### Norwegian Institute for Nature Research

# Annual Report 2017

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Cooperation and expertise for a sustainable future

# Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) Cooperation and expertise for a sustainable future

NINA aims to be recognised nationally and internationally for expertise in applied ecological research. Our priority targets for the period of 2016-2020 are:

- Conduct science of high scientific quality and integrity
  Provide knowledge for use in shaping policy, management, and value creation
  - Take an active part in the community by disseminate research results
- Being an attractive and efficient knowledge based enterprise

#### NINA's slogan is:

"Cooperation and expertise for a sustainable future". The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, NINA, is as an independent foundation focusing on environmental research, emphasizing the interaction between human society, natural resources and biodiversity. NINA was established in 1988. The headquarters are located in Trondheim, with branches in Tromsø, Lillehammer, Bergen and Oslo. In addition, NINA owns and runs the aquatic research station for wild fish at Ims in Rogaland and the arctic fox breeding center at Oppdal.

NINA's activities include research, environmental impact assessments, environmental monitoring, counselling and evaluation.

NINA's scientists come from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds that include biologists, geographers, geneticists, social scientists, sociologists and more. We have a broad-based expertise on the genetic, population, species, ecosystem and landscape level, in terrestrial, freshwater and coastal marine ecosystems.

NINA's main areas of activities:

- Ecosystem/bidiversity
- Sustainable use and harvesting of fish and game stocks
- Environmental monitoring
- Ecosystem services

- Climate change impacts and adaptation
- Environmental impact assessments connected to infrastructure development and land-use changes
- Restoration ecology
- Land use and landscape analysis
- Mapping and monitoring of biodiversity
- Analysis of conflicts related to utilization of natural resources
- Human interactions with their natural environment

Active dialogue and communication is of key importance for NINA's work.

NINA participates in the research centres CIENS (Oslo Centre for Interdisciplinary Environmental and Social Research), The Fram Centre (High North Research Centre for Climate and the Environment). HydroCen (Norwegian Research Centre for Hydropower) and CeBES (Centre for Biodiversity and ecosystem services).

NINA is part of Miljøalliansen, which is a strategic cooperation between the environmental research institutes in Norway.

NINA cooperates with research institutes in more than 30 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and America.



## Environmental DNA and MS EDNA

Collection of water samples and analysis of environmental DNA (eDNA) is an alternative method for monitoring ecosystems that does not require time consuming field work.

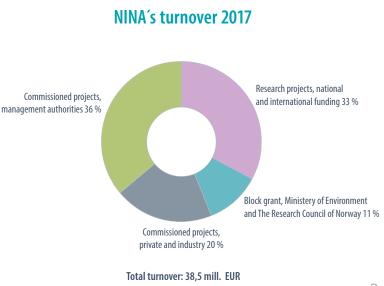
The remote-controlled boat MS EDNA – a new tool for monitoring of biodiversity in aquatic environments. MS EDNA is developed to take representative eDNA samples from lakes in a quick and easy way. By pumping water through a DNA filter mounted on the boat, large lake areas can be covered without moving from place to place along the shore, which can often be difficult to access. It is easy to choose whether we want to take specific samples from certain areas in a lake or an average sample from the lake. Different genetic analyses can afterwards reveal both the species diversity and the relative amounts of each species. Photo: Frode Fossøy, NINA.

#### NINA's key statistics for 2017

Number of publications	2017	2016
Scientific papers	270	251
NINA reports	110	91
External lectures and presentations	522	529
Media coverage	2949	2367
News stories published at nina.no	97	92
Unique visitors to nina.no website	160 028	124 920

Number of employees	2017	2016
Total	255	242
- women	34,9 %	33,9 %
- women in scientific positions	28,8 %	28 %
- female PhD students	57,1 %	33,3 %

Number of employees (full-time equivalents)	2017	2016
Total	245	228,7
- scientific staff	164	153,0



#### www.nina.no

#### NINA head office

Postal address: P.O. Box 5685 Torgarden NO-7485 Trondheim, NORWAY Visiting address: Høgskoleringen 9, 7034 Trondheim Phone: +47 73 80 14 00 E-mail: firmapost@nina.no

#### NINA Oslo

Gaustadalléen 21 NO-0349 Oslo, NORWAY Phone: +47 73 80 14 00

#### NINA Tromsø

Postal address: Framsenteret, P.O. Box 6606 Langnes NO-9296 Tromsø, NORWAY Visiting address: Hjalmar Johansens gate 14, 9007 Tromsø Phone: +47 77 75 04 00

#### NINA Lillehammer

Vormstuguvegen 40 NO-2624 Lillehammer, NORWAY Phone: +47 73 80 14 00

#### **NINA Bergen**

Thormøhlens gate 55 NO-5006 Bergen, NORWAY Phone: 73 80 14 00

#### **NINA Ims Research Station**

Ryfylkeveien 980 NO-4308 Sandnes, NORWAY Phone: +47 73 80 14 00

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