



SÁMIRÁÐÐI
SAAMELAISNEUVOSTO
SAMERÅDET
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SAAMI COUNCIL

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Photo: Susanna Israelsson

Climate Change in Sápmi – an overview and a Path Forward

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**Find the report
in English here:**



“We want to express our strongest gratitude to all Sámi knowledge holders that have taken their time to share their thoughts, experiences and observations from climate change and related impacts, and how this impacts them in their life.”

— ASLAK HOLMBERG, PRESIDENT OF THE SAAMI COUNCIL



Photo: Jannie Staffanson



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Recommendations (overview)

Self-determination for Sámi society to prioritize, plan and implement solutions based on our knowledge and needs

- Sámi customary sustainable use, values, and practices must be at the core of developing policies that affect Sámi culture, livelihoods and subsistence activities.
- Climate finance must be made accessible for Sámi in order to initiate Sámi adaptation strategies.

Recommendations (overview)

- Compile additional information on how Sámi culture and livelihoods (fishing and fisheries, hunting and gathering, and duodji in particular, but also reindeer husbandry) are affected by and coping with climate change and related impacts, as well as changes in land and marine use, and governance and regulation of land and marine spaces and resources.
- Strengthen the knowledge base on health and well-being in relation to a changing climate and environment in Sápmi.
- Recognize climate action as a vital part of health policies, and health action as a vital part of climate policy.

Recommendations (overview)

- Emergency preparedness strategies must be developed in a context that assesses the multiple interactions between climate, ecosystems, and Sámi society.
- Increase knowledge about the current and projected existence and risks of contaminants, toxins, and pathogens in subsistence resources the Sámi people depend upon.



The full recognition of Sámi rights to self-determination in decision-making is crucial in order to build capacity for adaptation, resilience, and healthy societies. This will require transforming governance systems and ensuring full and effective participation of the Sámi people.

Partnership with the Sámi people in development of national, regional, and local policies and legislation is fundamental to effective climate action.

Climate Impacts on Terrestrial Environments (CITE)

