



# Regional Reforms in Norway

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## The main focus

- Number of levels of government
- Size and number of regional authorities
- Division of tasks and responsibilities at the regional level
- Strengthens the regional direct elected bodies

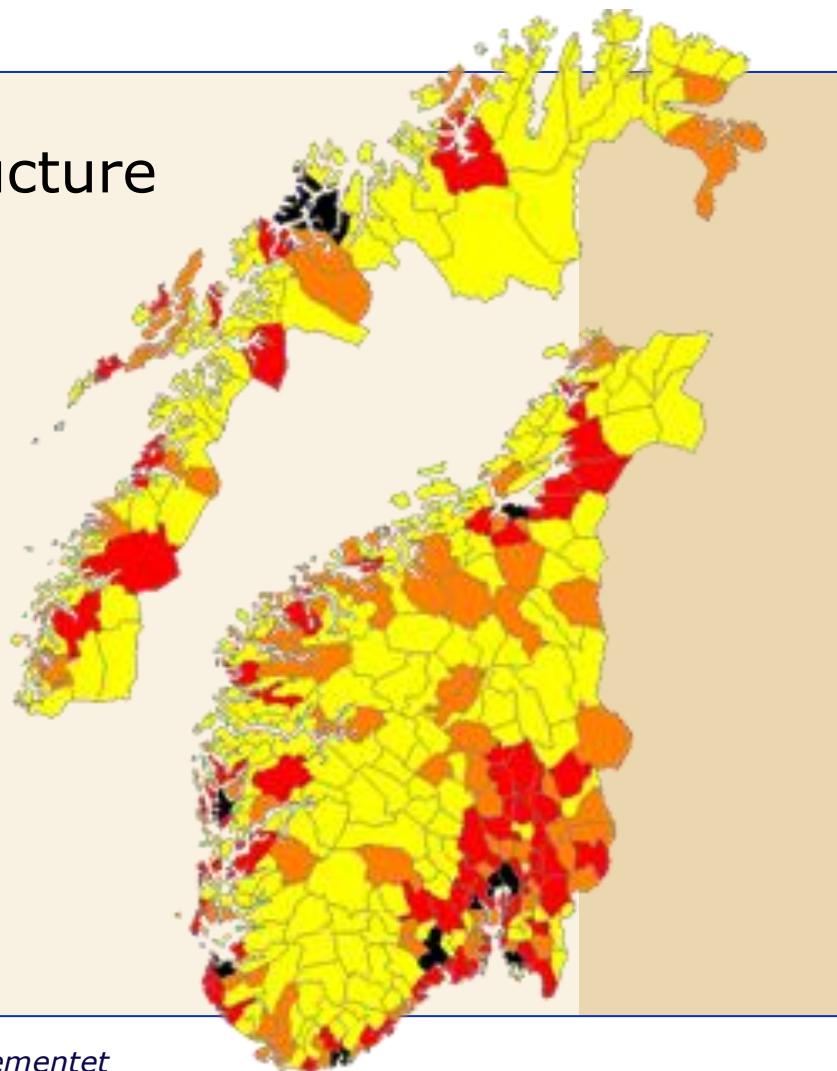
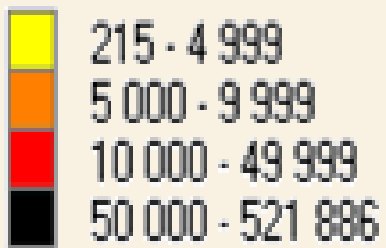
# The Proses

- 2006: A White Paper presented for Parliament
- 2007: Regional process regarding the number and size of the counties
- 2008: Government paper on legal amendments regarding decentralisation of tasks and geographical division
- 2010: Implementation



# The Municipal structure

Inhabitants 2004





# The County Structure



# The Results

- No reduction of the number of County elected bodies and STRs
- The County elected bodies have increased their role as regional developing and planning authorities
- Comparatively few tasks have been transmitted from the STRs



# State administration at regional level

- About 40 separate state authorities at regional level
- The structure is intensely reformed the last decade
  - Development towards larger units
  - Territorial division reflects the particular and unique requirements and needs of the sector
  - Increasing complexity reduces capacity to coordinate policies at regional level and implement cross-sectoral reforms

This development represents a challenge to the STR's coordination remit