

Digital Health Care and Social Care: Regional development impacts in the Nordic countries

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Digital Health Care and Social Care

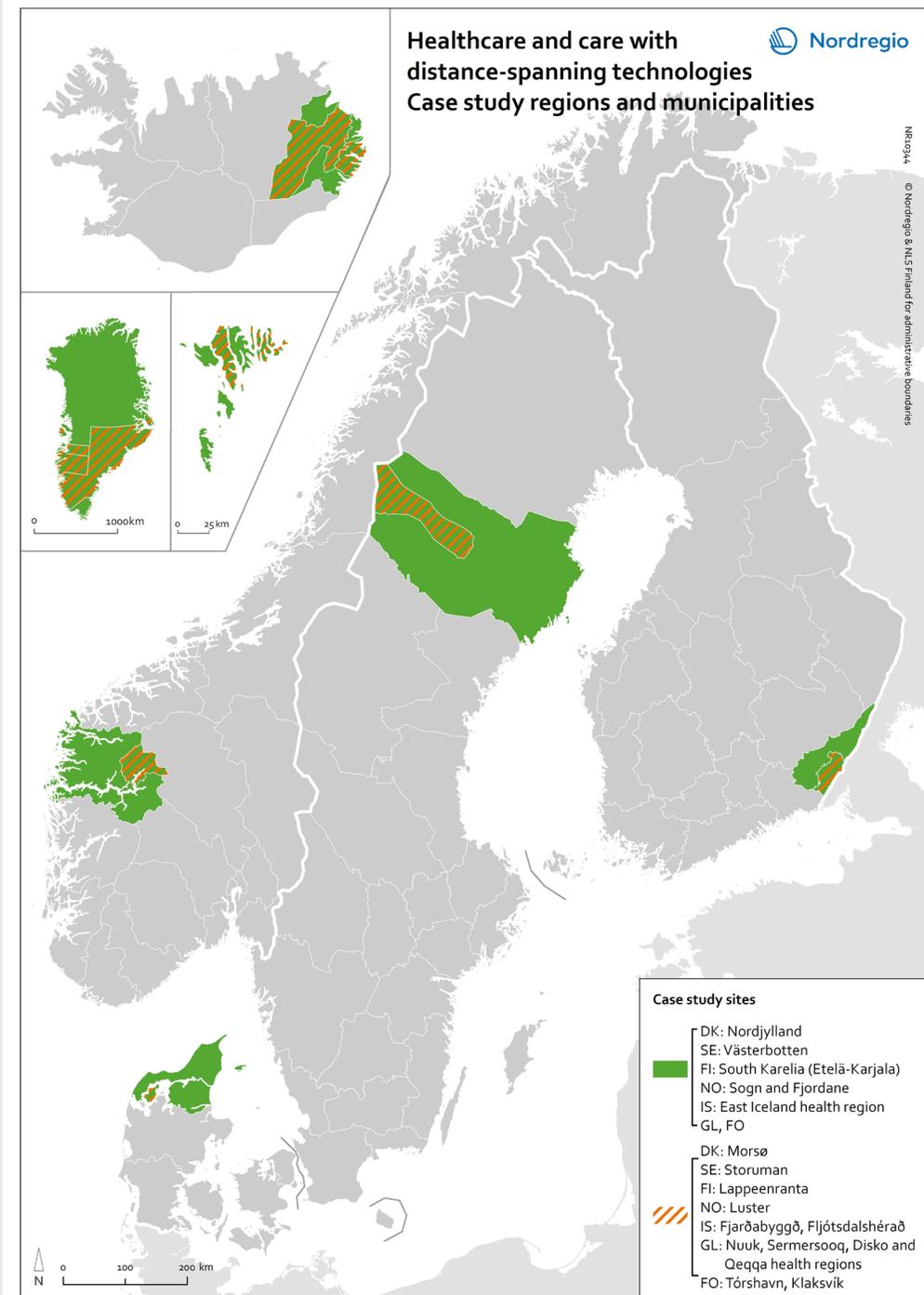
Regional development impacts
in the Nordic countries

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Digital health care and social care – Regional development impacts in the Nordic countries

- Part of Health care and care through distance-spanning solutions project 2018-2020 (Vård och omsorg på distans, VOPD)
- **What are the regional development effects? What are the obstacles to digital health care and social care? What are the potentials?**
- Using an institutional theoretical framework, seven case study regions and municipalities across the Nordic Region and one in-depth study on accessibility to health care and social care



Our key findings

- **Effects in four areas:**
 - Quality
 - Efficiency
 - Inclusion
 - Accessibility
- **Many obstacles and barriers:**
 - Leadership and management
 - Legislation
 - Technical
 - Economic
 - Cultural
- **Several potentials:**
 - Yes! Especially in rural areas.





Video consultations

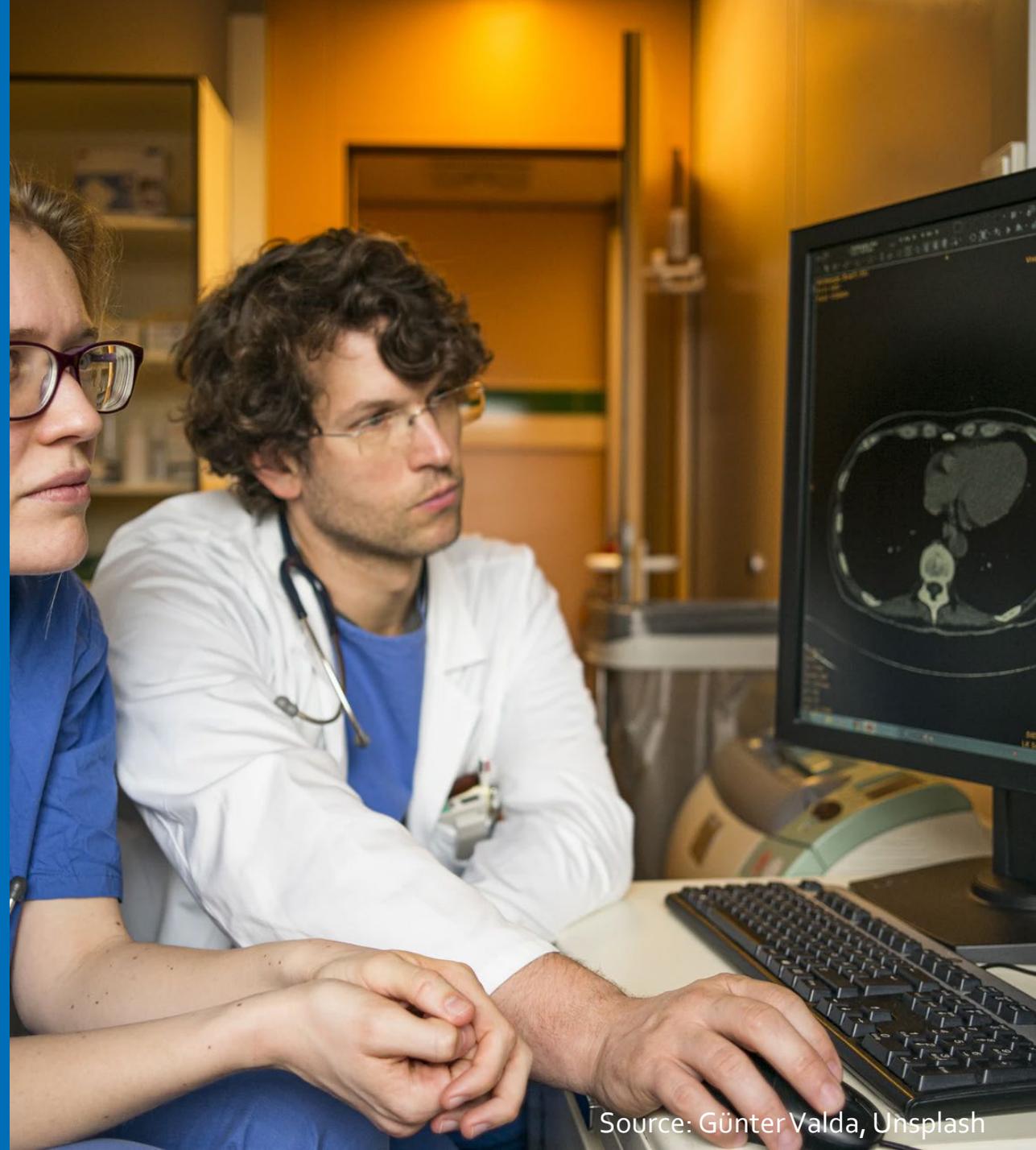
First and foremost, it is about flexibility and accessibility

Nutritionist in Region Västerbotten

- Increased accessibility
- Flexibility
- Manage recruitment challenges
- Increased wellbeing

Digital meetings within health care

- Access to specialised health care
- Knowledge sharing between peers
- Increased quality
- Less travelling



Passive warning systems in elderly care

- Safety for citizens and relatives
- Possibility to stay at home
- Less travelling for home care services



Effects and potentials

- Quality

- Efficiency

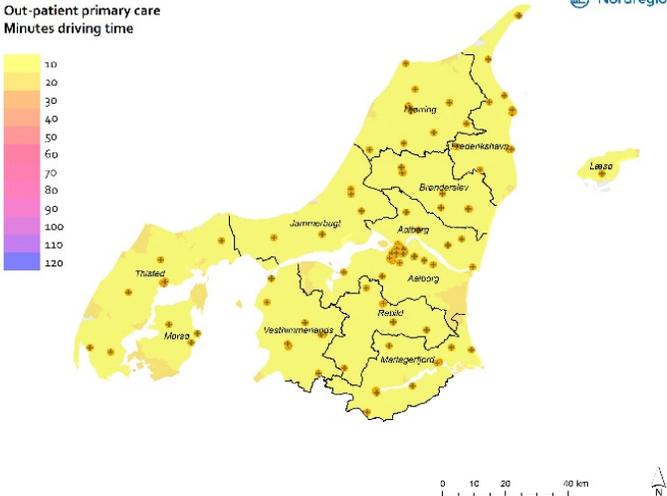
- Inclusion

- Accessibility

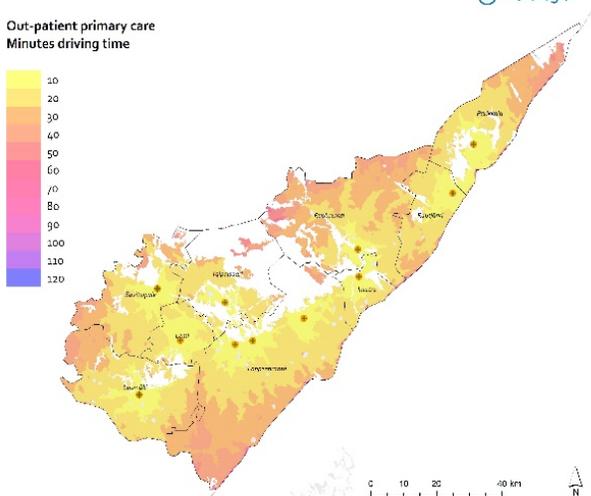
- Less travelling for patients and social care workers
- Access to specialised health care
- Flexibility for patients and health care professionals
- Manage recruitment challenges
- Increased wellbeing and feelings of safety for patients and citizens

Accessibility to out-patient primary care

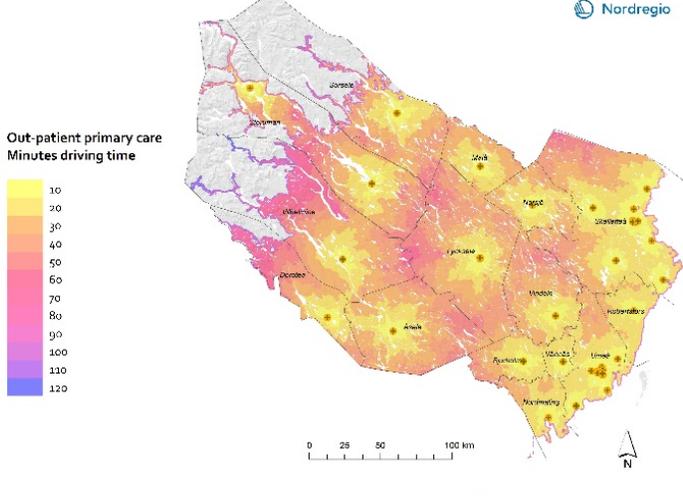
Nordjylland



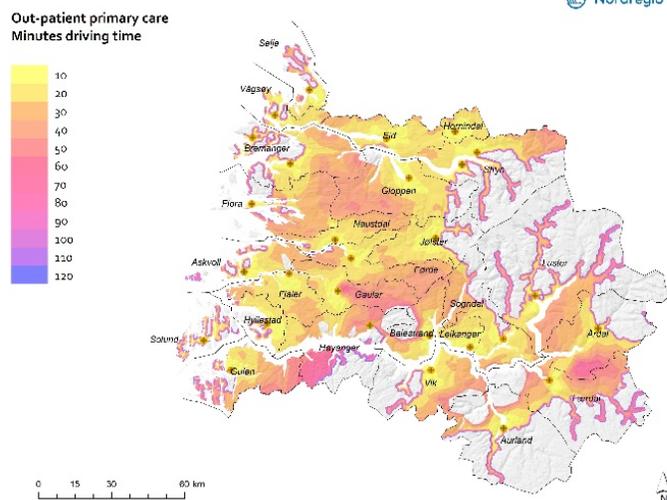
South Karelia



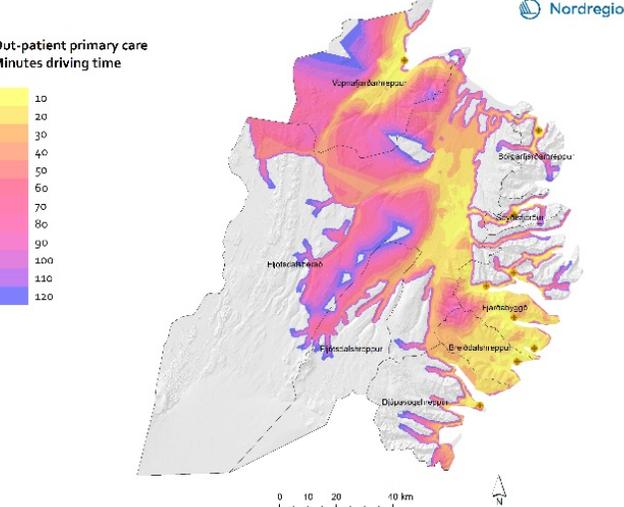
Västerbotten



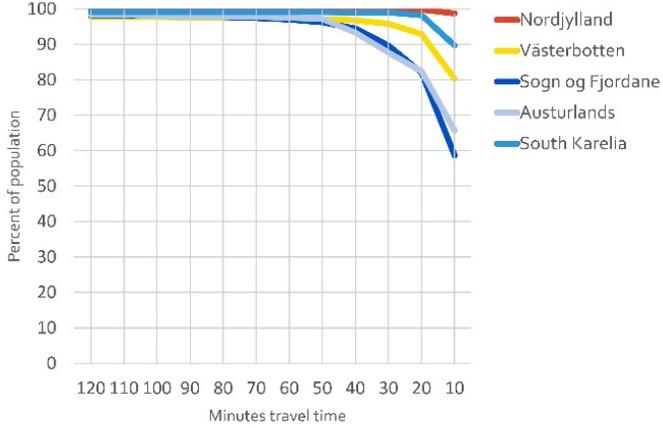
Sogn og Fjordane



Eastern Health Region



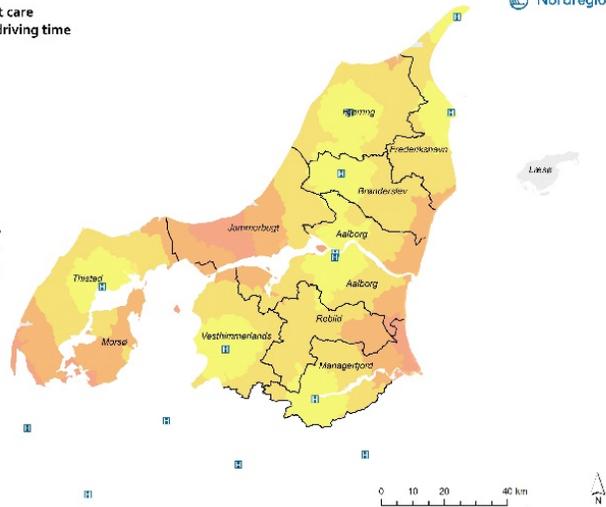
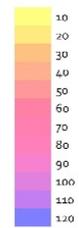
Primary out-patient care



Accessibility to in-patient care

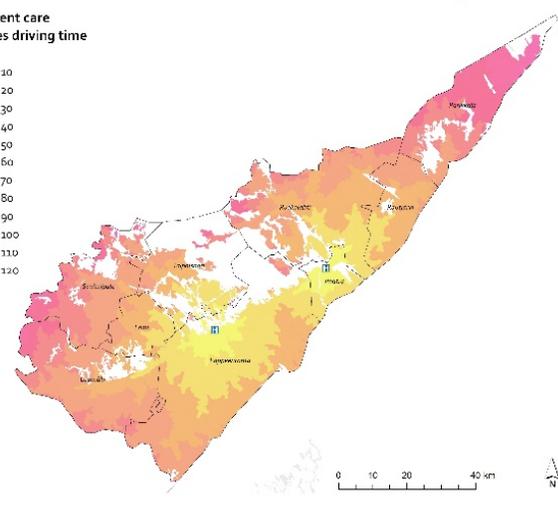
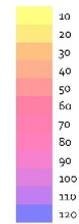
Nordjylland

In-patient care
Minutes driving time



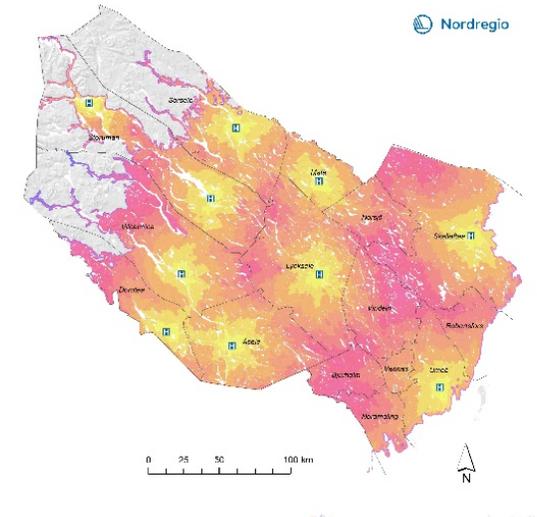
South Karelia

In-patient care
Minutes driving time



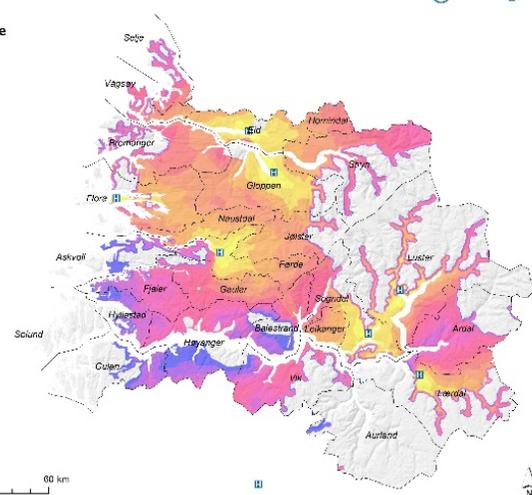
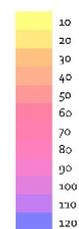
Västerbotten

In-patient care
Minutes driving time



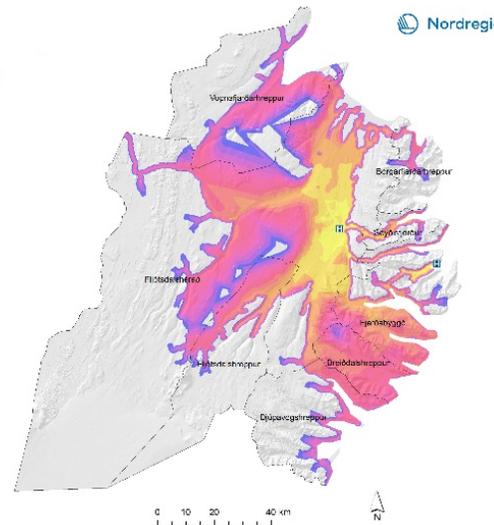
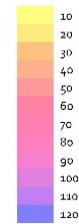
Sogn og Fjordane

In-patient care
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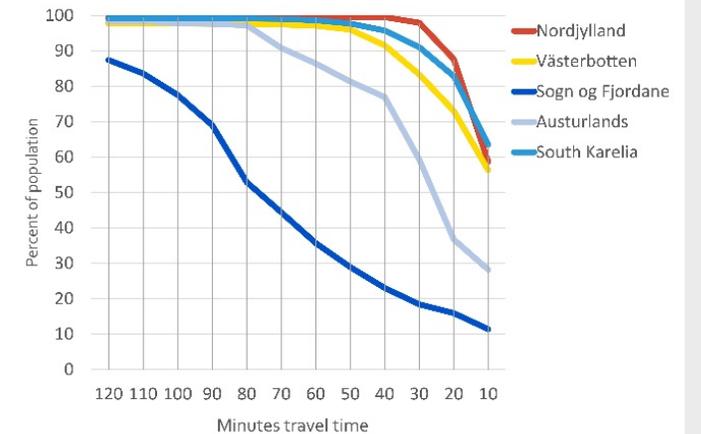


Eastern Health Region

In-patient care
Minutes driving time



Inpatient care



Distance-spanning digital solutions

- Virtual Health Rooms (VHRs) in Västerbotten: unstaffed rooms equipped with distance-spanning technology so that patients can take consultations from a practitioner online
- Mallu mobile clinic in South Karelia: mobile nurse's clinic stopping at appointed villages and bringing social and healthcare services closer to rural dwellers



Digital health care and social care has the potential...

- ❑ to improve quality, efficiency, inclusion in health care and social care,
- ❑ to improve accessibility, especially in rural areas,
- ❑ to benefit health, wellbeing and welfare in the Nordic Region, and
- ❑ to contribute to economic, social and environmental development and sustainability

However, in order to release those potentials, the obstacles need to be addressed at the different institutional levels.

Thank you

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