Late Fall (date tbc) Physical youth meeting
Aspects of our future work

Policy Advice

Youth Ideas

Youth Network
Update

We had our first Digital Get-together with 17 Participants from 10 Regions!
Who participated in our meeting?

- Denmark
- Germany
- Sweden
- Belgium
- Norway
- Netherlands
How old were they?
What were their interests?
We had some discussions!

Some questions that were discussed:

1. What is your experience in youth participation?

2. In what kind of work would you be interested? (Attending meetings or organizing conferences etc.)

3. What kind of topics would you like to discuss within the NSC?

4. What could the NSC Youth Committee do to include themselves in the NSC political landscape?

5. How could the NSC Youth Committee contribute to the NSC and their political landscape?
What was the outcome?

Some aspects we discussed:

- We should be at as many meetings as possible
- We should team up with other youth networks
- Problem: lack of democratic youth structures around the North Sea Regions (aside from NOR)
- Gathering of Insights/opinions from youth around the NSC Member regions
- Problem: Undefined purpose in the structure of the NSC
What is the North Sea Commission Youth Committee?

- It is a Youth Initiative that raises young people’s opinions in the work of the NSC.
- It consists of youth representatives from NSC Member Regions.
- Young people can take part in the work of the four thematic working groups.
Our constitution

Constitution NSC Youth committee.

Acknowledging the importance of a sustainable youth participation framework and observing an increasing number of young people willing to take more responsibilities, this committee will be set up to enable the integration of youth participation into the work of the North Sea Commission.

Article 1: Name

The North Sea Youth Committee, hereafter referred to as NSC Youth Committee or Youth Committee is an official advisory committee of the CMWN North Sea Commission established on 12-04-2021 by:

Article 2: Objectives of the Youth Committee

The primary objectives of the Youth Committee shall be to systematically and sustainably:

a. provide a youth perspective on the North Sea Commission's work and developing strategies for wider youth engagement;

b. support the Youth Advisor to increase engagement with other young people;

c. organizing an annual youth meeting at the North Sea Conference;

d. supporting international collaboration and engagement of young people and youth groups across the North Sea region.

Article 3: In order to fulfill the mentioned in the previous article [2], the members of the NSC Youth Committee will:

a. Voice the opinions of the youth at the North Sea Commission by taking part and actively providing input in the NSC meetings such as, but not limited to, The Annual Business Meetings, the Executive Committee Meetings, and the North Sea Commission Annual Conference;

b. Promote engagements through various pathways;

c. Aid in the yearly conference planning.

Article 4: Structure

1. The Youth Committee has a maximum of 15 (fifteen) members.

2. The Youth Committee consists of a steering group and thematic groups that may be linked to thematic groups of the North Sea Commission.

3. The Youth Committee has 1 (one) general chair.

4. The Youth Committee has 1 (one) general vice-chair.

5. Each thematic group consists of 1 (one) chair and general members.

6. The steering group consists of all chairs of the thematic groups as well the general chair and vice-chair.

7. The Youth Committee is assisted by a Youth Advisor appointed by the North Sea Commission.

Article 5: Appointments & removal members, chair, & vice-chair

1. The Youth Advisor is responsible for acquiring new members for the NSC Youth Committee.

2. The steering committee...

3. The chair and vice-chair are yearly appointed by a majority of the youth council and approved by the Youth Advisor.

4. The chairs of the thematic groups are yearly chosen by the members of their respective thematic groups.

5. A member can be removed from the Youth Committee by the youth advisor or a two-thirds majority of the Youth Committee if they fail to fulfill their membership duties as described in article 7 or other heavily compelling reasons.

Article 6: Meetings and working procedure

1. The Youth Committee will hold general meetings:

   a. Once every two months and more if required;

   b. Of which annually at least two of the aforementioned (6.1.a) meetings call for the physical presence of the members, also referred to as in-person meetings;

   c. The NSC annual business meeting and/or conference gathering may account for an in-person as of the aforementioned article 6.1.b.

2. A general meeting may only be held if at the start of the physical or digital meeting a quorum of one-half of the Youth Committee members is reached.

3. The chair assures that in due time a date and time will be set for the meetings, preferably as soon as possible from the last meeting onwards:

   a. Determination of the time and date of the meeting will be chosen taking the preferences of other members into account.

   b. The thematic groups may schedule their thematic meetings as is deemed necessary.

   c. The chair of the thematic group assures that in due time a date and time will be set for the meetings, taking the preferences of other members into account.

Article 7: Membership duties

1. In accordance with article 2, sub a, and article 3 each member of the Youth committee provides input to the documents, strategies, or meetings of the North Sea Commission.

2. Input provided by each member can be fulfilled by:

   a. Taking part in the meetings of the thematic groups;

   b. Providing the youth advisor with their thoughts and/or advice;

   c. Providing written advice.

3. Report back to the Youth Committee the status of the thematic working groups.

4. Providing a written protocol or report where deemed necessary.

Article 8: Duties chair, vice-chair & youth advisor

1. In addition to article 7, the chair and vice-chair assure the continuation of the Youth Committee by:

   a. Organizing the Youth Committee meetings;

   b. Setting the agenda in coordination with youth advisors;

   c. Chairing the meeting;

   d. Maintaining contacts within and beyond the North Sea Commission;

   e. Ensuring the meeting remains within the given time.

2. The youth advisor aids the youth council in all its duties and is in close contact with the chair and vice-chair.

3. Youth advisors may attend all meetings.

4. The youth advisor in accordance with the chair, vice-chair assures minutes are made of the general meetings.

5. All other duties performed by the NSC.

Article 9: Annual meeting

1. NSC Youth Committee shall hold an Annual General Meeting during the annual business meeting where a selection of young people from the age 16 up until 24 from the north sea region is welcomed.

2. The Youth Committee, in accordance with the youth advisory officer, shall assure the inviting of the target audience.

3. Youth below the age of 16 will need to be accompanied by an adult for any in-person events.

Article 10: Confidentiality

1. The North Sea Commission can impose confidentiality on the Youth Committee if the nature of the topics or documents require as.

2. The Youth Committee can impose confidentiality on parts of its meetings if so requested by its members or youth advisor.

Article 11: Implementation and amending of the constitution.

1. The first member of the Youth Committee is bound to the constitution as soon as the constitution is approved by unanimity of votes.

2. All members of the Youth Committee can propose amendments changing the constitution.

3. Amendments to the constitution are put into place when a majority of two-thirds are in favor of the proposal.
Formal Requests

1. We ask the ExCom to put the point “Purpose of Youth Committee” on the Agenda of the ABM in Bergen.
2. We ask the ExCom Members/National Representations to Investigate their youth representation structures within their regions and report them to the ExCom.
Do you have Questions?