



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Centre for Sustainable Area Management



Senter for Bærekraftig Arealbruk

*Science to support sustainable management of landscapes and seascapes*

Strategy Plan

2024

## VISION

*CeSAM is a hub for generating and promoting knowledge to support evidence-based decision-making for the sustainable management of our landscapes and seascapes.*



## MISSION



CeSAM informs the sustainable management of land and sea to safeguard biodiversity and nature's benefits to people.



We do this by catalyzing cross-disciplinary research and education to address challenges related to area-based management of land and sea.



In doing so, we address related challenges of the climate crisis, the biodiversity crisis, and social and economic inequality.



To achieve this, we foster collaboration between policymakers, stakeholders, rightsholders and the knowledge sector.



## STRATEGIC GOALS

CeSAM aims to address the challenge of sustainable land and sea management, for biodiversity conservation, and the continued co-supply of nature's contributions to people. We leverage our expertise, networks, and resources to catalyze transformative change towards more resilient and equitably managed landscapes and seascapes, for current and future generations. To advance our vision and mission, CeSAM works towards four main goals:



### *Research excellence*

We conduct cutting-edge research to deepen our understanding of the interactions between human activities and the biosphere, and to identify innovative solutions for sustainable land and sea management.



### *Collaborative partnerships*

We develop cross-faculty collaborations within UiB. We also forge strategic partnerships across society, including research institutions, local and national policymakers, non-governmental organizations, the business sector and stakeholders/rightsholders. This helps leverage resources, expertise, and networks for collective action towards sustainable land and sea management.



### *Policy engagement*

We support policy development and implementation to safeguard biodiversity and nature's benefits to people, and to promote sustainable land and sea management. In doing so, we engage with policymakers and managers at local, national, and international levels.



### *Equality and inclusivity*

CeSAM promotes a culture of diversity, equality, and inclusion (DEI) to foster a vibrant, creative, diverse, and resilient research community. This underpins research excellence. Further, we will ensure that the science and recommended options are relevant and considerate to all members of society.



## ACTION PLAN

### *Research excellence: CeSAM -*

- Develops an innovative research program that provides actionable knowledge on the drivers, interactions and impacts of changes in land and sea use
- Fosters inter- and transdisciplinary research to explore new ways of knowing
- Integrates theory and empirical research using surveys, experiments, modeling, mapping, advanced quantitative methods and technologies
- We work across the full spectrum of natural and social sciences to provide a robust and comprehensive evidence base
- Leverages stakeholder and rights holder engagement to ensure that recommended options are contextually relevant and socially inclusive
- Supports decision-making in society by providing information and knowledge at local, national, regional, and global scales

### *Collaborative partnerships: CeSAM -*

- Acts as a focal hub and network for sustainability science
- Provides a common communication platform within and beyond UiB
- Creates meeting arenas for cross-faculty networking
- Facilitates networking for early career researchers
- Promotes and coordinates cross- and transdisciplinary knowledge exchange
- Aids project development and initiation
- Collaborates on projects addressing area based-sustainability issues (e.g., RCN's 'Areas under pressure')

### *Policy engagement: CeSAM -*

- Contributes to the science-policy interface in Norway and internationally
- Raises awareness of sustainability issues around land- and sea management locally and internationally via the science-policy interface (e.g., IPCC, IPBES, UN, UNESCO, IUCN) and public debate and discourse
- Catalyzes action for sustainable area management across different disciplines
- Fosters a research environment that enables and encourages its participants to contribute to informed debate on sustainable area management, both within and beyond academia
- Activates and coordinates initiatives within education and training that inform students and early career researchers on how to navigate the science-policy interface
- Is a focal point for the training and mentoring of the next generation of researchers



## ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

*Initiate, conduct, and promote impactful academic activities that align with CeSAM's mission and objectives*

- Allocate resources strategically to prioritize high-impact research projects, education initiatives, and knowledge exchange
- Lead and participate in CeSAM-relevant applications for external funding
- Promote knowledge co-creation and transdisciplinary approaches in research and education at UiB
- Communicate achievements through scientific publications and outreach

*Build and promote competence and capacity*

- Offer training and workshops on CeSAM-related research and science-policy skills and competences
- Build interdisciplinary understanding and expertise via focal projects of relevance to land and sea management; such as projects on nature's contributions to people, the causes and consequences of land-use and sea-use change, biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, social-ecological systems, policy development and assessment
- Nurture and support students and early career researchers via education, training and mentoring
- Develop a joint cross-disciplinary course covering core CeSAM subjects

*Communication, outreach, impact*

- Arrange cross-sectoral events to initiate and inspire knowledge co-production
- Policy advocacy and networking

*Build and maintain the CeSAM community*

- Yearly meeting for all affiliates – with a focus on topical themes each year
- Run a monthly CeSAM Journal Club and develop a seminar series course
- Facilitate networking to catalyze human resources and expertise
- CeSAM's work is organized through an annual wheel of core activities



- Conduct regular evaluations for continuous improvement



## ANNUAL REPORTING

CeSAM produces annual reports for the center's steering committee and for the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences' leadership. The reports can be found on the CeSAM web page.



## LONG-TERM GOAL

CeSAM is a well-acknowledged hub for the generation and transfer of actionable knowledge on the sustainable management of lands and seas, a focal point for research, education, and communication, within UiB, nationally, and internationally.



## LONG-TERM BUDGET

CeSAM will secure continued support from UiB, in addition to bringing in external funding.

