



The Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Co-operation

Action Plan 2006

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Nordic co-operation

Nordic cooperation is one of the world's most extensive forms of regional collaboration, involving Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and three autonomous areas: the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

Nordic cooperation has firm traditions in politics, the economy, and culture. It plays an important role in European and international collaboration, and aims at creating a strong Nordic community in a strong Europe.

Nordic cooperation seeks to safeguard Nordic and regional interests and principles in the global community. Common Nordic values help the region solidify its position as one of the world's most innovative and competitive.

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1. Introduction

The Nordic Council of Ministers adopted a new 3-year Arctic Co-operation programme on 1 November 2005 for the period 2006–2008. In the coming period the Nordic Council of Ministers has decided to focus on the following three main areas: i) Promotion of the indigenous peoples' living conditions and economic and cultural opportunities; ii) Promotion of the preconditions for Nordic research with special reference to the International Polar Year 2007–2008; and iii) Nordic co-operation regarding climate changes in the Arctic and prevention of the dissemination of environmental toxins and heavy metals in the Arctic.

The annual action plans indicate how the Council of Ministers plans to use the annual budget allocated to the Arctic Co-operation Programme. The Action Plan for 2006 covers the activities to be carried out in this financial year. The budget for 2006 is 7.172 million Danish Kroner which is on a par with the funding for 2005. It should be noted that, in line with previous years, a number of projects are co-financed with certain of the Nordic Council of Ministers' policy councils of ministers, and the combined budget is higher than stated here.

The Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Co-operation Programme is run in the form of project applications which are sent to the Nordic Council of Ministers' Secretariat. All applications have the same deadline, which means that the Nordic Council of Ministers has an overview of all applications and can identify the projects which best support the programme's goals and have the greatest Nordic benefit.

The Nordic Council of Ministers set up an Arctic Expert Committee in 2002 which consists of the Nordic members of the Arctic Council and representatives from the Autonomous Areas. The Arctic Expert Committee reviews the applications and submits to the Nordic Committee for Co-operation the projects it considers worthy of funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers with regard to the programme and the other Arctic activities in the Arctic Council and the Barents Euro-Arctic Council. The Nordic Committee for Co-operation makes the final decision on which activities will receive funding from the programme.

The Nordic Council of Ministers received 74 applications for a combined budget of approx. 46 million Danish Kroner for activities in 2006. The Arctic Co-operation programme's budget was, however, far from being able to accommodate so many applications. The Nordic Council of Ministers takes an extremely positive view of the fact that interest in Nordic Co-operation in the Arctic has increased, which has led to the Nordic Council of Ministers being able to fund the most interesting and

relevant projects for implementation in 2006 in regard to the programme's goals.

The Nordic Council of Ministers has decided to grant funds to 19 Arctic projects in 2006. Several of these are long-term projects which have previously received grants, while others are new initiatives relating to the goals of the new Arctic co-operation programme. This Action Plan contains an overview of the chosen projects.

In addition to funding the projects in this Action Plan the Nordic Council of Ministers will also use some of the funds to carry out an evaluation of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic activities during the recent programme (2003–2005). The aim of this evaluation is to outline the completed activities and describe the results and the value of the overall efforts the Nordic Council of Ministers in the Arctic. The evaluation will cover both the activities financed through the Arctic Co-operation Programme and the activities financed by the respective councils of ministers and Nordic institutions.

Attention is drawn to the fact that several of the projects in this Action Plan must be seen in the light of the International Polar Year 2007–2008, as there is a desire for a positive Nordic contribution to the development in the Arctic and to an improved level of knowledge on the need for further measures to be taken in the years to come.

Adviser Nikolaj Bock
Copenhagen, 1 July 2006

2. Nordic Council of Ministers' Cooperation Programme for the Arctic 2006–08

2.1 Introduction

The Nordic Council of Ministers' Cooperation Programme for the Arctic 2006–08 follows up the decision taken by the Nordic Cooperation Ministers to make the Nordic Region an active part of regional cooperation in Northern Europe. The Arctic Cooperation Programme is one of several cooperation programmes established by the Nordic Council of Ministers to facilitate regional cooperation with neighbouring countries and organizations. The Nordic Council of Ministers is a suitable platform for the Nordic countries to influence and position themselves favourable in relation to the political agenda for regional cooperation,

The Nordic Council of Ministers' Cooperation Programme for the Arctic dates back to 1996, and was most recently revised in 2002. The present revision is motivated by the fact that the programming period is coming to an end, but also by:

- Experience gained in the past years in connection with activities within the Arctic Council.
- Changes in the activities in the Adjacent Areas Programme having led to the establishment of a programme for Russia, and a geographically all inclusive policy for cooperation with the neighbours of the Nordic Region.
- The revised Nordic Strategy for Sustainable Development which is one of the pillars of modern Nordic Council of Ministers cooperation and a basis for joint Nordic initiatives in the field of sustainable development.

The present cooperation programme will be the Nordic Council of Ministers' platform for cooperation on Arctic Issues with the member states of the Arctic Council, with the EU on the development of the Arctic Window in the EU Northern Dimension, and with the Nordic countries' Arctic neighbours in the West Nordic Area during the period 2006–08.

The Cooperation Programme for the Arctic will, among other things, supplement the Russia Programme; this programme will include Arctic issues pertaining to the geographical area falling under this programme;

equally the overall principles will be applied to activities under the auspices of the Barents Council and the Barents Regional Council.

The Cooperation Programme for the Arctic for 2006–2008 is aimed at complementing the actions of the Nordic countries in the Arctic Council and joint Nordic initiatives under the auspices of the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008, thus forming the point of departure for cooperation between the Council of Ministers and the Arctic Council. Normally, initiatives and activities must be initiated by or within the Arctic Council. However, other initiatives may become relevant. Any activity in which the Nordic Council of Ministers participates must be in keeping with the overall strategies of the Nordic Council of Ministers and the Nordic countries.

The Cooperation Programme for the Arctic includes all the Nordic Council of Ministers' activities in the Arctic. It is partly financed by the respective Councils of Ministers within the Nordic Council of Ministers, partly by a special overall budget line under the Council of Ministers for Cooperation. The purpose of the latter is to carry out activities in the Arctic, e.g. through co-financing with the individual Councils of Ministers or other actors.

2.2 The Nordic Council Of Ministers' Political Objectives in the Arctic Cooperation

The overall objective for Nordic cooperation concerning Arctic issues is to be used as guidance with regard to planning and implementation of the cooperation activities carried out by the Nordic Council of Ministers in the Arctic area. Special importance is attached to the following aspects:

- Developing and improving the quality of life for the population and the ecological and economic preconditions for continued habitation in the Arctic area with a special responsibility vis-à-vis the situation of the Saami and Inuit population.
- Contributing towards and supporting the social and cultural development of the Arctic population taking into consideration the challenges posed by increasing globalisation, and fostering a better understanding of multilateral and international processes.
- Contributing towards the protection the Arctic nature, the quality aspects of nature and biological diversity and ensuring sustainable use of the region's resources in terms of renewable and non-renewable resources.
- Following up on the basis of existing knowledge of environmental poisons, heavy metals and climate change and their consequences for human and animal life.
- In policy terms, importance is attached to the continuing development of rational methods and forums for cooperation between the Arctic

states with a view to mutual and communal responsibility for implementing the projects necessary for realising the overall objectives of the cooperation.

2.3 The Council of Ministers Activities Concerning Arctic Issues 2006–08

Within the overall framework described above, particular focus will be directed at three main areas during the period 2006–08, namely:

- Promoting the living conditions of indigenous peoples and their opportunity to improve their economic and cultural conditions, inter alia, by following up on the Arctic Council's Arctic Human Development Report.
- Improving the conditions for Nordic research with a special view to the International Polar Year 2007–2008.
- Improving the conditions for Nordic cooperation on climate change in the Arctic, including following up the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment of the Arctic Council, and pursuing initiatives aimed at preventing the proliferation of environmental poisons and heavy metals in the Arctic.

2.4 The Council of Ministers' Specific Activities Concerning Arctic Issues

The present Cooperation Programme for the Arctic applies to all aspects of the Nordic Council of Ministers activities in the Arctic. The overall framework is expected to be complemented and supported through work and activities in the individual Council of Ministers within the Nordic Council of Ministers, and may encompass the following:

- *Sustainable use of resources.* Because of the vulnerable environmental conditions in the Arctic, sustainable use of resources plays a central role in the Arctic cooperation. The Council of Ministers will continue to give priority to activities which promote sustainable development within the auspices of the Arctic Council.
- *Strengthening networks and competences with regard to participation in international democratic processes.* The Council of Ministers will give priority to competence development of indigenous peoples in connection with local and regional administration as well as participation in international processes. In particular, priority will be given to establishing networks between women's organizations, and to women's situation and revenue potential in the Arctic area.

- *Health and welfare.* The Council of Ministers will continue cooperating on promoting health issues, including in particular the combating of communicable diseases. Long term development activities aimed at defining indicators for the living conditions of the Arctic populations own terms will be pursued.
- *Protection of nature and combating pollution.* The Strategy for Sustainable Development 2005–08 and the Nordic Environmental Action Plan 2005–08, including the strategy for the Arctic focusing on environment poisons, heavy metals, and climate change, form the framework for the Council of Ministers' environmental protection activities in the Arctic.
- *Follow-up on climate change in political and practical terms.* Priority will be given to following up on the 'ACIA Policy Document' of the Arctic Council including the emission limits, adaptation, research and the dissemination of information. The climate study ACIA should be elaborated by means of new scenarios, sub-regional studies as well as by an identification of the most vulnerable social sectors, ecosystems, and health situations.
- *Cooperation on business development in sparsely populated areas,* including the development of the service and the culture sectors as well as local production and processing. The Council of Ministers will give priority to activities which increases the economic development in sparsely populated areas and continue the cooperation on competence building. This relates partly to processing products originating from the primary sector, partly to modern products which can be developed on the basis of existing economic activities, including sustainable tourism.
- *Alternative energy supply in the Arctic.* Special attention will be paid to decentralized solutions that can be connected to supply systems outside the central supply grid, including decentralised renewable energy systems and storage technologies, which potential can be of significant impact.
- *Research.* The Council of Ministers considers it important to maintain the existing research focus in the Arctic area, in particular those originating from Arctic universities. The Nordic Research Board is called upon to pay special attention to the interest of the Nordic countries in joint Nordic research projects within the framework of IPY 2007–2008. The Council of Ministers will give priority to assisting networks between Arctic education, training, and research institutions.
- *Culture.* Cultural cross-border interaction has long traditions in the Arctic areas of the Nordic Region. These are traditions will be continued, strengthened and taken in consideration in connection with cultural activists taking place under the auspices of the Barents co-operation.

- *Education and ICT.* The Council of Ministers possesses special insight into the field of cooperation between institutions of higher education in the Nordic Region. Nordic university cooperation can be used as a model for developing cooperation and for virtual types of education under the auspices of the University of the Arctic, a network of institutions of higher education in the Arctic area. Activities under the Information and Communication Technology of the Arctic Council will be given priority, including Internet-based distance learning and telemedicine.

2.5 Cooperation Instruments

Specific projects under the Cooperation Programme for the Arctic will be implemented, partly as individual projects on the basis of applications made by countries and organisations or institutions in the Nordic Region, and partly as initiatives reflecting the need of the individual sectors for supporting existing political processes, for example through the Arctic Council.

- *Cooperation projects.* The Council of Ministers will give priority to projects of joint Nordic interest and in cases where cooperation will reinforce the Nordic political profile and where Nordic views will create added value, in particular within the framework of the Circumpolar Cooperation of the Arctic Council.
- *Co-financing.* The co-financing of projects will be possible, and will include financing of Nordic participation in cooperation projects in the Arctic. Special importance is attached to developing new ideas for Arctic cooperation projects. The Council of Ministers may contribute financially to activities in the standing working groups, ad hoc groups and instruments of the Arctic Council, including the Arctic Council's 'Action Plan to Eliminate Pollution of the Arctic' (ACAP).
- *Mobility Programme.* In the Arctic area, grant schemes are supported which enable students and researchers to participate in university cooperation in the Arctic area. The grant scheme takes advantage of experiences obtained through other grant schemes and mobility programmes in the Council of Ministers. Special importance will be attached to the existing exchange programmes of the Nordic Council of Ministers, and should amongst others include government officials, parliamentarians, journalists, business people, artists, craftsmen and women, schools, etc.
- *Dissemination of results, information and contact activities and establishing networks.* The Council of Ministers participates in the activities of the Arctic Council in the capacity of permanent observer and disseminates information via the website. To the highest possible de-

gree, the existing Nordic institutional structure will be used for contact activities.

2.6 Organization of Cooperation

A review of the Cooperation Programme for the Arctic 2006–2008 is envisaged for 2008. All aspects of the Nordic Council of Ministers' activities will be reviewed.

The Arctic Advisory Board will continue to act as the Expert Committee, and the committee consists of the Senior Arctic Officials and representatives of the Faeroe Isles and Greenland. The Arctic Advisory Board has an advisory role with regard to the design, implementation and follow-up of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic activities. The Arctic Advisory Board may invite ICC Greenland and the Saami Council to participate in the work in correspondence with the Council of Ministers' guidelines for cooperation with NGOs.

The Nordic Council of Ministers Secretariat manages the secretarial functions of the Arctic Advisory Board.

3. Nordic Council of Ministers’ Arctic Activities in 2006

Project name	Period	Applied (TDKK)	NCM contribution (TDKK)
Priority area I - Indigenous people			
The Economy of the North	2004–2006	730	555
AMAP Lifestyle, local pollution, human health of Arctic Indigenous peoples	2005–2007	400	200
Uarctic Thematic Network on Global change in the Arctic	2006–2008	643,5	500
Arctic Social Indicator Project	2006–2008	377	250
Women and Ressource Management in the Rural North	2005–2006	470	405
Living conditions in the Arctic: Inuit, Sámi and Indigenous peoples in Chukotka (and the Kola Peninsula)	2006–2007	1601	555
Snow and Ice: Traditional knowledge & Geophysical measurements	2006	990	305
		5211,5	2770
Priority area II – International Polar Year			
KINNVKA	2006–2008	2058	655
Network for Groundbased Optical Auroral Research in the Arctic Region	2006–2008	596	355
Arctic-HYDRA	2006–2009	583	405
		3237	1415
Priority area III – Climate changes and environmental poison			
Effects of contaminants on Arctic wildlife and humans	2006–2007	258	205
AMAP/ACIA Effect of climate change on transport of contaminant to Northern areas	2005–2009	800	400
AMAP's assessment reports on oil and gas in the Arctic and on Acidification and Arctic Haze, to be presented at the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in 2006	2002–2006	900	547
Adaptive capacity of ringed seals to deal with exposure to variable POP levels in their environment - with special emphasis on the Russian Arctic	2005–2008	215	155
		2173	1307
Other Arctic subjects			
Pasvik programme/Environmental monitoring	2003–2006	55	55
Increased shipping and related risks in Norwegian and Russian Arctic seas	2006–2008	1489	555
Sustainable energy supply in the West Nordic/Arctic region	2006–2007	1100	200
Greenlandic grasses and medicinal plants	2006–2008	260	205
Arctic ICT Assessment and Action	2006–2008	776	155
		3680	1170
Management/Administration		200	175
Rest amount			335
Co-operation program budget: TDKK 7.172			7172

Project title: The Arctic Hydrological Cycle Monitoring Modelling and Assessment Program, Arctic-HYDRA

Objective	The Arctic-HYDRA project consists of a core network for the observation of the Arctic Hydrological Cycle, AHC, based on the hydrological networks of the National Hydrological Services of the Arctic countries coupled with focused process studies. Hydrological models and data assimilation techniques will be developed to generate an integrated description of the AHC and an assessment of the freshwater inflow to the Arctic Ocean and the potential feedbacks between the atmosphere, cryosphere and the oceans. The Arctic-HYDRA (#104) is endorsed by the JC of IPY.
Activities	To establish a network in the Arctic countries to develop and implement the Arctic-HYDRA; To develop and manage a web page for the management of, information dissemination about and meta-data for the Arctic-HYDRA IPY project; To develop and manage a web-based Geographical Information System to disseminate information and research results generated from within the IPY and other National and Nordic Projects, e.g. Climate and Energy (CE) to the general public, policy makers and the educational system, based on a modern information technology platform for systematic public outreach; To plan, organize and manage a workshop on Arctic-Hydrology as a part of the Nordic Hydrological Conference to be held in Iceland in 2008.
Target group	The Arctic and international science community interested in Arctic questions where knowledge of the Arctic Hydrological Cycle is relevant. Decision makers concerned with the role of the Arctic in Global changes and the feedback from Global changes on the Arctic environment. Professionals in water management and environmental issues related to water.
Participating Nordic Countries	Greenland, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden
Participating countries in the Arctic	The Russian Federation, Canada, USA
Other countries	Japan and Germany
Co-operation partners	J. Zakrevski, Canada, B. Hasholt, Denmark, M. Puupponen, Finland, C. Helweg, Greenland, R. Engeset, Norway, V. Vuglinski, Russian Federation, S. A. Frenzel, USA, R. Lammers, USA, A. Shiklomanov, USA, C. Vorosmarthy, USA, J. Curry, USA, D. Kane, USA, T. Ohata, Japan, J. Pomeroy, Canada, T. Prowse, ICARPII, W. Grabs, WMO, V. Ryabinin, WMO, T. Maurer, Germany
Total budget DKK	4.914.948
Adjacent Areas funds 2006	405.000
Sector funds DKK	2.325.997
External funds DKK	2.588.951
Responsible sector/ Department	Department for Environment and Resources
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Hydrological Service, National Energy Authority, Iceland
Duration of project	2006–2009

Project title: Arctic ICT Assessment and Action – AICTA-A

Objective	The overall goal of the project is to increase the human and social capital in the North and to improve the opportunities for living in the Nordic countries and in the Arctic. The Arctic ICT Assessment and Action (AICTA-A) is the Nordic contribution to the support of the work of the ICT-Network under the Arctic Council umbrella. The project will enable the Nordic countries to participate in the preparation of the work for international assessment to support decision making in the Arctic regions. A further benefit of the proposal is to empower project proposals within the European framework programme. The project will focus on ICT-services and should cover at least the following areas where ICT is used in the Arctic: Governance and public services, education, the security sector, infrastructure, application development, and ICT for industry and business.
Activities	The results of the project will be published as web-pages, articles or separate publications. Articles will be published in newspapers and in scientific publications and web publications; web pages, probably as part of an Arctic portal, within Arctic Council workgroups and stakeholder networks; within the Arctic jurisdiction; seminars, conferences, symposiums.
Participating Nordic Countries	Finland, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Greenland, Faroe Islands
Participating countries in the Arctic	Northwest Russia
Other countries	
Total budget DKK (2006-2008)	2.550.588
Adjacent Areas funds DKK 2006	155.000
External funds DKK	75.000
Responsible sector / Department	Arctic
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock (nb@norden.org)
Administrative body	Kemi-Tornio Polytechnic
Duration of project	2006–2008

Project title: Arctic Social Indicators

Objective	To devise a set of indicators that reflect key aspects of human development in the Arctic.
Activities	Preparation of a report on Arctic social indicators. Devising indicators of human development in the Arctic. Working group workshops.
Target group	Science community, Arctic residents, policy makers, Arctic Council.
Participating Nordic Countries	Iceland, Denmark, Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Finland.
Participating countries in the Arctic	Russia
Total budget DKK	1.535.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	250.000
External funds DKK	190.000
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock (nb@norden.org)
Administrative body	Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri, Iceland
Duration of project	2006–2008

Project title: Adaptive Capacity of Ringed Seals to Deal with Exposure to Variable POP (Persistent Organic Pollutants) Levels in their Environment – with Special Emphasis on the Russian Arctic

Objective	The main objective is to investigate the adaptive capacity of ringed seals to deal with exposure to variable POP levels in their environment. Special emphasis will be on new POPs, POP related effect, diet, biotransformation, and the Russian Arctic.
Activities	A PhD Student will carry out field studies on Svalbard, in Russia and in Finland. It will be carried out in co-operation with scientists at the different locations. The results will be presented as a PhD thesis. In addition to this the results will be published in international peer reviewed journals and presented at a number of conferences (DIOXIN and SETAC meetings)
Participating Nordic Countries	Norway, Finland, Northwest Russia
Participating countries in the Arctic	Russia (Marine Biological Institute in Murmansk)
Total budget (2005–2008) DKK	2.713.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	155.000
External funds DKK	677.000
Responsible sector/ Department	Environment
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock (nb@norden.org)
Administrative body	MiFi
Duration of project	2005– 2008

Project title: AMAP Lifestyle, Local Pollution and Health of Arctic Indigenous Peoples

Objective	Survey of the connection between lifestyle and different kinds of pollution in the Adjacent Areas and health conditions in the Atlantic and European part of the Arctic
Activities	Co-operation between experts and laboratories in the West and in Russia. The project is an important part of AMAP's health project.
Target group	Ministers, decision-makers and the population in the eight Arctic countries. Also international processes involved in establishing stronger environmental requirements, for instance EU, UN-ECE and UNEP.
Participating Nordic Countries	Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland
Participating countries in the Arctic	Russia
Co-operation partners	(AMAP observers EEA, UNEP, UN, ECE, WMO etc.
Total budget DKK	1.900,000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	200.000
External funds DKK	200.000
Responsible sector / Department	Environment
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock (nb@norden.org)
Administrative body	AMAP

Project title: Collecting, Growing and Using Greenlandic Grasses and Medicinal Plants for Use in the Arctic Area.

Objective	The goal of the project is to collect, grow and use Greenlandic grasses and medicinal plants, in order to study these closer for the benefit of the whole Arctic area. The project aims to improve knowledge of these plants and grasses, so that this knowledge may be used to secure the future survival of these plants and make them more able to resist pollution, heavy metals and climatic changes in the Arctic area. The historical use of medicinal plants will be documented and the material gathered will be linked with local traditions to connect the past to the present. The project will follow up on the Nordic Council of Ministers' priorities of securing local production by supporting the improvement of the yields of the local species and increasing their quality. In this way the project will contribute to preserving local culture and the traditional way of living for both people and animals in all of the Pan-Arctic area.
Activities	The project will consist of three phases. Phase I: Summer/autumn 2006: Collecting expedition to Greenland (west, south and east coasts of Greenland). On the east and west coasts mainly grasses will be collected, whereas both grasses and medicinal plants will be collected in the southern parts. The expected duration of the expedition will be 1–2 weeks. Phase II: 2007: The collected material will be established and enriched in the field, so as to facilitate a subsequent description of the populations. DNA-extraction and analysis will be made to increase knowledge on matters such as diversity, place of origin and ways of dissemination. At this stage the project will involve partners through internet meetings with the Nordic-Baltic reference group on grass and medicinal plants. The process will be reported to the Nordic Council, the Nordic Council of Ministers and published on the homepage of the Nordic Gene Bank. Phase III: Evaluation of the chemical contents and the agronomical abilities. The chemical analysis will show origin, genetic patterns and strength/resistance. This will be used in the assessment of the plants and grasses for the benefit of the whole Pan-Arctic area.
Target group	The Pan-Arctic Area and the Nordic Countries and international genetic research.
Participating Nordic Countries	Greenland, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and Norway.
Participating countries in the Arctic	Greenland, Norway and Russia.
Co-operation partners	Nordic Gene Bank, Grønlands Naturinstitut (Greenland), Landbrugsuniversitetet (Iceland), Swalöf Weibull (Sweden) Vavilov-institute (Russia).
Total budget DKK	1.418.600
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	205.000
Responsible sector / Department	Environment and Resources (MoR), see Nordic Council of Ministers
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Lise Lykke Steffensen lls@norden.org
Administrative body	The Nordic Gene Bank (NGB)
Duration of project	2006–2008

Project title: The Economy of the North

Objective	The proposed study will provide a quantitative and systematic understanding of the market based economic activities in the Arctic and their links to the world economy today and in the future under a changing climate.
Activities	To produce a report, arrange an international conference, arrange a mid-term workshop, arrange a start up workshop, participation in other relevant conferences, draw up academic papers describing the methods, data and results.
Target group	Economic and statistic experts
Participating Nordic Countries	All Nordic countries
Participating countries in the Arctic	Alaska, Canada, Russia
Co-operation partners	Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO), Oslo
Total budget DKK	555.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	555.000
Responsible sector / Department	Financial sector
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Ola Yndeheim oy@norden.org
Administrative body	Statistics Norway, Research Dep., PO Box 8131 Dep., N-0033 Oslo, Norway
Duration of project	31 December 2006

Project title: Effects of Climate Change on Transport Levels, and Effect of Contaminants in Northern Areas

Objective	To clarify possible effects of climate changes on transport levels and effects of contaminants in Northern areas. To find out what effects this can have on the level of pollution on animals and human beings. The project is part of AMAP's main task of surveying the environmental conditions in the North, to establish to what extent climate changes affect the accessibility of contaminants and changes the biological environment (from virus and bacteria to biodiversity). An important part of the project is to examine the connection between climate and biodiversity. The project will most likely be a part of a larger project carried out by the World Bank.	
Activities	Studies, research, collecting data. Video. AMAP reports.	
Target group	Ministers, decision-makers, researchers and the population in the eight Arctic countries. Also international processes involved with establishing environmental requirements, i.e. EU, UNECE, UNEP and WHO.	
Participating Nordic Countries	Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland	
Participating countries in the Arctic	Greenland, Russia, Canada	
Other countries	The project will be completed in close co-operation with other international institutions: IASC, ACSYS/Clic, UNECE, IPCC, WHO and others.	
Co-operation partners		
Total budget (2005-2009) DKK		18.705.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK		400.000
External funds DKK		4.250.000
Responsible sector / Department	Environment	
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org	
Administrative body	AMAP, Norway	
Duration of project	2005–2009	

Project title: Effects of Contaminants on Arctic Wildlife and Humans – Synthesis and Perspectives of Nordic Research.

Objective	To gather scientific personnel from different research environments such as medical doctors, biologists and veterinarians at an interdisciplinary workshop. The aim is to concretise and summarise the Nordic effect studies on humans and wildlife in the Arctic, in one or more review research articles and reports, and to recommend future strategies and research projects under AMAP and the Arctic Co-operation Programme.
Activities	Workshop I (in Denmark): exchange of research experience and decision on the potential contents of review articles. The authors for each review will be selected.
Target group	Researchers and the general public via AMAP assessments and TACP.
Participating Nordic Countries	Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Greenland and Faroe Islands.
Participating countries in the Arctic	Norway, Sweden, Faroe Islands and Greenland.
Other countries	Germany, Canada and USA.
Denmark	Senior scientist cand. scient. Rune Dietz, Department of Arctic Environment, National Environmental Research Institute, Roskilde (project co-ordinator) Researcher Christian Sonne PhD, Department of Arctic Environment, National Environmental Research Institute, Roskilde (project secretary) Professor dr.med. Philippe Grandjean, Department of Occupational Medicine, University of Southern Denmark, Odense Dr. med. Lars Hyldstrup MD, University Hospital of Hvidovre, Hvidovre Associate professor Páll Skuli Leifsson PhD, Department of Pathobiology, The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University of Denmark, Copenhagen Professor Dr. med. vet. Asger Lundorf, Department of Clinical Sciences, The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University of Denmark, Copenhagen Dr. med. Jens C. Hansen MD, Centre of Arctic Occupational Medicine, Århus University, Århus
Norway	Professor dr. scient. Bjørn Munro Jenssen, Institute of Biology, NTNU, Trondheim Associate professor Even Jørgensen PhD, Department of Fisheries, University of Tromsø, Tromsø Researcher dr. scient. Geir Wing Gabrielsen, NPI, Tromsø Professor dr. med. vet. Hans Jørgen Larsen, Veterinary Institute, University of Oslo, Oslo Researcher Elisabeth Lie PhD, Veterinary Institute, University of Oslo, Oslo Researcher Øystein Ahlstrøm, Institute of Basic Animal and Aqua Science, Agricultural University of Norway, Ås.
Sweden	Cynthia deWit & Mats Olsson, Institute of Environmental Science, University of Stockholm, Stockholm BrittMarie Bäcklin & Anna Roos, Natural History Museum of Stockholm, Stockholm
Greenland	Senior scientist dr. scient. Erik W. Born, Greenland Institute of Natural Resources, Nuuk Dr. med. Gert Mulvad MD, Greenland Health Science, Nuuk
Faroe Islands	Pal Weihe MD, Faroe Islands Health Science, Tórshavn
Germany	Ursula Siebert PhD DVM, FTZ-Büsum der Universität Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein Sonja Fonfara DVM, FTZ-Büsum der Universität Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein
Canada	Associate professor Robert Letcher PhD, Carleton University, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada
USA	Associate Professor Todd O'Hara PhD DVM, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska
Total budget DKK	804.494
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	205.000
Responsible sector / Department	National Environmental Research Institute, Department of Arctic Environment (NERI-DAE), Senior Scientist Rune Dietz.
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	NERI-DAE.
Duration of project	2006

Project title: Ground-based Optical Auroral Research in the Arctic Region

Objective	To strengthen the collaboration between research groups in the European Arctic region working in optical auroral research, and to conduct high quality scientific work in this field.
Activities	1. Conduct dedicated workshops for scientists and PhD students. 2. Conduct a mobility programme, enabling each participating group to send and to receive at least one person per year. 3. Organize a common PhD course. 4. Provide stipends for Russian scientists to attend the Optical Meeting in Kiruna 2006.
Target group	Scientists and research students from all research groups in the European Arctic engaged in optical auroral research
Participating Nordic Countries	Finland, Norway, Russia, Sweden
Participating countries in the Arctic	Finland, Norway including Svalbard, Russia, Sweden
Co-operation partners	Dag Lorenzen, University Centre on Svalbard Fred Sigernes, University Centre on Svalbard Asgeir Brekke, University of Tromsø, Norway Björn Gustafsson, University of Tromsø, Norway Mårten Blixt, University of Tromsø, Norway Kari Kaila, University of Oulu, Finland Anita Aikio, University of Oulu, Finland Esa Turunen, Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory, Finland Vladimir Safargaleev, Polar Geophysical Institute, Apatity, Russia Urban Brändström, Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Sweden Tima Sergienko, Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Sweden Ingrid Sandahl, Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Sweden Masatoshi Yamauchi, Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Sweden
Total budget DKK	4.287.000
Arctic Areas funds 2006 DKK	355.000
Sector funds 2006 DKK	600.000
Responsible sector / Department	Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Kiruna, Sweden
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Kiruna, Sweden
Duration of project	1 February 2006 – 31 December 2008

Project title: Increased Shipping and Related Risks in Norwegian and Russian Arctic Seas.

Objective	The project is part of the Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA) launched by the Arctic Council under PAME. The project concentrates on the current and future shipping activities in the Norwegian and Russian Arctic Sea areas. The research work within this project produces information on the Arctic shipping volumes today and in the future. The work is done jointly with other countries working on AMSA. The main goals are to produce estimates of future shipping volumes, taking into account both anticipated economic development and impact of ACIA findings. The end results will be estimated volumes, accident probabilities and risks.	
Activities	Report.	
Participating Nordic Countries	Finland, Norway	
Participating countries in the Arctic	Russia	
Total budget (2006-2008) DKK		8.461.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK		555.000
External funds DKK		1.822.000
Responsible sector / Department	Arctic	
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock, nb@norden.org	
Administrative body	Deltamarin Ltd, Helsinki	
Duration of project	31 December 2008	

Project title: KINNVIKA: Change and Variability of the Arctic System – Nordaustlandet, Svalbard

Objective	The main funding application is to implement a multidisciplinary research campaign in Nordaustlandet, Svalbard, by using the old International Polar Year 1957/58 Kinnvika base during the coming International Polar Year 2007/09, in order to better understand the sustainability and the variability of the Arctic systems.
Activities	Scientific work, its logistical support and outreach to the broad public.
Participating Nordic Countries	The main target group is scientists and international scientific forums during the International Polar Year. The project pays special attention to information dissemination to a broad public both within and outside the Arctic (documentary film to TV and movie distribution) as well as teachers, students and pupils in the home countries of the scientists (popularized interactive websites, exhibition, activities).
Participating countries in the Arctic	Finland, Norway, Sweden, (Iceland and Denmark).
Other countries	Poland, Germany, France, Russia, Canada, USA, Estonia, Switzerland
Co-operation partners	Nordic Steering Group 30 March 2006: Uppsala University, Sweden Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland Barents Institute, Norway University of Oslo, Norway University of Copenhagen, Denmark University of Iceland
Total budget (2006–2008)	The scientific budget (value of several million euros) is covered separately by participating scientific projects. The applied budget for logistics and outreach is: 2006: 152,000 euros; 2007: 398,000 euros; 2008: 217,000 euros
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	655.000
External funds DKK	The project will apply for complementary funding from EU Interreg funds as well as national support either through funding or allocation of resources (logistical support).
Responsible sector/ Department	Project Leader: Veijo Pohjola, University of Uppsala (www.uu.se) Project Vice Leader: Paula Kankaanpää, University of Lapland, Arctic Centre (www.arcticcentre.org)
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	University of Uppsala 25 % of the costs University of Lapland 75 % of the costs
Duration of project	The funding has been underway with this application in 2006. The project will also use funding in the 2007 and 2008

Project title: Living Conditions in the Arctic: Inuit, Sámi and Indigenous Peoples in Chukotka (and the Kola Peninsula).

Objective	To develop a new research design for comparative studies of the Inuit and Sámi populations' living conditions in the Arctic, to set up a new set of indicators for the living conditions that reflects the population's specific lifestyle and welfare priorities, and to do dynamic social analyses on the connection between different political, economical, cultural and technological systems and individual behaviour.
Activities	Data collection, analyses and reports.
Target group	The population in the affected areas, decision-makers, researchers.
Participating Nordic Countries	Finland, Norway, Sweden and Greenland.
Participating countries in the Arctic	Northwest Russia
Co-operation partners	SLiCA, National Science Foundation, The Research Council of Norway
Total budget DKK	1.851.292
Adjacent Areas funds 2004 DKK	555.000
External funds	1.296.292
Responsible sector / Department	Arctic
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock, nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Ilisimatusarfik, University of Greenland
Duration of project	31 December 2007

Project title: The Pasvik Programme - Development and Implementation of an Integrated Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme in the Joint Finnish, Norwegian and Russian Border Area.

Objective	The long-term objective of the project is to ensure that all environmental measurements in the area are of a consistent standard. They must also be comparable and available to the local inhabitants, authorities and experts in all three countries. Aims of the project: - To increase co-operation between environmental authorities and research institutions in the area - To ensure that environmental monitoring methods in all three countries are comparable - To develop and implement a common long-term monitoring system
Activities	1. Establishment of a common network for environmental monitoring in the border area 2. Comparison of national environmental monitoring and evaluation methods 3. Collection of data about the state of the environment 4. Creation of a joint monitoring database 5. Harmonisation and implementation of a long-term environmental monitoring and assessment programme based on the information and experience gained during the project
Target group	The immediate target group of the project includes the environmental authorities and researchers working in the border area between Finland, Norway and Russia. Political decision makers, people who obtain their livelihood through the exploitation of natural resources in the region, and all of the local inhabitants will also gain considerable indirect benefit.
Participating Nordic Countries	Norway and Finland
Participating countries in the Arctic	Russia
Co-operation partners	Finnmark County Governor, Lapland Regional Environment Centre (LREC), Murmansk Department for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (GIDROMET), Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), Geological Survey of Norway (NGU), Norwegian Institute of Water Research (NIVA & Ap NIVA), Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), Norwegian College of Fisheries Science (NCFS), Univ. of Tromsø, Norwegian Forest Research Institute (Skogforsk), Svanhovd Environment Centre, Finnish Forest Research Institute (MET-LA), Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (RKTL), Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finnish Geological Survey, Institute of North Industrial Ecology Problems, KSC RAS (INEP), FSI Specialized Analytical Control Department, Murmansk Filial, Pasvik Nature Reserve.
Total budget DKK	11.961.533
Arctic funds 2006 DKK	55.000
Responsible sector / Department	Environment
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Office of the Finnmark County Governor, Dept. of Environmental Affairs
Duration of project	July 2003 – December 2006

Project title: Snow and Ice Traditional Knowledge and Geophysical Measurements

Objective	To enrich the knowledge of researchers and local people of the North on past, present and any future changes in snow and ice conditions and their consequences, to enhance our combined observations of these changes, and to make scientific observations and projections of changes more relevant to those whom they will most affect.
Activities	Field study methodological workshop in Abisko and the Sami villages Laevas, Gabna, Talma and Saarivuoma 18–20 April 2006. -contact group meetings / study tours/seminars -Research planning land main project application for FORMAS, NFR and the Space Centres of Sweden and Norway, possibly Finnish bodies.
Target group	A thematic pioneer and pre-project directly useful for all Nordic countries with a Sami population. Also relevant for the whole circumpolar area.
Participating Nordic Countries	Norway, Sweden, Finland
Participating countries in the Arctic	
Co-operation partners	Nordic Sami Institute Abisko Scientific Station University of Uppsala University of Lapland, Rovaniemi Esrange, Kiruna Sami Villages, so far: Gabna and Saarivuoma
Total budget DKK	444,000
Adjacent areas funds 2006 DKK	305,000
Sector funds	DKK 97,000 internal funding NSI (NOK 100,000) DKK 42,000 – internal funding ASS (SEK 50,000)
Responsible sector / Department	Arctic
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock, nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Nordic Sami Institute
Duration of project	2006

Project title: Support for the Preparation of AMAP's Assessment Reports on Oil and Gas in the Arctic and On Acidification and Arctic Haze, to be presented at the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting In 2006

Objective	AMAP will present two reports on the level of pollution in the most northerly parts of the Nordic region, Russia, Canada and USA. One of the reports is on oil and gas activity in the north, and the other on acidification and Arctic haze. The reports will contain documentation on developing trends and effects on the Arctic eco- system and the population, and the one on oil will also include economic aspects.
Activities	Present reported data in attractive reports, distribute.
Target group	Ministers and decision-makers in the eight Arctic countries, local population and international organisations involved in environment regulations, such as the EU, UN-ECE, UNEP and OSPAR.
Participating Nordic Countries	Data for the reports are delivered from experts from all Nordic countries.
Co-operation partners	(AMAP works closely with OSPAR on oil and gas questions)
Total budget DKK	3.240.000
Adjacent areas funds 2006 DKK	547.000
External funds	1.240.000
Responsible sector/ Department	Arctic
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock, nb@norden.org
Administrative body	AMAP, Norway
Duration of project	31 December 2006

Project title: Sustainable Energy Supply in the West Nordic/Arctic region (V-N-project phase III)

Objective	To contribute to increased use of renewable energy resources in decentralised plants in the scarcely inhabited areas in the West Nordic region
Activities	Continuation of concrete actions following on from the results of the project "Muligheder for fornybare energisystemer og hydrogenteknologi i Vestnorden – Energiplanlægning og systemstudier" ("Opportunities for renewable energy systems and hydrogen technology in the West Nordic Region – Energy planning and system studies") (V-N-project phase I-II, 2004–2006) in Nolsøy in the Faroe Islands (implementation of wind measurements, system and feasibility analysis, planning of demonstration plant etc.) in Nanortalik in Greenland (preparations for wind measurements, system and efficiency analysis, planning of continuation) information dissemination, reporting
Target group	Energy sector in the West Nordic/Arctic region, especially in the Faroe Islands and Greenland but also in other scarcely inhabited areas
Participating Nordic Countries	Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland), Finland (Åland), Iceland, Norway and Sweden
Participating countries in the Arctic region	Faroe Islands, Greenland and Iceland
Co-operation partners	ECON Analyse/Denmark and IFE/Norway plus local players in Faroe Islands and Greenland
Total budget (phase III)	
DKK	850,000
Arctic Areas funds 2006	
DKK	200,000
Sector funds	DKK 200,000 from 2006 budget of NCM's Committee of Senior Officials
External funds	DKK 200,000 from Nordic Energy Research, DKK 25,000 from ECON Analyse and DKK 25,000 from IFE, plus DKK 100,000 as "local in kind" input from the Faroe Islands and Greenland
Responsible sector/Department	VV, Energy
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Naomi Pagh Abudi npa@norden.org
Administrative body	Nordic Energy Research
Duration of project	June 2006 - June 2007

Project title: UArctic Thematic Network on Global Change in the Arctic

Objective	The objective of the project is to develop the first phase in a new curriculum on Global Change, based on the findings of ACIA in areas of weakness identified by the project participants. It strengthens networking and co-operation in education by building up the University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Global Change in the Arctic.
Activities	Project was begun in February-April 2006 with the web survey and questioning of existing global change courses in the curriculum of UArctic member institutions, resulting in an overview of Global Change courses in UArctic's member institutions and a listing of these courses in UArctic's online course catalogue: http://uarctic.org/sustainable . The results of the web survey will be presented and analysed to identify the gaps in education in a project workshop 30–31 May 2006 in Rovaniemi, Finland. The workshop will produce short concepts of the identified course curriculum development needs. The workshop will be followed by an open call to UArctic members in Summer/Autumn 2006, where they are invited to identify teams for the completion of the course proposals. Circumpolar teams of experts are hired from UArctic's membership to develop first phase curriculum on Global Change, based on the findings of ACIA, in areas of the identified weaknesses. The curriculum development starts by September 2006, and is completed by May 2007. The project partners review and approve the new curriculum by the end of August 2007; the curriculum is ready for classroom pilot delivery from autumn 2007 to spring 2008.
Target group	University of the Arctic member organisations, especially students
Participating Nordic Countries	Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark (incl. Greenland)
Participating countries in the Arctic region	Russia
Other countries	Canada, USA
Co-operation partners	Lars Kullerud, UArctic Director, UNEP Grid-Arendal, Norway; Outi Snellman, UArctic International Secretariat, University of Lapland, Finland; John Moore, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland; Bruce Forbes, University of Lapland, Finland; Kari Strand, University of Oulu, Finland; Arja Rautio, University of Oulu, Finland; Atte Korhola, University of Helsinki, Finland; Grete Hovelsrud-Broda, Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research, CICERO, Oslo, Norway; Geir Gotaas, University of Tromsø, Norway; Else Grete Broderstad, Sámi Centre, University of Tromsø, Norway; Jan Idar Solbakken, Sámi University College, Norway; Svein Mathiesen, Sámi University College, Norway; Eystein Markusson, University Centre in Svalbard, UNIS, Norway; Terry Callaghan, Abisko Research Station, Sweden; Peter Sköld, Umeå University, Sweden; Åke Bjørke, Global Virtual University/United Nations University, Norway; Birger Poppel, University of Greenland, Greenland; Yvon Csonka, IASSA Secretariat, Greenland; Rasmus Rasmussen, University of Roskilde, Denmark; Rune Sverre Fjelleheim, Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat (IPS), Denmark; Robert Corell, ACIA Chair, Cindy Dickson Arctic Athabaskan Council, Mark Nuttall University of Alberta, Canada; Greg Poelzer, University of Saskatchewan, University of the Arctic Undergraduate Office, Saskatoon, Canada; Rick Caulfield, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, USA; Larissa Riabova, Kola Science Centre RAS, Russia
Total budget (2006–2008) DKK	3,830,000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	500.000
External funds (2006–2008) DKK	2,330,000
Responsible sector/Department	Thule Institute, University of Oulu, Finland
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Nikolaj Bock nb@norden.org
Administrative body	Project leader Kari Laine, co-ordinator Kirsi Latola and steering group, which will be finally decided in a project workshop in May 30–31, 2006
Duration of project	2006–2008

Project title: Women and Resource Management in the Rural North

Objective	Investigating women's participation in different natural resource-based sectors in the rural Arctic, with a view to establishing the social dimension of sustainable development. Women's participation is a measure of stakeholder involvement and the degree to which rural societies benefit from different systems of production.
Activities	Fieldwork, interviews, workshops, reporting and society feedback.
Target group	Policy-makers; local, regional and national administration; media and local communities.
Participating Nordic Countries	Norway (lead), Sweden, Iceland, Greenland, Faroe Islands.
Other countries	Canada
Total budget DKK	2.940.000
Adjacent Areas funds 2006 DKK	405.000
Responsible sector/ Department	Social and health care
Responsible consultant in the NCM	Senior Adviser Rebecka Wallin Kucer, rew@norden.org
Administrative body	The Northern Feminist University, N-8286 Nordfold, Norway
Duration of project	2005–2006
