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Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Council of Ministers Support to NGO cooperation

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Ministers office in Lithuania

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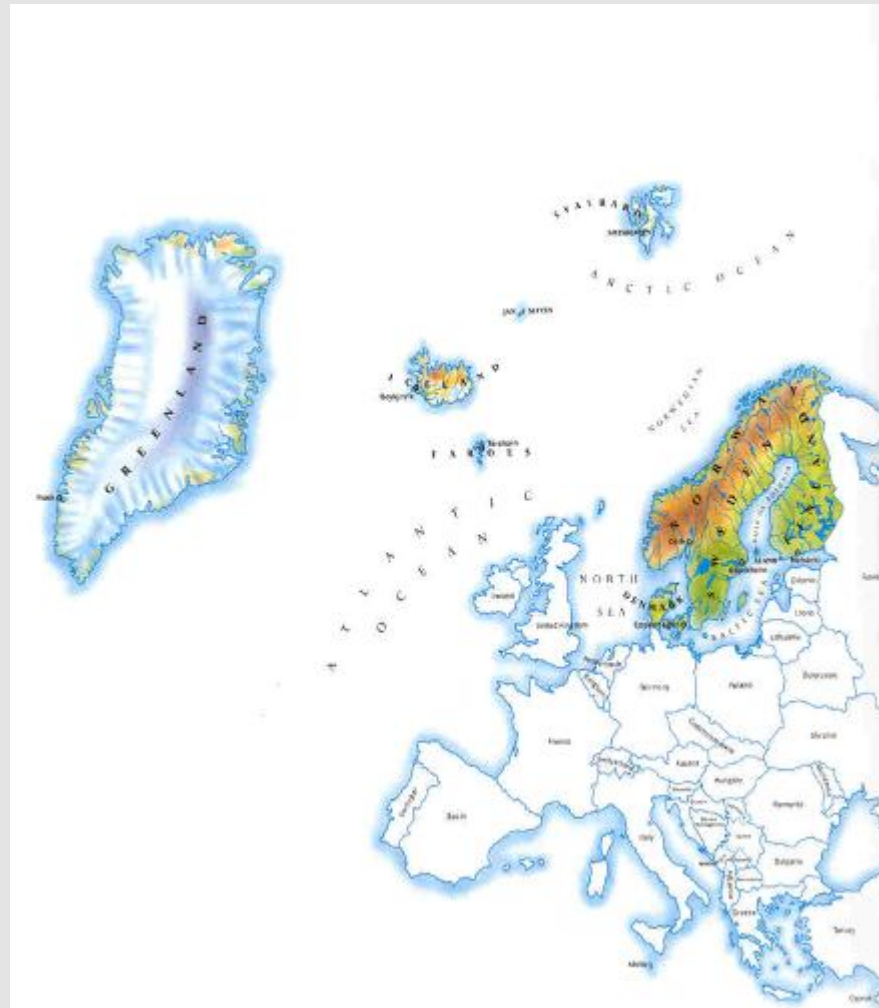
- Nordic Region and Cooperation
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What is the Nordic Region?



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Five countries:

- Denmark
- Finland
- Iceland
- Norway
- Sweden

And three autonomous territories:

- The Faroe Islands
- Greenland
- Åland

Eight time zones

Approx. 25 million people (2007)

The Nordic Council

The Nordic Council of Ministers



Official Nordic co-operation is channelled through 2 organisations:

- **The Nordic Council** (1952) is the forum for Nordic parliamentary co-operation
- **The Nordic Council of Ministers** (1971) the forum for Nordic governmental co-operation
- The Prime Ministers have the overall responsibility for Nordic co-operation
- The Ministers for Co-operation (MR-SAM) co-ordinate the work, with the help of civil servants on the Nordic Committee for Co-operation (NSK)
- The Presidency rotates annually between the five Nordic countries

The Council of Ministers' job is to...



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- make sure that the Nordic countries work together to provide added value. The work of the Council of Ministers must generate *Nordic synergy*
- work with neighbouring regions and increase Nordic influence in Europe
- commit to issues where individual states, other international organisations or other stakeholders do not exert sufficient influence to achieve important results



International partners/networks



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- NCM has a special interest in developing certain key areas
 - Education, research and innovation
 - Business, cluster networks and creative industries
 - Environment, climate and energy and sustainable development (promotion of effective environmental technologies and sustainable sources of energy)
 - Combatting trafficking in human beings and spread of HIV/AIDS, other challenges
 - NGO cooperation to promote joint fundamental values in the societies, such as democracy, good governance, equality and inclusion, freedom of speech and tolerance in the neighbouring countries, including Belarus
- Cultural activities for promotion of intercultural understanding
- Gender equality principles are central and will continue to be integrated into the cooperation

Norwegian Presidency of the NCM in 2012



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Norway leads co-operation in the NCM in 2012 and the overall theme is “**The welfare state in a Nordic perspective**”.

3 priorities:

- Work and Sustainable Welfare (inclusion into the labour market, quality health and social services, Nordic food, quality of life)
- Green growth (climate, research, education/training and innovation, creative Nordic region)
- Nordic affinity (language, equality, freedom of movement)



Support Programme for NGO Cooperation among the Nordic and Baltic Countries (since 2006)



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Deadline for submission of project ideas: 2012 March 1st

Budget DKK 1 million (463,000 LTL) for all three Baltic countries,
DKK 333,000 (153 000 LTL) to each Baltic country

NGOs are now invited to apply for **funding for one year's activities**

Partners from 3 or more countries in the Nordic-Baltic region

The project introduces good governance practices, efficient tested solutions of in areas of public interest which create the added value for the societies in the region, enhances the capacity of NGOs and builds their expertise by sharing experience and knowledge with the Nordic partners

Priorities: Climate change; Sustainable development; Environment;

Project activities should be in line with the documents: [Guidelines](#)

[2009-2013 for the NCM cooperation with EST, LV, LT](#); [Cooperation programme for Gender Equality 2011-2014](#), [NCM Strategy for Sustainable development](#), the [Norwegian Chairmanship programme](#)

Support Programme for NGO Cooperation among the Nordic and Baltic Countries (since 2006)



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Grant per application: from 30,000 up to DKK 100,000

Success rate: 50% in 2011

2006-2011, total received 65, 29 funded. The list is published on the website.

Processing of applications: evaluation of project ideas until 1 April, 2012

Selected projects developed further by taking into consideration recommended improvements until 1 May, 2012

Planned start of the activities: end of May 2012

Programme coordinator:

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Programme for Non-governmental Organizations in the Baltic Sea Region



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Deadline for submission of applications: 27 April, 2012

Budget: DKK 4 million

Grant per application: vary in size, but not exceed DKK 500.000

Duration of activities: one year or more

Planned start of the activities: September 2012

59 granted, the list is published on the website.

Attached documents by email: application form, detailed timetable, detailed budget, letters of commitment from partners, status/final report if NCM grant received previously

The project contributes to **the development of civic society in Russia and/or Belarus**

Programme for Non-governmental Organizations in the Baltic Sea Region



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Project activities should be in line with the documents: Guidelines 2009-2013 for the NCM cooperation with EST, LV, LT, Russia and Belarus; Cooperation programme for Gender Equality 2011-2014

Should be stated if the project is related to UN, EU, CBSS, BEAC, AC or Baltic Sea Strategy, Northern Dimension Partnership Policy Framework

The coordinator of the programme:

Fredric Larsson

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The eligibility criterias



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- The application form and budget submitted in due time and completed in accordance with instructions, corresponding annexes and supporting documents attached.
- The applicant and relevant partners are NGOs, defined as a non-profit, publicly anchored, civic organisations, that are neither owned nor controlled by public authorities, nor by private companies, and which have an open and democratic structure.
- The duration of the project must be clearly indicated.
- The proposal include at least one partner in the Nordic Region, one partner from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania or Poland and one partner from North-West Russia or Belarus.
- The objectives correspond to those stipulated in NCM guidelines for cooperation with NW Russia and the Baltic countries
- The project take cognisance of the gender and quality perspective.

The **selection criterias** used to rank **eligible** proposals:



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- **Relevance to the NMR NGO programme and its specific priorities**
 - **Clear description of the problem to be addressed and its relevance to the programme, the objectives and their relevance to the programme objectives, including relevance for civil society in Russia and Belarus as well as capacity building and networking.**
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- **Consistency of the proposal**
 - **Coherence between problem(s), objective(s), activity(ies) and result(s)**
 - **Coherence between financial resources and activities**
- **Quality of approach and Sustainability**
 - **Coherence between the planned project results and proposed methodology**
 - **Clear division of tasks and responsibilities**
 - **Realistic timetable**
 - **Description of the sustainability of project results**
 - **Description of follow-up activities**

The **selection criterias** used to rank **eligible** proposals:



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- **Applicant/partners**
 - **Experience of lead agency in project and financial management**
 - **Experience of partners**
 - **Proposals including more than three partners and partners from more than one Nordic country.**
 - **Coherence between the project objectives and partnerships**
 - **Level of involvement of all partners**
 - **Cooperation with authorities**
 - **Level of co-financing as well as partner co-financing**
 - **One or more partners from the eligible countries have been actively involved in the development process.**
- **Quality of result**
 - **Expected results are concrete with verifiable indicators attached.**
 - **Cost-efficiency, including consideration of overhead and co-funding**
 - **NMR/Nordic visibility**
- **Special considerations**

Contact Information



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