



Introduction to NPP 2007-2013

Claire Matheson
NPP Secretariat



BACKGROUND

- Builds on success of INTERREG IIIB Northern Periphery Programme
- INTERREG IIIB NPP has funded:
 - 47 main projects
 - 62 preparatory projects (15 aiming towards new programme)
- Total programme funding = 30.2 Million Euros, inc Non Member State contribution
- 100% of programme funding now committed
- Over 400 different project partners involved
- Average main project involves 9 partners
- 68 % of all projects involve Small and Medium Size companies



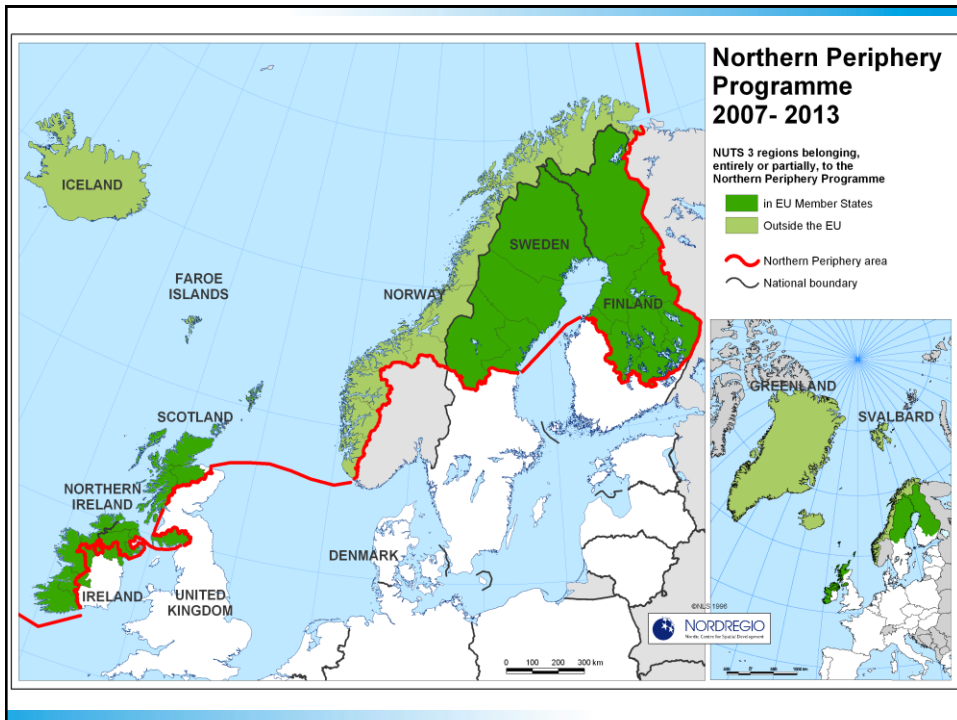
PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

- “Northern Periphery Programme 2007-2013” – official programme name
- Programme is no longer called INTERREG - part of a new Structural Funds Objective 3 for European Territorial Cooperation
- Operational Programme outlines strategy and management structure of programme
- Community Strategic Guidelines provide for closer alignment between European objectives (Lisbon & Gothenburg Agendas) and all Structural Funds programmes
- New regulatory framework was approved in 2006



DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Development began in December 2005
- 4 programming bodies established to develop new programme and ensure regional and national level participation in drafting process
- Open workshops held in Sundsvall, Sweden in June 2006 and open consultation process from Sep-Oct 2006
- Operational Programme approved by Programme Monitoring Committee Plus in December 2006 followed by Member State approval process
- Operational Programme will be approved by the European Commission on 28 September 2007



PROGRAMME AREA

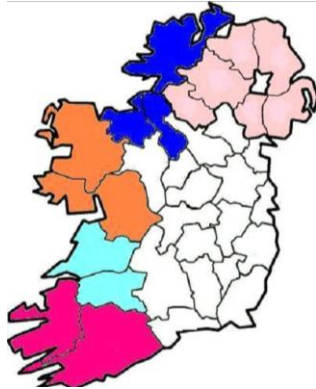
Similar programme area to 2000 – 2006 programme, but with the following additional partnership country areas:

- Nine west coast counties in the Republic of Ireland
- Northern Ireland – excluding Belfast and Greater Belfast
- West coast of Norway
- Scotland with Highlands & Islands now also includes all of Moray, and Dumfries & Galloway

Reduced partnership country area:

- Swedish area consists only of the four northern most counties: Jamtland, Vasternorrland, Vasterbotten and Norrbotten

Ireland & Northern Ireland – eligible counties



NUTS3 Region/Eligible Counties

- Border:** Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo
- West:** Mayo, Galway
- Mid-West:** Clare, Limerick
- South-West (IRL):** Kerry, Cork
- Northern Ireland**
(Part of UK jurisdiction)



COMMON SIMILARITIES

Large and diverse programme area but with many common characteristics:

Geography

- Sparsely populated area / low population density
- Rurality, insularity, peripherality
- Low accessibility



COMMON SIMILARITIES

Environment

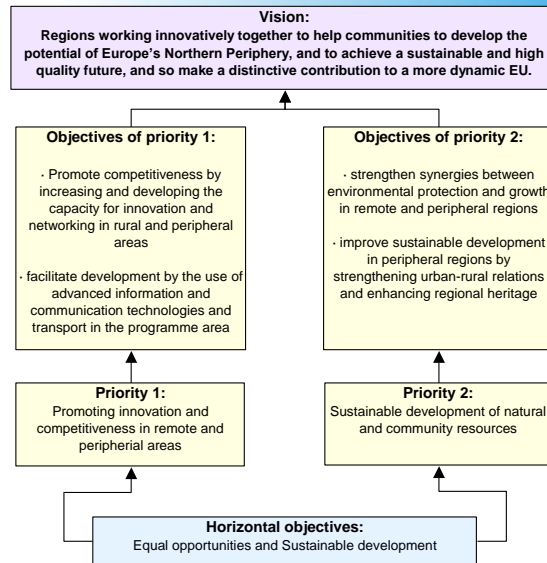
- Harsh climate and difficult terrain
- High quality but vulnerable environment
- Abundance of natural resources
- Threat of climate change



COMMON SIMILARITIES

Economic & Social

- A flexible and skilled labour force
 - Dependence on single economic activities and public employment
 - Aging population and youth out-migration
 - Rich cultural heritage
-
- Projects should focus on issues relevant to the characteristics of the programme area – rurality, peripherality, insularity



PRIORITY 1: Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas

i. Innovation, networks and competitiveness

Objective: To promote competitiveness by increasing and developing the capacity for innovation and networking in rural and peripheral areas.

- exchange of best practise and establishment of cooperation networks between R&D institutions and SMEs to increase the capacity for innovation, facilitate the design of innovation systems and strengthen competitiveness
- transnational cooperation networks and knowledge transfer to develop existing and new innovative products
- cooperation and exchange of best practice between SMEs on how to address and reach markets with existing and new products

PRIORITY 1: Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas

ii. Accessibility

Objective: To facilitate development by the use of advanced information and communication technologies and transport

- increased use of ICT to overcome distance
- implementation of ICT to modernise and to innovate industries and businesses in the Northern Periphery
- developing innovative solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure subject to harsh climatic conditions
- development of transport schemes that benefit rural communities, such as new maritime routes
- maritime safety in remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions
- building the capacity to respond to and prepare for emergencies and natural disasters to which the Northern Periphery is exposed.



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PRIORITY 2: Sustainable development of natural and community resources

i. Environment as an asset in the periphery

Objective: To strengthen the synergies between environmental protection and growth in remote and peripheral regions.

- Developing new approaches to efficient and sustainable management and utilisation of resources
- Impact and possible implications of climate change and means to reduce it at a community level
- Development of small scale renewable energy solutions



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PRIORITY 2: Sustainable development of natural and community resources

ii. Urban-rural development and promotion of heritage

Objective: To improve sustainable development in peripheral regions by strengthening urban-rural relations and enhancing regional heritage.

- Urban-rural partnerships for new service solutions
- Innovative provision of existing and new services in the periphery
- private, public and voluntary sectors cooperation and networks to develop new and innovative service solutions for remote and peripheral regions
- promotion of natural and cultural heritage that supports the development of sustainable industries



2 TYPES OF NPP PROJECT

1. Preparatory Projects

- Purpose → to generate high-quality main project applications, mobilise well-balanced partnerships and facilitate the development of joint project plans
- Min requirement to have 2 contributing partners from 2 countries, an idea that addresses the programme priorities and eligible national match funding in place

2. Main Projects

- Purpose → to implement a project idea that focuses on addressing the objectives and priorities of the Programme.
- Min requirement to have 3 participating partners from 3 countries, one of which must be a member state, and to have eligible national match funding in place.



PROJECT BUDGETS

- Recommended min size for a main project's total budget is 250 000 EUR and recommended maximum size is 1.5 million EUR.
 - In exceptional cases, the Programme Monitoring Committee can approve main projects with a budget of up to 3 million EUR.
- Intervention rate of 60% for Member States and 50% for Non Member States, but Programme Monitoring Committee may approve intervention rate of up to 75% in specific circumstances.
- Maximum budget for a preparatory project will initially be 30 000 EUR, with an intervention rate of up to 60% of eligible costs (18 000 EUR).



PROGRAMME BUDGET

- Programme financing consists of:
 - European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) for Member States
 - ERDF equivalent for Non-Member States
 - National match funding
- 35.115 million Euros ERDF available
- 10.155 million Euros ERDF equivalent available
- National match funding = project contribution

Total programme budget including match funding is approximately 60 million Euros



PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

- Main Programme Bodies:
 - Joint Programme Secretariat (JPS)
 - Managing Authority
 - Certifying Authority
 - Auditing Authority
- JPS is main source of information on the programme – continues to be based in Copenhagen, Denmark
- JPS works closely with Regional Contact Points
- Programme Monitoring Committee and Regional Advisory Groups involved in decision making process
- Agreements, contracts and grant offer letters through Managing Authority – continues to be Västerbotten County Administration in Umeå, Sweden



WHO TO CONTACT

Northern Periphery Programme Secretariat
Strandgade 91, 4. sal
DK-1401 Copenhagen, Denmark
www.northernperiphery.net



Programme Manager
Mr Christopher Parker
tel. +45 3283 3782
mob. +45 2511 2391
fax. +45 3283 3775

Programme Manager
Ms Claire Matheson
tel. +45 3283 3784
mob. +45 2511 2393
fax. +45 3283 3775
christopher.parker@npp2.net claire.matheson@npp2.net

Head of Secretariat
Mr Niclas Forsling
tel. +45 3283 3786
mob. +45 2511 2344
fax. +45 3283 3775
niclas.forsling@npp2.net



MANAGING AUTHORITY



Ms Anneli Nilsson
Länsstyrelsen i Västerbotten
901 86 Umeå
Sweden
Tel: +46 90 10 82 17
Fax. +46 90 12 17 67
E-mail: anneli.nilsson@ac.lst.se
Web: <http://www.ac.lst.se>



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REGIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Republic of Ireland

Mr Michael O'Brien
BMW Regional Assembly
The Square,
Ballaghaderreen,
County Roscommon,
Republic of Ireland
Tel.: +353 949862970
Fax: +353 949862973
E-
mail: mobrien@bmwassembly.ie
Web: <http://www.bmwassembly.ie>

Northern Ireland

Mr Seamus McAdams
SEUPB, EU House
6 Cromac Place
Belfast
BT7 2JB
Tel.: + 44 28 9026 6660



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REGIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Norway

Ms Greta Johansen
Landsdelsutvalget
Sjøgata 3, 8002 Bodø
Tel.: +47 75 50 34 20
Fax: +47 75 52 67 25
E-mail: johansen@lu.no
Web: <http://www.lu.no>

Sweden

Mr Bernt Vedin
Kommunförbundet i Västerbotten
Norrandsgatan 13
Box 443, 901 09 UMEÅ
Tel.: +46 (0)90 16 37 00
Dir.tel.: +46 (0)90 16 37 17
Fax: + 46 (0)90 16 37 19
E-post: bernt.vedin@ac.komforb.se
Web: <http://www.ac.komforb.se/>



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REGIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Finland

Mr Jouko Jama
Regional Council of Lapland
P.O. Box 8056
FIN-96101 ROVANIEMI
Tel.: +358 16 3301 231
Mobile: +358 400 197 289
Fax: +358 16 318 705
E-mail: jouko.jama@lapinliitto.fi
Web: <http://www.lapinliitto.fi>

Iceland

Mr Þórarinn V. Sólmundarson
Institute of Regional Development in
Iceland, Ártorg 1
IS - 550 Sauðárkrúkur
Iceland
Tel.: +354 4555400
Fax: +354 4554477
E-mail: thorarinn@byggdastofnun.is
Web: <http://www.byggdastofnun.is>



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REGIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Faroe Islands & Greenland

Mr Lars Thostrup
NORA
Bryggjubakki 12
Box 259
FO-110 Tórshavn
Faroe Islands
Tel.: +298 314028 or direct: +298 317167
Mob: +298 21 41 28
Fax: +298 310459
E-mail: lars@nora.fo
Web: <http://www.nora.fo>

Scotland

Ms Fiona Sarjeant
Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Cowan House
Inverness Retail & Business Park,
Inverness
IV2 7GF
Scotland
Tel.: +44 (0) 1463 244252
Fax: +44 (0) 1463 244217
E-mail: fiona.sarjeant@hient.co.uk
Web: <http://www.hie.co.uk>