



# Health research, health policy and research policy

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Ministry of Health and Infrastructure, April 2013





## The Greenlandic context

- General interest in Greenland and the Arctic
- The effects of climate change
- Struggle for economic independence and preservation of our culture in a globalized world



# Important strategies and declarations



- Strategy for the Arctic 2011-2020
- Arctic Health Ministers' Meeting, Nuuk 2011





## The societal changes

100 years ago

Self-supplied extended families

Last 50 years

Large fishing industry

Today

A new step towards being a part of global exchange and provision of national resources





## The epidemiological changes

- More chronic diseases/lifestyle related diseases
- Lower child mortality/increased life expectancy
- Health effects of climate change, contaminants, exploration of oil and minerals





# The effects of oil and mineral exploitation

- Positive effects: education, employment
- Negative effects: inequity in health, import of new diseases, prostitution, crime, drugs.





# The national strategy on health research

## Focus areas:

1. The implications of the social development on the disease pattern including research on mental health and disease
2. Children in Greenland including families and health behavior
3. Social and demographic inequity in health and health in settlements
4. Health services research and preventive efforts including intervention
5. Human biological research





# Public health policy

Inuuneritta (2007-2012) →  
Inuuneritta II (2013-2019)

- Substance abuse
- Smoking
- Physical activity
- Diet







# The derived needs of research

- To guide authorities
- The effects of climate change
- Health sector research





Thank you!

