

NORDRESS

Nordic Centre of Excellence
On Resilience and Societal Security



VELFERÐARRÁÐUNEYTIÐ
Ministry of Welfare



norden

Social Services in Times of Disaster

Multidisciplinary Nordic Symposium

Nordic House, Reykjavík, Iceland

May 4-5 2015

This Nordic Symposium will bring together a multidisciplinary group of experts including administrators, academics and students as well as stakeholders working in the field, to discuss the role of local social services in times of disaster. The Nordic countries are known for their extensive welfare systems and the importance of local social services in providing universal care to all members of the public. The aim of the Symposium is to discuss the roles of local social services in preparedness, emergency response and the aftermath of disasters and how social services can enhance the resilience of residents and communities under such circumstances.

Organisers: The symposium is co-organised by the Nordic Welfare Watch – in Response to Crisis (NWW) and the Nordic Centre of Excellence on Resilience and Societal Security (NORDRESS) with support from the Ministry of Welfare in Iceland.

NORDRESS has received a 5-year grant from NordForsk to carry out multidisciplinary studies to enhance societal security and resilience. Partners from 15 institutions in all Nordic countries will join forces to elucidate the nature and importance of resilience of individuals, communities, infrastructure and institutions. Training and mobility play a significant role in NORDRESS that will e.g. support courses and seminars through the *Nordic Societal Security Academy*.

The project *Nordic Welfare Watch - in Response to Crisis* is a 3-year research project financed by the *Nordic Council of Ministers*. The project examines the role of local social services in times of disasters and the need for a Nordic welfare watch.

Schedule

May 3th 2015 Arrival

May 4th 2015

8:10 **Registration at the Nordic house** (<http://www.nordichouse.is/>)

8:30 **Welcome: Guðný Björk Eydal** Project leader of NWW and **Guðrún Pétursdóttir** NORDRESS coordinator

8:45 **Key Note Address: Gudmund Hernes** Professor and former President of the International Social Science Council

Blessings in Disguise? Are disasters necessary to change opinions about societal risks?

Chair: Guðrún Pétursdóttir NORDRESS coordinator

9:45 **Coffee**

Session I: Social services in times of disaster

Chair: Kristján Sturluson Director of Administration, Hafnarfjörður municipality

10:15 **Merja Rapeli** Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in Finland

The role of social services in Finland in times of disasters

10:45 **Carin Björngren Cuadra**, Associate professor, Department of Social Work, Malmö University, Sweden

The role of social services in Sweden in times of disasters

11:15 **Ragnheiður Hergeirsdóttir** Former Mayor of Árborg, South Iceland

The earthquakes in southern Iceland in 2008; the Mayor's perspective on the role of local social services

12:00 **Lunch**

Session II: Residents in times of disasters

Chair: Arna Hauksdóttir Associate Professor, Centre of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Iceland

13:00 **Renate Grønvold Bugge** Psychologist, specialist in clinical psychology and occupation and organisation psychology, Centre for Crisis Psychology, Bergen, Norway

Intervention for children after mass trauma bereavement

14:00 **Erna Danielsson** Associate Professor, Risk and Crisis Research Center, Mid Sweden University

The hidden crisis management – The aftermath of a school fire.

15:00 **Coffee**

15:30 Parallel paper sessions

I Iceland during time of crisis: The Welfare Watch (The Nordic House, meeting room Alto)

Chair: Bjørn Hvinden, Professor, Head of Research, NOVA-HIOA, Oslo.

- 15:30 **Lára Björnsdóttir** Social Worker and former head of the Welfare Watch and **Ingibjörg Broddadóttir** Deputy Director General, Ministry of Welfare
The Welfare Watch –practicing democracy during times of crisis
- 15:50 **Vala Jónsdóttir** Project Manager, The Social Science Research Institute
The organization of the Welfare Watch in Iceland 2009 to 2013-an evaluation
- 16:10 **Ásdís Arnalds** PhD student, Faculty of Social Work, University of Iceland
The importance of the Welfare Watch in Iceland in 2009 to 2013: The relation between the Welfare Watch and the government

II Communities, participation and trust (Norræna Hús, main meeting room)

Chair: **Erna Danielsson** Associate Professor, Risk and Crisis Research Center, Mid Sweden University

- 15:30 **Erin Kennedy** PhD Candidate, School of Social Work at Lund University and **Susan Evans** CEO and Founder GoodtoChina & Sky Farm, Adjunct professor at Tongji University Design & Innovation
Navigating the line between participation and tyranny - Lessons learned in using participatory methods to engage community members in pro-environmental behaviours in rural China: The Case of Farm in a Box
- 15:50 **Carin Björngren Cuadra** Associate professor, Malmö University.
Catching the perspectives of the Public Social Services: reflections on scenario based table top seminars
- 16:10 **Mervi Hietanen** TtM, MSc, Registered Nurse, Faculty of Health and Social Services, Saimaan University of Applied sciences
South-Karelia District Comprehensive Emergency Management Cluster Research Project

III Crisis, communication and the aftermath (Gimli, room 102)

Chair: **Rasmus Dahlberg** PhD Fellow at the Danish Emergency Management Agency and the University of Copenhagen

- 15:30 **Bergþóra Njála Guðmundsdóttir** Head of Information at the Ministry for the Environment and master student, Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Iceland, **Guðrún Gísladóttir** School of Engineering and Natural Sciences, University of Iceland and **Mats Eriksson** Örebro University Sweden
Best practices of crisis communication in Iceland; Eyjafjallajökull 2010 and Holuhraun 2014-2015 case study
- 15:50 **Hugh Deeming, Maureen Fordham and Belinda Davis** Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne UK.
Propagating the aftermath: the Cumbrian experience of using a community development approach to build resilience to flooding
- 16:10 **Erin Kennedy** PhD Candidate, School of Social Work at Lund University
Disaster waste management: The case of Japan's March 11th, 2011 earthquake and tsunami - Japan and the international response

IV Resilience, traumatic stress and social services (The Nordic House, meeting room Aina)

Chair: Merja Rapeli Ministerial Adviser at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

15:30 **Guðrún Lísbet Níelsdóttir** MSc, BSc, RN. Landspítali University Hospital, Fossvogi, Reykjavík, Iceland

Building resilience into the Icelandic hospital network: A conceptual framework

15:50 **Edda Björk Þórðardóttir** PhD Candidate Department of Public Health, University of Iceland, Ingunn Hansdóttir, Jillian C. Shipherd, Unnur Anna Valdimarsdóttir, Heidi Resnick, Ask Elklit, Ragnhildur Guðmundsdóttir and Berglind Guðmundsdóttir

Risk Factors for Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms Among Avalanche Survivors: A 16 Year Follow-up

16:10 **Ingibjörg Lilja Ómarsdóttir** Project Manager and PhD Student, Faculty of Social Work University of Iceland

The Nordic Welfare Watch – In Response to Crises

17:00 **Closing of today's schedule**

19:00 **Dinner**

May 5th 2015

8:10 **Departure from hotel Marina to the Nordic house** Take your luggage with you because the bus will then leave for the airport at 10:00 from the Nordic house

8:30 **Workshop: A case of creeping crisis: Bárðarbunga; the earthquakes and volcanic eruption in northern Iceland**

Guðrún Jóhannesdóttir and **Einar Pétur Heiðarsson** Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management, National Commissioner of Police

Chair: Rasmus Dahlberg PhD Fellow at the Danish Emergency Management Agency and the University of Copenhagen

9:45 **Closing remarks: Guðrún Pétursdóttir** NORDRESS coordinator

10:00 **Departure by bus** for Keflavik airport from the Nordic House

Practical information

Flybus

All international flights go through Keflavík International Airport, which is about 40 minutes' drive from Reykjavík. The Flybus departs from Keflavík Airport 35-40 minutes after each flight arrival. The busses are located right outside the terminal building.

Please note: Your transfer from the Nordic house to Keflavik airport on May 5th has been arranged. A bus will take you from the hotel at 8:10 in the morning to the Nordic house. You will have to take your luggage with you and the bus will then transfer you from the Nordic house to Keflavík airport, leaving the Nordic house at 10:00.

Hotel Marina

Address: Myrargata 2, 101 Reykjavík Hotel phone: (+354) 560 8000

Icelandair Hotel Reykjavik Marina, steps from downtown Reykjavik, is situated in a completely renovated four-story building that has become a landmark among local residents. It is located next to the historical, and still fully functioning, dry-dock called Slippur. With an emphasis on blending the dynamic, creative atmosphere of this rapidly developing district with the country's strong fishing traditions, the Icelandair Hotel Reykjavik Marina offers everyone the opportunity to see and experience the capital at its most creative and colourful.

Map and location: <http://www.icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/marina/maps-directions> Further information can be reached at the hotel website;

<http://www.icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/marina>

Registration at the Nordic house

Address: Sturlugata 5, 101 Reykjavík

Registration will take place at the Nordic house at 8:10-8:30, on May 4th. Website:

<http://www.nordichouse.is/>

Dinner – Restaurant Víkin

Address: Grandagarður 8, 101 Reykjavík

The restaurant Víkin is located at the Reykjavík Maritime Museum in a building which was built in 1947 as a fish-freezing plant. It is built on a landfill called Grandi and housed, at the time, one of the best fish processing operations in Scandinavia.

In 1959, BÚR (Reykjavík Municipal Fishing Company) bought the plant, which became one of the largest processors of redfish fillets. In 1985, the freezing plant's operation was moved to another location, and for most of the next 20 years, the building remained unused until the Maritime Museum opened in 2005.

Víkin Restaurant is only 5 minutes walking distance from hotel Marina. See link:

<http://www.maritimemuseum.is/english/about-the-museum/getting-there/>

Last but not least

We recommend that you have a look at the weather forecast before travelling to Iceland.

Website: <http://en.vedur.is/>

We strongly recommend you to bring your bathing suit and try the swimming pools in Iceland. Since the advent of harnessing geothermal energy in Iceland, the tradition of public bathing has become deeply rooted in the local culture. Locals of all ages and professions frequent some of the hundred public pools for both health and social purposes; in order to unwind after a long day or to catch up on gossip with friends. The swimming pool culture has clearly established itself, for the greater capital area alone has seventeen public swimming pools, most of which are outdoors and some of which are equipped with saunas and steam baths. Rules of hygiene are taken very seriously with regard to the pools and all visitors are required to shower thoroughly without a swimsuit before entering the water.

Swimming pools and spas in Reykjavík: <https://guidetoiceland.is/reykjavik-guide/best-swimming-pools-in-reykjavik>