



## OPORTUNITATE DE PARTENERIAT (Nr. 5) ISLANDA

### Propunere de parteneriat din partea Centrului de Cercetare din cadrul Universității AKUREYRI din ISLANDA

[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu) □ [www.mdrtr.ro](http://www.mdrtr.ro) □ [www.infocooperare.ro](http://www.infocooperare.ro) □ [www.esponromania.ro](http://www.esponromania.ro)

2 iunie 2010

Centrul de Cercetare din cadrul Universității AKUREYRI din ISLANDA este interesat de o viitoare colaborare în calitate de partener pentru formularea unei propuneri de proiect pentru tematica :

#### Prioritatea 1

| Tematica  | Buget €   |
|---|-----------|
| Indicators and perspectives for services of general interest in territorial cohesion and development (Indicatori și perspective pentru serviciile de interes general) | 1.000.000 |

În măsura în care sunteți interesați de o posibilă colaborare, vă transmitem mai jos o scurtă prezentare a universității precum și a echipei de cercetători și datele de contact:

Grétar Þór Eypórssón  
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Echipea de implementare din cadrul Ministerului Dezvoltării Regionale și Turismului și a Punctului de Contact ESPON din România vă stă la dispoziție pentru alte informații suplimentare.

#### CONTACT

##### AUTORITATEA NAȚIONALĂ PENTRU PROGRAMUL ESPON 2013

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Direcția Generală Dezvoltare Teritorială - Serviciul Strategie și Cooperare Teritorială

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**Website:**

[www.mdrtr.ro](http://www.mdrtr.ro) - [Secțiunea ESPON](#)

[www.infocooperare.ro](http://www.infocooperare.ro) - [INFO ESPON](#)

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**[Punctul de contact ESPON din Romania](#)**

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***Ești interesat de Programul ESPON 2013?***

***ESPON 2013 – Rețeaua europeană de observare a dezvoltării și coeziunii teritoriale este un program operațional în cadrul Obiectivului Cooperare Teritorială Europeană al Politicii de Coeziune a Uniunii Europene, prin care este finanțată cercetarea teritoriului european.***

*Programul ESPON 2013 este finanțat prin Fondul European de Dezvoltare Regională și prin contribuția tuturor statelor membre ale UE și a statelor partenere: Norvegia, Elveția, Islanda și Liechtenstein.*

***Scopul*** Programului ESPON 2013 este de a sprijini formularea politicii care vizează coeziunea și dezvoltarea armonioasă a teritoriului european prin **(1)** furnizarea de informații, statistici, analize și scenarii comparabile privind dinamica teritoriului, precum și prin **(2)** evidențierea capitalului teritoriului și potențialului de dezvoltare a regiunilor și teritoriilor de dimensiuni mai mari, contribuind, astfel, la creșterea competitivității, intensificarea cooperării teritoriale și dezvoltarea durabilă și echilibrată a teritoriului european.

**Surse de informare:**

[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu)

[www.mdrl.ro](http://www.mdrl.ro) - [Secțiunea ESPON](#)

[www.infcooperare.ro](http://www.infcooperare.ro) - [INFO ESPON](#)

[www.esponromania.ro](http://www.esponromania.ro) - Site-ul web al Punctului de Contact ESPON din România

## Short presentation of the The University of Akureyri Research Centre

Director: Hjalti Jóhannesson

Webpage: [www.rha.is](http://www.rha.is)

RHA - The University of Akureyri Research Centre is an independent centre within the [University of Akureyri](#). It was established in 1992 and has conducted numerous research projects and consultations for companies, organisations and ministries both domestically and through foreign research grants. The main goal of RHA is to enhance the University of Akureyri's research capabilities and to strengthen the University's ties to the local and national economies. Furthermore, RHA assists and leads in the development of new projects within the University.

RHA has a cross-disciplinary focus in many of its projects as is reflected by the diverse background of its staff members. RHA has been a member of diverse international projects usually within European or Nordic frameworks. RHA holds 12 staff members in 2009 with some of them holding part-time positions.

### Main research interests:

- Regional development and regional policy
- Socio-economic impacts of infrastructure development
- Municipal government
- Knowledge economy and impacts on regional development
- Demographic changes and gender studies

### Examples of research projects/subjects that RHA has undertaken or been a partner:

- The effect of redistributing quota in Icelandic fisheries (2010)
- An Overview of Rural Development in Iceland. Andrew C. Copus (ed.) Continuity or Transformation? Perspectives on Rural Development in the Nordic Countries (2007).
- Analysis and recommendations on partnership and cooperation of municipalities in N-Iceland (2007).
- Analysis of organizational structure of an amalgamated municipality, N-Iceland (2007).
- Comparison of two main routes connection the Westfjords to the main road system, socio-economic impacts (2005).
- Demographic Changes, Labour Migration and EU-enlargement - Relevance for the Nordic Countries (2007).
- Distance learning in Icelandic universities: Analysis and status report (2007).
- ESPON Action 2.1.5: Territorial Impacts of European Fisheries Policy (2006).
- Fly og skibstrafik i Vestnorden, hvorfra og hvorhen? Analyse og prognose (2004).
- How to Make a Living in Insular Areas – Six Nordic Cases (2006).
- Icelandic regional research, compilation and analysis (2002).
- Innovation Systems and the Periphery (2005).
- Labour Market Services in the Nordic Periphery (2004).
- Med periferien i sentrum - en studie av lokal velferd, arbeidsmarkeder og kjønnsrelasjoner i den nordiske periferien (2005).
- North Iceland Socioeconomic conditions for an aluminum plant in Eyjafjörður, Húsavík and Skagafjörður regions - A baseline study of selected factors. (2005).
- Peripheral Localities and Innovation Policies: Learning from good practices between the Nordic Countries (2006).
- Road connections, development of methods to estimate socio-economic impacts (3 reports 2002-2004).
- Socio-economic impacts of aluminium- and hydro power projects in East Iceland (7 reports 2005-2009).
- North Hunt (2008-2011) [www.north-hunt.org](http://www.north-hunt.org)
- Regional trajectories to the knowledge economy - Nordic-European comparisons (REKENE, 2008-2010). <http://www.nordregio.se/Rekene/>
- Status of males and females in rural Iceland (2008).

- Studies on amalgamation of municipalities and impacts (2002-2007).
- Studies on socio-economic impacts of road connections (2001-2008).
- Study on possible elementary school reform in amalgamated municipalities (6 studies 2002-2008).
- The European Social Survey (the ESS 2001-2011) ://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/

### Scientific team



**Hjalti Jóhannesson** is a geographer (MA) from the York University in Toronto. He is the director of the University of Akureyri Research Centre where he has been a researcher since 2000.

Hjalti is experienced as a researcher in the field. Besides having taken part in one ESPON project he has participated in several research projects financed by The Nordic Council of Ministers. His main research areas have been regional development, transportation systems and policy.



**Hreiðar Þór Valtýsson** is a Fisheries Biologist (MSc) from the University of British Columbia. His main field of research is in the field of marine ecosystem and the utilization of marine resources is wide spectrum. He has been especially interested in the “big picture”, the influence of processes, species-interactions on ecosystems and the warming of the Northern Atlantic Sea around Iceland.

Hreiðar has been a lector at the University of Akureyri since 1999 and was the branch manager of the Icelandic Marine Research Institute from 1999-2008. From 2008 he has been the manager of the Fisheries Centre of the University of Akureyri. He has also supervised numerous fellows from the United Nations University – Fisheries Training Program.

Hreiðar comes from a long line of fishermen and has worked close to the sea from young age. He has wide experience in practical marine research and has published numerous articles, reports, videos and is the editor of fisheries.is.



**Jón Þorvaldur Heiðarsson**, an economist (MS) is a lector at the faculty of business and science in the University of Akureyri and has been a researcher at the University of Akureyri Research Centre since 2004.

His main field of research are transportation research such as the internal rate of return for road constructions, especially tunnels. He has also studied sailings through the Arctic and the possibilities of large transshipment port in Iceland. Other topics include energy and power plants (especially hydropower plants) and monetary systems e.g. the Euro vs. ISK. Latest research projects include; i) Aluminum Plant in Húsavík - Socioeconomic Impact Assessment. ii) The need for manpower and equipment in road construction. iii) Bus between Akureyri and neighbouring areas. iv) New road over Kjölur (highland). v) Ports in Iceland for sailings through the Arctic.



**Vífill Karlsson** is a Cand. Cand. Polit. degree from the department of economics from the University of Bergen, Norway, which entitles him an economist in Norway and Iceland. He has been a lecturer at the University of Akureyri since 2008.

His main fields of interests are primarily Urban and regional economics along with transportation economics and secondly, environmental and resource economics.

Vífill is experienced researcher and has published several journals, consultant reports and text books.



**Dr. Ögmundur Knútsson** is a Ph.D from the University of Edinburgh and is a lector at the University of Akureyri and also acting as a deputy Dean of the Faculty Business and Science. His main research emphasis is on fish industry - its value chain, structure and collaboration in the industry.

Other research emphasis is on development in merging and acquisition in Iceland. He has extensive practical experience within the fisheries industry both inside companies as managers as a consultant. As part of the administrative job at the University He is a board member of the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP) in Iceland. Part of that is to be responsible for the special program lines on Management of Fisheries' companies and marketing. He has also been active in projects for the UNU-FTP, which included developing teaching material for short training courses in project cycle management for managers of institutions of ministry of fisheries (e.g. in Sri Lanka in 2007) and working with UNU-FTP and Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CFRM) in developing courses in leadership in fisheries.



**Dr. Steingrímur Jónsson**, a professor at the faculty of Natural Resource Sciences in the School of Business and Science at the University of Akureyri. He is a Dr. scient. in physical oceanography and holds a position as such at the Icelandic Marine Research Institute.

Steingrímur has 20 years of experience in oceanographic research and has published numerous scientific articles, book chapters and reports.

His main field of research is general oceanography of the seas around Iceland. The effect of oceanic conditions on biological resources. Climate variability and their effects. Ocean currents around Iceland and their variability. Oceanography of Icelandic fjords.



**Dr. Hjörleifur Einarsson** is a professor and head of faculty of Natural Resource Sciences in the School of Business and Science at the University of Akureyri.

The basic themes in his research are applied microbiology, marine-biotechnology and process developments. The objective of his research is to find solutions to problems and to unlock potentials in fields of food, feed, cosmetics, energy and health. Recently his studies have focused on bio-prospecting for new bioactive compounds from coastal marine biota (e.g. algae and protists). Hjörleifur has participated in several Icelandic and EC research projects and is currently a project coordinator in the LisRisk-project (a part of the SAFEFoodERA network). He was a member on the EC Advisory group on Food Quality and Safety under the 6th framework program.

He has supervised students in Master and PhD. studies and numerous fellows from the United Nations University – Fisheries Training Program.

Akureyri, 21 May 2010

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To Professor Grétar Þór Eyþórsson

REGARDING THE ESPON PROJECT EUROPEAN SEAS IN TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT (2010–2013)

We would like to express our interest in participating in the application

confirm our commitment to participating in a Transnational Project Group led by KTH to take forward research under the ESPON priority 1 project PS-1-16 'Services of General Interest'.

We confirm that we are not part of another team tendering for this project.

This is in the framework of the tasks and responsibilities set out in the Terms of Reference and general terms and conditions set out in the Restricted Call to Tender.

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*Guðrún Rósa Þórsteinsdóttir*  
*Director*

*University of Akureyri Research Centre*