

# Norwegian Centres of Expertise of Expertise



Norwegian Centres of Expertise  
**NCE Subsea**

**Since the 1980s there has been a steady increase in subsea activity in the petroleum industry, and an increasing number of fields are being developed with subsea installations. NCE Subsea is built around the leading Norwegian cluster that specialises in the operation and maintenance of subsea facilities and which generates an annual turnover of more than NOK 8 billion and over 4,000 direct jobs.**

The cluster is comprised of operating companies, suppliers, manufacturers, marine operating companies and oil service companies, as well as R&D and educational institutions.

## Background

Growth predictions for the global subsea market indicate a doubling of the total number of subsea wells in the next five to eight years. Development will take place at ever-increasing ocean depths and is moving northwards. Fields in Norway are entering the tail end of production, requiring cost-cutting and increased focus on operations.

Together with Bergen University College, the municipalities of Fjell, Sund, Øygarden and Bergen took the initiative to establish a centre of expertise. There are currently 45 companies/actors and 5 research institutions involved in the project. Based in Ågotnes, NCE Subsea will conduct activities in Bergen, at Mongstad and in the Sunnhordland region, thus covering Hordaland County in southwestern Norway.

## Measures and projects

NCE Subsea's objective is to promote innovation activity, increase international involvement and improve the capacity, competitiveness and value creation of individual players within the cluster as well as the cluster as a whole.

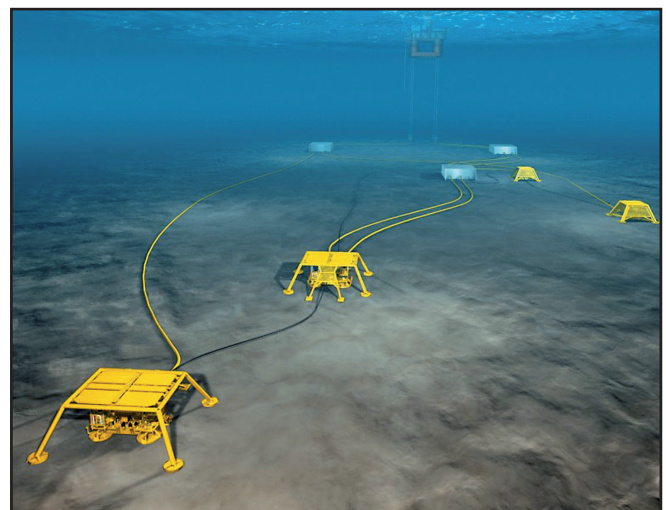


ILLUSTRATION: STATOIL

This will be achieved by:

- dismantling barriers to and improving infrastructure for cooperation
- ensuring training and availability of skilled personnel
- strengthening R&D by establishing key development projects
- supporting development of ideas for products and commercial ventures

NCE IS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN:



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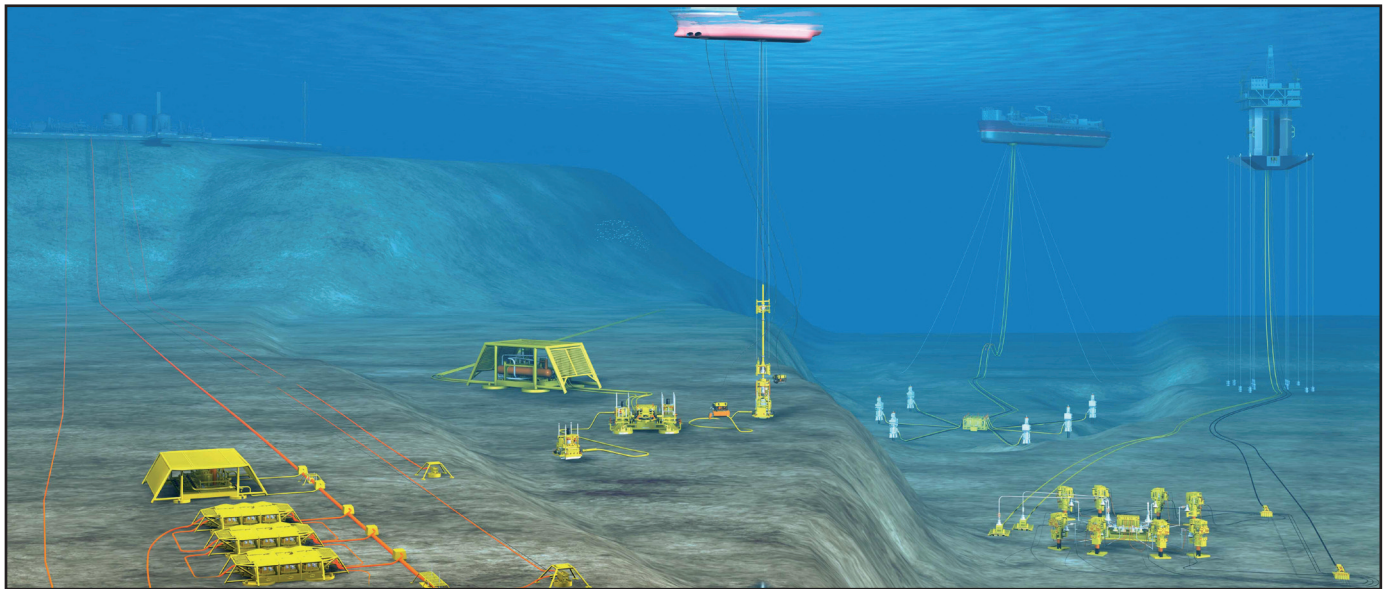


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- channelling increased internal, external and international funding to development projects and new enterprises within the cluster
- increasing internationalisation, giving the cluster a higher profile and targeting internationalisation projects toward subcontractors
- helping build the optimal infrastructure for the cluster.

**Projects under NCE Subsea are grouped around five main areas of activity:**

1. Cluster development (profiling, network-building, market analysis)
2. Technology and the environment (development of products, services and technology)
3. Competence-building (educational and competence-building measures targeting the needs of the cluster)
4. Internationalisation (supporting companies making international deliveries and/or establishing themselves abroad)
5. Innovation (consultancy network and incubator)

**Five key projects have been established, forming the basis for this project period:**

1. Integrated environmental monitoring
2. Condition monitoring
3. Industry standards for subsea operations
4. Targeted education
5. Internationalising subcontractors

**Strategy and objective**

NCE Subsea's vision is to establish an environment for developing a world-leading cluster in subsea

technology. Products from the cluster will contribute to sustainable solutions, increased oil recovery and cost-efficiency.

NCE Subsea's main strategies are to serve as a catalyst for the establishment of innovative projects that will enable the cluster to achieve its objectives and to secure access to ideas from the best innovation environments (also internationally) to further develop the cluster.

The initiatives implemented by NCE Subsea primarily target the large pool of supply companies. The aim is to foster a differentiated supply sector with major international deliveries that will remain viable as the level of activity in the North Sea decreases, and which in the long run will generate jobs and promote value creation throughout Hordaland County. The objective is to increase the region's turnover and exports by billions of Norwegian kroner.

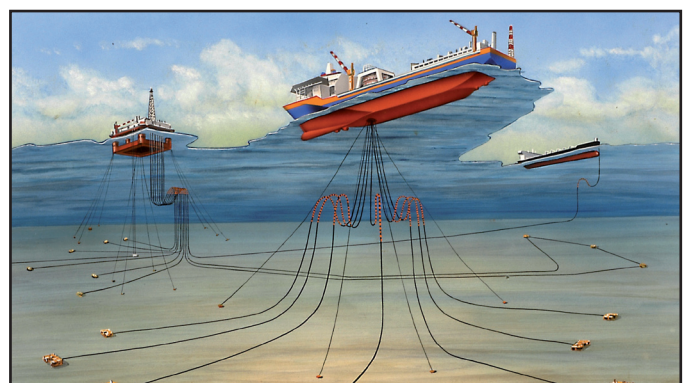


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