

## **Environmental Geoscience in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Scandinavia**

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Environmental geoscience has a long history in the Scandinavian countries. Already in the early 1970s geological surveys in these countries commenced environmental geochemical mapping on a regular scale. At the same time the topic of Geomedicine was developed and especially in Norway this science started early. Some future developments can be seen in the 21<sup>st</sup> century:

- Environmental geochemistry will be continuously developed, for example biogeochemistry indicating bioavailable elements in the environment.
- Medical Geology will be continuously developed in cooperation with medics and veterinarians.
- Urban geoscience is gaining an increasing importance in Scandinavia.
- Waste deposits are of increasing concern. Geoscientists will be important in monitoring these and in remediation activities.
- Environmental geology in general concerning groundwater resources and risk areas of different kinds will be further developed
- An increasing importance of using geoscientists in monitoring and remediation activities in e.g. the Eastern world and other regions where environmental activities so far have been neglected.

Examples of work going on will be presented and discussed on the basis of the future development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.