



A national method for landscape identification required as a common basis for landscape analysis at national, regional and local levels

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## Increasing need for detailed information about landscapes

We need more systematic knowledge of the diversity we have in the Norwegian landscape to know what is

- Rare/unique
- Common/representative









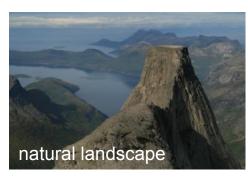
#### Landscape identification

**European Landscape Convention, Article 6c:** 

«(...) each Party undertakes (...):

- to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory
- to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them (...)»

The convention distinguishes between Landscape identification and Landscape analysis







#### Landscape identification

#### Identification of landscape types

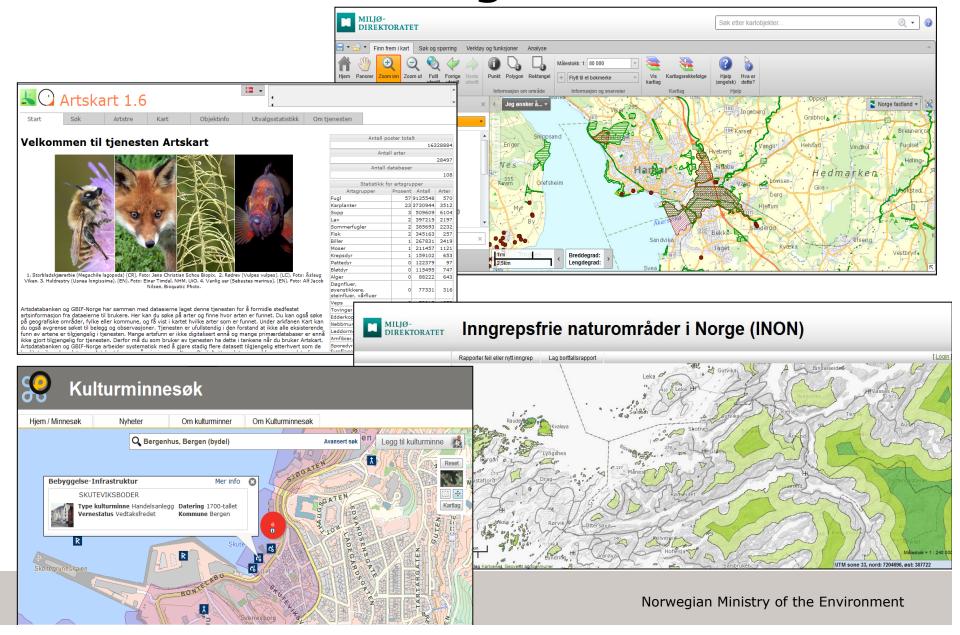
Identification with the aim of a systematic description of the variations in landscape (phase 1)

#### Landscape analysis

Analysis of selected characteristics of the landscape assessed in relation to a clearly defined purpose / intended use (phase 2 and 3)



### Public knowledge databases



# Landscape types classification for Norway

- Part of the identification system
  «Norwegian nature types»
  «Naturtyper i Norge» (NiN)
- Continuation of «National Reference System for Landscape» «Nasjonalt referansesystem for landskap»
- Further development and practical testing in Nordland county 2011-2013







Alle foto: Trond Simensen

#### Which landscapes do we identify?

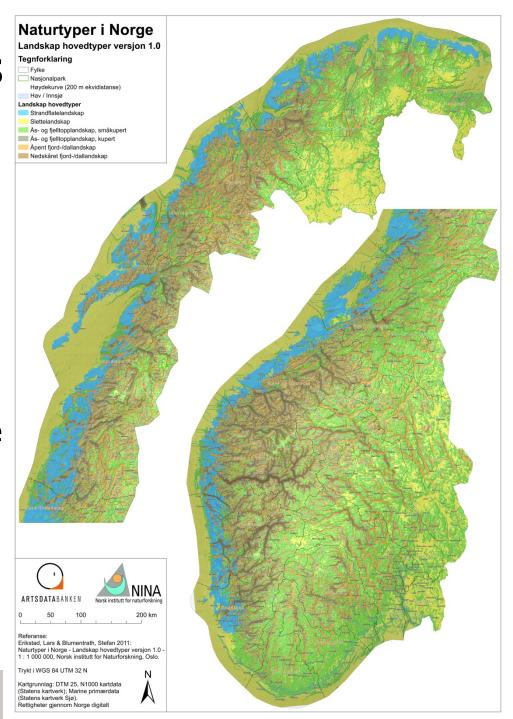
- The Landscape Convention's landscape definition
   "Landscape means an area, as perceived by people,
   whose character is the result of the action and interaction of
   natural and/or human factors."
- Interpretation as a basis for new landscapes typology for Norway
  - `as perceived by people' We search for characteristics that are observable at a relevant scale.
  - 'as perceived by people' we search for general aspects in the variation in the landscapes characteristics.
  - 'natural and/or human factors' that are observable, will together form the basis for the landscape type classification

excludes cultural references and intangible properties - this have to be captured by the identification of landscape character and landscape value

#### Landscape types

Landscape types on two levels:

- 1. Main types landscape
  - Main types of landscape based on landform
  - Made to facilitate
    identification at a scale
    1 to 500.000
- 2. Basic types landscape
  - Landform and the landscape content of elements and attributes.
  - Made to facilitate identification at a scale 1 to 50.000



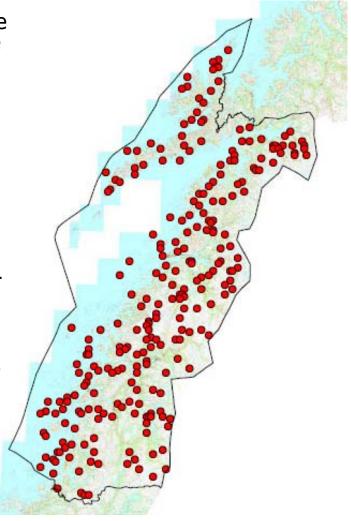
## Basic types - landscape



Mosjøen. Photo: Trond Simensen

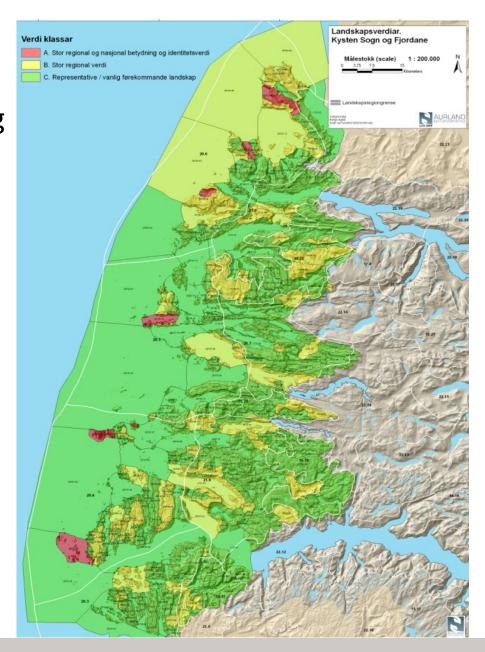
#### The division into landscape types

- 1. Systematic collecting knowledge about the variation in landscapes in Nordland on the basis of
  - 258 observation units up to 5 × 5 km in size
  - 279 landscape variables recorded for each observation unit
  - Cartographic data, interpretation of aerial images, field work
- 2. Statistical processing of the data material with the aim of finding patterns and relationships in how the landscape contents and characteristics vary together and separately
- 3. Draw up, on the basis of the analyzes in the preceding steps, a landscape typology that as completely as possible describes the landscape variety and that is suitable for landscape identification at a scale 1 to 50 000



#### Possible use

- Makes it possible to start using the concept of landscape diversity
- Provides the opportunity to identify (and documenting):
  - Rare / unique landscape
  - Representative landscapes
  - Strong or weak version
- Tool to monitor and describe the condition of landscapes and monitor landscape changes
- Form a knowledge base for landscape analysis



# A national identification of landscape types



#### Knowledge base for:

- Identification of the landscape character
- Value assessments
- Vulnerability assessments
- Impact assessments
- Suitability Ratings
- Indication of important biodiversity
- Cultural historical analysis
- Evaluation of intervention status (Wilderness)
- Mapping of outdoor interests
- Municipal land use planning
- Strategic land use planning / major infrastructure projects
- Monitoring the condition and landscape changes

#### Database for knowledge about the landscape

- The results of the methodological development and the work on a landscape typology / classification of landscape types for Norway opens to create a national database of knowledge about landscapes
- Will contribute to fulfilling key objectives of the European Landscape Convention
  - Article 5c Participation
  - Article 6a Awareness-raising
  - Article 6b Training and education
  - Article 6c Identification and assessment



# Landscape identification for all of Norway's territory will be useful for managing a variety of purposes













