



**Northern
Periphery
Programme**

2007–2013

Innovatively investing
in Europe's Northern
Periphery for a sustainable
and prosperous future



Pre-Announcement Strategic Project Call

The Strategic Project Call will run from the **14th of January** to the **21st of March 2011**. This pre-announcement describes the nature of the call, the Terms of Reference and details to keep in mind when developing proposals. The official announcement will follow on 14th of January 2011 together with the application package.

The NPP 2007-2013 is looking for 4 additional strategic projects within the following three themes:

Priority 1

- Renewable energy solutions adapted for remote areas and to the scale of sparsely populated areas
- Responding to climatic change in the Northern Periphery

Priority 2

- Rural health services in the Northern Periphery Programme area

All three themes are supported by specifications of their Terms of Reference in annexes.

There will be a competition about the funding. However, the target is to approve three Priority 1 projects and one Priority 2 project.

During the first week in January, an additional background document will be provided on the NPP website, further explaining the Terms of Reference.

On the 14th of January, the Strategic Project Call will be formally launched, together with the application pack. However, the Programme Secretariat encourages partnerships to start discussing their proposals already in connection to this pre-announcement.

Note that strategic project ideas will have to be disseminated through the Programme Secretariat to ensure strong transparency and openness, in addition to ensuring a wide participation. Templates for this activity will be distributed early January 2011.

For additional information about upcoming strategic project activities, please read next steps below and register on the NPP website to subscribe to the news alert system.



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

Strategic projects are expected to demonstrate their strategic capacity by presenting high standards regarding the following attributes:

- Have a relevance to the identified strategic topic.
- Be relevant for the whole of northern periphery area and where possible demonstrate activities that will take place in and be available to all regions.
- Have a focus on objectives, proposed activities and intended activities that lead to the development of existing and new products and/or services
- The products and/or services need to clearly demonstrate an influence on local, regional, national and EU policies
- The products and/or services should attract follow-up activities after the project's completion
- The products and/or services created should be “open sourced”
- Display a good vertical representation of stakeholders, end beneficiaries, intermediary bodies and different administrative levels of governance in the project partnership.
- Build on the results of existing approved NPP projects while distinguishing itself in terms of “added value” of the implemented actions and a broad scope of the partnership

In addition, strategic projects are expected to meet the requirements that apply to main projects as outlined in the Programme Manual, Part 1: How to Apply. In the Programme Manual you can also find further information about strategic projects and selection criteria.

Next steps

- In early January 2011, the Programme Secretariat will prepare a document concluding on PMC's justification for the strategic call and the Terms of Reference.
- On 14th of January 2011, the Terms of Reference for the Call for Strategic Projects will be formally launched.
- Project idea developers will be requested to submit their ideas on a “Strategic project idea template” by 31st of January 2011.
- All submitted project ideas will be widely disseminated as a newsletter with the title of “Strategic projects under development” from 4th of February 2010. It should be noted that all strategic project ideas are being assessed to ensure that the project ideas have the potential, and have enough substance to be developed into a strategic project.
- On 14th and 15th February, a Strategic Project Development Clinic will be held for strategic project applicants.
- On 16th February, a “How to apply” seminar for strategic project applicants will be held in Copenhagen.
- The deadline of the Call for Strategic Projects is **21st March 2011**.



We recommend all project applicants to schedule these activities since it is expected that development of these strategic projects will be done in interaction with the Secretariat.

Strategic project funding

The Programme Monitoring Committee agreed on a total budget cap for Member State Partners in strategic projects of 1.8 MEUR per project in Priority 1 and Priority 2.

A Strategic Project partnership is still recommended to apply for as much funding they need to realize their proposal, but not more than 3 MEUR, and consider a 2-2.5 year bid with a reduced total budget.

Strategic projects can apply for an intervention rate of up to 75% for Member States. For Non Member States a grant rate of up to 50% is applied. However, for Greenlandic partners a grant rate of up to 60% applies.

Application Pack

The Application Pack for the Strategic Project Call will be published on the NPP website from 14th of January 2011.

The pack will consist of 3 main documents, all of which should be downloaded and read carefully:

- Application Form: Parts 1-2 in Word format and Part 3 in Excel format
- Application Instructions
- Programme Manual: Part 1 How to Apply and Part 4 Common Eligibility Rules

In addition, a strategic project idea template will be published in early January together with the background document on the Terms of Reference.

Decisions

Decisions on all strategic project applications submitted to the Strategic Project Call will be made at the Programme Monitoring Committee meeting in June 2011.

How to Apply Seminar

The Programme Secretariat is organising a How to Apply Seminar for the Strategic Project Call, to be held on 16th of February in Copenhagen, Denmark. The purpose of the event is to assist applicants in the development of a good quality strategic project application. For more information, please keep an eye on the programme website and/or contact the Programme Secretariat.

Please contact the Regional Contact Points or Northern Periphery Programme Secretariat for further guidance on the programme. Contact details are available on the NPP 2007-2013 website: www.northernperiphery.eu.

Important Dates

Call Opens: 14th of January 2011

Call Closes: 21st of March 2011

