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Nordic Council of Ministers

Store Strandstræde 18
DK-1255 Copenhagen K
www.norden.org



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The Knowledge Building and Networking Programme

for co-operation with
North-West Russia

The Nordic Council of Ministers'

Knowledge Building and Networking Programme for co-operation with North-West Russia focuses on promoting exchanges of knowledge, experience and skills, as well as creating networks between the Nordic countries and North-West Russia.

The programme aims to provide seed money and initiate activities that will lead to sustainable, long-term partnerships between Nordic and Russian organisations.

The Nordic Council of Ministers' guidelines for co-operation with North-West Russia have been renewed and extended until the end of 2013. The 2010 budget for the programme is just over DKK 17 million.

The Knowledge Building and Networking Programme has been running since January 2007.

The majority of Nordic projects and other initiatives related to Russia are organised by the information offices of the Nordic Council of Ministers in Saint Petersburg and Kaliningrad.

You are invited to visit their websites at:

www.norden.ru

www.norden39.ru



The Knowledge Building and Networking Programme

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Programme structure

The programme supports co-operation activities in the following five programme areas:

- Public administration
- Education, training and research
- Business
- Civic society
- Work experience in Nordic Institutions

Within these programme areas, the Ministers for Nordic Co-operation have given priority to 14 focus areas in April 2009:

Public administration

- Local government
- Social and health issues, particularly combating human trafficking and the spread of HIV/AIDS
- The climate, environment and energy
- The legal system

Education, training and research

- Research co-operation
- Co-operation on education and training



Business

- Improving capacity to develop SMEs
- Co-operation to promote economic co-operation and trade
- Innovation and the creative industries

Civic society

- Co-operation between journalists and media
- Cultural co-operation
- Parliamentary co-operation
- NGO co-operation

Work experience

- Internships in Nordic institutions

Selecting partners

The basic principle is that all projects will be developed in a top-down consultation process that involves the partners and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Each project must involve at least one partner from North-West Russia and two from different Nordic countries.



Expressions of interest

The programme is not an application programme. Support is allocated in line with the priorities identified by the Ministers for Nordic Co-operation.

The point of departure is a partnership of co-operation on equal footing, and each party covers its own costs. There shall be a minimum 30% joint funding of activities, though not in relation to initiatives to strengthen civil society.

Expressions of interest can be based on existing networks, in order to open them up to wider participation, or on areas where potential for new networks has been identified. Multi-sectoral projects that transcend the priority areas are particularly welcome.

Expressions of interest are processed as they are received.

Authorities, organisations, universities, et cetera from North-West Russia and the Nordic Region are invited to express interest in working together on one or more of the priorities.

