



# CITY OF BERGEN

Flood risk and coastal protection in Bergen  
ADAPATALAB 11/03/2025



## Climatic- and topographic conditions for the City of Bergen

- Mild coastal climate with low pressure systems coming in from the west and southwest
- “The city surrounded by the 7 mountains”

## This gives us

- Yearly precipitation: 2000 – 4000mm
- 200 rainfall days





+190



+230



+75

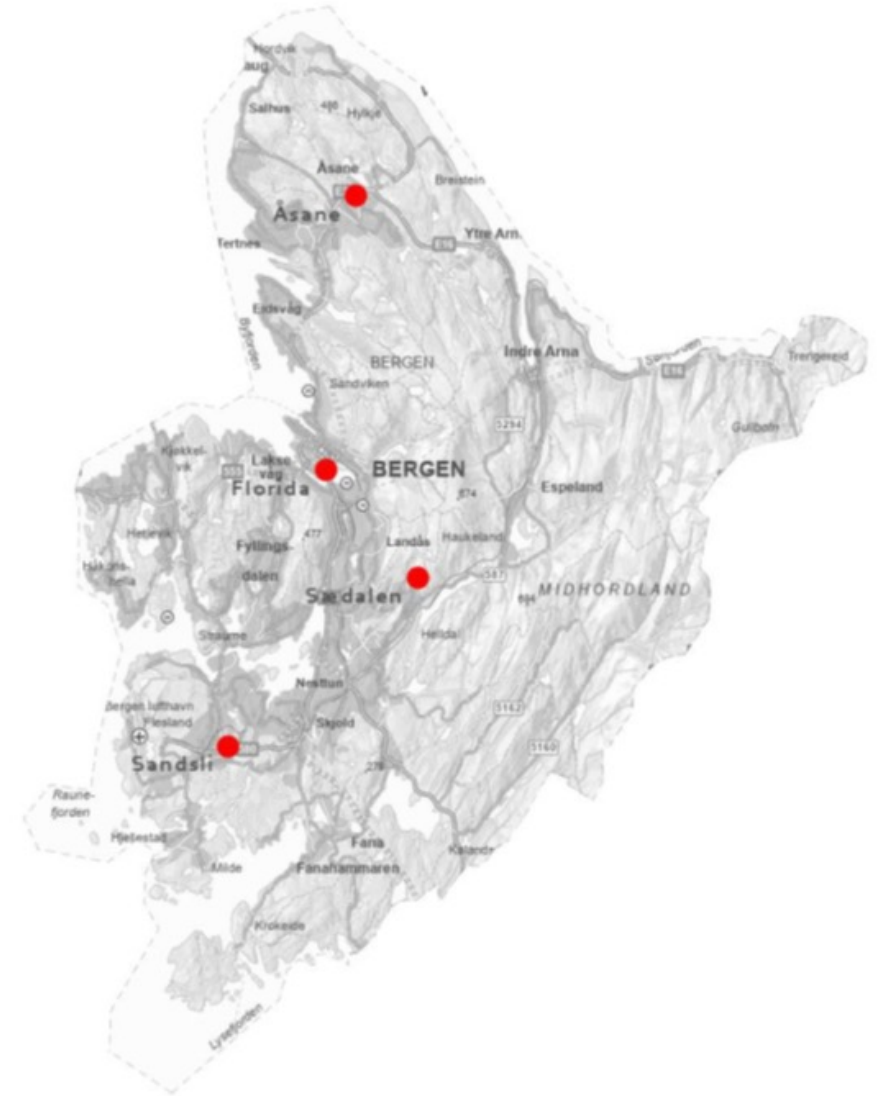


## Cloudburst: What should we plan for?

- The flood path for stormwater:  
Designed for climate-adjusted 100-year rainfall
- We use IDF-curves + 30-50% (Climate change factor)

## The cloudburst “never” hits the gauge

- August 2023: 50-60 mm/1h
- IDF-value (200 retur period) + 50%  
Climate change factor: 58,5mm/1h







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## Cloudburst plans Bergen Municipality

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I4C ADAPTLAB - 11.03.2025

# Cloudburst Plans



Cloudburst plans" or "extreme rainfall plans" are developed by municipalities to address vulnerabilities associated with intense and heavy rainfall events.

Bergen Municipality initiated to develop cloudburst plans in 2024. These plans provide tools and processes to manage cloudbursts and heavy rainfall, helping the municipality to **identify risks** and implement effective stormwater management strategies.







Extreme rainfall event 26.08.2023

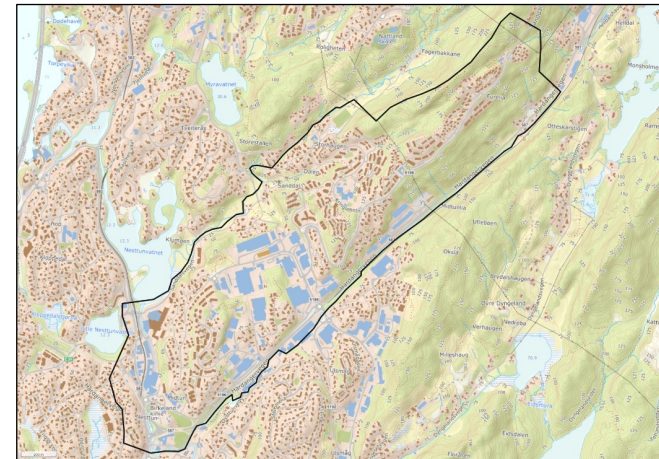
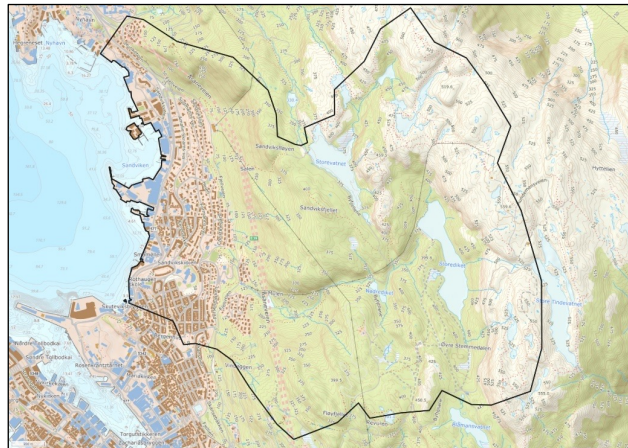
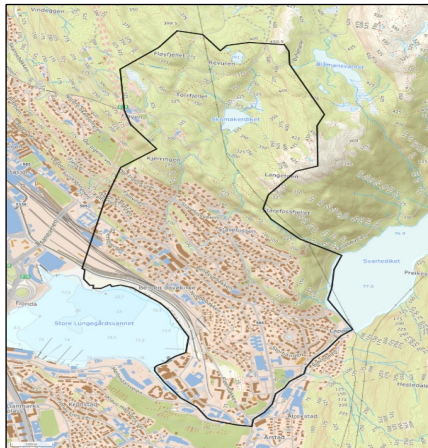




# Cloudburst plans in Bergen Municipality

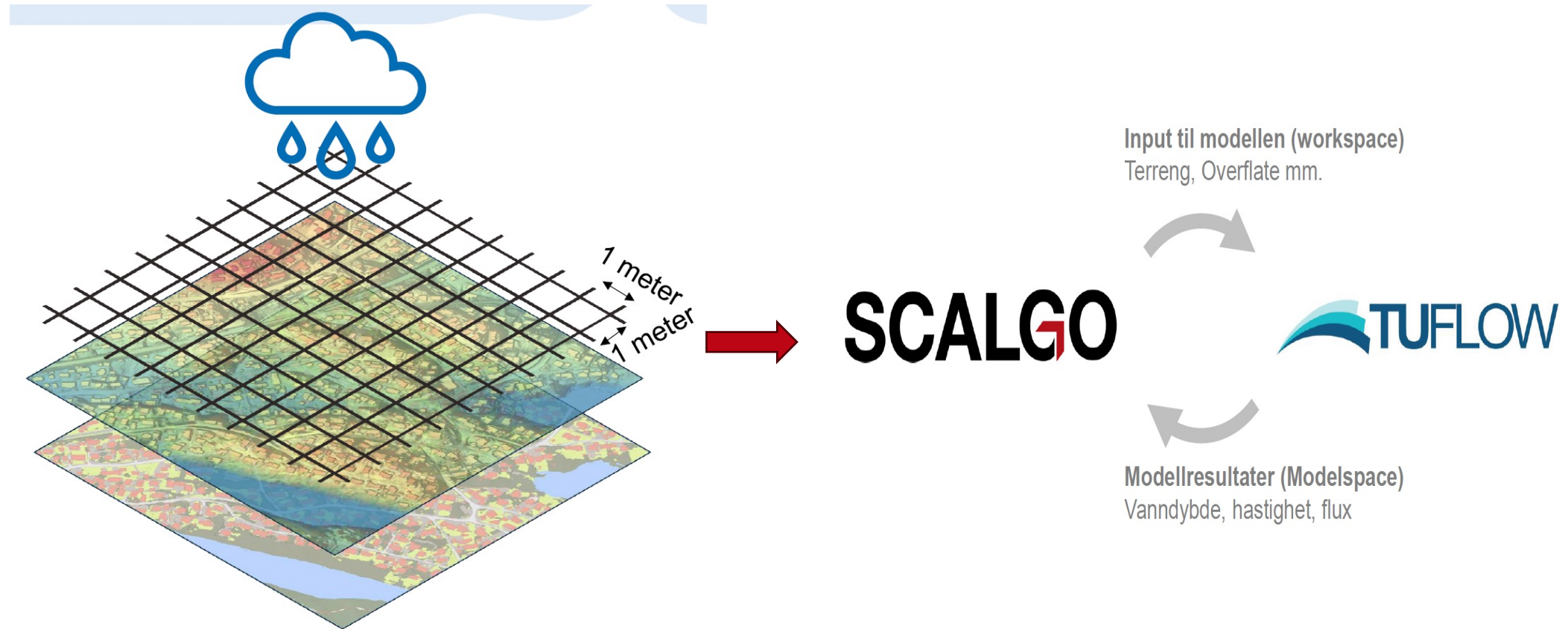
The goal of the cloudburst plan is to identify risks, but also highlight opportunities to gradually improve stormwater management, both in the short and long term.

Initially, three watersheds were selected in Bergen city, where the stormwater system was combined with the sewerage system, which had insufficient capacity. Based on hydrodynamic modelling for extreme rainfall events (100 years return period + 40 % CF), these plans were developed.

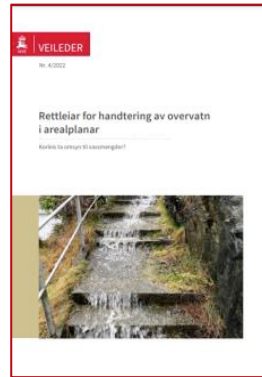
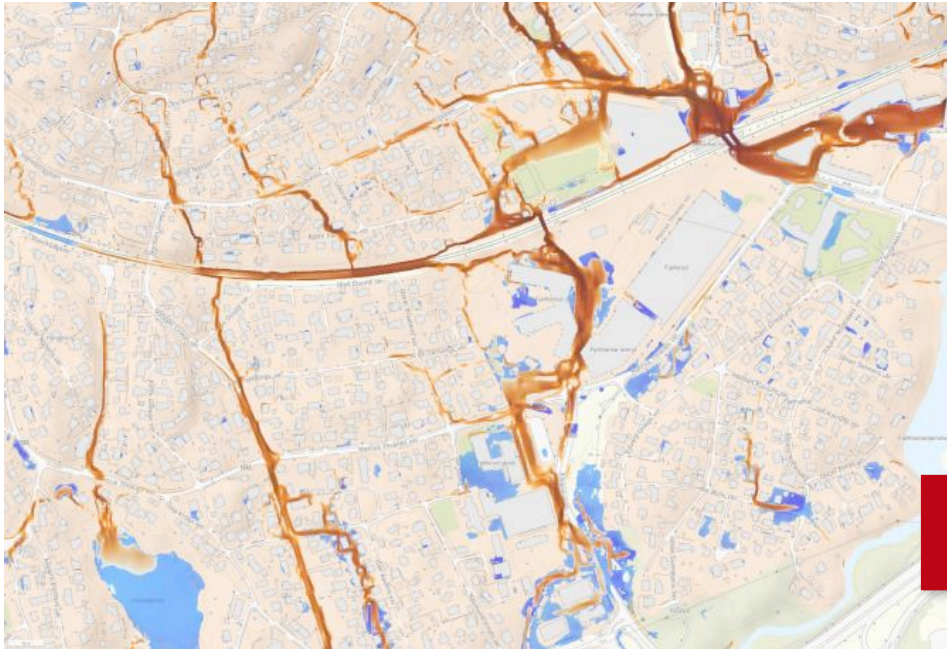




# Hydrodynamic Modelling

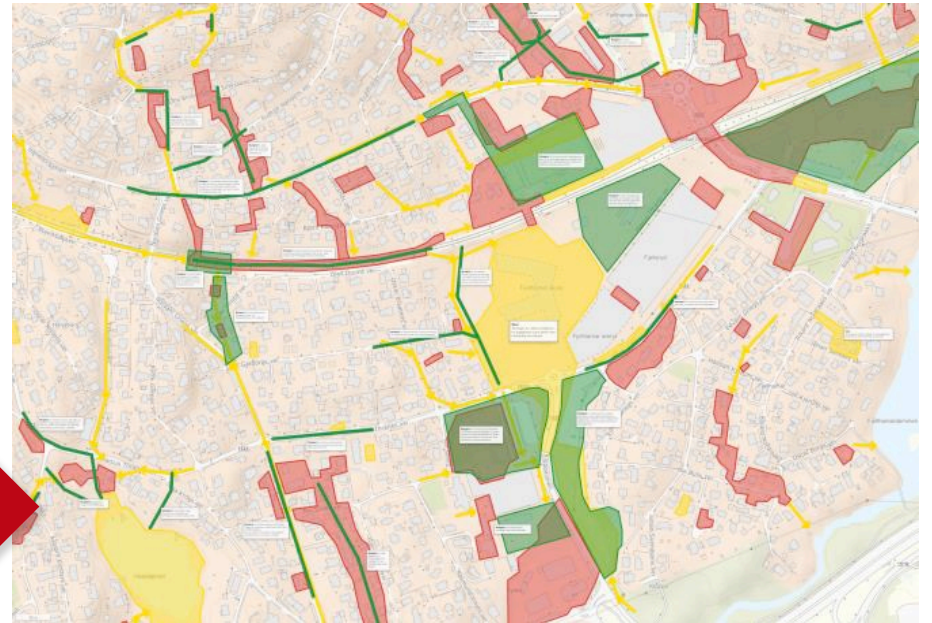


## Model results



Recommendations from NVE  
guidelines 4/2022

## Cloudburst plans





# Elements of Cloudburst plans

## Problem Zones

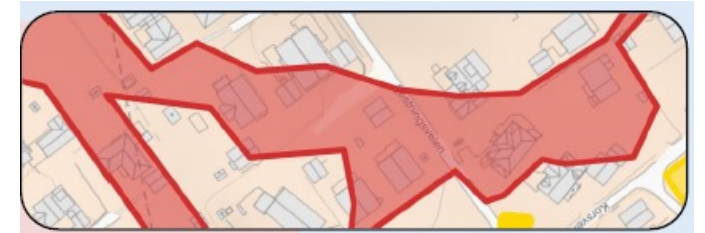
Flooding that can cause damage, or inappropriate flood pathways

## Attention Zones

Areas with a lot of stormwater, but not in the risk zone category

## Opportunity Zones

Areas with a special potential to incorporate climate adaptation into the project

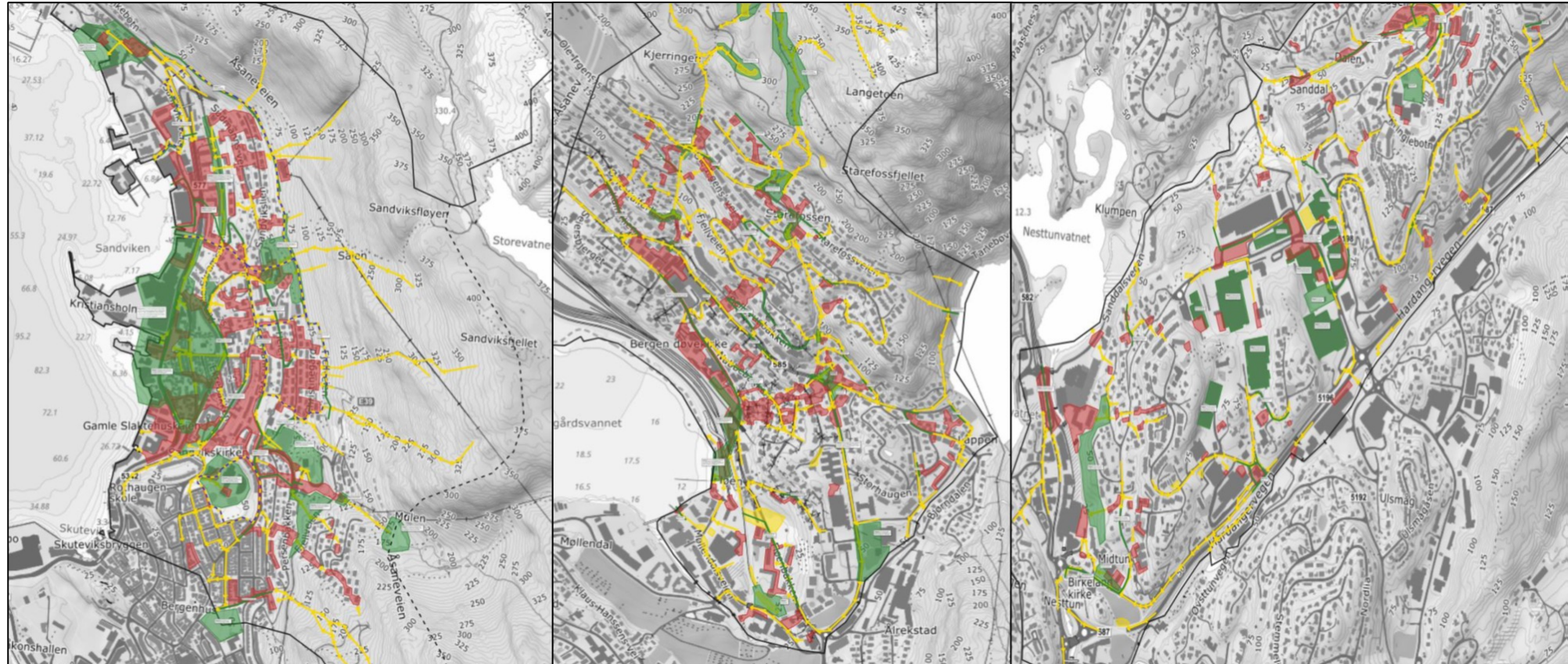


# Dynamic Cloudburst Plans in Bergen

## Sandviken

## Starefossen

## Nesttun



The dynamic cloudburst plan defines problem areas as red, attention areas as yellow and opportunities as green.





# From plans to climate resilience solutions







# CITY OF BERGEN

## **Measures against sea level rise in Bergen**

Jakob Grandin  
Senior advisor, Climate Unit  
Agency for the Urban Environment

11 March 2025

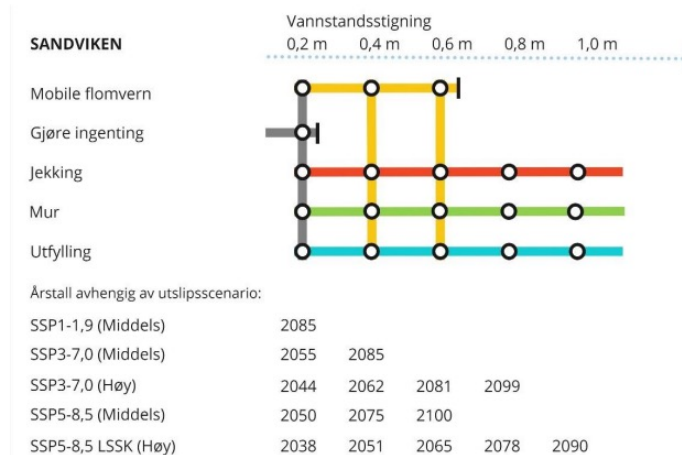
# TILTAK HAVNIVÅSTIGNING BERGEN SENTRUM



Assessment of measures against sea level rise, done by consultancy firm Cowi in close collaboration with the Climate Unit and the Bergen Water Authority.

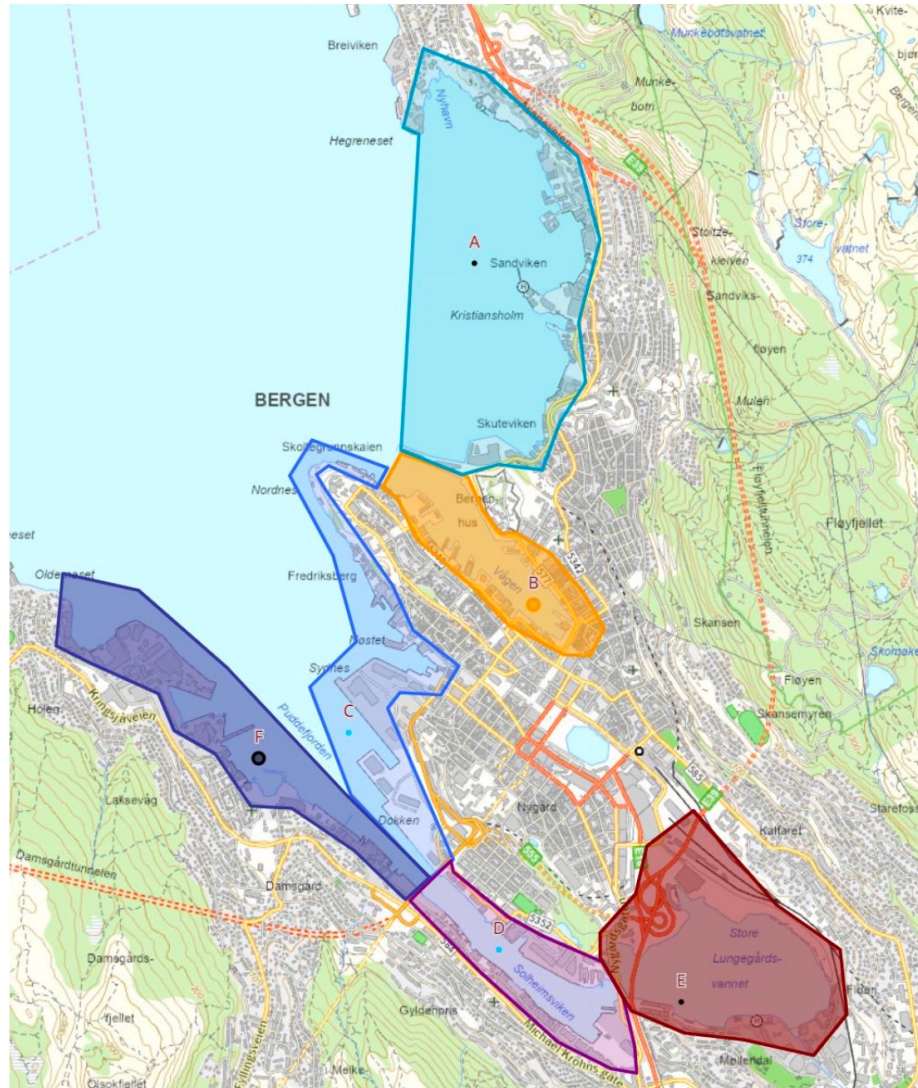
Guiding question: Which measures are most appropriate to reduce the consequences of sea level rise in combination with storm surges for buildings and infrastructure in central Bergen by 2100?

Use of DAPP (Dynamic Adaptive Policy Pathways)-methodology.



Figur 7-9 DAPP analyse





## Division into sub areas:

A) Sandviken

B) Vågen

C) Dokken

D) Damsgårdssundet

E) Store Lungegårdsvannet

F) Laksevåg

# The area of interest



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NORSK KLIMASERVICESENTER

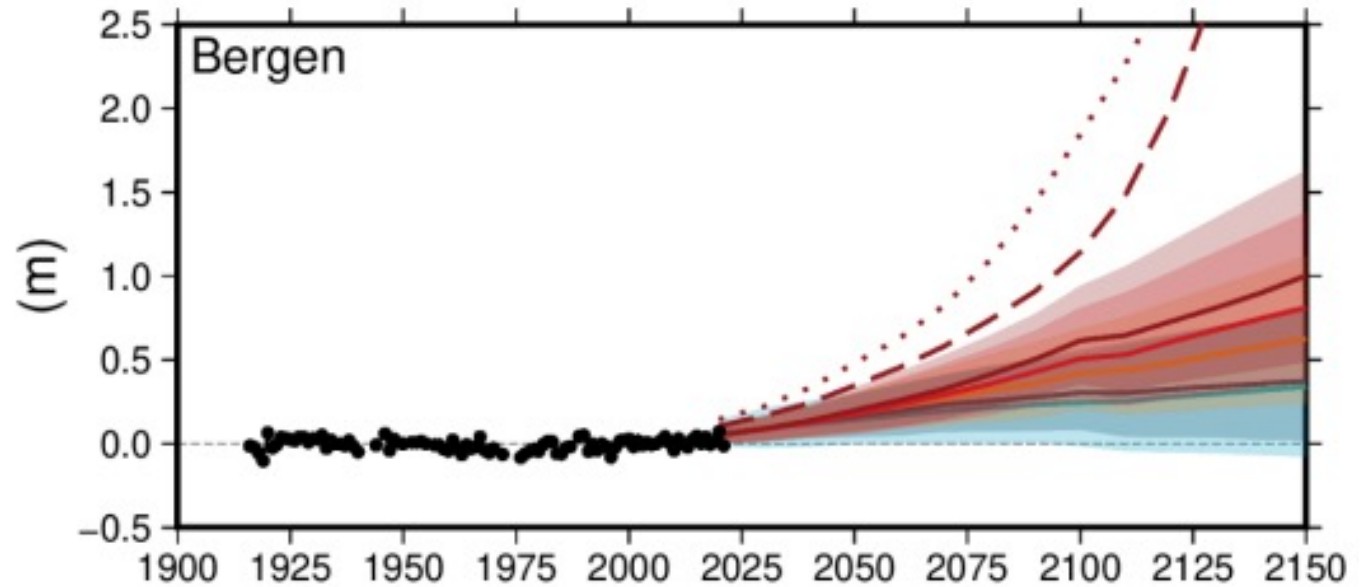
NCCS report 1/2024

## Sea-Level Rise and Extremes in Norway:

Observations and Projections Based on IPCC AR6



M.J.R. Simpson, A. Bonaduce, H.S. Borck, K. Breili, Ø. Breivik, O.R. Ravndal and K. Richter



The Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection recommends the use of the high emissions SSP3-7.0-scenario (83 percentile) as the new basis for planning for high water levels, in line with the precautionary principle.

For Bergen, this means that we need to account for a sea level rise of **81 cm** by 2100

# Scenarios for sea level rise (IPCC's SSPs)



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Tabell 2-1: Ekstremverdier vannstand i Bergen med returperioder (NCCS, 2024) i dag uten og med havnivåstigning

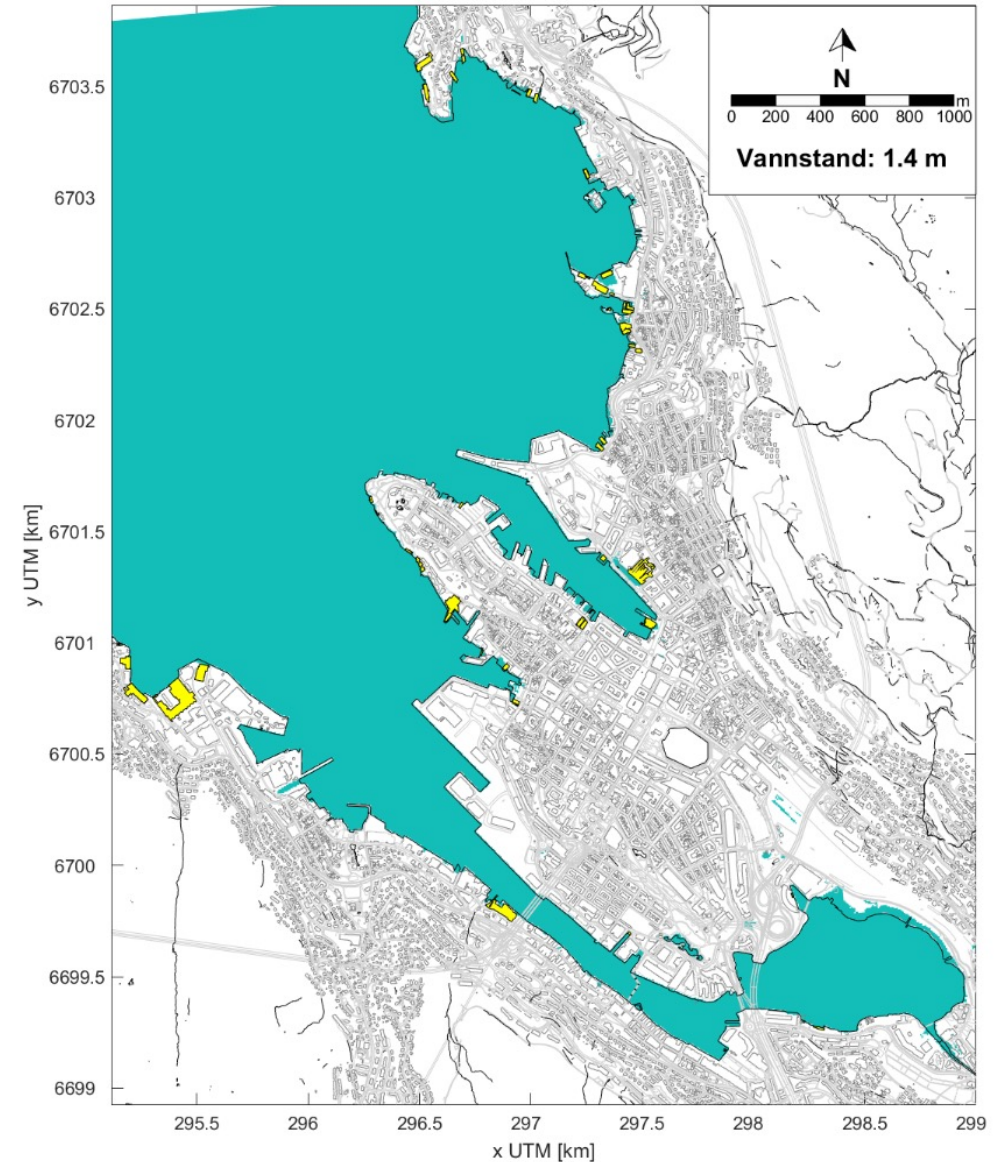
Returperioder	Vannstand i dagens situasjon (cm NN2000)	Vannstand i fremtiden med 81 cm havnivåstigning (SSP3-7-0, øvre 83% intervall, cm NN2000)
Årlig høyvann (stormflo)	102 cm	183 cm
5-års høyvann (stormflo)	114 cm	195 cm
10-års høyvann (stormflo)	119 cm	200 cm
20-års høyvann (stormflo)	124 cm (F1)	205 cm
50-års høyvann (stormflo)	129 cm	210 cm
100-års høyvann (stormflo)	133 cm	214 cm
200-års høyvann (stormflo)	137 cm	218 cm (F2)
1000-års høyvann (stormflo)	144 cm	225 cm (F3)

A 10 year storm surge level today equals the daily high tide in 2100.



# 1.4m water level

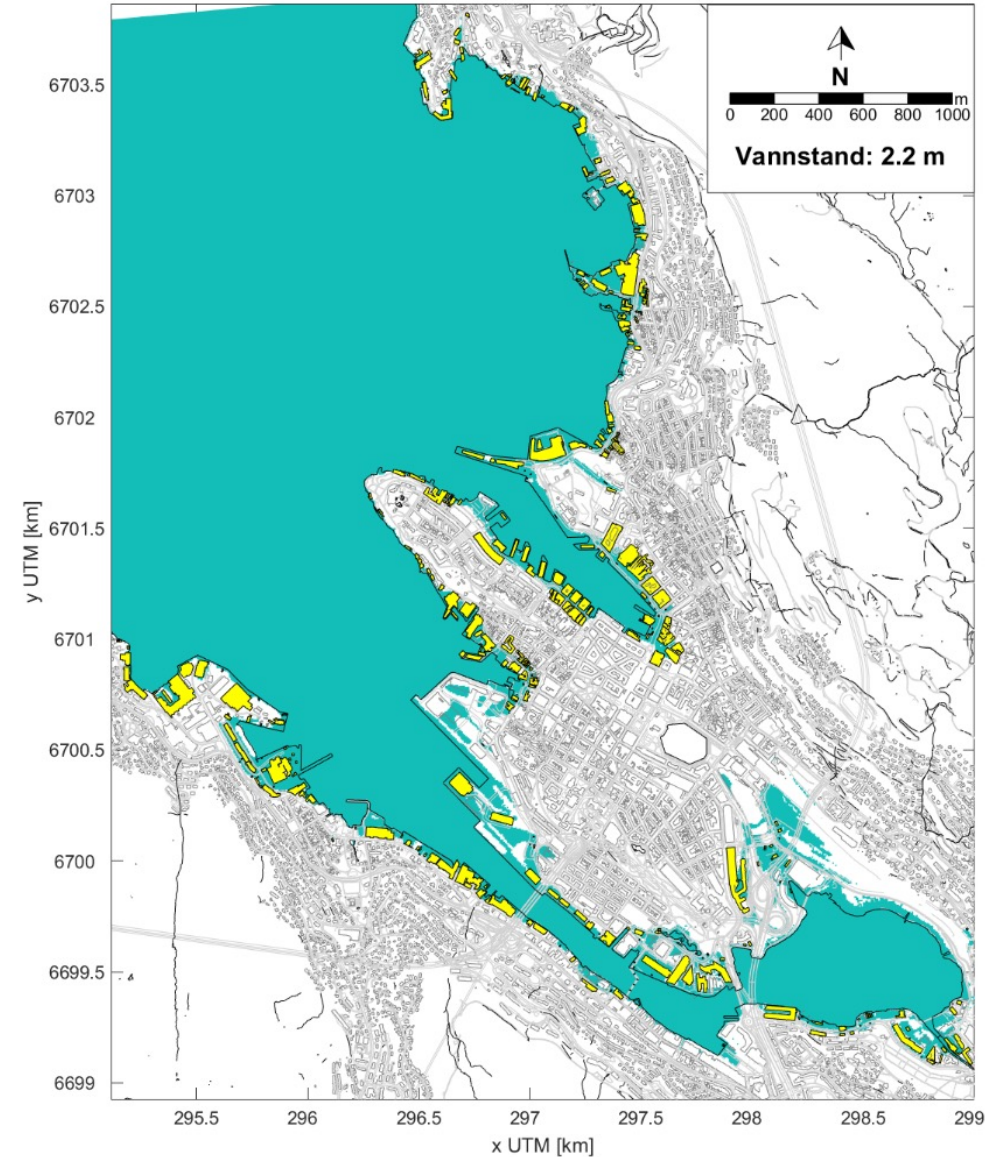
Highest historical storm surge in Bergen.



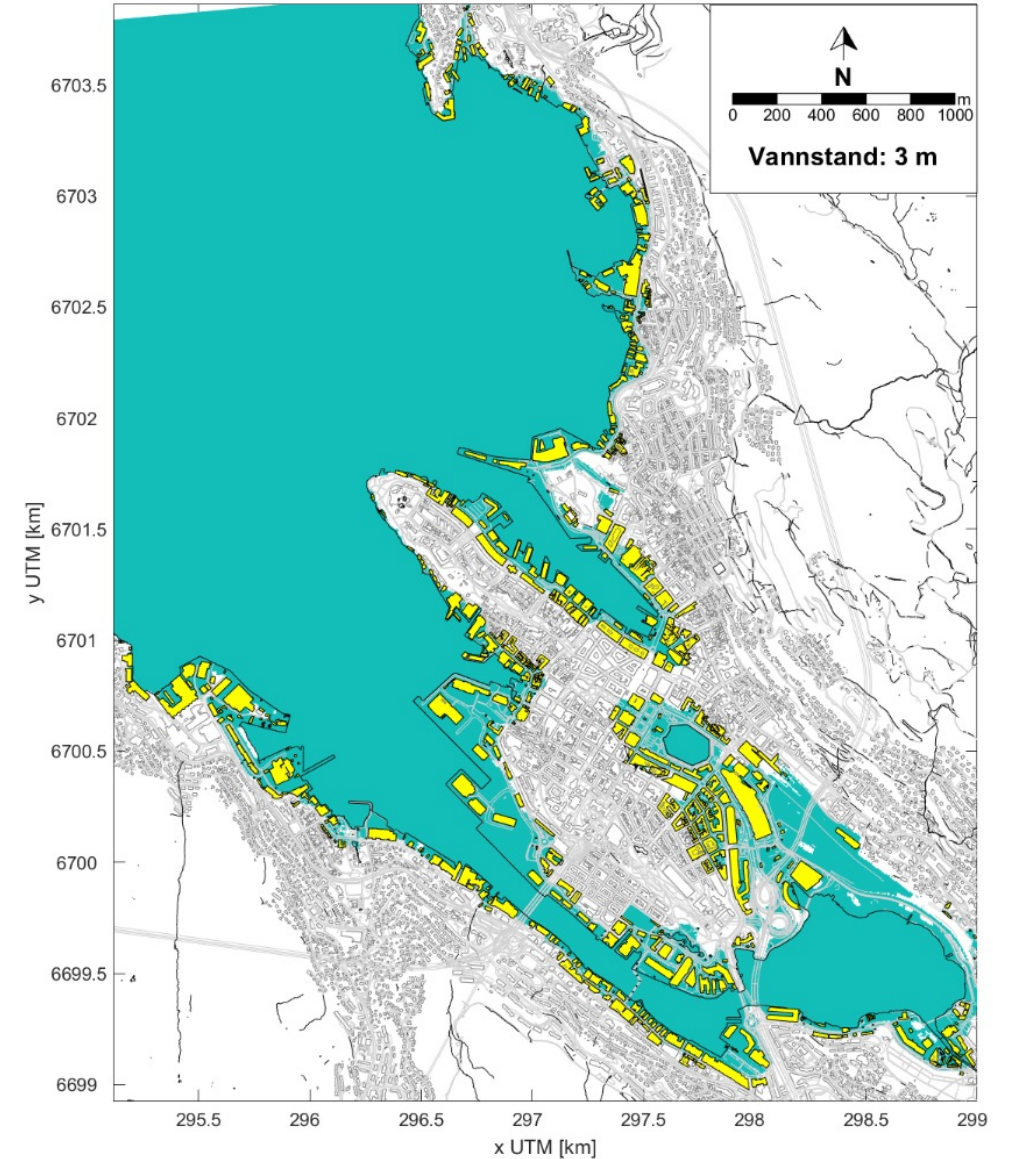


# 2.2 m water level

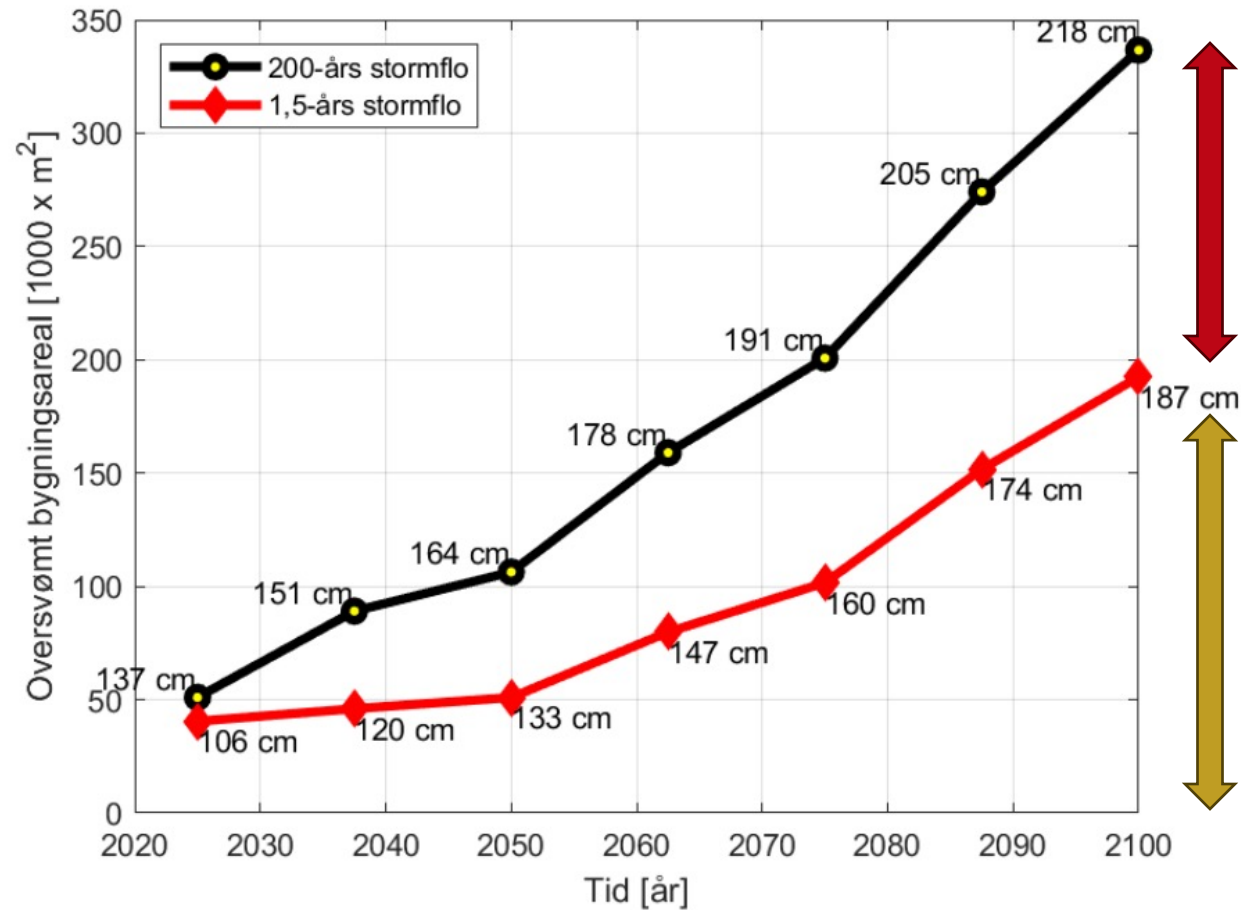
A 200 year storm surge in 2100 (SSP 3-7.0, 83 percentile)



# 3.0 m water level







About 50% of the vulnerable building area will be flooded more often than 1 time per 1.5 years.

Figur 5-4 Total oversvømt bygningsareal i Bergen sentrum over tid. Rød linje indikerer 1,5-års stormflo og svart linje indikerer 200-års stormflo. Klimautslippsscenario SSP 3-7.0 med 83% utfallsscenario. Vannstander indikert med tall.

## Total flooded building area in Bergen over time





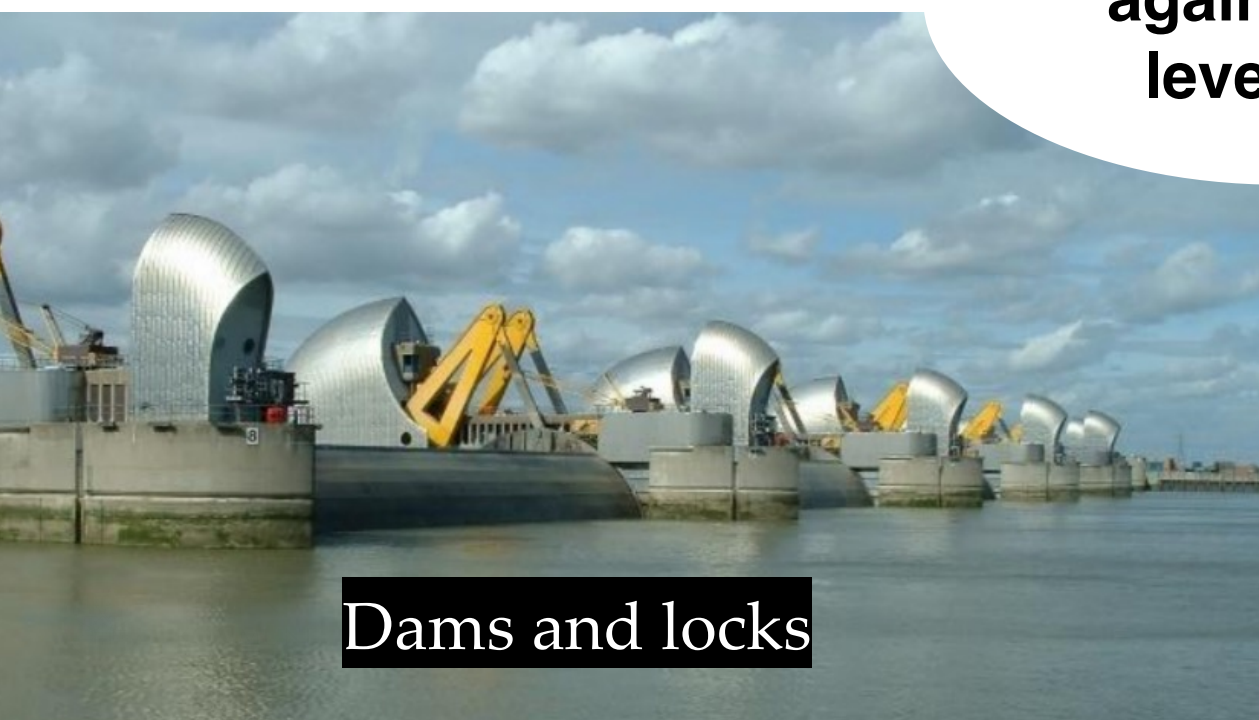


**Mobile flood protection**



**Permanent flood protection**

**Measures against sea level rise**



**Dams and locks**

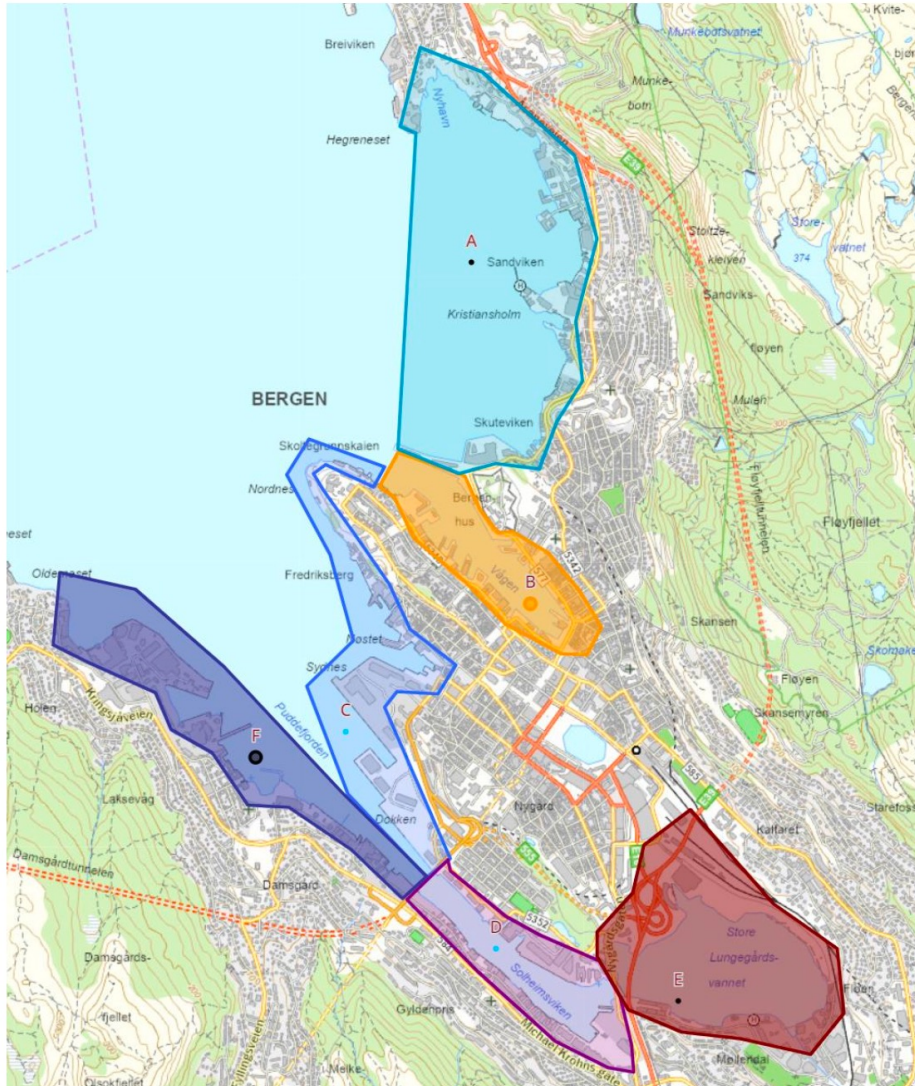


**Integrate flood protection in planned urban development**





- Use of mobile flood protection.
- Permanent flood protection not assessed due to landscape and cultural heritage reasons.
- A flood barrier in the mouth of Vågen
- Possible to raise (jack) some of the old buildings on Bryggen



**Sandviken:** tailored flood protection for individual buildings, jacking of old buildings, use of walls and mobile flood protection.

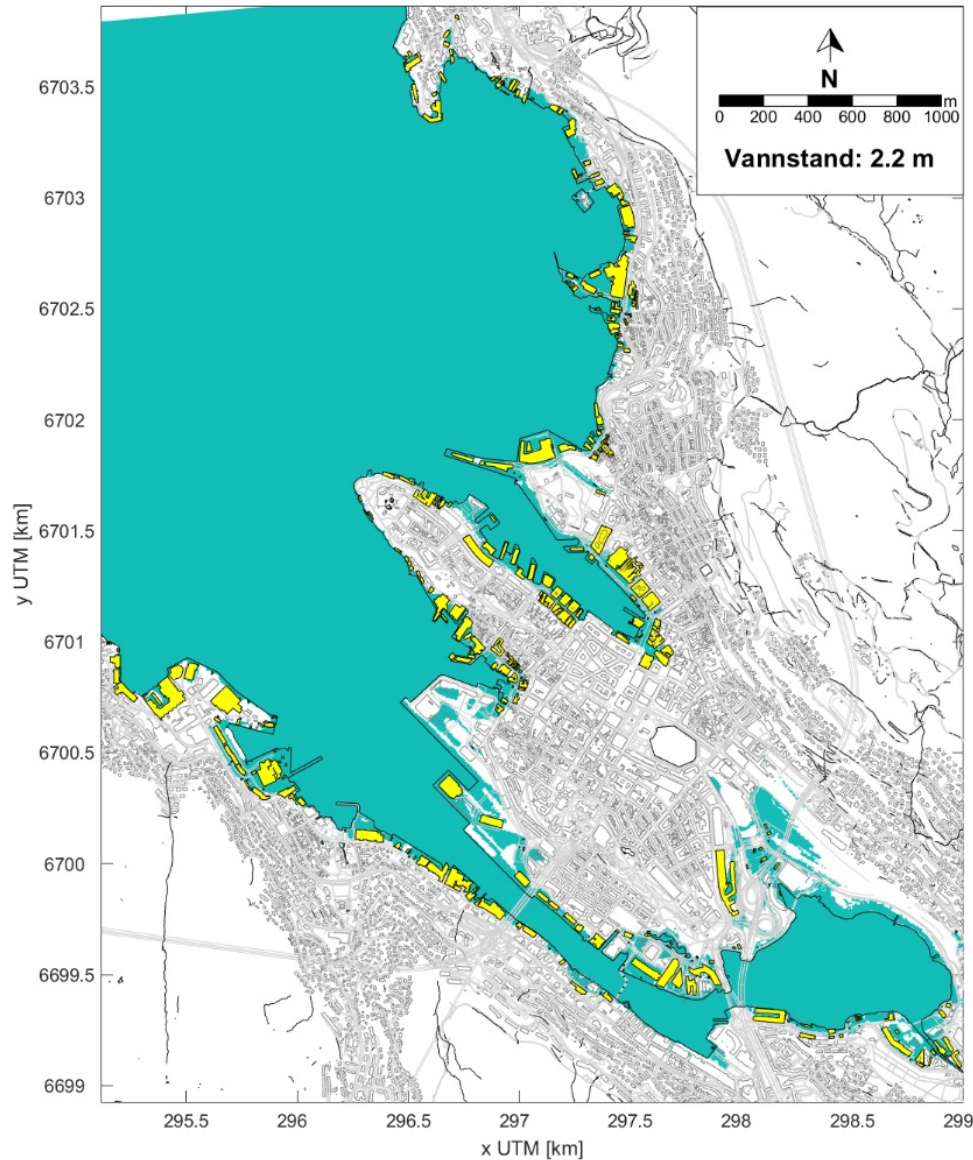
**Dokken:** combination of walls and mobile flood protection, new construction in the area can be used to protect the existing coast line.

**Store lungegårdsvannet:** Walls to protect Northern and Southern parts, a lock can be useful in the long run.

**Laksevåg:** Integration of flood protection in planned urban development combined with walls and mobile flood protection.







Integrate resilience to sea level rise in municipal plans and practices

Climate-proofing of new investments and existing buildings, infrastructure and social services for the entire service life

Integrate climate adaptation into maintenance and operations.

Climate-robust urban planning

Withdrawal from vulnerable areas?

Large-scale climate adaptation measures

Preparation vs. permanent solutions

Responsibility, financing and priorities



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**Preparing for a new normal**

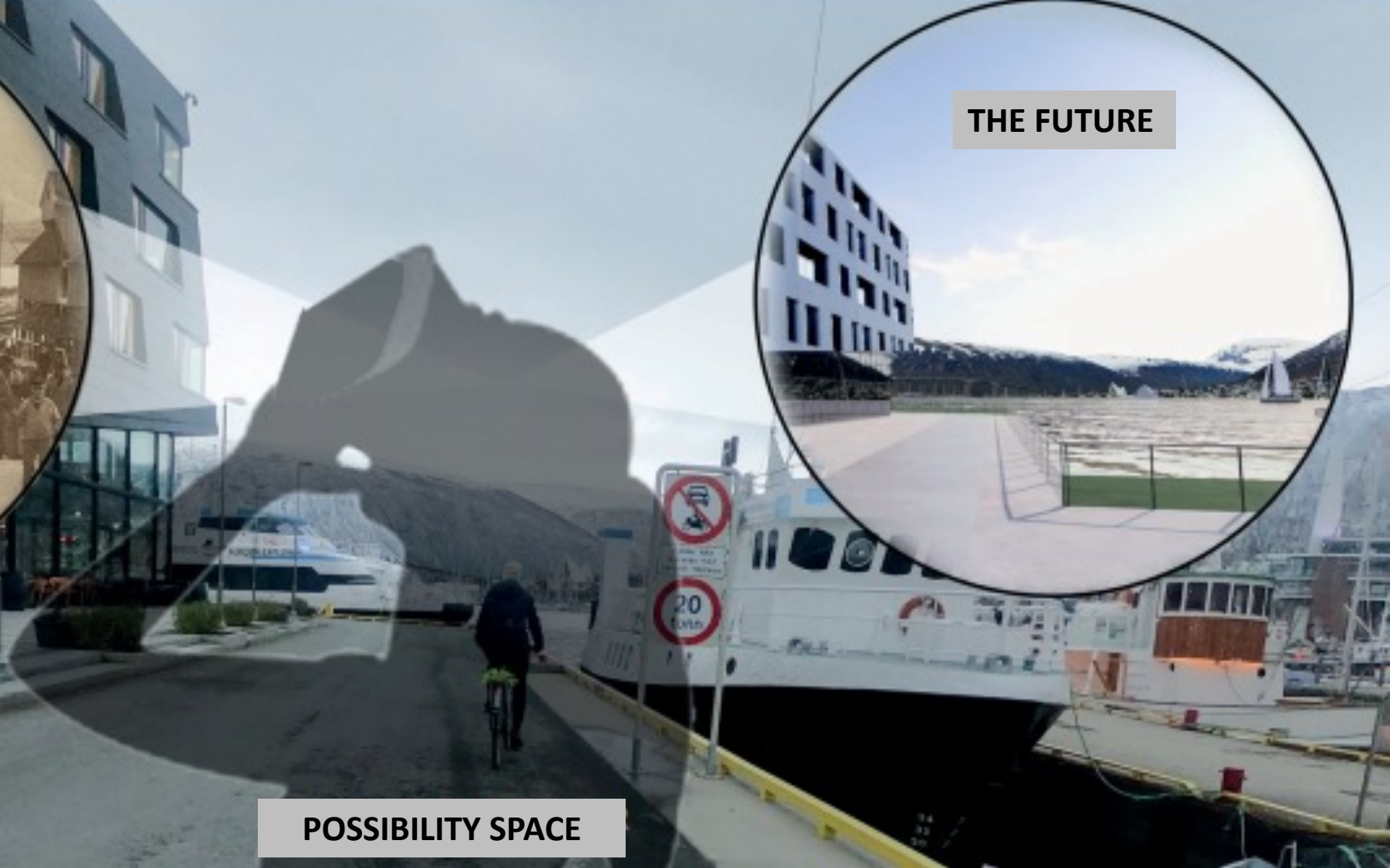
**THE  
PAST**



**THE FUTURE**



**POSSIBILITY SPACE**



**Climate Change in VR!**

**Silje Lund Sørland, Senior Climate Advisor & Climate Risk specialist**  
Group Green Transition, Sweco Bergen



**Climate Glasses (klimabriller)**

Big thanks to Øystein Rapp and Erle Kristvik for support with the VR-Glasses



# Understanding of future challenges

Climate change is about the environment

Climate adaptation is about the people





# Understanding of future challenges

Climate change is about the environment

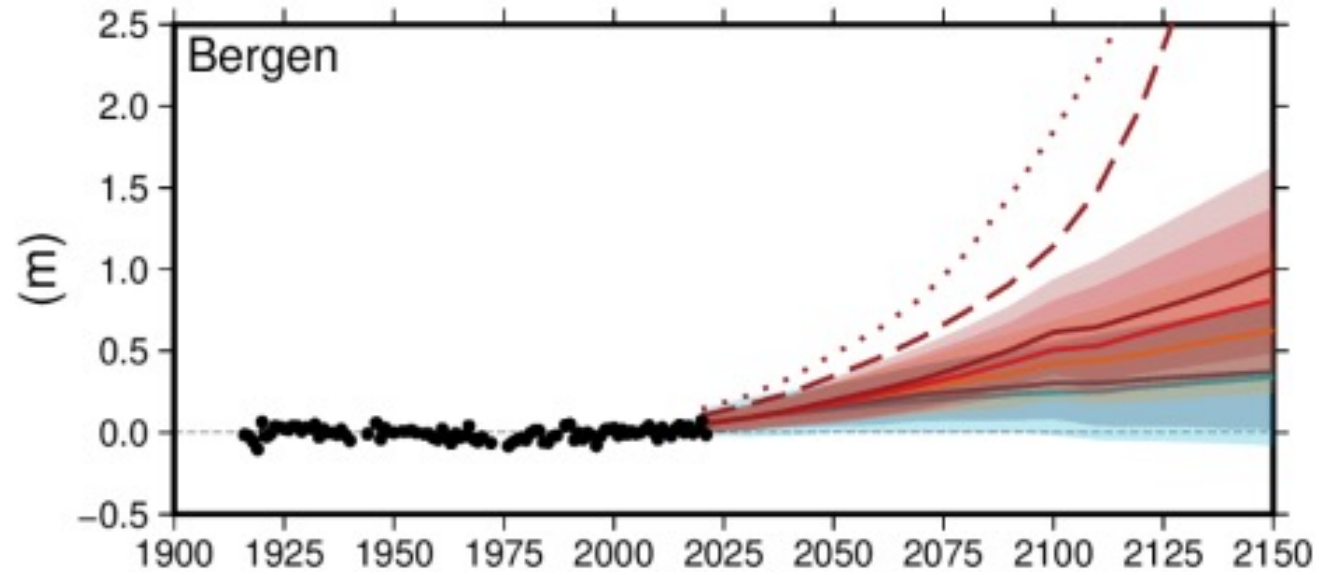
Climate adaptation is about the people

**Climate adaptation involves understanding the consequences of climate change and implementing measures to, on one hand, prevent or reduce harm, and on the other hand, seize the opportunities that the changes may bring.**

**If the people don't understand the consequences of climate change it is difficult to know how to adapt.**

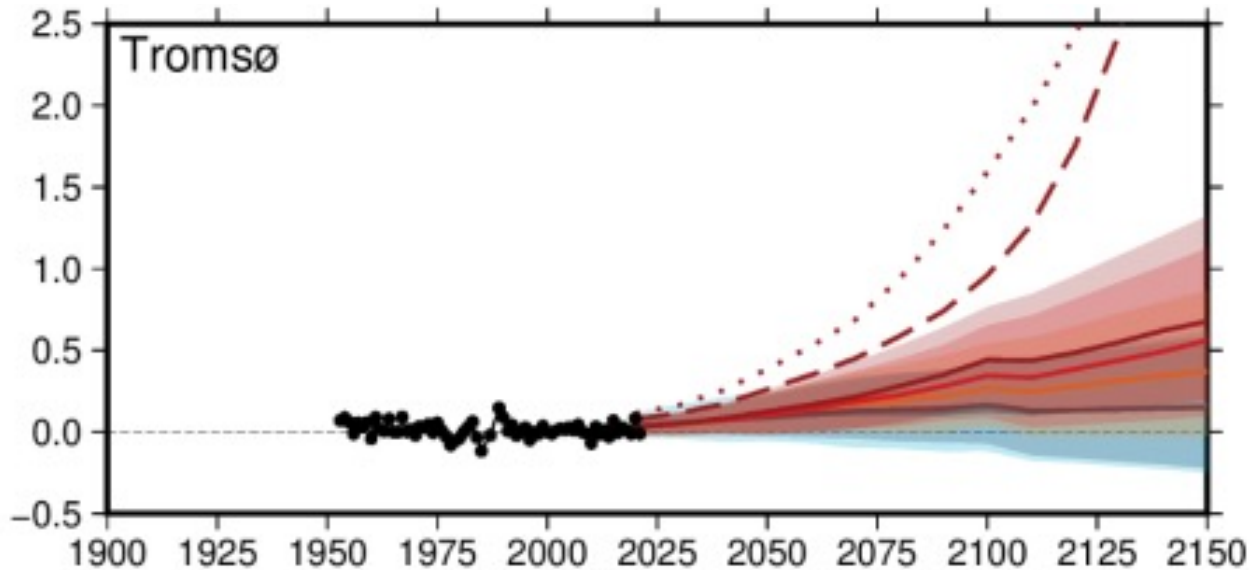
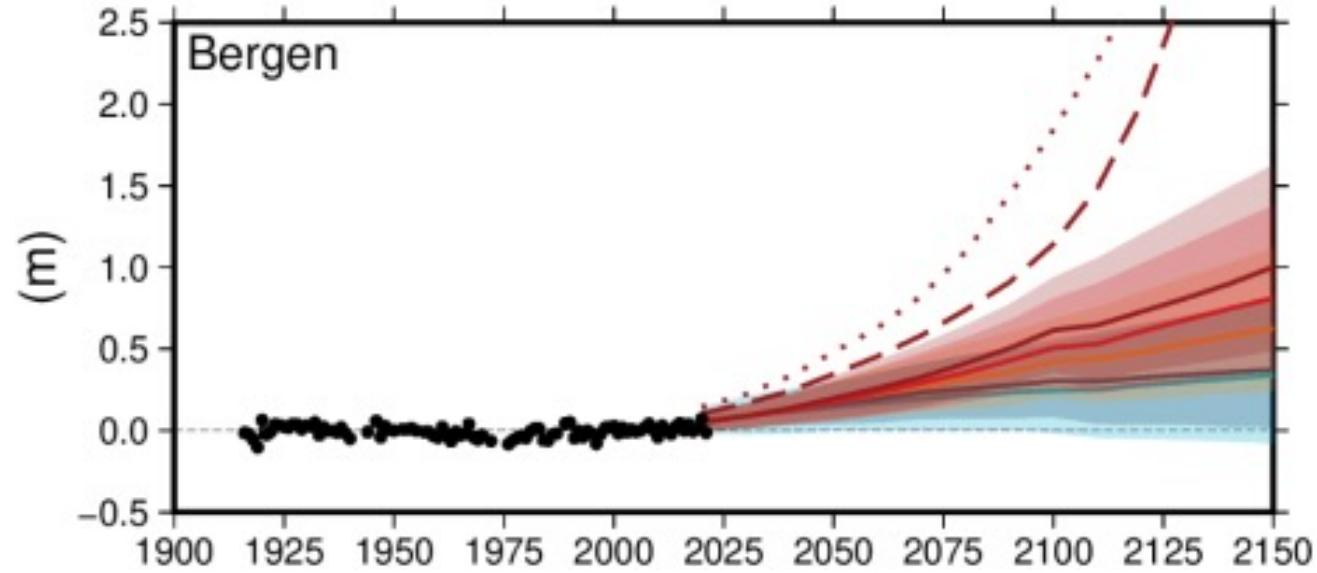


# Scenarios for Sea-level rise



		Medium confidence					Low confidence	
		SSP1-1.9	SSP1-2.6	SSP2-4.5	SSP3-7.0	SSP5-8.5	SSP1-2.6	SSP5-8.5
		%						
Oslo	95	0.45	0.43	0.57	0.74	0.91	0.46	1.56
	83	0.23	0.25	0.37	0.5	0.64	0.25	0.84
	50	-0.05	0.01	0.13	0.21	0.32	0	0.39
	17	-0.3	-0.19	-0.07	-0.02	0.07	-0.23	0.06
	5	-0.48	-0.31	-0.18	-0.15	-0.07	-0.37	-0.12
Stavanger	95	0.8	0.8	0.94	1.09	1.26	0.82	1.92
	83	0.57	0.6	0.73	0.85	0.99	0.6	1.19
	50	0.28	0.33	0.45	0.55	0.65	0.33	0.75
	17	0.02	0.1	0.23	0.3	0.38	0.06	0.38
	5	-0.17	-0.04	0.1	0.16	0.24	-0.1	0.18
Bergen	95	0.75	0.76	0.89	1.05	1.21	0.78	1.85
	83	0.53	0.56	0.68	0.81	0.94	0.56	1.14
	50	0.25	0.3	0.42	0.51	0.61	0.29	0.68
	17	-0.02	0.08	0.21	0.26	0.35	0.03	0.33
	5	-0.2	-0.05	0.09	0.12	0.21	-0.12	0.13
Heimsjø	95	0.57	0.57	0.7	0.84	1	0.58	1.6
	83	0.35	0.37	0.49	0.6	0.73	0.37	0.93
	50	0.07	0.12	0.23	0.3	0.41	0.1	0.51
	17	-0.17	-0.11	0.01	0.06	0.15	-0.16	0.12
	5	-0.34	-0.23	-0.11	-0.08	0.01	-0.32	-0.1
Tromsø	95	0.63	0.62	0.75	0.89	1.04	0.63	1.59
	83	0.42	0.43	0.54	0.65	0.77	0.43	0.96
	50	0.14	0.16	0.27	0.34	0.44	0.13	0.53
	17	-0.12	-0.07	0.04	0.09	0.18	-0.16	0.1
	5	-0.29	-0.21	-0.09	-0.06	0.04	-0.33	-0.13
Honningsvåg	95	0.64	0.66	0.81	0.92	1.08	0.67	1.65
	83	0.45	0.47	0.59	0.69	0.81	0.47	1.01
	50	0.19	0.2	0.32	0.39	0.49	0.18	0.56
	17	-0.04	-0.03	0.09	0.15	0.24	-0.11	0.18
	5	-0.19	-0.17	-0.04	0.01	0.11	-0.28	-0.04

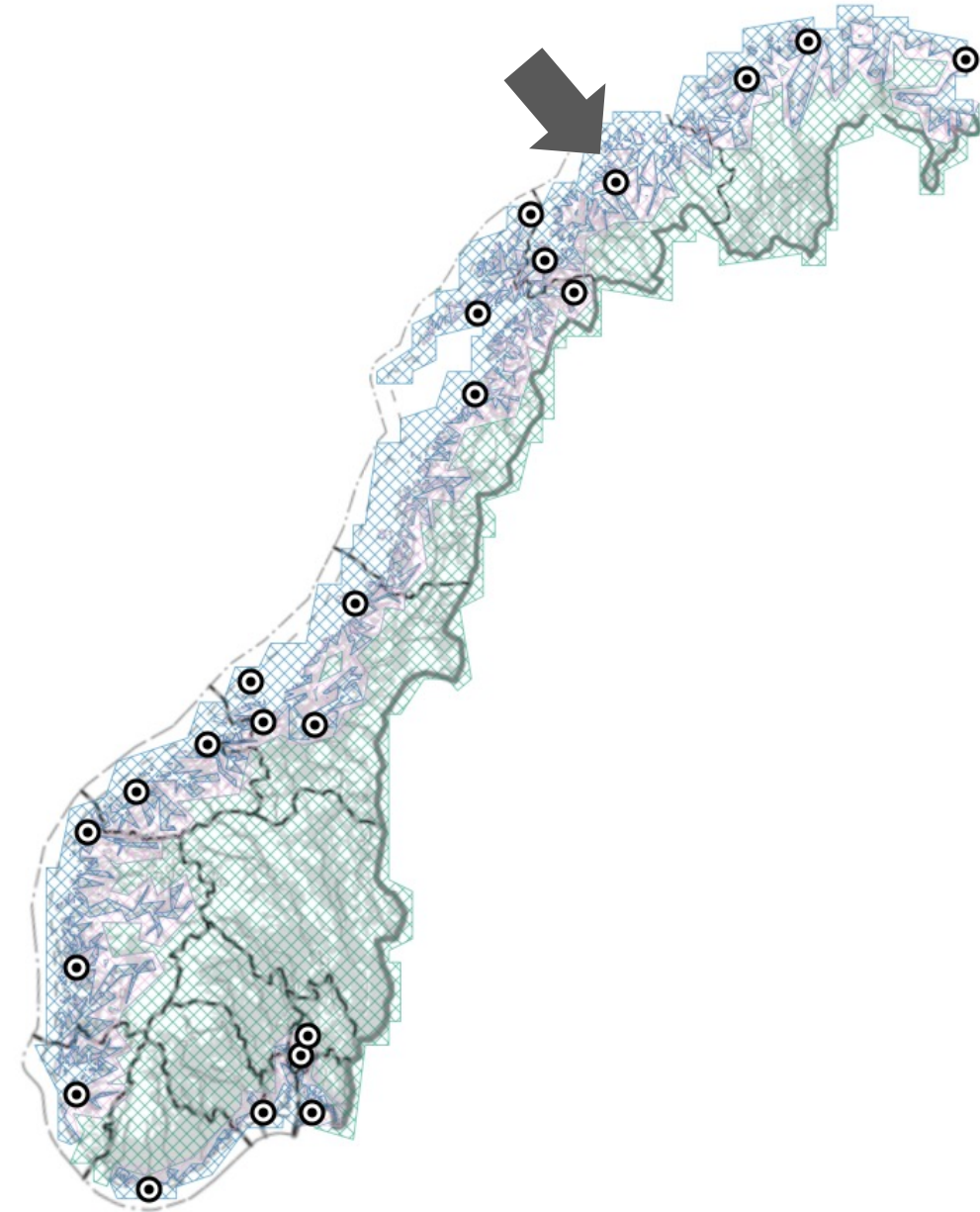
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	17	-0.3	-0.19	-0.07	-0.02	0.07	-0.23	0.06
	5	-0.48	-0.31	-0.18	-0.15	-0.07	-0.37	-0.12
Stavanger	95	0.8	0.8	0.94	1.09	1.26	0.82	1.92
	83	0.57	0.6	0.73	0.85	0.99	0.6	1.19
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	17	-0.12	-0.07	0.04	0.09	0.18	-0.16	0.1
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	5	-0.19	-0.17	-0.04	0.01	0.11	-0.28	-0.04



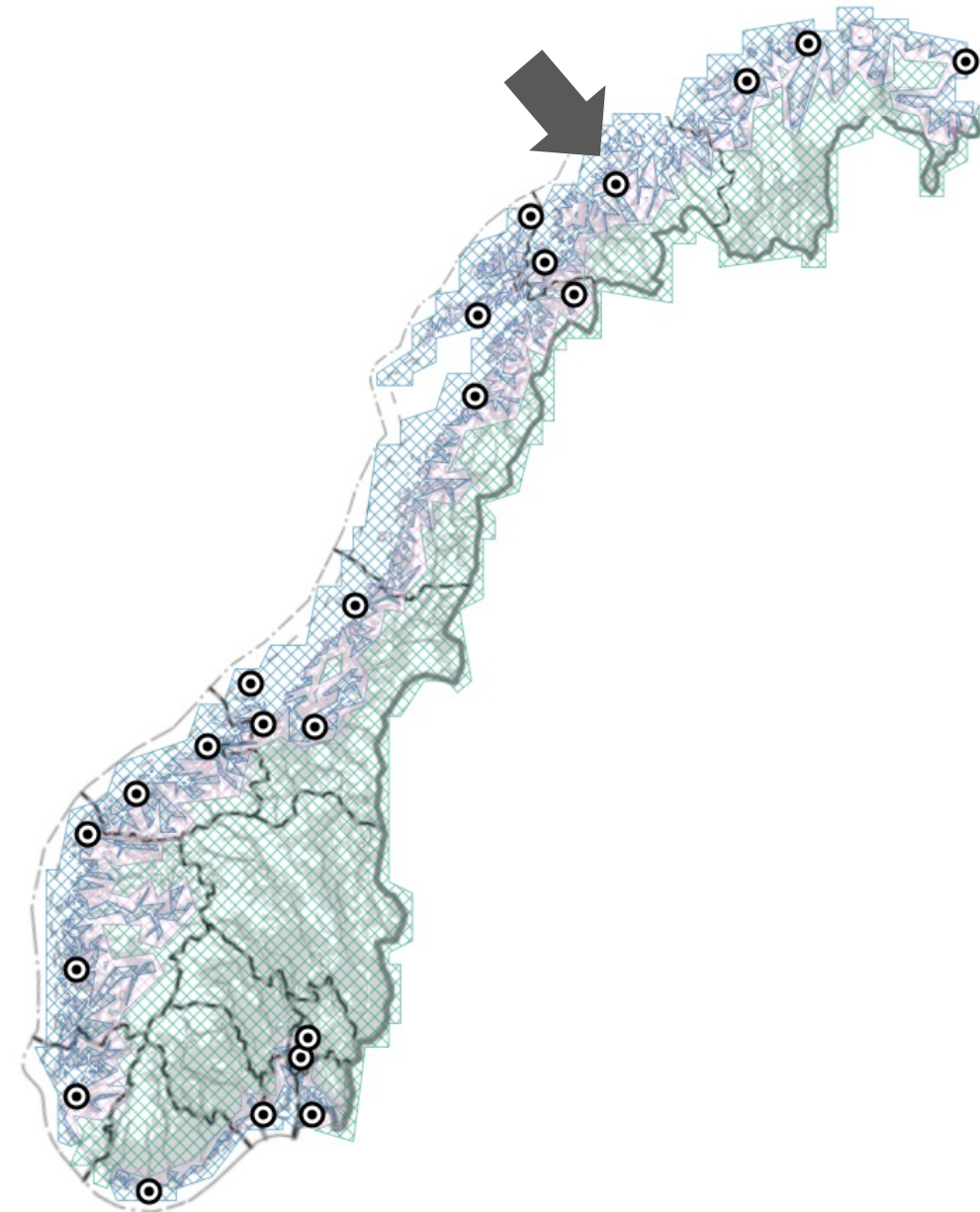
# Example from Tromsø





# Example from Tromsø

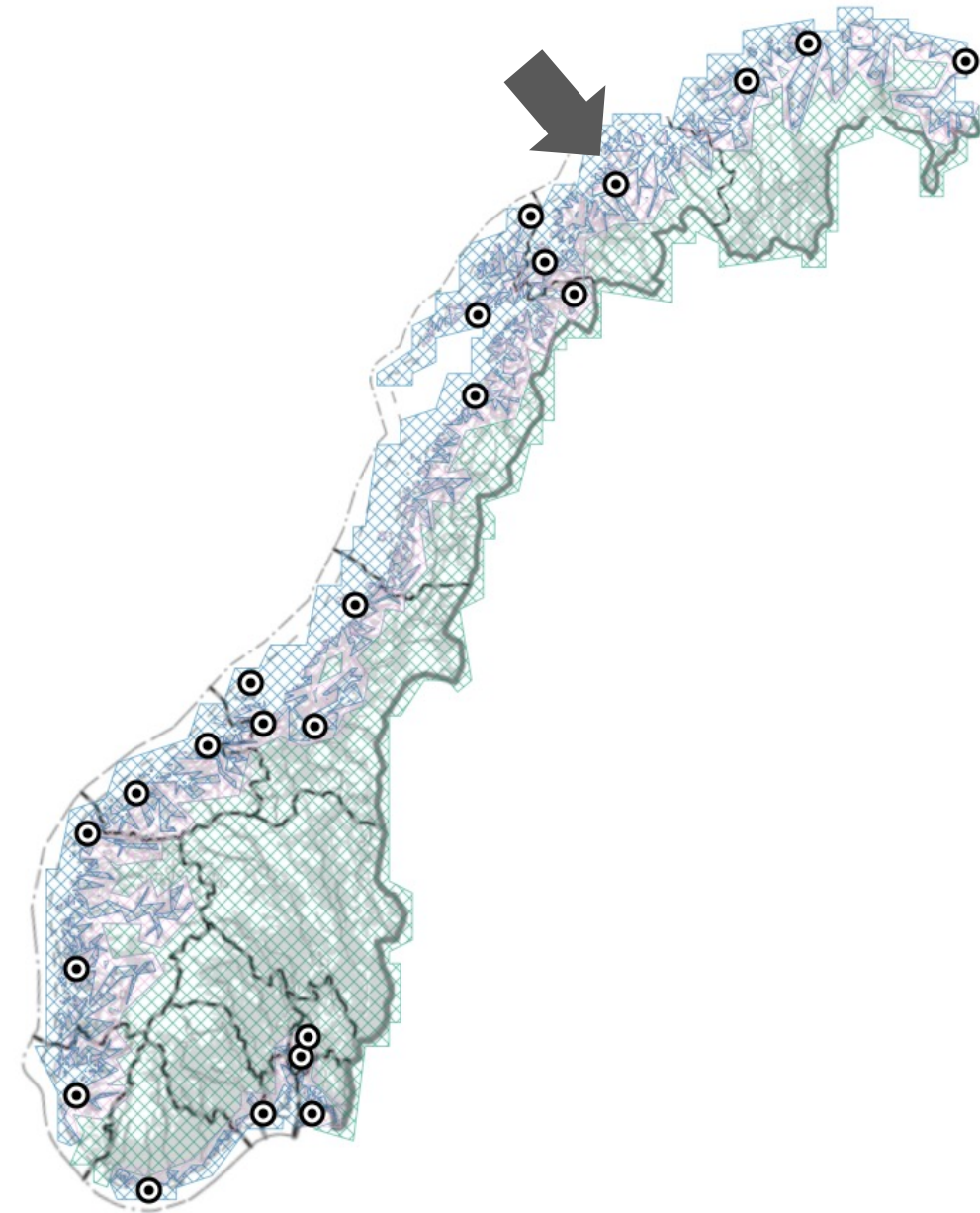
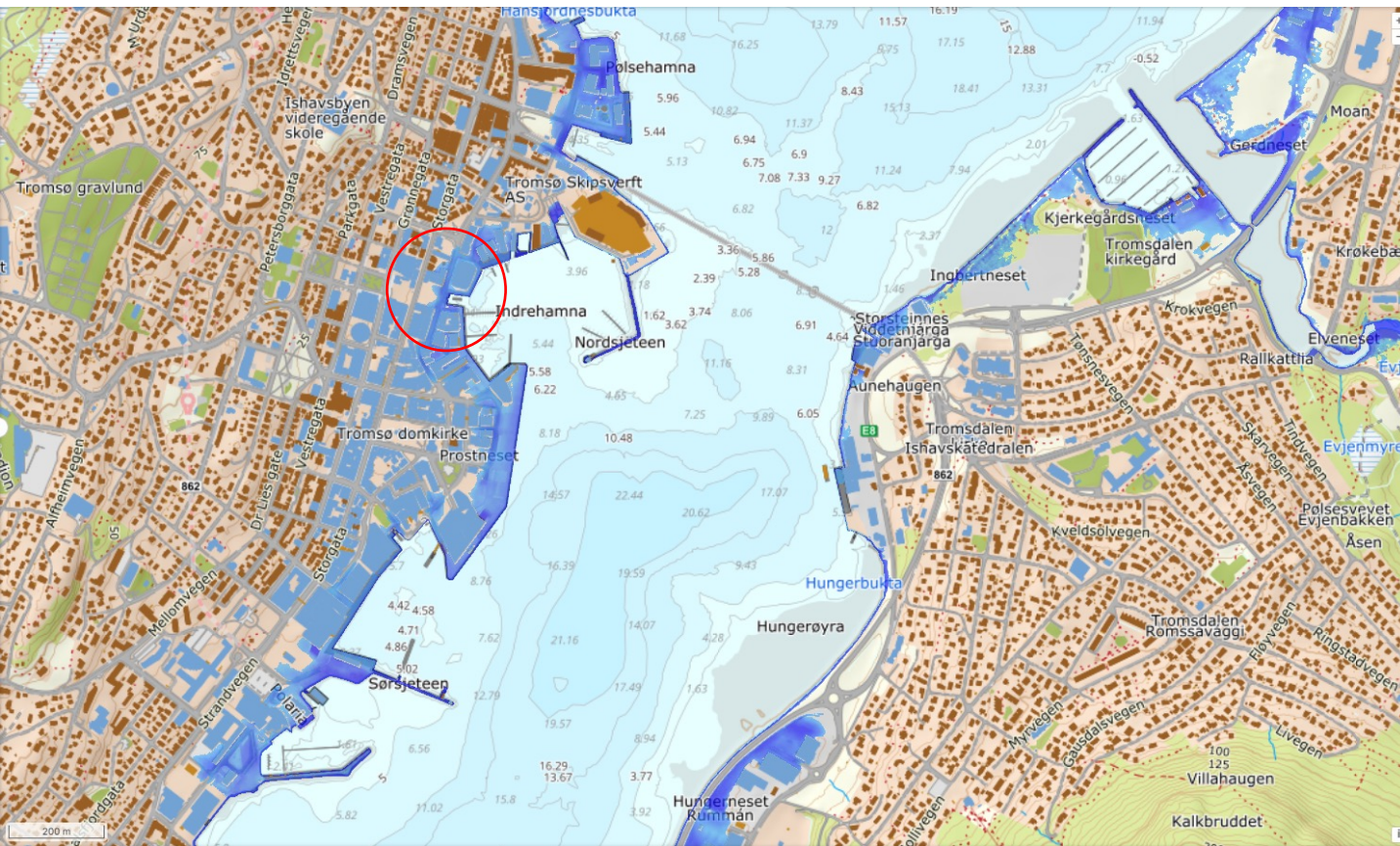
Sea level rise and 200-year storm surge events in Tromsø: 270 cm





# Example from Tromsø

Sea level rise and 200-year storm surge events in Tromsø: 270 cm







HERMES

Norconsult

Arbeidsbyrå  
Hord Hordaland  
Norconsult

Kala

Taxi

P

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# Tromsø in year 2100 with sea level rise and a 200-year storm surge event



# New tools for better understanding

Part of the project IMPETUS: Turing climate commitments into action, Sweco together with UiT and Tromsø Municipality tested how VR-glasses can be used to communicate climate risk.

## Climate glasses/VR - glasses:

- Sea level at year 2100 with a storm surge (200 year even) with and without flood protection
- Used Revit to make the model
- 360 pictures from different positions in Tromsø, with and without flood protection.

## The Reactions:

'Have you shown this to municipal planners?'

'Have you shown this to politicians?'

'Have you shown this to developers, planners, and architects?'











With flood protection



Without flood protection





With flood protection

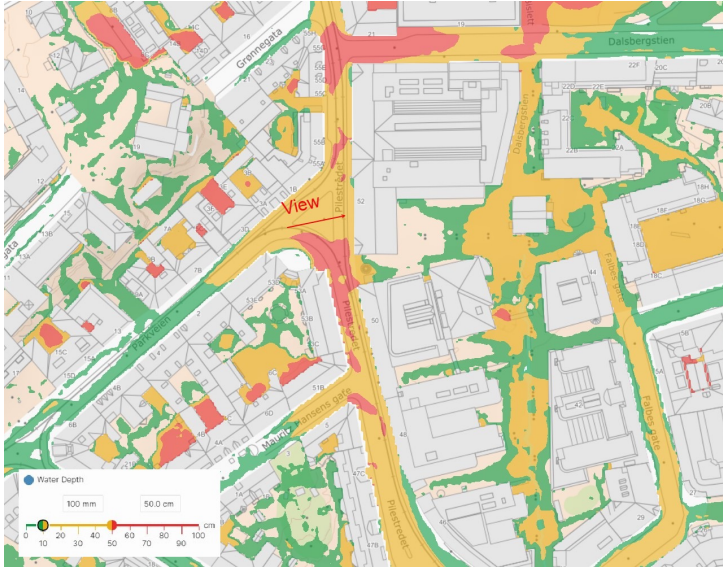


Without flood protection



# Stormwater event in Oslo

- Rain event: 2011-07-02 Copenhagen Cloudburst (135 mm/ 2 hours)
- Scalgo Core+ Dynamic Flood surface flood calculation.



Viewpoint:  
Pilestredet/  
Parkveien (200 m  
downstream of  
Bislett Stadium)





# Her sjokkeres Anne-Berit og Gunnar: - Skremmende å se



## Goal with the Climate Glasses

- To transform numbers into something visual (understand the consequences of climate change)
- To generate awareness
- To start the discussions about climate adaptation measures



**Contact**

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