Boosting Demand for Nordic Carbon Removal:
Carrots, Sticks, and What CDR Actually Needs

Panelist speaker

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Nordic Carbon Removal Association

What are the main barriers stopping CDR from scaling in the Nordics?

Lack of Clear Policy & Public Strategy

- CDR is **increasingly recognized by policymakers,** but **efforts remain fragmented** and **lack a cohesive regional strategy**
- **Public skepticism and political uncertainty** slow down decision-making, as CDR is still to some extent misunderstood as an "excuse" for polluters rather than a climate solution

Fragmented Market & Buyer Hesitation

- Companies **lack clarity** on how to purchase and use CDR credits
- Uncertainty around **quality standards, compliance frameworks, and long-term contracts** limits corporate investment

High Costs & Limited Funding Mechanisms

- Many high-quality CDR methods **are expensive**, making large-scale investment difficult
- Without **clear financing mechanisms** and **weak demand signals**, early-stage projects remain stuck in pilot phases

Infrastructure & Deployment Bottlenecks

- **CO_2 transport and storage integration is progressing**, with projects like **Northern Lights**, but gaps remain, **limiting large-scale deployment**
- **Slow permitting,** and access **to affordable, decarbonized energy delay projects**

To overcome these barriers, the **Nordic Carbon Removal Association** aims to **connect industry players across the value chain**, **streamline cross-border collaboration**, and **accelerate the development of a thriving regional CDR ecosystem**.

Meet the emerging Nordic Carbon Removal Ecosystem

Driving sustained supply and demand for high-quality permanent carbon removal

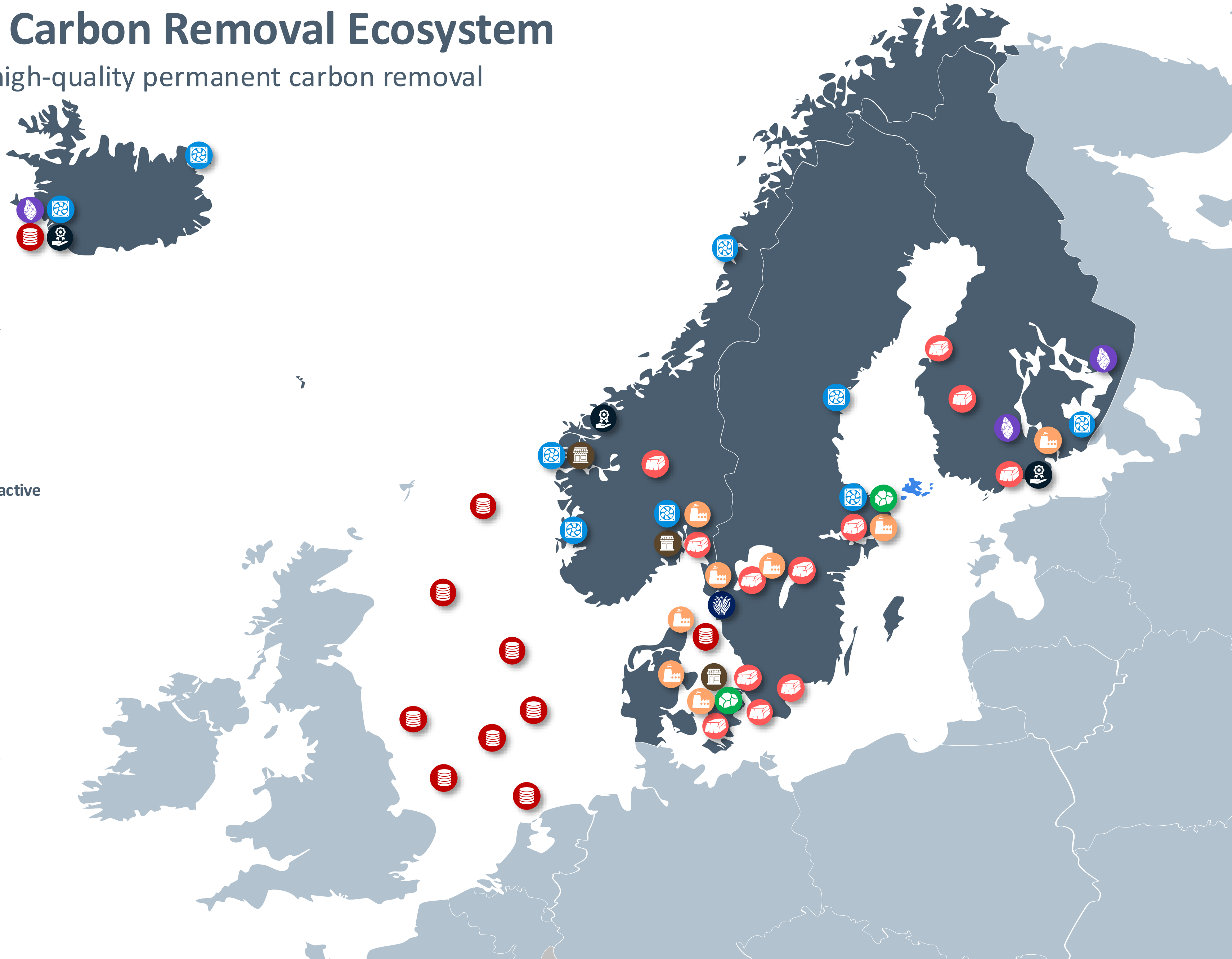
ILLUSTRATIVE – BASED ON CDR.FYI AND CATF DATA

5+
CDR methods represented across the Nordics

>67%
Representation of the Nordic CDR ecosystem by market cap

35+
Members spanning the entire CDR value chain

6
Geographies with engagement & active campaigns



- Mineralisation
- Marine Biomass Sinking
- Enhanced Rock Weathering
- Biochar
- Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage
- Marketplaces
- Service Providers
- Carbon Storage
- Direct Air Capture

Nordic Carbon Removal Association

Bringing the Nordic CDR value chain together: NCRA members nine months in

Nordic Carbon Removal Association

stockholm exergi
Heirloom
Klimate
carbo culture
ReCarber
ClimeFi
CARBON CENTRIC
DANSK FJERNVARME
CARBON REMOVERS
puro · earth
REMOVR Carbon Removal Solutions
south pole
NextGen
Milkywire
Carbfix
stripe
NJORD rbor
Rock™ Flour Company
Caox
ÖRESUNDS KRAFT
SYSAV Mitt i kretsloppet
nordbex
Cula
BIOCARB SOLUTION Negative emissions, positive change
Hafslund Oslo Celsio
Karbonetiq
carbonaide

Observer Organizations

ISOMETRIC
Ørsted
equinor
Limenet
Green by Iceland

Advisory Board Organizations

carbon gap
CONCITO
BLENDED FINANCE
BELLONA
rethinking REMOVALS
C<C
ZERO

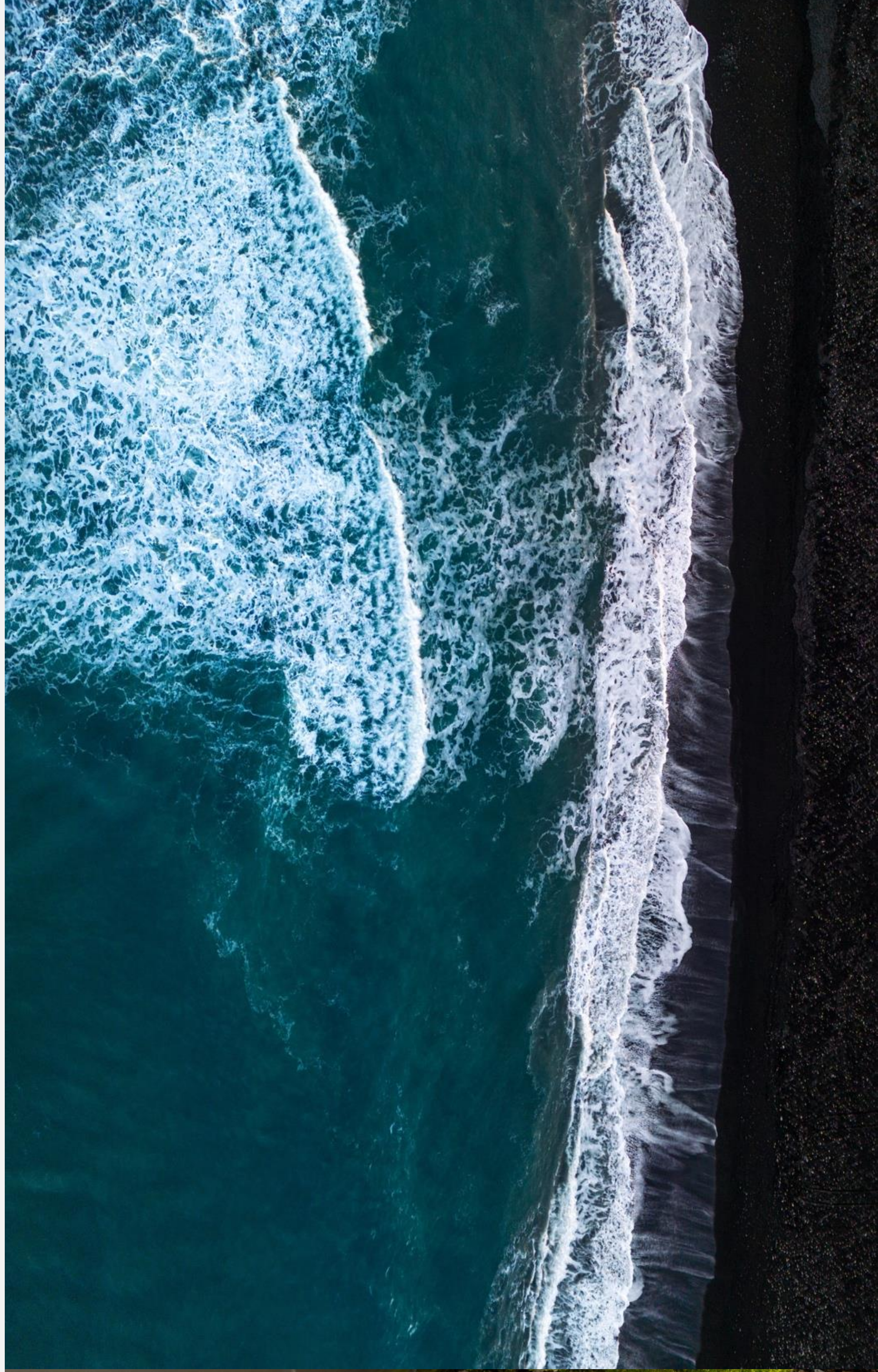
CDR Projects Are Stalling – 2026 Is the Policy Window

CDR projects are under pressure
- Rising costs & project risk
- Growing **FID bottleneck**
- Projects in **Sweden and Denmark paused**

Corporate demand remains weak
- Uncertainty around **climate claims**
- Limited awareness in the **VCM**

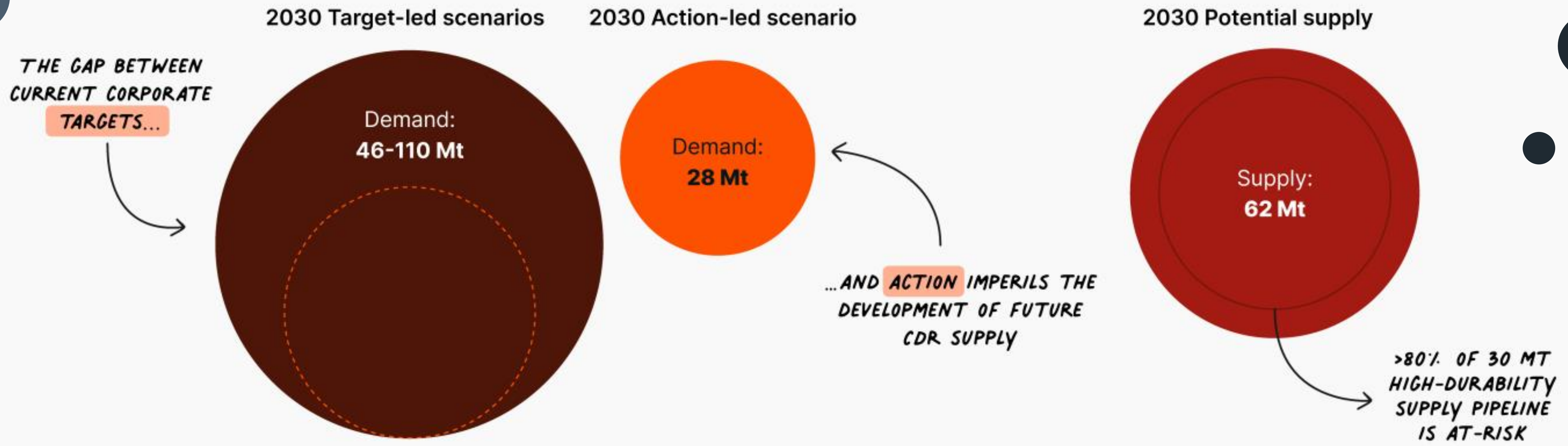
2026 must be a turning point for Nordic and European CDR policy

- **Commission Buyer's Club**
- **Linkage with the EU ETS**
- **EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework review**
- **Forthcoming Deloitte report on a European CDR purchasing facility**



The supply risk associated with a lack of action

Findings from the State of the VCM Report



When inaction speaks louder than words: Uncertainty is standing in the way of scaling CDR demand

Regulatory context

Tightening rules for environmental claims without clear demand incentives

- EU **Green Claims** rules
- **SBTi** V2
- **ETS linkage for CDR** underway
- **Commission Buyer's Club** being formed

Market impact

Buyers face communication and market uncertainty

- Unclear what **claims are legally safe**
- No clarity yet on **role for CDR in net zero targets and EU compliance**

What is needed

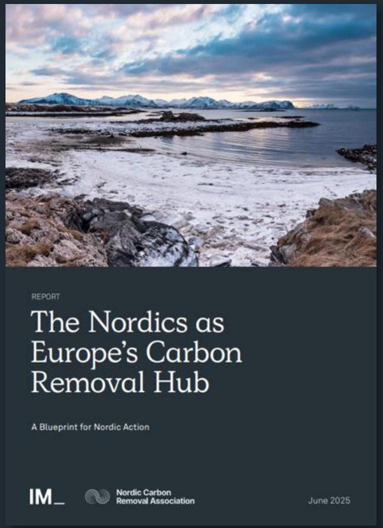
1. **Strong political signal in favor of CDR**
2. Enabling of **responsible climate claims and** increase **buyer confidence**
3. Unlocking **demand for high-quality carbon removal by enabling combinations of public and private purchases**

From		To
Slogan	→	Substance
Certainty	→	Transparency
Badge	→	Communication

Nordic Carbon Removal Association

CDR holds an annual economic growth potential for the Nordics of up to EUR 17 Billion

Country	Primary CDR Methods	Unique Strengths & Opportunities	Role in Regional CDR Value Chain
Sweden	BECCS, Biochar	• Largest biomass resources • Strong industrial base for BECCS • Political support and dedicated funding	Leading supplier of biomass-based CDR, biochar deployment
Denmark	BECCS, CO_2 storage, Biochar, ERW, DOC	• Extensive CO_2 storage capacity • Innovative policies (110% emissions target, reversed tax schemes, major subsidies)	Main regional storage provider, innovative financing & policy leader
Norway	DACCS, Offshore CO_2 storage, ERW, DOC	• Largest offshore CO_2 storage (Northern Lights) • Robust existing CCS infrastructure • Growing policy momentum around DACCS	Regional CO_2 storage hub, DACCS leader
Finland	BECCS, Biochar	• Ambitious 2035 net-zero goal • Extensive biomass availability for BECCS and Biochar • Potential for ERW on farmland	Biomass-based carbon removal provider, potential large-scale BECCS player
Iceland	DACCS, Onshore CO_2 storage, Mineralization (ERW)	• One of the largest operational DACCS plant globally • Significant geological mineralization storage capacity • Low-cost renewable energy	DACCS innovation hub, permanent geological storage provider



We partnered with **Implement Consulting Group** to identify how Nordic countries' strengths combine into a powerful, integrated CDR ecosystem.

Key insights from the study:

- Potential for up to **€17 billion annual GDP increase** across the Nordics by **2050**
- Potential to support of up to **148,000 high-quality jobs** annually by **2050**
- Leveraging **complementary Nordic strengths** in biomass, geological storage, renewable energy, and infrastructure to scale carbon removal efficiently

Clear Roadmap for Collaboration: Includes 9 targeted policy actions for effective cross-border collaboration and infrastructure investments.

Read our full report here: link

What’s next? Meeting the needs of the (Nordic) CDR sector by combining carrots & sticks

POLICY ACTION IN 2026

Three priorities	Key initiatives
1 Send a strong political signal in favor of CDR to increase buyer confidence	• Launch the CDR purchasing facility in 2027 with a separate mechanism for international credits • Reconfigure the EU climate framework and set clear targets for domestic permanent CDR
2 Support and facilitate responsible climate claims	• Clarify the use cases for purchased credits under Buyer’s Club and other forthcoming initiatives • Provide much needed clarity on green claims through Commission recommendations and/or CRCF revision
3 Make it easier to combine public and private demand to enable project FIDs at scale	• Set up a Commission Buyers’ Club in 2026 to provide offtakes and CAPEX support potentially combining national, EU, and private funding • Ensure an ambitious ETS with a strong CDR linkage providing long-term public demand to scale the sector • Make sure the SBTi Net Zero Standard v 2.0 allows for co-claiming between Member States and corporates • Help coordinate and support the establishment of carbon hubs in the Nordic region and beyond as Projects of Common European Interest

Nordic Carbon Removal Association

Driving Nordic Action On Carbon Removal

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