

# ACES Newsletter 2022

**Workshop.** This Spring, the entire research team finally got to see each other, with a 1.5-day workshop in Oslo in May. Here, DRIFT, NTNU and SINTEF were gathered for presentations and discussions together.

**Transition process.** Throughout the Spring, DRIFT, the Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, has guided us through the processes and methods of Transition Management (TM), especially transition arenas. The experts in DRIFT have carried out a "pressure cooker" and three check-ins, which has been very instructive and useful for the project. TM is a theoretical framework and a practical approach to support sustainable transition and societal development. TM is radical when it comes to thinking about the whole system and the macro level regarding challenges, and bringing about a transformative process in the cases it is used in.



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In ACES, **transition arenas** will take place at the national and local level with a focus on how the actors in the port work to become even more sustainable. Transitioning means a structural change in traditional practice, and the goal of TM is to make this transition easier. A green transition requires new links between different sectors, and ports are a place where such links can take place, as it is a meeting place between actors, sectors and technologies. The goal is to develop a common vision and develop alternative ideas and practices to the status quo. The results from the arenas will be a strategic guide for changing existing structure, culture and practice as well as realizing new projects, forms of collaboration and experiments. The arenas at the local level, in the ports themselves, will begin in the autumn of 2022 and the national arena will begin in late 2022 / early 2023. In the work with the arenas, it is important to transfer knowledge between the various ports and between the local and national level.

Right now, **interviews are underway with actors in and around the ports**, to find relevant change agents to be invited to in the transition arenas. Some of those we have spoken to, and who are invited in, include the owner municipalities, terminal operators, transport companies, industry with warehousing and operations at the port, and business associations. We also talk to other actors who have a special interest in the port's operations. This is particularly important to form a comprehensive understanding of the ports' challenges.

**The ports** where the research team will be involved in setting up transition arenas are Bodø, Kristiansand and Borg. Many of the problems these ports face in the everyday is related to restructuring and are generic problems that apply to most Norwegian ports, such as uncertainty related to future energy carriers, space and land use and the need for zero-emission equipment / infrastructure, but these ports also have specific challenges related to for example, type of users of the port.

**Frontrunner ports.** During the spring of 2022, we have also got off to a good start with one of the main works in work package 1 - mapping of frontrunner ports. We have conducted interviews with the European ports of Aalborg, Gothenburg, Groningen Seaports and the Norwegian ports of Bergen, CCB and Oslo. This survey has given us important insight and inspiration, and will be taken further into the work with the transition arenas and ongoing paper on transition facilitation between several sectors.

Over the summer, we will have a new meeting of the project's international **Digital Advisory Board**, which all ACES partners will be invited to attend.



A lot of exciting things will happen throughout 2022, and we look forward to the continuation. With this, we wish all our partners a relaxing and sunny summer when the time comes.