Project title Mineral Extraction in the High North – Radiological Risks, Impacts and Mitigation (MINEXRIM) Year	
2016 Project leader	
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Geographical localization of the research project in decimal degrees (max 5 per project, ex. 70,662°N and 23,707°I Minexrim (Mikon)	(د
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Flagship MIKON Summary of Results

Minexrim has strengthened the knowledge of both the presence and the relative contribution to environmental risk of Naturally occurring radioactive materials at mining sites in Northern Norway.

- Evaluated the current knowledge of legacy mining sites in Northern Norway with special attentions of potential NORM sites.
- Conducted field work to sample abiotic and biotic samples at 4 different legacy, operating or potential mining sites to evaluate the composition of metals and NORM
- Participated in the development of a risk assessment tool which may predict the cumulative risk of both metals and NORM to biota (Niva RAdbTM combined with the ERICA risk assessment tool for radionuclides).
- Now in the process of conducting two experiments to verify the results obtained by the risk assessment tool.

In addition, the project have supported the PhD-project of Frøydis Meen Wærsted and the Ms-project of Christian Schöpke, both at NMBU.

Master and PhD-students involved in the project

PhD-project of Frøydis Meen Wærsted and the Ms-project of Christian Schöpke, both at NMBU.

For the Management

In evaluating potential environmental impact from mining activities the contributions from metal and process chemical contamination are traditionally considered. Thus, only little information exists in relation to potential NORM generation from the different deposits of northern Norway, the risk posed by various ore extraction and waste handling practices or the impact of NORM

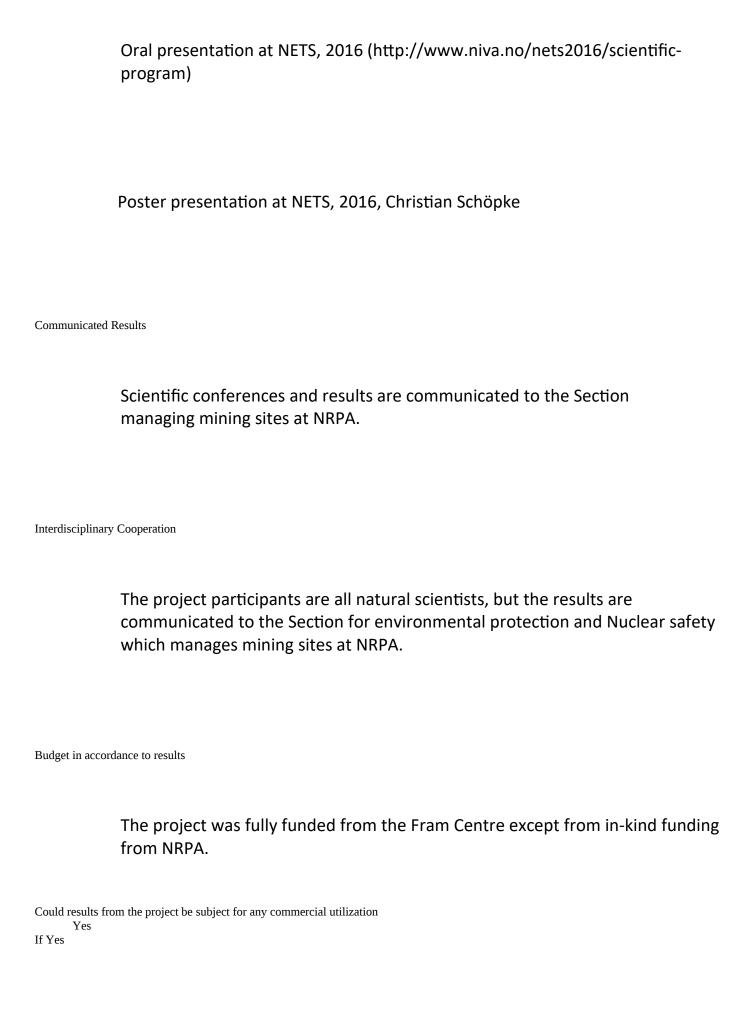
containing wastes on the environment.

In Minexrim we have:

- Evaluated the current knowledge of legacy mining sites in Northern Norway with special attentions of potential NORM sites.
- Conducted field work to sample abiotic and biotic samples at 4 different legacy, operating or potential mining sites to evaluate the sammensetning of metals and NORM
- Participated in the development of a risk assessment tool which may predict the cumulative risk of both metals and NORM to biota (Niva RAdbTM combined with the ERICA risk assessment tool for radionuclides).
- Now in the process of conducting two experiments to verify the results obtained by the risk assessment tool.

To evaluate the potential harm of mining waste deposits we need knowledge of the different contaminants at site and their respective contributions to the combined risks to biota. To evaluate correctly the risk to the environment, management needs tool that evaluates contributions from all contaminants in combination, not single stressors separately. Minexrim is hopefully a contribution to an improved management of contaminated sites, including mining sites, in the future.

Published Results/Planned Publications



The RAdbTM is a database developed to provide improved risk assessments for management. It is owned by a private company, Niva, and is not a free assess tool.

Conclusions

Participated in the development of a risk assessment tool which may predict the cumulative risk of multiply contaminants to biota. Here used for metals and radionuclides (Niva RAdbTM combined with the ERICA risk assessment tool for radionuclides