



This case covers all stages from undiscovered resources to active mining and post-mining

SCALE

Regional

EXTENSION OF NORDLAND

38 456 km²

TYPE OF MINING

Open pit and underground mining

MINERAL RESOURCES

Aggregates, industrial minerals and metals



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NORWAY
- NGU -

Nordland, Norway

Mineral resources in land-use planning in Norway

This case study examines a new tool for defining and visualizing mineral resources in land-use planning in Norway. Nordland County is the pilot for a system for valorisation and definition of areas of known deposits, and the display of important prospective areas, to be integrated in the county land-use management systems. The aim is to ensure the safeguarding of important future resources against uninformed land-use decision-making, to mitigate potential land-use conflicts through early awareness, and to assist land-use planners in getting easy access to areal information on natural resources.

Datasets on mineral resources are compliant with INSPIRE and have been classified according to the level of knowledge and significance; deposits (high level of knowledge), prospects (medium level) and occurrences (low level). Deposits are classified into international/national, regional, or local importance, based on a given set of criteria. Ownership of metals and minerals, and the right to search, explore and mine is regulated by the Norwegian Minerals Act. Also, other acts and regulations will apply to activities related to exploration and mining. The main framework for the land-use planners is the Planning and Building Act, specifying tasks and responsibilities at different government levels. Since 30th June 2017, mineral resources are included among the topics which must be addressed in land-use planning on municipal level. Known mineral resources are managed through “consideration zones”, but the definition of consideration zones has, so far, not been addressed in the legal framework.

