

## Regional Research in Norway

Regional research in Norway is conducted in several types of institutions. The *Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research* is the only research institute specialising in this sector.

Much of the regional research is performed at the *Universities*. University research is typically done within disciplinary institutes in geography, sociology, political science and economics, not in specialised institutes. This makes it a bit complicated to get an overview over research and researchers within the field. Networks and research programmes are connecting researchers to a higher degree than organisational affiliation. But it is also a particularity of regional research in Norway that it is organised in a fragmented way.

The universities usually run *research institutes* where some regional research is conducted. Most of these institutes organise research in many fields. The only one which specialises in regional and rural research is *Centre for Rural Research* at the University of Trondheim. Relevant institutes are presented in connection with the university they are connected to.

Several *University Colleges* also run study programmes and perform research on regional matters. Lastly, some of the so-called *regional research institutes* also do research in this field.

## Independent research institutes

### Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

is an interdisciplinary social science centre for urban and regional research. The Institute is charged with a national duty to conduct environmental research and works internationally on urban and regional research from an environmental and developmental perspective.

Within an urban and regional research framework NIBR studies and reports on the following sectors: public administration, governance and democracy; welfare, health and living conditions; planning, land use and urban development; regional development, business environments and demography; and environmental and development issues.

<http://www.nibr.no/content/view/full/66>

## University research

### University of Oslo

Regional research is mainly conducted at the departments of sociology and human geography, political science and economics.

<http://www.sv.uio.no/english/>

### University of Bergen

Regional research is located at the departments of geography, comparative politics, administration and organisation science, and also at the Stein Rokkan Centre for

Interdisciplinary Social Studies. Research on regional development issues is mainly at the Department of Geography, research on regional governance at the Rokkan Centre  
<http://www.svf.uib.no/?kategori=937>

#### *Rokkan Centre*

Stein Rokkan Centre for Interdisciplinary Social Studies, the Rokkan Centre for short, focuses primarily on welfare, health and health care services, administration and management, democracy and municipal structures, and knowledge, leadership and working life. Some research on regional governance is done here.

<http://www.rokkansenteret.uib.no/>

#### **Norwegian University of Science and Technology**

The Department of Geography has urban, rural and regional research as one of its main subjects. Research on regional governance is done at the Department of Sociology and Political Science.

<http://www.ntnu.no/geografi/english>

[http://www.ntnu.no/aboutntnu/facultiesanddepartments/svt/iss/iss\\_research](http://www.ntnu.no/aboutntnu/facultiesanddepartments/svt/iss/iss_research)

#### *Centre for Rural Research (CRR) - Bygdeforskning*

CRR has research competence within rural sociology, research problems within the social sciences related to food production and consumption, gender research, evaluation, and management of natural resources. Regarding rural and local development CRR do research on organisation and participation, local mobilisation and co-operation.

<http://www.bygdeforskning.no/engelsk/index.htm>

#### **University of Tromsø**

Regional research is conducted at several departments, particularly the Department of Planning and Local Community Research and the Department of Political Science, but also at the Norwegian College of Fishery Science.

<http://uit.no/svfak/english/1>

<http://www.nfh.uit.no/index.aspx>

#### *Norut Social Science Research*

Norut Social Science Research is a research institute that seeks to develop knowledge about long term processes of change in the North European periphery, with a particular responsibility for conducting research on society and trade and industry in North Norway. An important aspect of the research is to contribute to innovation and renewal in the region.

[http://en.samf.norut.no/norut\\_samfunn/om\\_oss](http://en.samf.norut.no/norut_samfunn/om_oss)

#### **University of Stavanger**

##### *IRIS – International Research Institute of Stavanger*

IRIS is an integrated research institute where social science and business development is one of several research areas. Research on regional innovation and governance is conducted by IRIS.

<http://www.iris.no/internet/home.nsf>

## **Agder University**

Regional research focused on innovation is conducted within the Department of Working Life and Innovation. Research on regional governance at the Department of Political Science and Management.

[http://www.uia.no/en/portaler/om\\_universitetet/oekonomi\\_og\\_samfunnsvitenskap/institutt](http://www.uia.no/en/portaler/om_universitetet/oekonomi_og_samfunnsvitenskap/institutt)

## **Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (NHH)**

*Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF)*

Centre for Industrial Organisation and Economic Policy does economical research on innovation and regional development.

[http://www.snf.no/c2/index\\_frame.asp?LanguageCode=9&strUrl=//applications/System/publish/view/showobject.asp?channelid=1000022&mode=extended&xslfile=//templates/applications/publish/mainpage/SNF%20Publikasjoner/IE/frontpage.xsl&context=1&noart=25](http://www.snf.no/c2/index_frame.asp?LanguageCode=9&strUrl=//applications/System/publish/view/showobject.asp?channelid=1000022&mode=extended&xslfile=//templates/applications/publish/mainpage/SNF%20Publikasjoner/IE/frontpage.xsl&context=1&noart=25)

## **University Colleges**

### **Lillehammer University College**

Planning and Public Administration is a strategic research area, with focus on regional planning and governance. Business Management and Destination Development is also a strategic research area.

[http://www.hil.no/hil/lillehammer\\_university\\_college](http://www.hil.no/hil/lillehammer_university_college)

### **Sogn and Fjordane University College**

Regional development is one of the strategic research areas of SFUC. The research group on regional development studies regional restructuring, entrepreneurship, governance and leadership in regional development.

[http://www.hisf.no/no/forsking/tilvisingsfelt/organisasjon\\_og\\_leiing\\_engelsk\\_versjon](http://www.hisf.no/no/forsking/tilvisingsfelt/organisasjon_og_leiing_engelsk_versjon)

### **Molde University College**

MUC performs research within regional governance and development.

<http://www.himolde.no/english>

### **Volda University College**

VUC Performs research about regional planning and development.

<http://www.hivolda.no/index.php?lang=eng>

### **Hedmark University College**

Through the @LIVE-program, HUC does research on local development, innovation, value creation and entrepreneurship.

<http://www2.hihm.no/bibliotek/fou/>

## **Regional Research Institutes**

The regional research institutes mainly conduct externally commissioned applied research. In some respects they operate on a national and international market, but they have a special responsibility for performing research and developing competence to further the development of their respective regions.

### **Nordland Research Institute - Nordlandsforskning**

Regional development is one of the research areas of NRI. The institute also works with assessment and evaluation of policies for regional development.

<http://www.nordlandsforskning.no/>

### **Møre Research- Møreforskning**

Møre Research is an independent research foundation established in 1979 by the county of Møre og Romsdal. The foundation does research on the development of industry, local communities and public administration in Møre og Romsdal.

<http://www.moreforsk.no/en/index.htm>

### **Western Norway Research Institute**

Does applied research and participates in several initiatives aiming at innovation and development of networks within organisations, and between organisations, the public sector and businesses.

<http://www.vestforsk.no/www/show.do?page=4;20&lang=en>

### **Eastern Norway Research Institute**

Eastern Norway Research Institute (ENRI) does research on regional development and industrial reorganisation, policy evaluations and industrial studies.

<http://www.ostforsk.no/>

### **Agder Research**

Agder Research does research on regional development, innovation and entrepreneurship

<http://www.agderforskning.no/index.php?language=en&osCsid=963e22m5de69uuaaso799i2o86>