

ACES Christmas Newsletter 2022

The **transition arenas** have been the main focus since last time in the ACES project. In these arenas, we are working in a four-phase process: 1) Problem framing, 2) Vision building, 3) How to reach the vision, and 4) Further developing measures and building a transition agenda and strategy. In between these steps we invite for input for the arena participants and keep an especially close dialogue with the core teams in the ports.

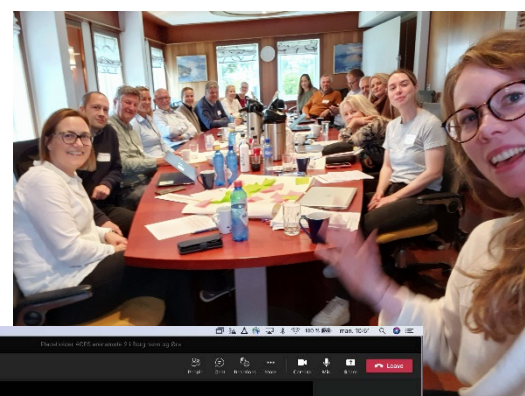
In both the Port of Kristiansand and the Port of Borg, we have had full-day face-to-face sessions focusing on the problem framing – what are the main transition challenges of the port and the port area. We have also conducted a second arena meeting in the Port of Borg, working in a stepwise process towards a joint ACES vision for the Port of Borg and the Øra area. In Bodø, we have a fruitful collaboration with the consultant team which is leading the port's new terminal project. We have participated in two workshops focused on solutions for the new terminal. In these workshops ACES facilitated discussions on wider landscape changes and macro-factors that may affect the port's area and users, as well as practices that need phasing out or building up to ensure sustainability. Thematically, the three ports have different focus in their arena work: The Port of Kristiansand arena focuses on how to promote alternative fuels in and around the port; the Port of Borg arena focuses on the area of Øra and optimizing daily operations and how to use the space for long-term sustainability; in the Port of Bodø, we focus on how to create a port that allows flexibility concerning users, shared logistics activities, city proximity and future energy developments.



The arena process in the ports is best summarized in the pictures – a lot of activity and smiles. A rich and fun experience, with good discussions and questions! One of the main takeaways of ACES and the port arenas to date, are *space challenges*. Ports need to optimize the use of the space they already have as well as negotiate with tenants, other landowners and stakeholders in and outside the port area to reach their goals.



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The fourth transition arena, at the national level, is under development. Here interviews are being completed with partners of the project and other Norwegian port-, transport-, and energy authorities, directorates, and industry organizations, where we ask about their role towards the port sector and how they envision the port sector to develop, what are main drivers and barriers to create change and not least what needs to happen nationally for realizing a sustainability vision for the whole port sector. The first arena meeting is planned for May 2023.

In January we will conduct a **knowledge exchange** between the researchers at NTNU and SINTEF in the port arenas and the national arenas, led by Transition Management experts, DRIFT, for bringing and translating knowledge and challenges from the ports themselves to the national level. We will also have knowledge exchange between the port arenas' actors in the first quarter of 2023.

The work with mapping **frontrunner ports** has produced a paper presentation by Tuukka Mäkitie at the International Sustainability Transitions conference as well as at a workshop in FME NTRANS with a focus on exploring agency in multisectoral couplings related to energy transitions. The paper, written together with several colleagues in the ACES research team, has the title "**Intermediation in-between sectors – exploring the agency fostering multisectoral transitions**". The paper asks *how and why do actors intermediate multisectoral transitions*, and uses the interviews studying six frontrunner port case studies in WP1 as the empirical material. The paper argues that port authorities offer a fruitful opportunity to explore activities that couple multiple industrial and logistical sectors to advance multisectoral sustainability transitions. Preliminary results suggest ports can perform intermediation of sectoral couplings in multiple forms, including facilitating the building of necessary physical infrastructure (such as charging stations), facilitating industrial symbiosis in port hinterland, and fostering the industrial upscaling of novel zero-emission energy value chains.

Parallel to the arena work and other research endeavors, we continue our **Digital Advisory Board (DAB)** meetings, for knowledge and practice exchange between a wider group of researchers, organizations, and ports as well as the partners. The next meeting is scheduled as a **Teams-meeting on the 2nd of February 2023**. If you would like a (new) invitation, please send an email to Lillian.hansen@sintef.no. The meeting will address opportunities and challenges for ports and surrounding communities relating to energy islands. This topic has come up in discussions on port space in one the port transition arenas. Several members of the DAB are planning to attend the meeting, among others Therese Jällbrink at the Port of Gothenburg, Valter Selén and guest Anaëlle Boudry from ESPO and René Poulsen at Copenhagen Business School, as well as several of the partners of the project. For this meeting we have also invited two special guests providing local knowledge and experience with the Danish plans for energy islands: Jesper Manniche, Senior Researcher at Center for Regional- and Tourism Research and Lars Nordahl Lemvigh CEO of Port of Roenne, both located at the island of Bornholm.

We look forward to progressing the arena work and knowledge development in the project. In the meantime, we wish you all, partners, steering- and advisory board a very Merry Christmas!

