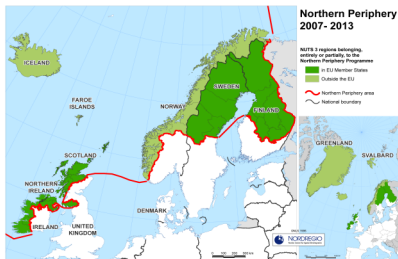




Welcome to the first edition of the '**INTERREGional News**' from the Special EU Programmes Body. This newsletter will keep you up to date with developments in the **INTERREG IVB** programmes that are relevant to Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (the Northern Periphery Programme, the North West Europe Programme and the Atlantic Area Programme) as well as the **INTERREG IVC** Programme. The newsletter will cover information on programme priorities, upcoming calls for projects, news from the programme secretariats and will highlight programme successes! This first edition is dedicated to the Northern Periphery Programme. Please send us any information you would like to see included in the newsletter to the email address below.

Northern Periphery Programme



A Quick Reminder! The Northern Periphery Programme aims to help peripheral and remote communities on the northern margins of Europe to develop their economic, social and environmental potential.



Project Support Seminars: Jan and Feb 2009

Call Dates for the Diary

The NPP 4th call will run from **21 January 2009** and will close on **18 March 2009**.

The NPP secretariat is hosting two '**How to Apply**' seminars during the 4th call. The first will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark on **28 January 2009** and the second in Sundsvall, Sweden on **4 February 2009**. The purpose of the events is to assist applicants in the development of a good quality application.

Bigger and Better Preparatory Projects!!

The 5th call for projects will not take place until **January 2010** and may be a 'focused call' to address the gaps that exist, at that stage within the programme.

Focused Call to Continue....The focused call for preparatory projects will continue and the Secretariat will only be approving preparatory projects dealing with identified themes listed below that are not sufficiently addressed in the programme. These are:

Priority One

To facilitate development through the use of advanced information and communication technologies and transportation in the programme area.

- Developing innovative product and service solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure with regard to roads, railways, airports and ports under harsh climatic conditions
- Maritime safety in relation to remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions

Priority Two

To improve sustainable development in peripheral regions by strengthening urban-rural relations and enhancing regional heritage.

- Urban-rural partnerships for new service solutions

One Year Preparatory Projects.....From **19 January 2009** until **30 June 2009** Preparatory project applicants can apply for up to one year of preparatory project activities. The normal period is 6 months but the rationale for longer projects is to increase the success rate of projects and increase the quality of their main project application in 2010. The maximum total budget size for a 1 year preparatory project is **€37,500** with an intervention rate of 60%. This means that the maximum NPP grant is **€22,500**.

The period between the fourth and the fifth call will be used as a 'review period' for the programme.

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