

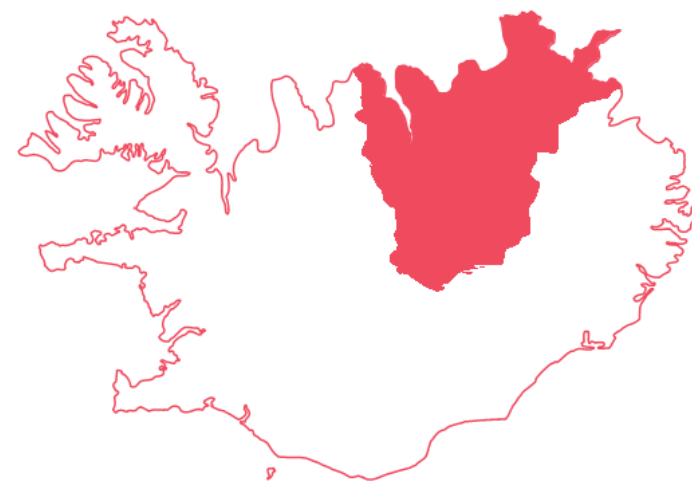
# NORTHEAST ICELAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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2020-2024\*

*\* revised in 2021*

English summary



# Northeast Iceland Development Plan 2020-2024

When preparing the Northeast Iceland Development Plan (Sóknaráætlun Norðurlands eystra) 2020-2024, several policies and plans were considered, including The Strategic Regional Plan, the government's cultural and environmental policies and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals to name a few. The plan was prepared in consultation with residents in the region, elected representatives as well as the management and employees of the Association of Municipalities in Northeast Iceland (SSNE).

Northeast Iceland Development Plan marks the vision for the region in 2024 with emphasis on three distinct pillars:





# OBJECTIVES AND EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS

Objectives	Examples of actions
<b>Improve transportation within the region and to the region</b>	<p>Develop the <i>Loftbrú</i> project further</p> <p>Develop a transport policy for the region</p> <p>Establish a regular international flight to Northeast Iceland</p>
<b>Strengthen the infrastructure of the region</b>	<p>Ensure quantity and quality of electricity</p> <p>Increase the share of those who live with the three-phase electricity connection to 100%</p> <p>Increase the share of those living with a fiber optic connection to 100%</p> <p>Define Akureyri as a city</p>
<b>Stand guard of the interest of peripheral communities</b>	<p>Participate in specific projects of regional development areas (C.1 in SRP)</p> <p>Participate in the Regional Development Institute project- Fragile communities</p> <p>Tax relief in weaker communities</p> <p>Ensure positive and sustained coverage of cultural and economic activity in the peripheral communities</p>
<p><b>Promote diverse industries and innovation in the whole region</b></p> <p>Special emphasis is placed on food technology, welfare technology, primary processing industries, tourism, and Arctic issues</p>	<p>Increase education and coverage of the public grant system and strengthen the grant application assistance offered by SSNE</p> <p>Strengthen accessibility and diversity in the educational offer at all school levels with emphasis on art, technology and vocational training</p> <p>Establishment of the Welfare Technology Centre</p> <p>Define the region for increased and improved energy utilization with special focus on geothermal energy</p> <p>Promote the installation of cluster centers in the region</p> <p>Formulate a common vision for the region in business development and innovation</p> <p>Akureyri will be the center for Arctic issues in Iceland</p>



Key categories of plan

**Business development and innovation**

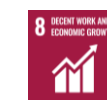
Culture  
Environment





# OBJECTIVES AND EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS

Objectives	Examples of actions
<p><b>Ensure the diversity of cultural activities with an emphasis on the access of different groups to culture and cultural heritage</b></p>	<p>Promote cultural tourism, especially outside the peak season</p> <p>Increase the visibility and opportunities of diverse groups in society in cultural activities</p> <p>Promote themed festivals in the region (multicultural festivals, food festivals, craft festivals, etc.)</p> <p>Review and revise the region's multicultural policy</p> <p>Strengthen and secure cooperation with cultural institutions and festivals in other regions</p>
<p><b>Strengthen the cooperation of cultural institutions and promotion of cultural activities in the region</b></p>	<p>Support for the professional work of museums throughout the region</p> <p>Present and communicate the region's cultural heritage in an innovative way</p> <p>Support project-based cooperation between different cultural institutions</p> <p>Strengthen Nordic cooperation in the field of arts and culture</p>
<p><b>Increase job opportunities for artists in the region</b></p>	<p>Establish domestic and foreign collaborative projects with the participation of parties in the region</p> <p>Support projects that involve new ideas and ways in culture and arts</p> <p>Define the regional roles of the cultural institutions in the countryside</p>
<p><b>Support artistic creation</b></p>	<p>Promote children's culture with different cultural events for children and young people</p> <p>Strengthen cooperation between upper secondary school students in the Northeast Iceland</p> <p>Promote grassroots work in the arts</p> <p>Increase the number of art courses and workshops in the area</p>

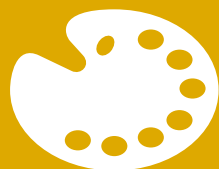


Key categories of plan

Business development and innovation

**Culture**

Environment



# OBJECTIVES AND EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS



Objectives	Examples of actions
<b>Shape the future- and overall vision for the region in environmental matters</b>	<p>Conduct consultations on holistic regional planning</p> <p>Increase cooperation with farmers and landowners</p> <p>Develop a targeted strategy for the development of a circular economy</p> <p>Map possible energy sources and formulate a strategy for their utilization</p>
<b>Strengthen local knowledge in environmental matters</b>	<p>Create an educational program for environmental and climate issues that municipalities and other stakeholders can use</p> <p>Create a subpage on the SSNE website with links to useful content</p> <p>Promote greater awareness of regional production</p> <p>Promote energy transition in transport and encourage improved travel habits</p>
<b>Do our part to meet Iceland's obligations regarding carbon fixation</b>	<p>Make a status assessment of the region in terms of emissions and possibilities for sequestration</p> <p>Develop an action plan to meet emission reduction targets</p> <p>Encourage increased food production in the region, shorter transport routes for consumer goods and improved labeling of origin</p>
<b>Meet the goals set out in the national waste management plan</b>	<p>Make a feasibility assessment of a bioenergy plant</p> <p>Coordinate waste sorting, significantly reduce landfilling and reduce waste in the region</p> <p>Encourage innovation in the utilization of waste and increase value creation by participating in an accelerator</p>
<b>That distribution of funds in the region is in line with environmental goals</b>	<p>Evaluate projects specifically with respect to environmental impact when allocating funds from the regional development plan</p> <p>Establish a professional council for environmental affairs</p>



Key categories of plan

Business development and innovation

Culture

**Environment**

