

Innovatively investing in Europe's Northern Periphery for a sustainable and prosperous future

Pre-Announcement Fourth Call for Applications

The Fourth Call for Applications will run from the **21**st of January to the **18**th of March **2009**. The call is open to applicants from across the programme area and to projects addressing both priorities:

- 1. Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas
- 2. Sustainable development of natural and community resources

Themes

At its last meeting, the Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC) made an analysis of the themes addressed by the 21 approved main projects so far. The PMC identified a number of themes that are not yet sufficiently addressed by the programme.

Although, the Fourth Call for Applications is an open call, **the PMC especially welcomes projects addressing these themes**:

- In **Priority 1**, in the Objective " To facilitate development through the use of advanced information and communication technologies and transportation in the programme area" the four themes:
 - i) increased use of ICT to overcome distance
 - iii) developing innovative product and service solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure with regard to roads, railways, airports and ports under harsh climatic conditions
 - iv) development of transport schemes that benefit rural communities, such as new maritime routes
 - v) maritime safety in relation to remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions.
- In **Priority 2**, in the Objective "To improve sustainable development in peripheral regions by strengthening urban-rural relations and enhancing regional heritage" the theme:
 - i) urban-rural partnerships for new service solutions

Available Funding

No specific budget allocation has been set for this Fourth Call. Between 2007 and 2013 the Programme will commit around €45 million to projects that address the priorities for transnational cooperation: €35.115 million of European funds (ERDF) will be available to partners in Member States and €10.155 million for partners in the Non member States. 60% of the funds is available for projects applying under Priority 1 and 40% for projects under Priority 2. After the first three calls, in which 21 projects were approved, 49% of the programme funds has been allocated.



The recommended minimum size for a main project's total budget is €250 000 and the recommended maximum size is €1.5 million. In general, a 60% grant rate is applied for partners in Member States and 50% for Non Member States. **For Norwegian partners, a grant rate of 30% applies.** Note that 10 % funding source and 20 % funding source have a grant rate of 50 %.

Application Pack

The Application Pack for the Fourth Call is available on the NPP website from 21st January 2009.

The pack will consist of 3 main documents, all of which should be downloaded and read carefully:

- Application Form: Parts 1-2 in Word format and Part 3 in Excel format
- Application Instructions
- Programme Manual: Part 1 How to Apply and Part 4 Common Eligibility Rules

Decisions

Decisions on all main project applications submitted to the Fourth Call for Applications will be made at the Programme Monitoring Committee meeting on 4th - 5th June 2009.

How to Apply Seminar

The Programme Secretariat is organising two seminars on How to Apply for the Fourth Application Call, to be held on **28th January 2009** in Copenhagen, Denmark and **4th February 2009** in Sundsvall, Sweden. The purpose of the events is to assist applicants in the development of a good quality application. For more information, please keep an eye on the programme website and/or contact the Secretariat.

Fifth Call

Please note that the Fifth Call for Applications will **not** be launched **until the spring of 2010**. This means that the autumn of 2009 is call-free. **The PMC views the Fifth Call as potentially a focused call**. More information about the exact nature of the Fifth Call will be published in August 2009 to inform applicants in good time about what will be expected from them.

Please contact the Regional Contact Points or Northern Periphery Programme Secretariat for further guidance on the programme. Contact details are available on the NPP 2007-2013 website: www.northernperiphery.eu.

Important Dates

Call Opens: 21st of January 2009 Call Closes: 18th of March 2009