

Interreg IVA North Programme – sub-programme Sápmi
(English translation of the brochure)

What is Sub-programme Sápmi?

Sub-programme Sápmi is part of the Interreg IVA North Programme that consists of two parts, North and Sub-programme Sápmi. Sub-programme Sápmi has its own steering committee and own programme secretariat, both situated at the Sami Parliament in Kiruna.

If you have an idea for a cross-border cooperation project, then we have 4.3 million euro in funding from the European Regional Development Fund to support projects over a seven-year period. Additional funding will be provided by Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian public financing. The total assets of the programme are 10.3 million euro. What is required is that you have a good, feasible idea and that you have a project partner in another country.

Sápmi and EU

The Sámi are the only recognized native people in Europe. It is a small population living in a large area stretching over several national borders. Therefore, monitoring and developing the Sámi culture requires conscious investments that build on cooperation.

Programme Area

The entire Sápmi region is included in the programme where even cooperation with the Sámi of the Kola Peninsula is possible, although with at the most 10% of the EU funding in the programme.

The Västernorrland County is a so-called adjacent area and collaboration is possible with the main area with up to 20% of the fund support.

The programme's main area is:

Sweden - Norrbotten County, Västerbotten County, Jämtland County and parts of Dalarna County (Idre Sámi village area).

Finland - Lapland, North Österbotten and Central Österbotten

Norway Finnmark, Troms, Nordland and Sørtrøndelag counties and part of Hedmark County municipality (Elgå reindeer herding district).

Purpose of the programme

The purpose of the programme is to further develop the Sámi culture and business sectors across national borders based on the ecological and sustainable use of resources and in that way achieve the following:

Increase variation of industry by strengthening traditional forms of trade and

industry and developing modern day Sami commercial activity.

Develop cooperation through interaction between both Sami and other actors on local, regional and central levels in order to coordinate resources and create lasting alliances.

Increase awareness of the Sami situation and conditions for survival in Sápmi and through this contribute to increasing the knowledge on the Sami people in the world around them.

Strengthen the Sami language.

Develop cross-border training, research and documentation in order to create a base for language, culture and industry.

Examples of projects

The programme can support projects that have for example the following activities:

- Stimulation of product, service and method development and marketing, through the creation of mutual forums for commercial entrepreneurs.
- Development of strategic environmental initiatives in line with the needs of the Sami people and Sami knowledge.
- Network-building measures which promote the Sami culture industry and Sami cultural activities.
- Thematic cooperation projects concerning e.g. environment, equality, traditional Sami know-how and matters pertaining to native peoples.
- Development of networks and cooperation between research institutes, schools, industry and industry organizations in line with the needs of the Sami people.
- Running of mutual training initiatives which relate to the Sami subject area.
- Initiatives for the promotion of development of the Sami language, e.g. joint learning aids, materials, courses, media sources, etc.
- Activities which attract Sami youth and which create meeting places e.g. youth seminars, youth events, network building, new IT, youth forums, etc.

Application

An Interreg project shall have partners from at least two different countries.

One of the parties shall be the main applicant who will assume formal responsibility for the project and come from an EU country.

Different actors can apply, for example Sámi business owners, Sámi village/reindeer herding districts, Sámi associations/clubs, organizations, institutions, authorities and other public authorities. Each project shall be jointly planned, carried-out and financed, contribute with personnel from the contributing countries with a common project management. EU support can be granted for at the most 65% of costs in Sweden and Finland. National public co-financing, 35%, must be applied for by the project. In Norway, the percentage between Norwegian state Interreg funds and Norwegian regional financing is 50-50.

How to apply

Read through “Guidelines and Information” and carefully fill in the application and all the attachments. Submit the application to the programme secretariat at the Sami Parliament in Kiruna.

More detailed information about the programme, programme documents, application documents, application dates can be found on the programme website www.interregnord.com. There you will also find a list of granted projects from the previous programme period 2000-2006.

Project selection

The project secretariat informs, gives the applicant advice and prepares the applications. The steering committee selects the projects. The Norrbotten County Administrative Board manages the programme and supplies the project with EU financing. The Monitoring Committee will ensure that the operative programme attains the set goals and that it is of satisfactory quality.

Preliminary studies

It is possible to apply for funds for preliminary studies/preparatory projects of simpler forms and then the EU support is at the most 10 000 euro.

Interested to know more?

Visit the programme website
www.interregnord.com

You can also contact:

Secretariat: Sami Parliament
Box 90, 981 22 Kiruna, Sweden
Tel +46(0)980 – 780 30