

# The Role Institutions of Higher Education Have in Helping Business Meet the Challenges in the Barents Region

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## Light from the North

- Barents region is abundant of natural resources, unique nature and cultural diversity
- Many issues in these sectors are increasing their relevance and importance
- Energy (fossil, renewable), minerals, timber, fish,...
- Arctic nature more attractive product for tourism
- There is great changes and challenges both globally and from European perspective

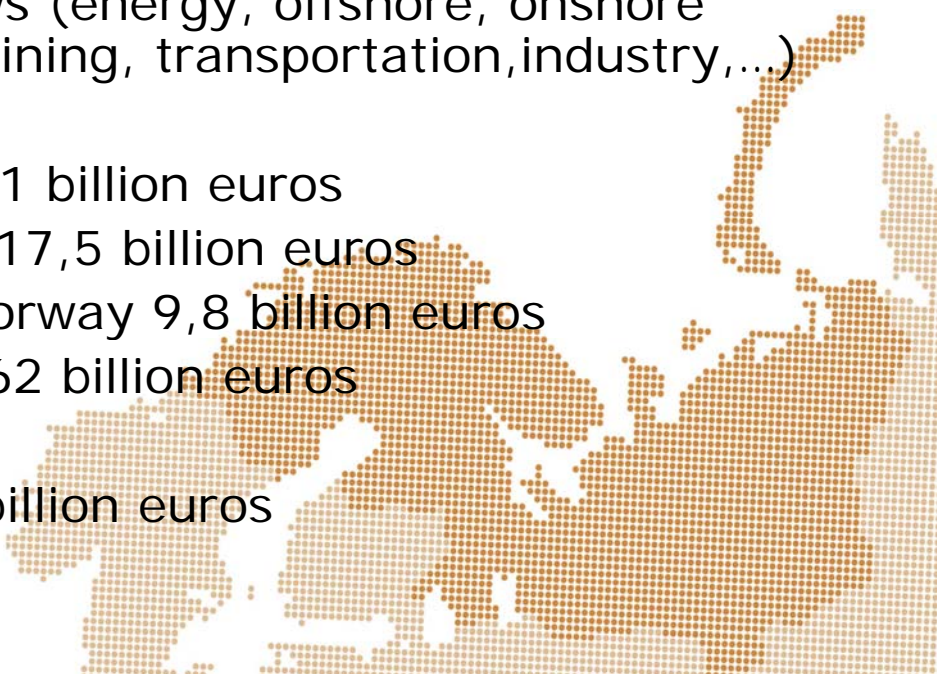
## Growth possibilities in all regions

- good thing is that future potentials covers the whole of Barents region
  - North West Russia – oil and gas, minerals, forestry, construction,...
  - North Sweden – minerals, commercial service (IKEA), cold climate testing, ...
  - North Finland – tourism, ict, cold climate testing, minerals,...
  - North Norway – oil and gas, fish,...
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## Strong investment activity after financial crisis during next years in Barents


- Lapland Chamber of Commerce has collected planned investments up to year 2020 in Barents region as follows (energy, offshore, onshore construction, mining, transportation, industry,...)
  - Lapland 12,1 billion euros
  - Norrbotten 17,5 billion euros
  - Northern-Norway 9,8 billion euros
  - Murmansk 62 billion euros

Together 101,1 billion euros





# Structures in chance

- globalisation has its impacts in Barents region
  - modern technology gives possibilities for industry and service sector
  - cold climate technology is a growth sector
  - settlement structure is more centralized (spacila planning, architecture)
  - population has been decreasing
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## Challencies for Barents region (1)

- creating a functional cooperation area is not an easy task
  - different languages and cultures in practicalities create obstacles
  - more bilateral than multilateral cooperation
  - Wide area with insufficient transport network is a problem
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## Challenges for Barents region (2)

- sustainable environmental development
  - possibilities for private sector as a stakeholder
  - the role of regional SMEs in development activities
  - to secure and develop the culture of indigenous people
  - development of social dimension
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## Roadmap ahead

- prioritize – focus
  - take use of strengtnesses - create special knowhow, Barents Centers of Expertice
  - sector programmes under implementation (oil- and gas, turism, forestry, mining and minerals, ict, transport)
  - strong youth dimension
  - ENPI programme implementation
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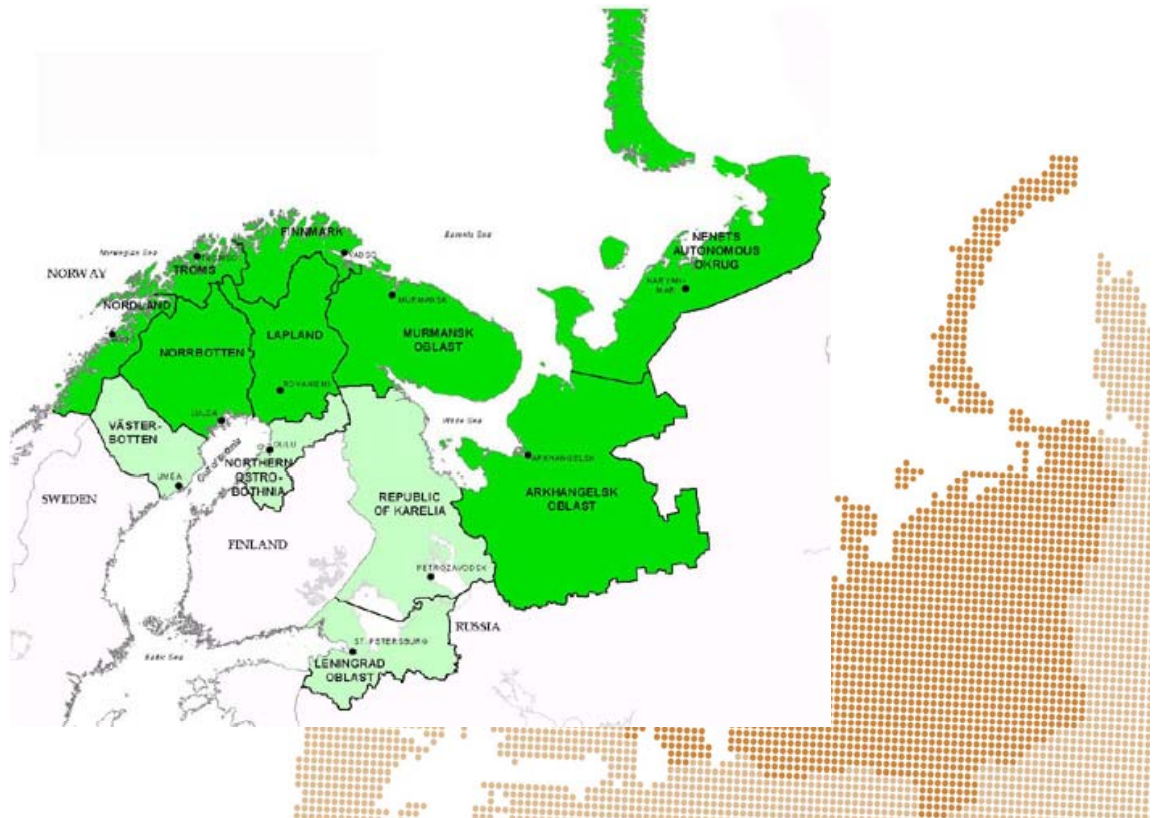


# Need for Northern policies

- national states should prepare their stronger strategies for northern regions
- EU together with different stakeholders should develop and implement active Northern Dimension –policy
- different national and international financing resources and programmes have to be develop and used to reach the goals of Barents region
- the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument is important for us

## Kolarctic ENPI CBC Programme 2010-2015

# Programme Area



## Priorities

1. Economic and social development (40% of funding)
  2. Common challenges(25%)
  3. People to people cooperation and identity building (25%)
- Technical assistance (10%)



# **1.Economic and social development**

## **OPERATIVE AIMS**

- Cross-border networks and business relations are established between SME's
- Ongoing communication and joint educational planning between businesses and the education on the field of the required competences
- SME's and authorities have better understanding of cross-border business and working opportunities
- Cross-border transport, logistics and communication systems are developed to respond to the needs of the Programme area in line with sustainable development
- Energy cooperation, the use of renewable energy sources and active energy saving have risen
- Businesses enhancing the cultures of the indigenous people are supported
- Movement of the labour force across the borders is facilitated
- Public and private services are cooperating for the benefit of the inhabitants
- Municipalities are cooperating and exchanging best practises

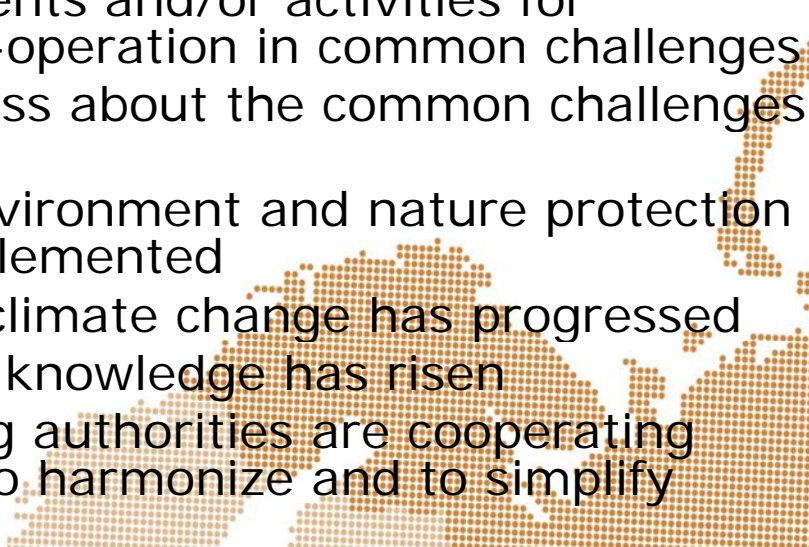
# **1.Economic and social development (2)**

## **Examples of the directions of support**

- Development of SME- and business cooperation
- Promotion of trade and investment
- Development of sustainable transport, logistics and communication systems
- Implementation of educational and research activities
- Ensuring the quality of public and private services
- Utilisation of innovations and new technology
- Enhancing the use of renewable energy sources and active energy saving
- Development of energy co-operation
- Support for the development of traditional ways of living
- Development of the labour market and support for entrepreneurship
- Exchange of best practises in rural development, municipal services and spatial planning

## 2. Common challenges

### **OPERATIVE AIMS**

- Local and regional authorities have common plans, agreements and/or activities for multilateral co-operation in common challenges
  - Public awareness about the common challenges has risen
  - Activities in environment and nature protection have been implemented
  - Adaptation to climate change has progressed
  - Environmental knowledge has risen
  - Border crossing authorities are cooperating multilaterally to harmonize and to simplify procedures
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## 2. Common challenges (2)

### **Examples of the directions of support**

- Support of health and social welfare
  - Improvement of security
  - Prevention of accidents and environmental risks
  - Environment and nature protection
  - Joint management of common challenges
  - Border crossing efficiency
  - Exchange of best practises
  - Improvement of the public knowledge about common challenges
  - Education and research
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## 3. People to people co-operation and identity building

### OPERATIVE AIMS

- Common cultural/ sports events and meeting places bring people together from the programme area
- Common information is published in public media
- Cooperation and communication is increased
- Promotion of the cultural diversity is supported
- Cooperation between cultural institutions is increased

## People to people co-operation and identity building (2)

### Examples of the directions of support

- Enhancement of cultural co-operation
- Development of traditional handicrafts
- Increase of joint information exchange
- Facilitation of social and cultural integration of immigrants from the other countries in the programme area
- Promotion of educational co-operation
- Enhancement of co-operation between institutions
- Support for the integration of vulnerable people in cooperation activities
- Support for joint education and research activities on people-to-people co-operation and identity building
- Exchange of best practises

# Finance

- EU-financing 28, 241 M€
  - Norwegian equivalent financing 7 M€
  - National financing from the EU Member States 14 M€
  - National financing from Russia 14 M€
  - National financing from Norway 7 M€
  - Partner's own contribution
- ⇒ **Total ~ 70 M€**
- + Private financing

## Future has to be done

- Good future for Barents region will not come automatically
- It has to be done !
- Let us do it !



Thanks for you attention!

