

Fact Sheet

ENPI CBC Kolarctic Programme

TOTAL ALLOCATION (2007-2013):
28.241 million EUR

ELIGIBLE REGIONS:

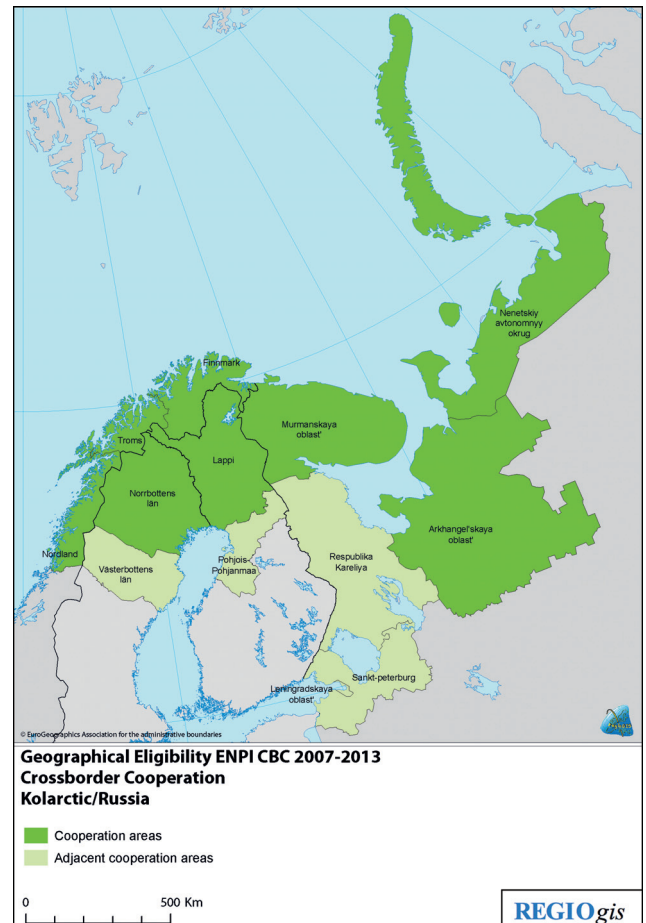
Finland: Lapland; adjoining areas: Oulu Region

Sweden: Norrbotten; adjoining areas: Västerbotten

Norway: Finnmark, Troms, Nordland

Russia: Murmansk, Archangelsk, Nenets; adjoining areas: Republic of Karelia, Leningrad Oblast

The strategic objective of the programme is to reduce the periphery of the countries' border regions and problems related to the periphery, as well as to promote multilateral cross-border cooperation. The Programme aims to help the regions within the Programme area to develop their cross-border economic, social and environmental potential, which shall be achieved by supporting innovative cross-border activities, accessibility, and the sustainable development of natural resources, communities and cultural heritage.



Source: European Commission

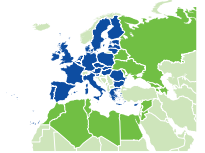
PRIORITIES:

1. Economic and social development.

The importance of promoting economic and social development derives from several issues, the most imperative of which is the growing joint business cooperation between the countries in the Programme area that is generating many challenges and both positive and negative social issues that have to be dealt with. Each activity has to guarantee sustainable economic, social and ecologic development in the Programme area, which can be achieved by focusing on the specific needs of the participating regions.

2. Common challenges.

The common challenges of the Programme area include issues that may affect a major number of people simultaneously. These challenges concern health, security, accidents, environmental risks, and management and border issues. The feeling of basic security is a precondition for successful cooperation, and a stable and safe environment is a major factor that attracts investments and skilled labour to the Programme area.



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3. People-to-people cooperation and identity building.

The Programme provides an opportunity to strengthen people-to-people and civil society contact at the local level. Actions in the educational and cultural fields as well as enhanced cross-border contacts between civil society groups and NGOs also aim at promoting local governance and mutual understanding. Networking in different fields of art, improving people's knowledge of history and cultural heritage and people-to-people cooperation in other fields of activity aims at creating direct links between citizens, educational and research institutions, societies, foundations and communities in order to promote understanding, share know-how and develop new solutions to common problems. The institutionalisation of international cultural cooperation would, to a higher degree, ensure stable and long-term structures of cooperation.

STATE OF PLAY:

The programme was submitted to the Commission end of June 2008. A Commission decision is expected to be taken before the end of 2008 pending the final approval of the programme document by the partner country. Thereafter a call for proposals will be launched by the Joint Managing Authority. The first projects are expected to start in 2009 provided the partner country has signed the Financing Agreement.

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