



**Nordic Road Association (NVF)
Nordiskt vägforum (NVF)**

Strategic plan 2024–2028

The strategy has been approved by the NVF board on 12th of March 2024

Contents

1. Foreword.....	3
2. The Nordic Association and its members	3
3. NVF's vision, mission and role	3
4. The UN Sustainable Development Goals - a strategic base.....	3
5. Working groups.....	4
6. The overarching theme.....	5
7. Forms of operation.....	5
8. Cooperation with other organizations	5
Annex 1: Specific working areas of the Working Groups (<i>terms of reference</i>)	5

1. Foreword

This strategy is valid from 1st of July 2024 to 30th of June 2028. During this period, Finland is the chairman of the Nordic Road Association (NVF). This means that Finland will lead the work until the "Via Nordica 2028" congress, which will conclude the work of the term. After that, the management of NVF will be transferred to Iceland.

The strategy outlines NVF's work during the period 2024–2028. The strategy has been drawn up on the basis of a survey conducted among NVF members in autumn 2022.

With this strategy, NVF focuses on developing the road and transport industry in a direction that reflects the members' wishes and needs for knowledge sharing and exchange of experience. NVF's member companies support the strategy by actively participating in the working groups.

2. The Nordic Association and its members

The Nordic Association was founded in Stockholm on 19th of June 1935. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden have been members from the beginning. The Faroe Islands became members in 1975.

NVF is an industry collaboration with members from both the public and private sectors and has over 320 member companies in the Nordic region, many of which are private.

According to its statutes (§ 2), the association aims to promote the development of the road and transport sector through co-operation between professionals in Denmark, Finland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. This is done through formalized co-operation in the Nordic expert network, active communication with other Nordic and international networks, and by arranging open seminars and congresses.

3. NVF's vision, mission and role

NVF:s vision:
Competence without border.

NVF:s mission:
To promote development in the road and transport sector through cooperation among professionals in Denmark, Finland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

NVF:s role:
To exchange information, knowledge experience and best practices among the Nordic countries.

4. The UN Sustainable Development Goals - a strategic base

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals serve as a strategic basis for the four-year period. NVF wants to contribute to the achievement of these UN Global Goals. To make the work operational, each working group will identify 1-2 suitable Global Goals for their work. They are described in Annex 1 on terms of reference for the working groups.



Figure 1: UN Sustainable Development Goals. In September 2015, UN member states adopted Agenda 2030, a universal agenda for sustainable development that contains seventeen global goals to be achieved by 2030. The SDGs, in turn, have 169 sub-goals and more than 230 global indicators for how the work is to be carried out and followed up. More information about the UN SDGs: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

All working groups should include 1-2 of the relevant SDGs in their work in the following ways:

- *Define*

The working group will define which 1-2 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals are relevant to their work. This is then followed up and reported.

- *Update as needed*

The Task Force keeps up to date on the progress of the relevant UN Global Targets

- *Reporting*

Making visible the work done for the UN's Global Goals is included in the annual report to the NVF Board.

To support the working group's work with these efforts, the start-up seminar in the autumn of 2024 will also be an introduction to the SDGs and how the update and reporting can be organized and designed.

5. Working groups

For the period 2024-2028, the structure consists of nine working groups. The working groups are set up for the entire four-year period. New working groups can then be set up with different durations.

Bridges	Operation and Maintenance	Nordic Construction Market	Road Design	Road Freight Transport	Road Technology	Road Traffic Safety	Tunnels	Urban Transport and Transport Planning
Theme: Climate and environment						Finland		
Norway	Denmark	Sweden	Finland	Denmark	Iceland	Norway	Iceland	Sweden

Figure 2: NVF working groups from 1st of July 2024

Job descriptions (Appendix 1: "Terms of reference") have been written for all work groups to facilitate recruitment and to ensure that participants get up to speed quickly

with good energy at work. Nevertheless, it retains the high degree of autonomy and flexibility that is the hallmark of NVF.

6. The overarching theme

For the period 2024-2028, there is an overarching theme "Climate & Environment" that acts as a matrix for all working groups. The overarching theme has two coordinators who coordinate the activities with close co-operation and dialogue with the working groups. These two coordinators are appointed by the Finnish association. Cross-cutting themes are responsible for coordination within their own area of work and are planned for the four-year period. For example, theme workshops, webinars or seminars can be arranged where specific current topics are handled together with working groups.

Coordinators prepare topics for webinars, collect presentation ideas from each working group ("call for papers") and organize the event. The working groups are expected to prepare one presentation suitable for the theme, just as they do for the Via Nordica congress. The target group is all the people who work in the road and transport sector, not just NVF members. The aim is to achieve more cooperation between working groups and to exchange information, knowledge, and experiences. The same theme could possibly also become a session in Via Nordica 2028.

The overarching themes have their own action plan, and the work is reported in the same way as working groups report. The NVF Board also monitors and steers the work on the overarching themes.

7. Forms of operation

The work carried out in these working groups is at the core of NVF's activities. NVF's work consists of sharing knowledge and developing best practice. This is done on the basis of an action plan drawn up by the working groups at the beginning of the period based on their mandates.

Effective collaboration requires that:

- All members actively participate in the work. This also applies to 'corresponding members', who actively participate by responding to requests for comments and the like.
- The members are motivated and actively participate in the work
- members convey information to and from their own organization
- the members have an appointment from their employer, including the necessary time and financial resources

More detailed instructions for the work of working groups can be found in NVF's statutes and in the rules of procedure for NVF's working groups.

8. Cooperation with other organizations

NVF has collaborated with other international cooperation organizations for many years. NVF and the Baltic Road Association have been working together since 1992. NVF and the World Road Association (PIARC) have also had an established collaboration for many years.

Annex 1: Specific working areas of the Working Groups (*terms of reference*)