

CPMR North Sea Commission

Growth through partnership

What is the North Sea Commission?

Founded in 1989, the North Sea Commission (NSC) is a politically led co-operation platform for regions around the North Sea. Today the NSC has 32 member regions from eight countries: Scotland, England, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

Main objectives of the NSC

The main objectives are:

- to promote and create awareness of the North Sea Region as a major economic entity within Europe
- to be a platform for developing and obtaining funding for joint projects
- to lobby for a better North Sea region

The CPMR

The NSC is one of six geographical commissions of the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions). The CPMR brings together around 160 member Regions from 25 states from the European Union and beyond.

Representing almost 200 million people, the CPMR campaigns in favor of a more balanced development of the European territory. It operates both as a think tank and as a lobby for member regions.

Added value for member regions

- **Influence**

A membership in the NSC means influence on EU policy through CPMR and NSC activities.

- **Network**

Through the NSC you meet engaged regional actors and potential partners for cooperation. Together we can solve common issues in the North Sea region.

- **Partners**

You meet potential project partners and we maintain strong links to the Interreg North Sea programme.

- **Exchange**

By study visits and through benchmarking you gain insight for your own region: how do other regions work with maritime education or sustainable urban transport?

- **Information**

You gain access to information on current developments that are important for the North Sea Region.

North Sea Region 2020 strategy

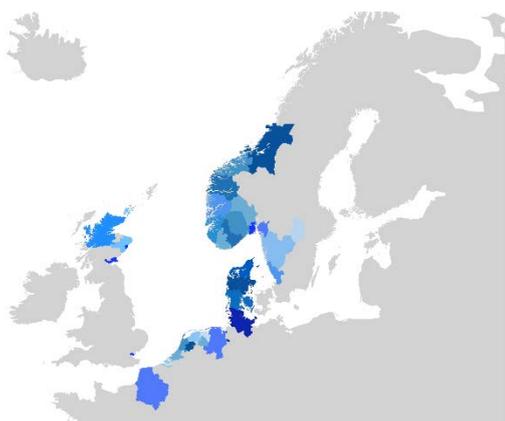
The North Sea region has the potential to act as an engine for growth in Europe, but there is a need and potential for developing both existing and new cooperation and improving policy efficiency.

The work of the NSC is based on the North Sea Region 2020 strategy, defining common challenges and opportunities where transnational and interregional collaboration gives an added value.

The North Sea Region 2020 focuses on four strategic priorities:

- Managing maritime space
- Increasing accessibility and clean transport
- Tackling climate change
- Attractive and sustainable communities

NSC member regions



Organisation of the NSC

The NSC is headed by an Executive Committee consisting of the President, two Vice-presidents and one representative from each member country. The Annual Business Meeting is the highest decision making body of the NSC and brings together representative from all member regions.

The Executive Committee is responsible for setting the agenda and for giving direction to the NSC work within four thematic working groups: marine resources, transport, energy and climate change and smart regions. The groups are open for elected politicians and officers from all member regions.

The NSC, the working groups and the member regions are supported by a secretariat that is responsible for the everyday work of the organisation. The secretariat works closely with the CPMR General Secretariat.

Annual North Sea Conference

The NSC values its connection with the Interreg North Sea Region Programme and upholds therefore a close and active contact with the secretariat. This is where policy meets projects.

The NSC and the IR North Sea Programme organize a joint conference that brings together active stakeholders and political representatives from the North Sea region and offers a unique opportunity to meet colleagues and discuss both policy and project development.