



Arctic Award 2017

Guidance for Applicants

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1. Introduction

This is the 1st year in which a collaboration of transnational and crossborder Interreg programmes from the high north of Europe are to introduce an Arctic Award.

The objective of the Arctic Award is to identify good practice, promote Arctic cross- border collaboration, and raise awareness among projects of each other. The awards are to highlight innovative projects with a clear Arctic dimension, which are viewed as inspirational in their participating regions as well as being seen as creating real, measurable impacts on the ground, and being of direct benefit to Arctic Communities.

All finalists are invited to the Award Ceremony.

One main prize is awarded per category. This is a trophy and a certificate, which will be presented at the evening event of the NORD Programme Annual Conference 2017 in Luleå, Sweden. Publicity surrounding the Award, winners, and finalists can be used as open source promotion.



2. General Rules

2.1 Award Categories

Each year the Award categories will promote two categories. For the Arctic Award 2017 these are:

Cat.1 Overcoming critical mass

Cat. 2 Sustainable use of resources

2.2 Applicants

Projects funded by the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, Interreg Nord 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, Botnia-Atlantica 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, and Kolarctic CBC, 2007- 2013 & 2014-2020. Applications should be made by the project Lead Partner, on behalf of the partnership. Multiple Lead Partner applications are permissible, if the Lead Partner is responsible for a portfolio of funded projects.

2.3 How to Submit an Application Form

Applications should be submitted online via the application SurveyMonkey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/arcticawards2017>.

Applications will be examined by a jury representative of all the participating programmes. All applications must be submitted in English Language.

2.4 Deadline

Applications should be submitted online **no later than 23:59 Central European Time on 22nd September 2017**.

2.5 Contact Information

All enquires should primarily be sent to: rachel.burn@npa-interreg.eu

If the main contact person isn't available enquiries can also be sent to student@npa-interreg.eu

3. Eligibility Criteria

- a) The application has been submitted via Survey Monkey no later than 23:59 CET on 22nd September 2017
- b) The project has been co-financed under the European Regional Development Funds by the programmes: Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, Interreg Nord 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, Botnia-Atlantica 2007- 2013 & 2014- 2020, and Kolarctic CBC, 2007- 2013 & 2014-2020.
- c) Applications should be submitted by the Lead Partner on behalf of the project partnership.
- d) Applications must be submitted in English Language
- e) The project description must clearly be related to the selected category.
- f) The project is finalised or is sufficiently advanced (i.e. can demonstrate progress in the achievement of the original objectives in the projects participating programme partner areas.
- g) The submitted project should not be for profit, and all results (outputs/ products and services) must be open source.

4. Award Criteria

- a) **INNOVATION:** The character of the project is innovative; the innovation is novel for the Arctic.
- b) **IMPACT:** The project will make a real and tangible impact (or expected impact) to Arctic Development.
- c) **FOCUS:** The focus of the project is on topics of particular relevance to the Arctic area.
- d) **HORIZONTAL:** *Direct benefits for the people living in the Arctic regions*
 - *solutions tailored for an Arctic lifestyle*
 - *the project makes a special effort to involve people in the design of the solutions*
 - *the project demonstrates excellence in promoting its (expected) results to the relevant target audiences*
 - *the project successfully involves underrepresented groups (women, young people, indigenous peoples)*

5. Supporting Guidance on the Award Categories

5.1 CATEGORY 1: Overcoming critical mass.

- a. Distance spanning technology (eHealth, education, governmental services, culture, heritage and nature)
- b. Match making and clustering for SMEs in Arctic sectors (cross-sector collaboration and increasing connections, export/ export internationalization as well as business incubation,)
- c. Pooling resources to meet (external and internal) market demands (supply chain innovation, branding, combined portfolio of competences as well as strategic clustering initiatives)

Examples of supported initiatives:

- Development and transfer of concepts and models for the protection , promotion, and development of natural and cultural heritage in Arctic regions. Creating more dynamic opportunities for the installation of distance spanning technologies.
- Transfer and development of concepts for clustering and creating networks to meet a larger scale, more diverse/ and or complex demand for Arctic business need and opportunity.
- Transfer and development of models or solutions fitting for Arctic SMEs with shared needs in relation to accessing R & D in order to develop critical mass and support access to R & D links across regional and national areas.

5.2 CATEGORY 2: Sustainable use of resources.

- a. Clean technology for Arctic business sectors (forestry, mining, fisheries, and industry bi products), as well as capitalization on implemented innovative technologies in the Arctic.
- b. Energy and resource efficiency, recycling adapted for remote communities in a harsh climate
- c. Environmental protection designed for cold climates and Arctic economic developing and utilizing blue and green growth economy opportunities.

Examples of supported initiatives:

- Developing models to sustainably utilize by- products from economic activities as energy sources for Arctic communities.
- Promoting and facilitating the transfer and development of innovative energy efficiency concepts suitable for Arctic regions. Focus could also be placed on smart energy management concepts.
- Facilitating and developing delivery mechanisms supporting Arctic business investment in clean technology.
- Develop and transfer new organisational models, such as pooling of competences across regional and national borders, facilitating cross sector sustainable environmental management specific to the Arctic regions via efficiency methods as well as initiatives designed to protect the Environments in harsh or cold climates.

