

Defining Resilience in Remote Music Ecosystems

Short Summary

“A very clear piece of work. And an excellent base to start implementing concrete actions to strengthen the resilience of these music ecosystems.” **Dr. Joost Vervoort, Associate Professor Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development, Utrecht University**

What We Did

Over 10 months, The Center for Music Ecosystems - through local interviews, surveys and community engagement - produced a toolkit exploring the role of music and resilience in Nuuk (Greenland), Juneau (Alaska) and Tórshavn (Faroe Islands), in partnership with Globus/Nordic Culture Fund and Erasmus University Rotterdam. The toolkit is based on the idea that music, in all forms and functions, can be understood as an ecosystem. By doing that, the research is able to outline policies based on a framework of resilience, seeking to secure the survival and sustainability of small, mid-sized and geographically isolated communities. For each community, the research explores:

- The Current State of Play (*how things are now*)
- Future Scenarios (*how things could be*)
- Resilience Building Blocks (*how to get there*)
- Requiring Resilience (*what to be aware of*)
- Threats (*current and potential*)

The recommendations outline which components of the ecosystem require resilience and what is needed to build it into policy and practice.

Why Does This Matter?

This research demonstrates that no matter how remote a community, there are reasons to invest in, and expect a return from, music in all its forms and functions. Music is an under-utilized, powerful resource and this is no more important in remote, culturally diverse and unique communities, such as Nuuk, Tórshavn and Juneau. And by exploring music through the frame of resilience, we can better identify and target support measures to improve communities now and far into the future.

This is the first report exploring music across wider city strategy. It explores how music can positively impact tourism, education, integration, economic development, community development, all through the clear framework of making places more resilient.

Center for Music Ecosystems

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The Center for Music Ecosystems is a not-for-profit corporation registered in the State of Alabama and in Estonia as a European nonprofit organisation (MTU)

What Are The Outcomes?

The research offers **29 recommendations**. The executive summary and comprehensive report detail how each action can impact each community, but are relevant to any small, isolated, rural or remote community. The recommendations are split into short, medium and long term outcomes, and include:

- Detailing the impact of mapping music infrastructure, places and spaces;
- How music can enhance and support a joined up communications strategy across city and third-sector agencies, such as tourism or chambers of commerce;
- How to break down silos and create stronger communities through deliberate and intentional engagement with music and local musicians;
- How local and regional governments can best support music and how to best adapt this support to local contexts;
- How to support young people and accelerate education through music;
- How music can help retain talent and reduce emigration, while also being a tool to attract new talent and business from outside.

Next Steps

Together with the Nordic Culture Fund, the project will next establish the first **Music Policy Resilience Lab**, to put the 29 recommendations into practice with local, regional and international partners and experts. A further 15 communities will be included and 6 education labs will be conducted over the next 18 months, creating implementable policies, resolutions and programs to adopt in each of these communities.

For More Information

To read the report, visit www.centerformusicecosystems.com/nordics or contact angharad@centerformusicecosystems.com

To donate to the Center for Music Ecosystems, please visit <https://www.centerformusicecosystems.com/donate>

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