

Emerging Innovation in Northern Europe Programme

The Nordic Council of Ministers is inviting Nordic and Northwest Russian innovation networks, incubators and other innovation actors to take part in a co-operation programme, aiming at establishing a strong and sustainable innovation network in the region.

The target group are Nordic and Russian innovation institutions, which are active in the academic and/or market driven innovation sphere and take an interest in learning more about innovation and entrepreneurship in the region, and being part of a professional Nordic-Russian innovation network. Approximately 10 – 15 such organizations will constitute the partner institutions of the programme and be able to choose 2-5 individuals among their employees, to participate in the programme activities. The programme has a maximum limit of 30 participants. **The participants should speak English at a professional level as the main part of the programme activities will be conducted in English.**

Co-operation Areas

The programme will focus particularly on the following areas:

Main areas:

- ◇ Financing of innovation
- ◇ Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and protection of IPR
- ◇ Start up of new ventures and risk-financing
- ◇ Networks/incubators and clusters for innovation
- ◇ Public-private partnerships
- ◇ Familiarization of existing Nordic-Russian innovation co-operation

Supportive (indirect):

- ◇ Doing business in the Nordic Region and Northwest Russia
- ◇ Cultural aspects of Nordic-Russian co-operation

Activities during the programme

Below you will find a presentation of the programme activities during the autumn and winter 2010/2011. Please note that this is a preliminary schedule and that it can be changed as the programme progresses.

Block 1

This is the start-up of the network and the first meeting between the participants. The meeting will take place in Saint Petersburg and the activities will to a large extent be concentrated on Russian innovation and cultural aspects of cross-border co-operation.

Preliminary date: September 29-1 October

- Planned by Nordregio with help from Leontief Centre and Innovation institutions in Saint Petersburg

Day 1

- Common: Introduction of participants and the network
- Common: Presentation of Leontief Centre
- Nordic participants: Introduction to business administration and practises in Russia (SSER St Petersburg/ Leontief Centre/St. Petersburg University, faculty of management)
- Russian Participants: Continuation of business administration and practises in the Nordic Countries (SSER)
- Common: Formulation of future networking tool (innovation network platform – ICT based communication and networking tool) and/or formulation of joint projects and future cooperation possibilities

Day 2

- Common: Introduction to innovation in Russia
- Common/part of the participants: study visits
- Common: study visits to innovation institutions in Russia

Day 3

- Common: Seminar with Swedish Trade Council (or corresponding) on differences and similarities of the Nordic/Russian markets.
- Common: Seminar with representatives from firms doing cross-border business.
- Common: study visit to Russian innovation companies

Block 2

This block will take place in Oslo and focus on Nordic Innovation.

Preliminary date: November 24-26

- Planned by Nordregio with help from Leontief Centre and an Oslo Institution

Day 1

- Common: Presentation of Nordic Innovation Centre and Nordic innovation
- Common: Presentation of a Norwegian Innovation Institution
- Common: Study visit

Day 2

- Russian participants: Introduction at NHH to IPR in the Nordic Region (and business development and administration in the Nordic countries)
- Common: Presentation or study visit
- Common: Study visit

Day 3

- Common: Further discussions on a suitable networking tool and possible future co-operation between the participants
- Common: Study visits to Norwegian innovation firms

Block 3

This block will take place in Stockholm and part of the activities will focus on financing and marketing innovation.

Preliminary date: January 25-27

- Planned by Nordregio with help from Leontief Centre and Innovation institutions in Stockholm

Day 1

- Common: Presentation of Nordregio and innovation as part of regional development in the Nordic region
- Common: Study visit to and seminar on the topic of innovation financing and marketing in Sweden
- Common: Visit to Handelshögskolan, lecture on Nordic- Russian innovation in history and now
- Common: presentation by Innovation support in Sweden

Day 2

- Common: Seminar on marketing of innovation
- Common: Study visits: financing of research and innovation
- Study visit
- Common: seminar organized at STING; Stockholm Innovation and Growth; topic: start-up of new ventures

Day 3

- Continuation on work started in Oslo and S:t Petersburg on networking tool and common projects
- Common: Continuation of discussion about future networking and cooperation possibilities
- Common: Round-up, evaluation of the Programme

Follow-up Seminar

This block is a follow-up seminar, where the participants will have the possibility to further discuss joint projects and strengthen their network. The seminar will take place in Saint Petersburg.

Preliminary date: May 24

- Planned by Nordregio with help from Leontief Centre and Innovation institutions in Saint Petersburg

Day 1

- Work on joint projects and development of project concepts and proposals
- Presentations of the projects and ideas

Further Information and Contact

For questions or comments regarding the programme, please contact Programme Manager Sophie Fyrk by phone **+46 8 463 54 25** or e-mail sophie.fyrk@nordregio.se