

## Action plan for Working Group *Tunnels*

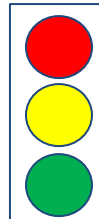
### Plan for period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2028

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When doing the follow-up of the action plan, the traffic light system can be used as an indicator of work progress. Simply copy the appropriate color and place it in the title column of the corresponding year.



#### Terms of reference

A working group will be established to exchange experience in road tunnels. The working group should address the following matters:

- a) Tunnel Technologies ●
  - For new and old tunnels, Technical equipment for tunnels develops very quickly. There's a need to constantly be aware of the purpose of the technical installations, what safety level there should be.
  - Condition and lifetime of the technology to carry out predictable maintenance
  - Predict degradation and detect errors in the technical installations
  - Simulation in virtual reality (digital twilling)
- b) Co-operation from installation to maintenance ●
 

In order to ensure operational newly built tunnels, it is essential that operations are included in the planning of new tunnels right from the start-up phase (MKV). Experience shows that tunnels built where operations have not entered into dialogue at an early stage often require major adaptations and changes when the tunnel is handed over for operation. This is costly and time-consuming.
- c) Innovation and renewal of methods and materials in tunnel construction and maintenance ●
  - New materials and new, innovative methods and their economic and environmental consequences
- d) Safety in tunnels ●
  - Cyber security, knowledge sharing and ongoing discussions are essential to ensure a high common level of security
  - Safety challenges, e.g. automated driving, alternative fuels e.g. batteries, hydrogen and gas.

#### Focus Areas and Planned Actions 2025

Focus Areas	Planned Actions	Short Report on the Completed Plans
We intend to reflect NVF's role by exchanging information, knowledge experience and best practices between the countries and among the members of the working group.	Even though the focus of each year's work is one (or two) of the four topics it is intended that the working group considers the four topics in parallel throughout the 4 years period, together with the Climate and Environment theme.	<b>Summary of WG activities in 2025</b> The main outcomes of this year's work were the strengthening of connections between members and the facilitation of constructive dialogues about shared experiences and challenges within

<p>The Tunnel working group has four focus areas (topics) to work on this period,</p> <p><b>a) Tunnel technologies,</b>  <b>b) Co-operation from installation to maintenance,</b>  <b>c) Innovation and renewal of methods and materials in Tunnel construction and maintenance</b>  <b>d) Safety in tunnels</b></p> <p>In addition, we have the common theme with the other WGs, <i><b>Climate and environment.</b></i></p> <p>We aim at linking those topics together throughout the period but have focus on one (or two) topic each year.</p> <p>For the first year (2025) we will have focus on the topics Tunnel technologies and Co-operation from installation to maintenance. This will involve the interaction between tunnel design, installation and maintenance.</p> <p>The working groups SDGs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- nr. 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</li> <li>- Nr.12 Responsible consumption and production.</li> </ul>	<p>For 2025 we aim to hold one live working meeting and one online working meeting where each country's status and vision in the topics Tunnel technologies and Co-operation from installation to maintenance is discussed, i.e., where are we, and where are we going in design and construction of new tunnels as well as operation and maintenance of existing tunnels.</p> <p>Nominate one or two contact persons from each of the countries that will help finding consideration matters within the topics and people to hold presentations.</p> <p>We will aim at holding one physical meeting each year of the period (2025, 2026 and 2027), and one seminar that will take place either 2026 or 2027.</p>	<p>the sector. Members gained valuable insights into how different countries address various issues and learned about ongoing research projects across member nations. The WG achieved all goals set for this year</p> <p><b>Meetings and Events</b></p> <p>Two Working Group (WG) meetings were held in 2025 — one virtual and one physical:</p> <p><b>Virtual Meeting – April 2nd</b></p> <p>This meeting featured two engaging presentations on topics aligned with our focus areas: innovation, renewal of methods and materials, and tunnel safety. These presentations also touched on climate and environmental aspects. Following the presentations, a discussion was held on how different countries incorporate operational considerations into the planning and design of new projects.</p> <p><b>Physical Meeting – Faroe Islands, Early September</b></p> <p>A public seminar, approximately 130 participants, about tunnel safety, highlighting the public's strong interest in tunneling in the Faroe Islands.</p> <p>A closed WG meeting, around 25 members from all NVF countries. Topics discussed included tunnel safety, maintenance, and the upcoming Suðurøytunnellen project in the Faroe Islands. Each country shared updates on current and planned tunneling activities. On the second day, a technical tour was organized to visit several tunnels — both completed and under construction — providing valuable insights into local practices.</p>
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## Focus areas and Planed Actions for 2026

Focus Areas 2026	Planned Actions 2026	Short Report on the Completed Plans Deadline <b>1st November 2026</b>
<p>For 2026 we will continue with the same focus areas as 2025.</p> <p>For the second year (2026) we will have more focus on the topics Tunnel technologies, as well as c) <i>Innovation and renewal of methods and materials in Tunnel construction and maintenance</i> And continue to have focus on <i>Safety in tunnels</i>, which is a topic that got a lot of attention in 2025 but we feel that still needs more attention.</p> <p>The working groups SDGs are: - nr. 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure - Nr.12 Responsible consumption and production.</p> <p>The SDGs will be implemented in your WG meetings and work.</p>	<p><b>Planned Actions and Activities</b> To achieve its goals, the working group has outlined the following actions and events:</p> <p><b>Meeting Plan for 2026</b> The group plans to hold two working meetings during 2026: one virtual meeting in the spring and one in-person meeting in the autumn. The physical meeting may be combined with a seminar or mini-seminar, depending on availability and relevance.</p> <p><b>Structure and Focus</b> Each meeting will include a mix of topic-specific presentations and constructive discussions. Special emphasis will be placed on topics a), c), and d).</p> <p><b>Addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b> The working group will actively align its actions with relevant SDGs. This includes identifying how each planned activity contributes to specific goals and ensuring that sustainability and global development priorities are integrated into the group's work.</p>	<p>[insert text here] Instructions: [please remove the instructions when you are finished]</p> <p>You can describe here the main up comes from the WG from this year. Did the WG achieve all the goals, and how? What has been done for achieving the planned actions?</p> <p>Which events (seminars, meetings, etc.) has the working group organized? What was the purpose? What was achieved?</p> <p>Were there that kind of successes or practices in the activities that you could recommend to other working groups as well?</p>

Focus areas and Planed Actions for 2027		
Focus Areas 2027	Planned Actions 2027	Short Report on the Completed Plans Deadline <b>1st November 2027</b>
<p>For 2027 we will continue with the same focus areas.</p>	<p>For 2027 we aim at continuing holding one virtual meeting and one in-person. We aim at holding a seminar in Iceland in the autumn.</p>	<p>[insert text here] Instructions: [please remove the instructions when you are finished]</p> <p>You can describe here the main up comes from the WG from this year. Did the WG achieve all the goals, and how? What has been done for achieving the planned actions?</p>

		<p>Which events (seminars, meetings, etc.) has the working group organized? What was the purpose? What was achieved?</p> <p>Were there that kind of successes or practices in the activities that you could recommend to other working groups as well?</p>
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Focus areas and Planed Actions for 2028		
Focus Areas 2028	Planned Actions 2028	Short Report on the Completed Plans Deadline <b>1st November 2028</b>
Same as 2027	We plan for having one online meeting. And look at tunnel related activities or talks for the NVF congress in Finland.	<p>[insert text here]</p> <p>Instructions: [please remove the instructions when you are finished]</p> <p>You can describe here the main up comes from the WG from this year. Did the WG achieve all the goals, and how? What has been done for achieving the planned actions?</p> <p>Which events (seminars, meetings, etc.) has the working group organized? What was the purpose? What was achieved?</p> <p>Were there that kind of successes or practices in the activities that you could recommend to other working groups as well?</p>