



Interreg  
Aurora



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# Welcome!

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

# Programme 18 September

**13.00**

Welcome to Umeå

*Janet Ågren, Deputy Mayor, Umeå Municipality*

Video message

*Jonas Sjöstedt, Member of the European Parliament*

Opening address Interreg Aurora – “Great ideas know no borders”

*The Interreg Aurora team*

Meet the Regions in the Interreg Aurora programme area and learn more about regional co-financing

**14.30 – 15.00**

Coffee/tea and networking

**15.00 – 16.55**

Project pitches, partner search and meet up fair for networking

**16.55 – 17.00**

Closing Address of the Day

*Tina Nilsson, Programme Director Interreg Aurora*





# Welcome to Umeå

Janet Ågren

Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Umeå

Member Interreg Aurora Steering Committee

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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*Welcome to  
Västerbotten*



# Video message

Jonas Sjöstedt  
Member of European Parliament

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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# Opening Address

Tina Nilsson  
Programme Director, Interreg Aurora

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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**Aurora**

# THE GOAL OF INTERREG AURORA 2021-2027

To encourage cross-border collaboration, and thereby strengthening the competitiveness, sustainability and attractiveness of the programme area through social inclusion, digitalisation and just green transition.



## SUB-AREA AURORA

### FINLAND

Lappi  
Pohjois-Pohjanmaa  
Keski-Pohjanmaa  
Österbotten/Pohjanmaa  
Etelä-Pohjanmaa  
Kainuu  
Pohjois-Karjala

### SVERIGE

Norrbotten  
Västerbotten  
Västernorrland

### NORGE

Finnmark  
Troms  
Nordland

## SUB-AREA SÀPMI

### FINLAND

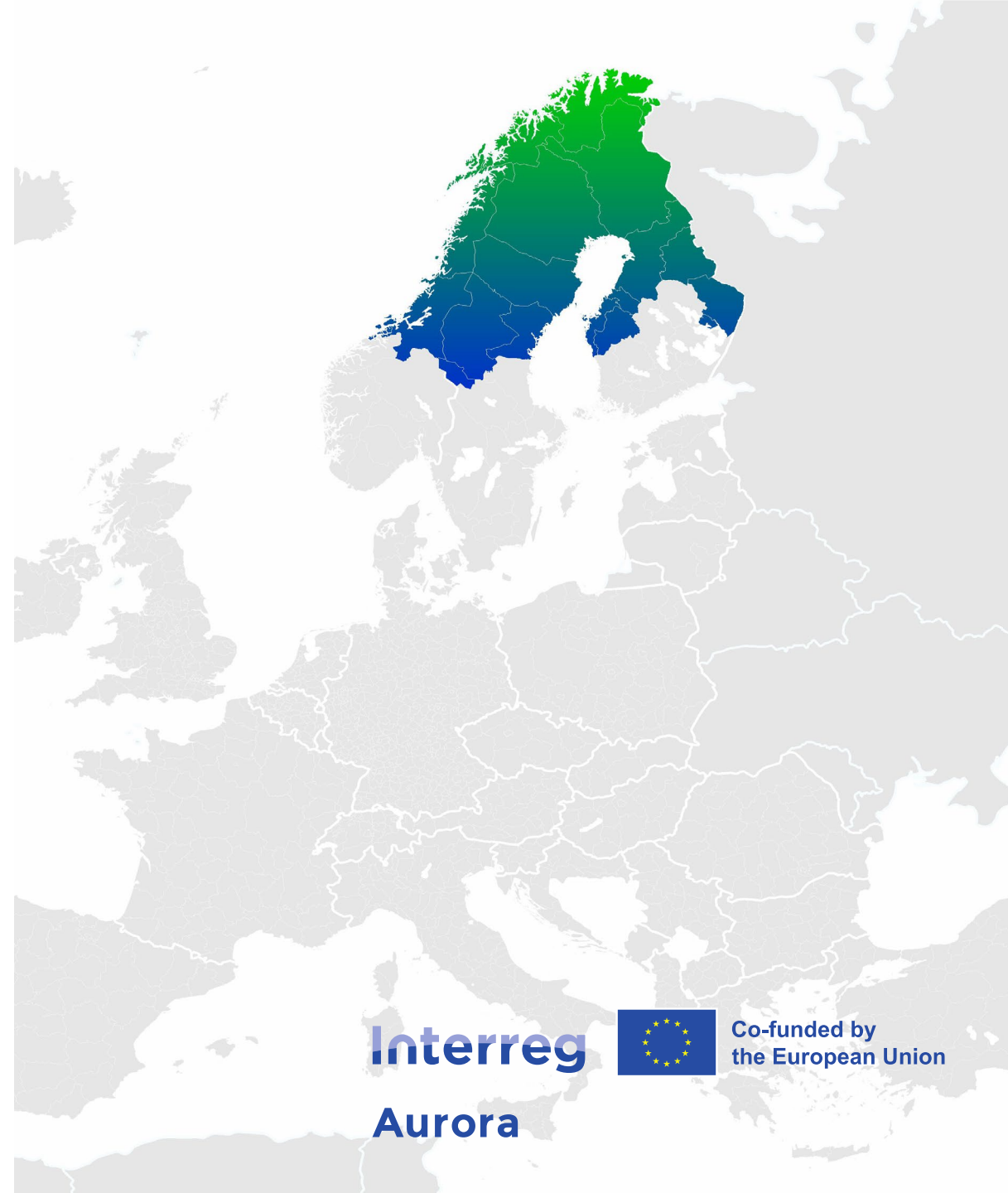
Lappi  
Pohjois-Pohjanmaa  
Keski-Pohjanmaa

### SVERIGE

Norrbotten  
Västerbotten  
Västernorrland  
Jämtland  
Idre Sameby, Dalarna

### NORGE

Finnmark  
Troms  
Nordland  
Trøndelag  
Innlandet (Elgå Reinbeitedistrikt)



**Interreg**  
**Aurora**



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Interreg



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Aurora

FUNDED  
PROJECTS

146

ALLOCATED  
FUNDING  
MILLION EUROS

87

AVAILABLE  
FUNDING  
MILLION EUROS

40

Interreg



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# **GREAT IDEAS** **KNOW NO BORDERS**

Get to know all Interreg Aurora funded projects and how cross-border cooperation improves the daily lives in our Programme area.



[Project Bank - Interreg Aurora](#)

**CLIMATE CHANGE  
KNOWS NO  
BORDERS.**

**MOTIVATION  
KNOWS NO  
BORDERS.**

**COMPETENCE  
KNOWS NO  
BORDERS.**





# NEW! ON INTERREGAURORA.EU

## ➤ PROJECT RESULT NEWS

## ➤ PROJECT TOPICS

## ➤ PROJECT PARTNERS

GET TO KNOW

### THE INTERREG AURORA PROJECTS

Interreg Aurora supports cross-border cooperation on a wide range of exciting topics.

Explore our A to Y – from Acid sulfate soils to Youth.  
This is your shortcut to discovering all the funded projects!

TOPICS FROM A TO Y

GET TO KNOW

### THE INTERREG AURORA PROJECT PARTNERS

This is your shortcut to discovering all the project partners!

PROJECT PARTNERS FROM A TO Ö

# Great ideas know no borders

Susanna Ehlers, Gabriel Bölske, Linda Stenström  
& Päivi Sainio Rohner  
Joint Secretariat, Interreg Aurora

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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## 4 PRIORITIES 8 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Jointly decided by all the regions in the Programme area and the Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian Sami Parliaments.

Based on the needs and challenges of the Programme area.

**It is only possible to select one of the Specific Objectives!**



### **Priority 1 - A smarter Europe** **Smart and sustainable growth**

Specific Objective 1.1 Smart specialization, research and innovation

Specific Objective 1.2 Competitiveness of SMEs



### **Priority 2 - A greener Europe** **Green and sustainable transition**

Specific Objective 2.1 Climate change adaptation

Specific Objective 2.2 Nature protection and biodiversity

Specific Objective 2.3 Sustainable mobility



### **Priority 3 - A more social Europe** **Education, culture and sustainable tourism**

Specific Objective 3.1 Education and lifelong learning

Specific Objective 3.2 Culture and sustainable tourism



### **Priority 4 - A better Interreg Governance** **Better and more sustainable cross-border cooperation**

Specific Objective 4.1 Cross-border capacity building

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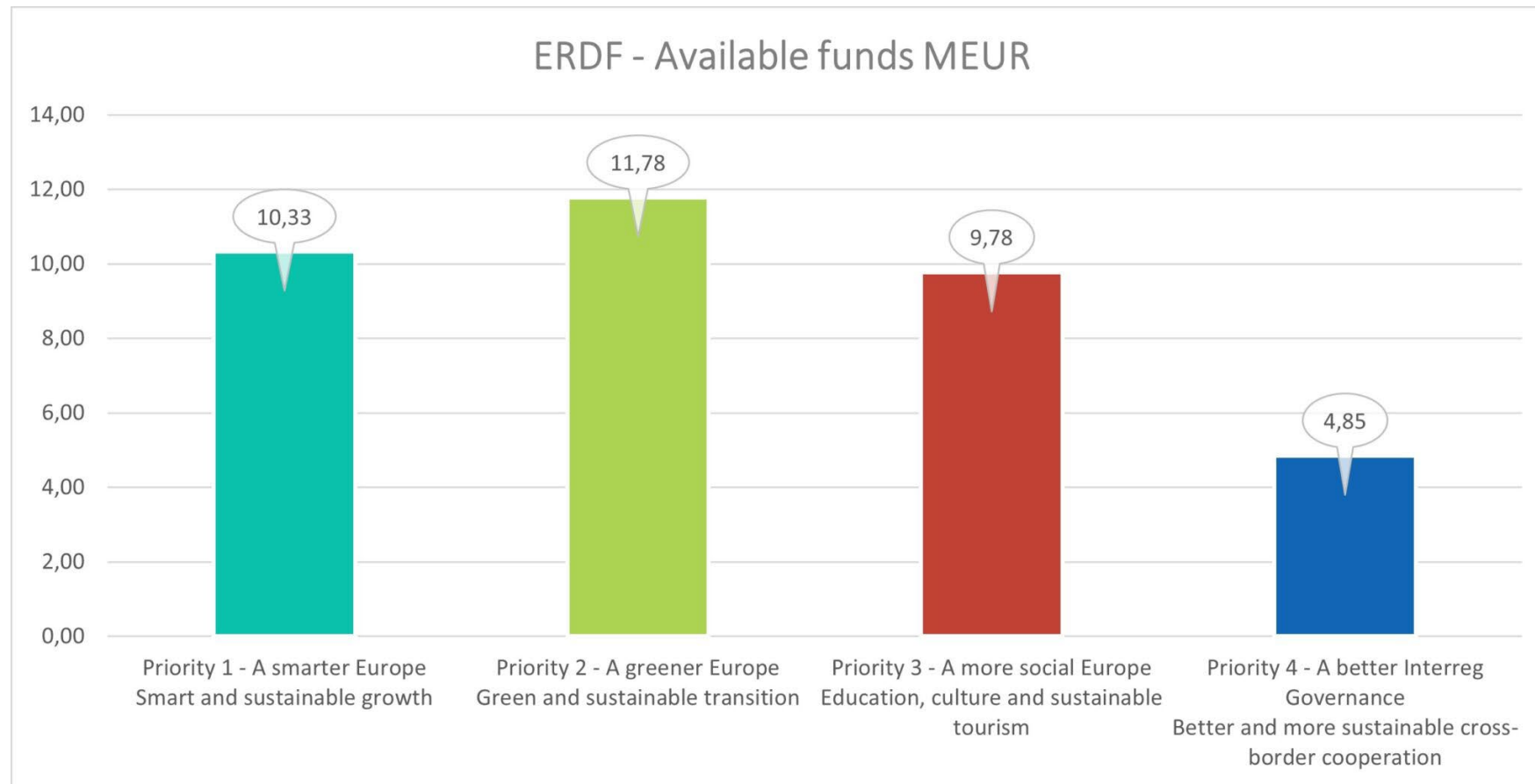
# Summary of the Interreg Aurora Programme document



[www.interregaurora.eu/summary-of-the-interreg-aurora-programme/](http://www.interregaurora.eu/summary-of-the-interreg-aurora-programme/)



# Available funding



The Interreg financing for Norwegian project partners is allocated in yearly budgets. Available Norwegian Interreg-funding for 2025 is approximately 3,4 MEUR.

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**Aurora**

**Wanted!**



### Sub-area Sápmi

- All Priorities and Specific Objectives.

### Sub-area Aurora

- Specific Objective 1.2: Competitiveness of SMEs.

- Specific Objective 2.2: Nature protection and biodiversity, only regarding applications focused on air quality or noise reduction.

- Specific Objective 2.3: Sustainable mobility.

# How long can projects run?

- 31 December 2028 is the last possible end date for projects
- If you apply in Call 7: 3 year projects
- If you apply in Call 8: 2,5 year projects
- Etc.





# Upcoming calls

- Call for regular project applications

**Call 7.** 8 September – 6 October 2025

- Call for small-scale project applications

**SSP Call 5.** 8 September – 6 October 2025.

*Note! Interreg Arctic Cooperation, Clustering Call*

**Call for Regular and SSP: 9 Feb – 9 March 2026**

[Terms of reference](#) may differ for each call.



# Specific for Norwegian partners

- Maximum IR support (300 000 Euro)
- Contact the Norwegian Managing Organization!





# **What signifies a good Interreg Aurora project?**

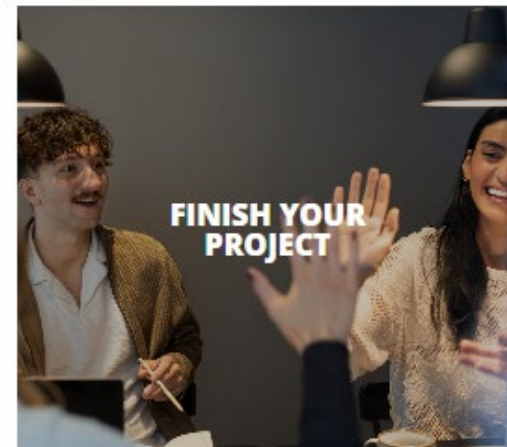
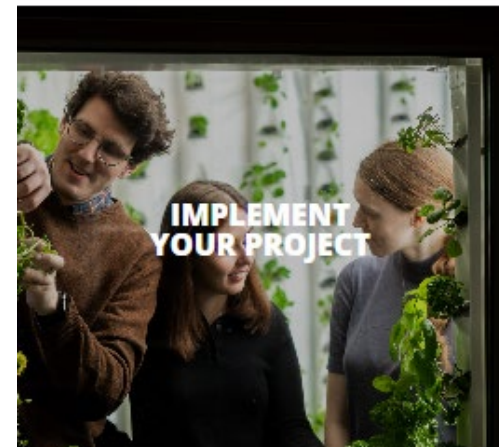
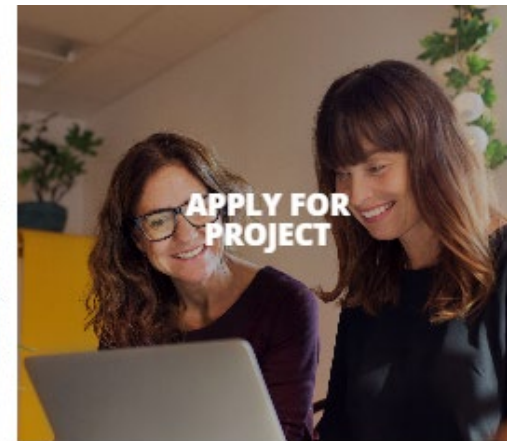
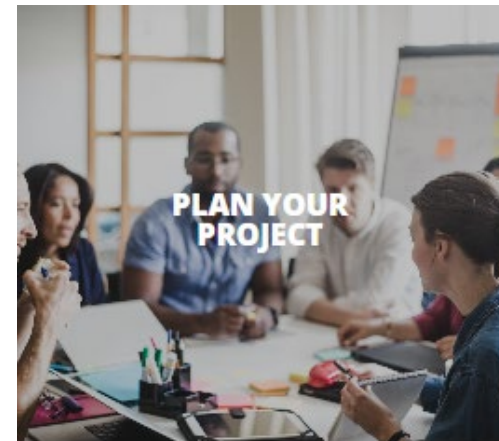
- Cross-border cooperation
- Relevance for the Programme (specific objective)
- The partnership (capacity, new partnerships)
- Project logic
- Relevance to target group
- Value for money
- Sustainable development
- Results (concrete, innovative, lasting, exit strategy, dissemination)
- Additional criteria sub-area Sápmi



# Get prepared!

- One joint application (SE/FI/NO)
- Programme Manual
- Early project idea template/project consultation
- Contact the Joint Secretariat for questions

[interregaurora@lansstyrelsen.se](mailto:interregaurora@lansstyrelsen.se)





# Networking and Partner search



LinkedIn



Page on our website

[www.interregaurora.eu/support/partner-search-and-networking/](http://www.interregaurora.eu/support/partner-search-and-networking/)

## Partner search - project ideas



### DEVELOPING TOGETHER – INITIATIVES FOR THE LABOUR MARKET

Partner search: Partners from Finland, Sweden and Norway for a project consortium: education providers (public and private), employers, municipalities, employment services (public and private), business

2023-11-22

PARTNER SEARCH

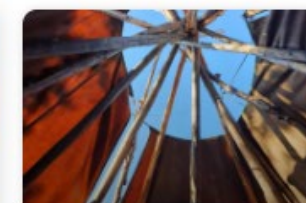


### SÁMI HANDICRAFTS

Partner search for a Sámi handicrafts related cross-border project in which the purpose is to develop Sámi handicrafts education with the Sámi schools who are

2023-11-13

PARTNER SEARCH



### STRENGTHENING CROSS- BORDER CO-OPERATION IN SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN SÁMI LANGUAGES

Partner search: In Finland, responsibility for organising social and health services was transferred from municipalities to wellbeing services counties 1.1.2023. Lapland wellbeing county has a

2023-11-10

PARTNER SEARCH



### STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY IN CONNECTION WITH THE GREEN TRANSITION

Partner search: Partners from regions with business establishments that entail large recruitment needs: VET educators,



### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CROSS BORDER COOPERATION PROJECT REGARDING FOOD WASTE PREVENTION?

Waste Insight is a research team at the University of Vaasa developing innovative solutions for food waste prevention and



### SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY NORDIC CITIES FOR THE FUTURE

Partner search: The desired urban living environment of the future supports planetary health and well-being. Northern cities have great potential to create concentrations of sustainable,

# Meet the Regions

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# Applying for financing from Region Norrbotten



Niklas Koserius

Strategist – rural development, projects and financing – Region  
Norrbotten



# Guidelines and priorities

- Guided by the Regional development strategy of Norrbotten (Regionala utvecklingsstrategin/RUS) and the strategy for Smart Specialisation in Norrbotten (S3)
- Decisions on funding based on these documents and the regional value of the project for Norrbotten
- *If you wish to apply for funding from us – send an application to us at the same time as you send in your application to your main financier*



[niklas.koserius@norrbotten.se](mailto:niklas.koserius@norrbotten.se)

[utvecklanorrbotten.se](http://utvecklanorrbotten.se)





# Regional funding of development projects



# Focus for today

1. Region Västerbottens financing
2. Co – financing of Interreg Aurora projects

Feel free to  
ask questions!



# About regional funding


Region Västerbotten allocates development and growth funds also known as “1:1 anslag” to various development projects that contribute to regional development in Västerbotten.

**We primarily fund two types of projects:**

Regional projects

Co-funding to EU projects





# Common questions about regional funding





# What are the important documents

- Decisions are made in accordance with Regulation (2003:596)
- Regional Development Strategy 2022 – 2030
- The Agenda for Sustainable Regional Financing

# Västerbotten – An Attractive Region Where Differences Drive Development

Regional Development Strategy 2020–2030



## What are the different types of projects that are eligible for support?

- **Priority 1:** Västerbotten – an innovative and smart region
- **Priority 2:** Västerbotten – a region with place-based sustainable business development
- **Priority 3:** Västerbotten – a closely accessible region
- **Priority 4:** Västerbotten – a region with sustainable communities for living and working
- **Priority 5:** Västerbotten – a region promoting health
- **Priority 6:** Västerbotten – a region rich in skills and expertise





# What are the requirements that are good to know?

For your project to be eligible for co-funding from Region Västerbotten, it must:

1. Contribute to RUS
2. Have a clear project logic
3. Be separated from regular activities
4. Must integrate sustainability aspects





## What other requirements and conditions do I need to know?

In addition, the following applies:

- Project support is provided for a maximum of 50% of the project's budget. Own financing shows applicants' interest and zeal to carry out the project. Financing from other actors such as other regions and kommuns are also important.
- The funding must not constitute state aid

## Autumn Calls 2025:

- **August 1 – September 16:** Applies to projects seeking co-financing from ERUF (ERDF), ESF + or seeking over 1.2 million in regional co-financing (from Region Västerbotten).
- **September 8 – October 6:** Applies to projects seeking co-financing from Interreg Aurora or NPA.

The application must always be submitted before the project starting date!

# When can I apply?

## Time-limited calls

- Opens 2 times a year, synced to the EU programmes.
- If you also apply for **co-funding from one of the** EU programmes, the application **must** be submitted to Region Västerbotten **no later than the same day** as the application deadline for the EU program in question. Late applications will not be handled.
- If you plan to apply for **only regional co-financing over SEK 1 200 000**, you must also submit your application within these calls.

## Minor project call

- It is always open to **regional applications that do not apply for co-funding** from any EU program.
- If you plan to submit a **regional application up to and including SEK 1 200 000**, you can submit your application within this call.

# Regarding RV's co-financing for Aurora applications

- Applications are done via Min Ansökan (same as Interreg Aurora)
- Applications can be made in English, but at least the summary should be in Swedish.
- Only the Swedish part of the budget, stated in SEK (not EUR)
- The budget must correspond to the application submitted to the Aurora program.
- The submission deadline is same as the Aurora program.
- Contact us before submitting the application.



# We are here to help!

Take help of [Project idea template](#)

Book in early [project idea meeting](#) and get help with projectlogic, budgeting and partnership

Take help of [Metod support \(LFA\)](#)

Get help to identify relevant [Strategies](#)

Get help regarding [Sustainability aspects](#)

Application is done via [Min ansökan.](#)

Take help of [Application guide](#)

Get inspiration from others [Vi utvecklar Västerbotten](#)

All the relevant information can be found on our [website](#)

# Our project team

## Jonas S Larsson

Responsibility: Business development

E-post: [jonas.s.larsson@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:jonas.s.larsson@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 070-857 57 12



## Therese Burström

Responsibility: Sustainable consumption and attractive living environments

(incl. countryside, culture, nature and leisure)

E-post: [therese.burstrom@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:therese.burstrom@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 070-259 77 71



## Mayuri Kumari

Responsibility: Innovation and digitalisation

Contact person Interreg Aurora

E-post: [mayuri.kumari@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:mayuri.kumari@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 073-690 98 60



## Martin Lundberg

Responsibility: Skills supply

Contact person European Social Fund (ESF)

E-post: [martin.lundberg@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:martin.lundberg@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 073-092 11 20



## Sara Pejok

Responsibility: Innovation and digitalisation, Health and medical care

E-post: [sara.pejok@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:sara.pejok@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 070-597 37 11

## Mikael Johansson Åberg

Responsibility: Transport and infrastructure

Regional contact person Sweden Interreg NPA

Regional contact Interreg Aurora

E-post: [mikael.johansson@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:mikael.johansson@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 070-217 57 22

## Anna-Karin Lönnebo

Coordinator follow-up & payments

E-post: [anna-karin.lonnebo@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:anna-karin.lonnebo@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 070-217 57 32



## Nils Enwald

Manager, Business support and Project Finance

E-post: [nils.enwald@regionvasterbotten.se](mailto:nils.enwald@regionvasterbotten.se)

Mobile: 076-119 86 76



# One Västernorrland - Energy, vitality and natural power

Together for people's and companies'  
growing power, in a healthy living  
environment for future generations.





# Region Västernorrland



## Mobilization

**Mobilize** stakeholders together  
with the managing authority

**Support** project stakeholders

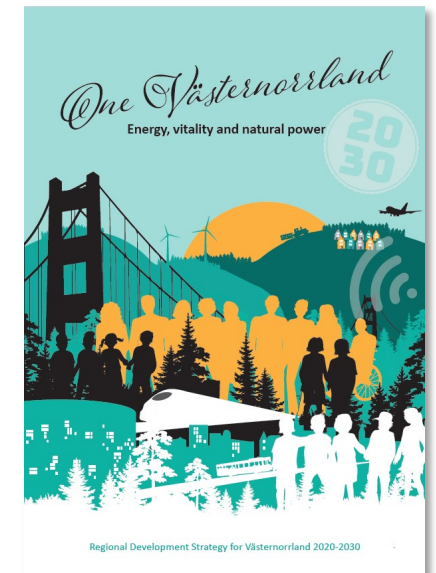
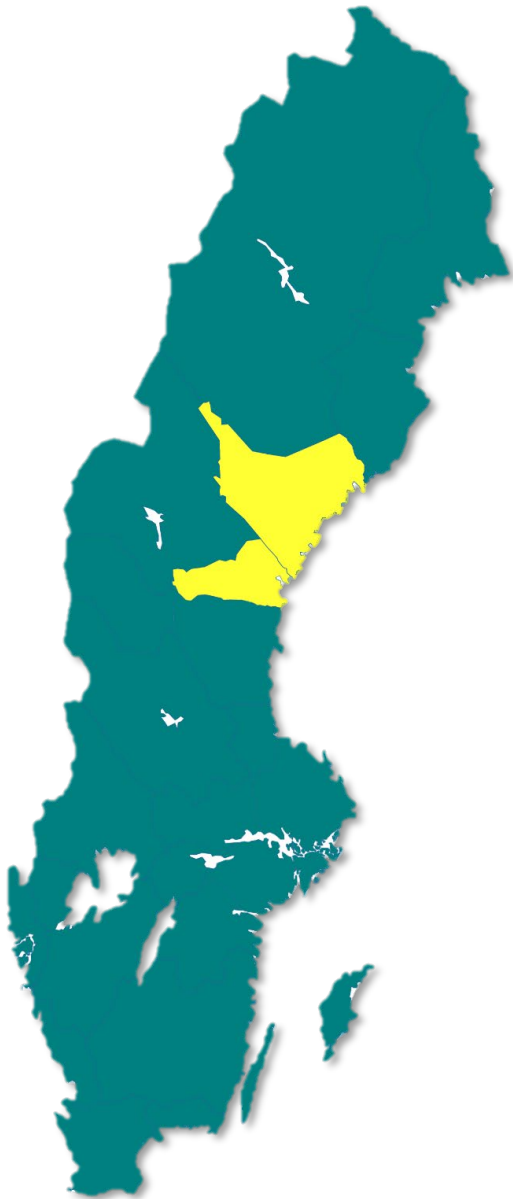
**Strategic** advice



## Co-financier

**Possibility** to co-finance projects

**Strategic** assessment



# Västernorrland's regional development strategy is based on 3 pillars:

## 1. Västernorrland - as place has been strengthened in a national and global perspective

1. Coordinated advocacy
2. Creating, attracting and retaining expertise and investments
3. Universities, colleges and research institutes are engines for innovation and development
4. A courageous regional leadership that takes responsibility for the future

## 2. Västernorrland is the place people choose to live and visit.

1. Growing region with attractive, viable cities and rural areas
2. Everyone should have basic qualifications from primary and secondary school
3. More flexible forms of learning
4. A functionally coherent system for sustainable travel
5. Increased perceived proximity to the outside world, physical or digital

## 3. Västernorrland is the place where companies and organizations choose to grow

1. More new and growing sustainable companies and more enterprising residents
2. Expanded and coherent financing, enterprise and innovation support system
3. Developed areas of strength through smart specialization
4. A regionally matched education offer
5. Increased matching rate
6. A connected logistics system
7. Financing decisions made for the new Ostkustbanan, Mittbanan and Ådalsbanan



# Knowledge-driven growth and increased competitiveness

*The innovation strategy contributes to achieving the objectives of the Västernorrland Regional Development Strategy (RDS)*



**By 2030,**  
Västernorrland's position  
has been strengthened  
nationally and globally



**In 2030,**  
Västernorrland is the place  
people choose to live in  
and visit



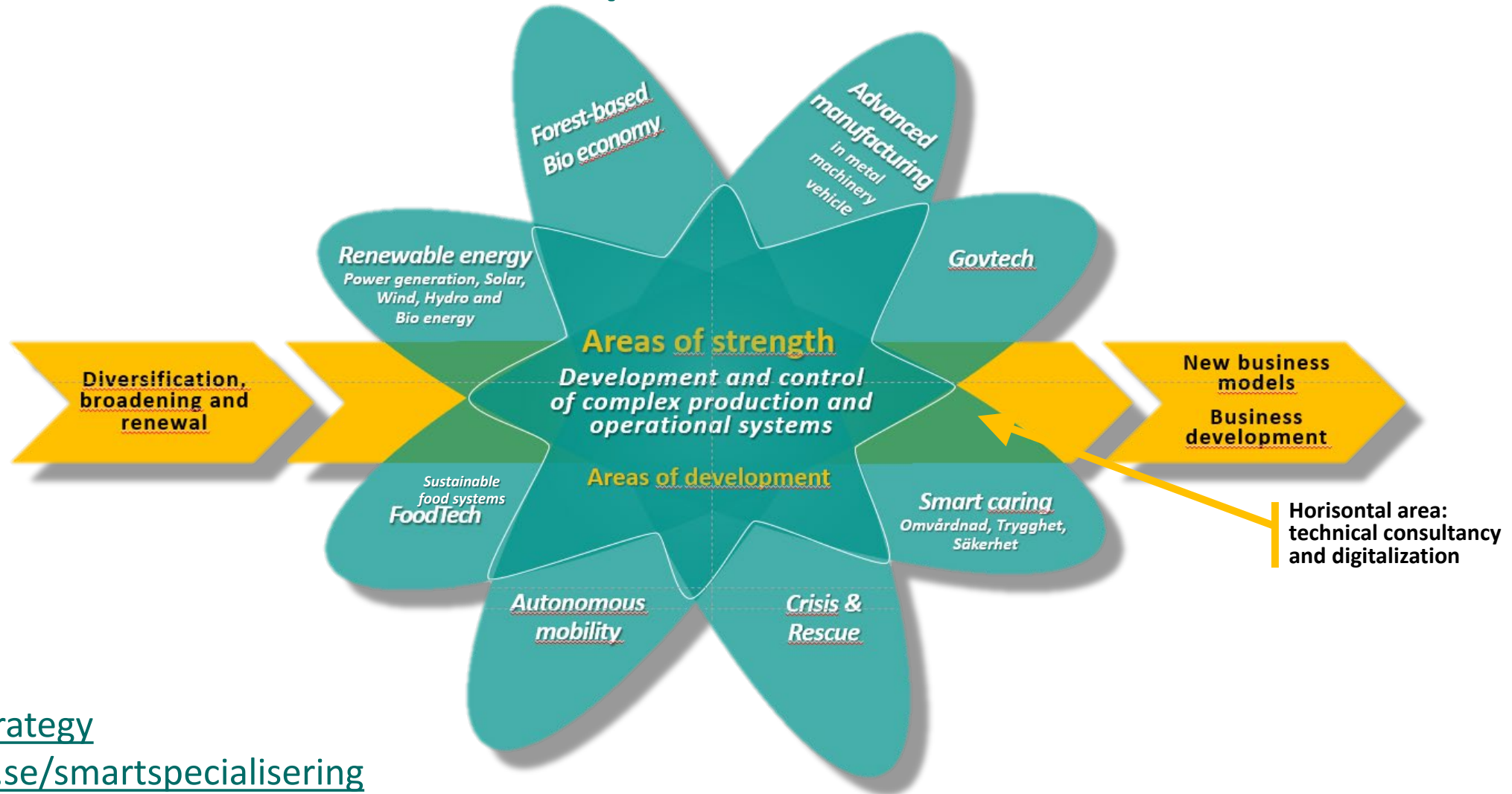
**In 2030,**  
Västernorrland is the place  
companies and organisations  
choose to grow in

*In the RDS, the following priorities are primarily relevant to the innovation strategy:*

- Developed areas of strength according to the regional smart specialisation policy.
- Universities, colleges and research institutes are engines of innovation and development.
- More new and growing sustainable enterprises and more entrepreneurial residents.
- An expanded and coherent financing, enterprise and innovation support system.



# Priority areas of strength for increased competitiveness



[Link to strategy](http://www.rvn.se/smartspecialisering)

[www.rvn.se/smartspecialisering](http://www.rvn.se/smartspecialisering)

# Funding from Region Västernorrland

## Who can apply?

Organizations, e.g. municipalities and authorities, universities and colleges, non-profit and economic associations

## What can you get support for?

New initiatives that promote sustainable development and growth in Västernorrland

## How much support can you apply for?

Up to 50% of the total costs in Interreg Aurora projects.

## How do you apply?

Via the e-service [MinAnsokan.se](https://minansokan.se)

## When to apply?

Same application period as Interreg Aurora.  
See current application periods on the website [rvn.se/projektstod](https://rvn.se/projektstod)

## Examples of funded projects:

- Bothnia Green Energy, Kvarkenrådet EGTS
- Bothnia Business Heritage Network, Stiftelsen Läns museet Västernorrland
- ReCap ASáp: Regaining capacity in a changing Sápmi — Sámiráđđi Nordiska samerådet
- Digital Innovation In the Forest value chain, Skogstekniska klustret ekonomisk förening

# Feel free to contact us!

**Mail:**

[tillvaxt@rvn.se](mailto:tillvaxt@rvn.se)

**Submit your idea:**

[idépresentation](#)

**WWW:**

[rvn.se/projektstod](http://rvn.se/projektstod)

[rvn.se/RUS](http://rvn.se/RUS)

[rvn.se/smartspecialisering](http://rvn.se/smartspecialisering)

## We offer project idea meetings with:

- Strategists – get tips on networks, the world around them, regional priorities
- Administrators – get tips on applications and budget
- We are happy to receive your project idea as early as possible in order to support you along the way!





# South Ostrobothnia

Region of Entrepreneurs, Food, Wood and Metal



**ETELÄ-POHJANMAAN LIITTO**

Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia

# South Ostrobothnia

Located in Western Finland

18 municipalities

- Provincial center Seinäjoki

Surface area: 14 356 km<sup>2</sup>

- Approximately same size as Northern Ireland

190 000 inhabitants

- 3,5 % of Finland's population





# Traffic connections

- Finland's main railway line goes through Seinäjoki
  - Connects South Ostrobothnia to the rest of Europe
  - 3 hours way by train from Helsinki
  - ~ 1 hour way by train from Tampere and Vaasa
- Distances to airports
  - Vaasa airport 70 km
  - Tampere-Pirkkala airport 180 km
  - Helsinki-Vantaa 350 km





# Region of food, wood and metal

- South Ostrobothnia is especially known for its cutting-edge food industry, and vivid metal and technology, and wood industries
- We have also long traditions in a variety of crafts
- Many high quality products come from the region, such as:
  - Food tech solutions, beverages
  - Furnitures, fabrics
  - Log houses, CLT
  - Metalworking, machines and parts



The region has  
3,5% of Finland's  
population but it  
produces  
15 % of food

# Region of Green Transition

- 2023 South Ostrobothnia produced 1697 GWh of wind electricity  
12 % of the total wind energy in Finland
  - With Ostrobothnia = 28%
- More is coming rapidly, and in the next phase also solar energy
- Today we are green electricity exporters
- Our industry is turning to green and also new green industry is emerging



# Region of SME's and entrepreneurs

- Entrepreneurs per capita highest in Finland (53/1000 residents, 2023)
- 16 284 companies (2022) in the region
- Highest amount of industrial businesses per capita in Finland (9,3/1000 residents, 2023)
- Most of the companies in the region are SME's







### Stable and Lively

**Priorities:** stopping the decline of the population and adaptment

**Goals:** 190 000 inhabitants

- ✓ Meaningful life
- ✓ Employment for every job seeker
- ✓ Growth through sustainability

## Regional Strategy



### Adaptive and Sustainable

**Priorities :** Renewing businesses and industry, ecological renewal

**Goals :** carbon negativity by 2050, versatile businesses, high productivity and export



### Smart and Skilled

**Priorities :** raising the education level, internationally competitive R&D ecosystems

**Goals :** 50% 25-34 year-olds tertiary education, R&D investments 4% share of GDP, employment rate 80 %.

- ✓ Social sustainability
- ✓ Economical sustainability
- ✓ Ecological sustainability

# Smart Specialisation Strategy

- Start up and Grow!
- Circulate and Digitalise!
- Innovate and Renew!
- Go Global!



**ETELÄ-POHJANMAAN LIITTO**  
Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia



**ETELÄ-POHJANMAAN**  
liitto



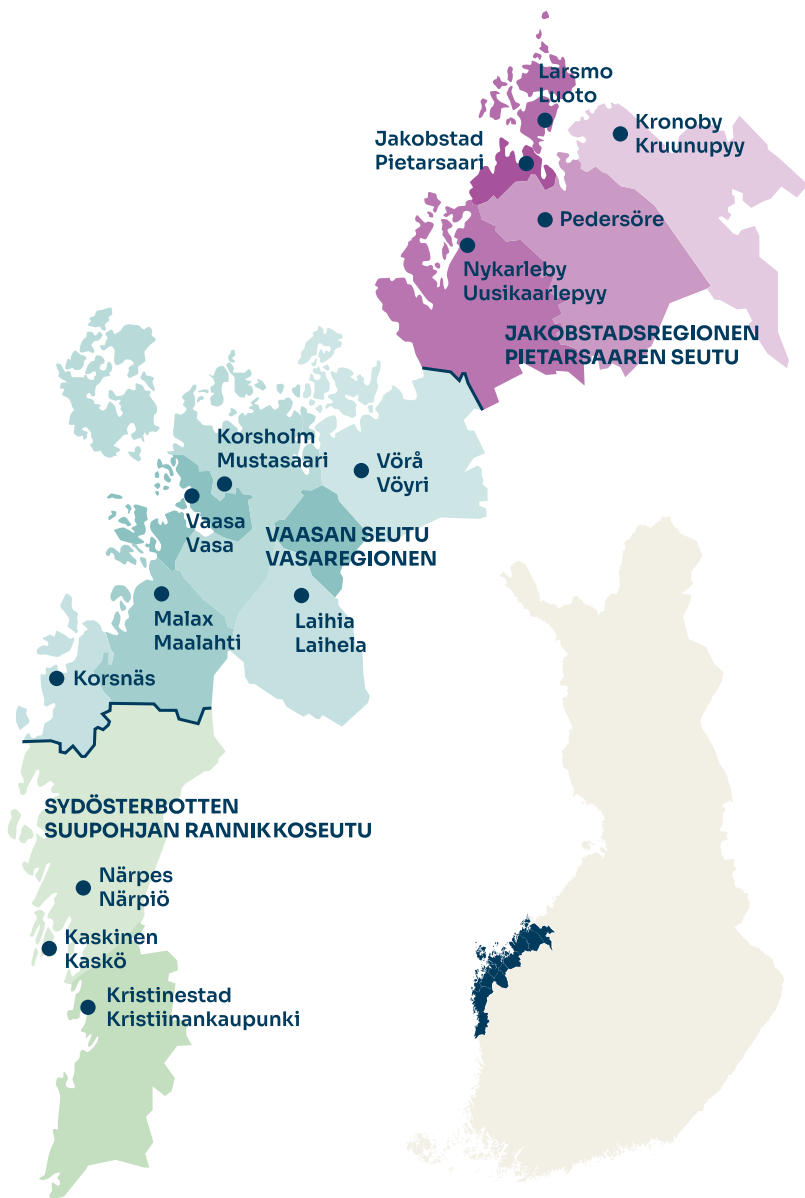
Maria Backman  
Development- and business manager  
Regional Council of Ostrobothnia



## Enabling Transition



REGIONAL COUNCIL  
OF OSTROBOTHNIA



## A coastal region at the forefront of the green transition in Finland



### GROWING

Currently around  
179 000 inhabitants



### VIBRANCY

Ostrobothnia has the strongest  
vitality in Finland.  
(Entrepreneurs Vibrance Barometer)



### KNOWLEDGE

7 University units  
Around 1/3 of the population have a  
higher education degree



### INNOVATION

A top performer in R&D.  
(4th in R&D per capita in Finland  
2023)



### FOCUS ON EXPORT

Around 70 % of the manufacturing  
industry is exported.



### GREEN TRANSITION

Around 20 % of wind power  
capacity in Finland is situated in  
Ostrobothnia.



### STRONG ECONOMY and JOBS

Third highest BNP per capita  
in mainland Finland  
The region's employment situation is  
among the best in the country.



### INTERNATIONAL REGION

More than 100 languages spoken.  
Officially bilingual (Swedish and Finnish).





# Årets landsbygdsansikte 2025 – Humorgruppen KAJ

av Frida | aug 20, 2025 | Aktion Österbotten, Byar, Utnämningar



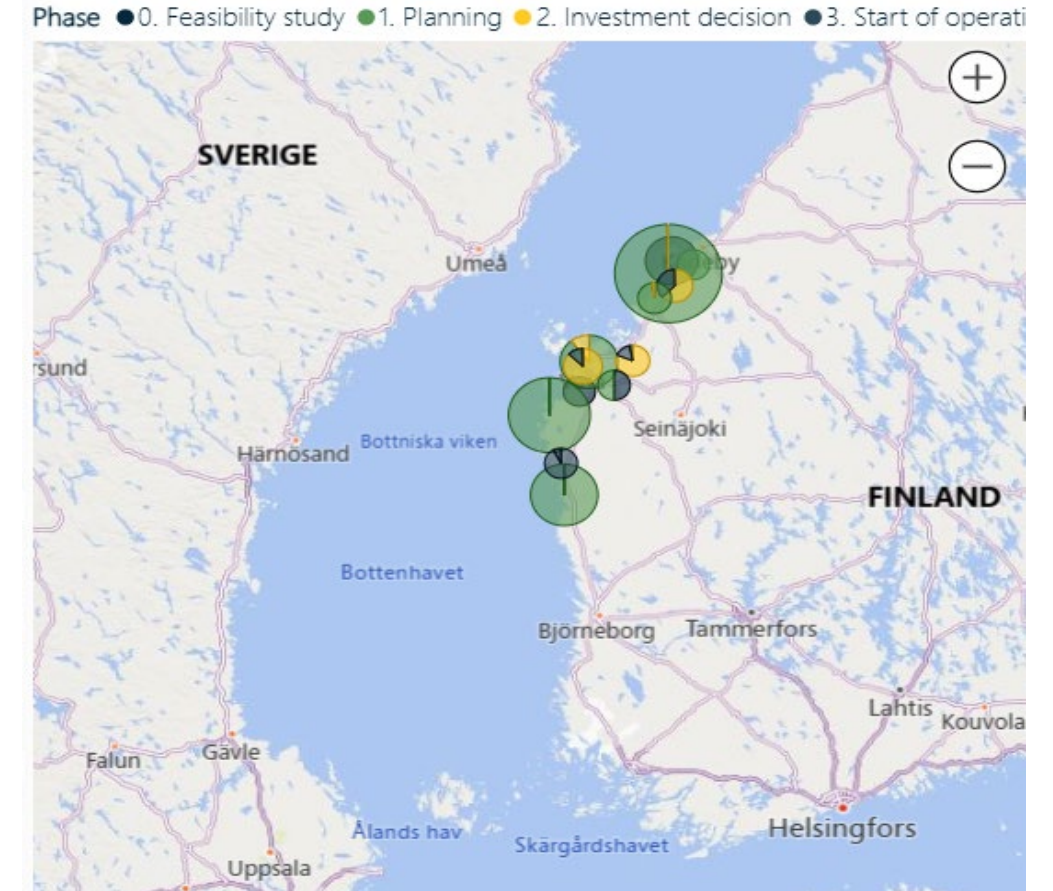
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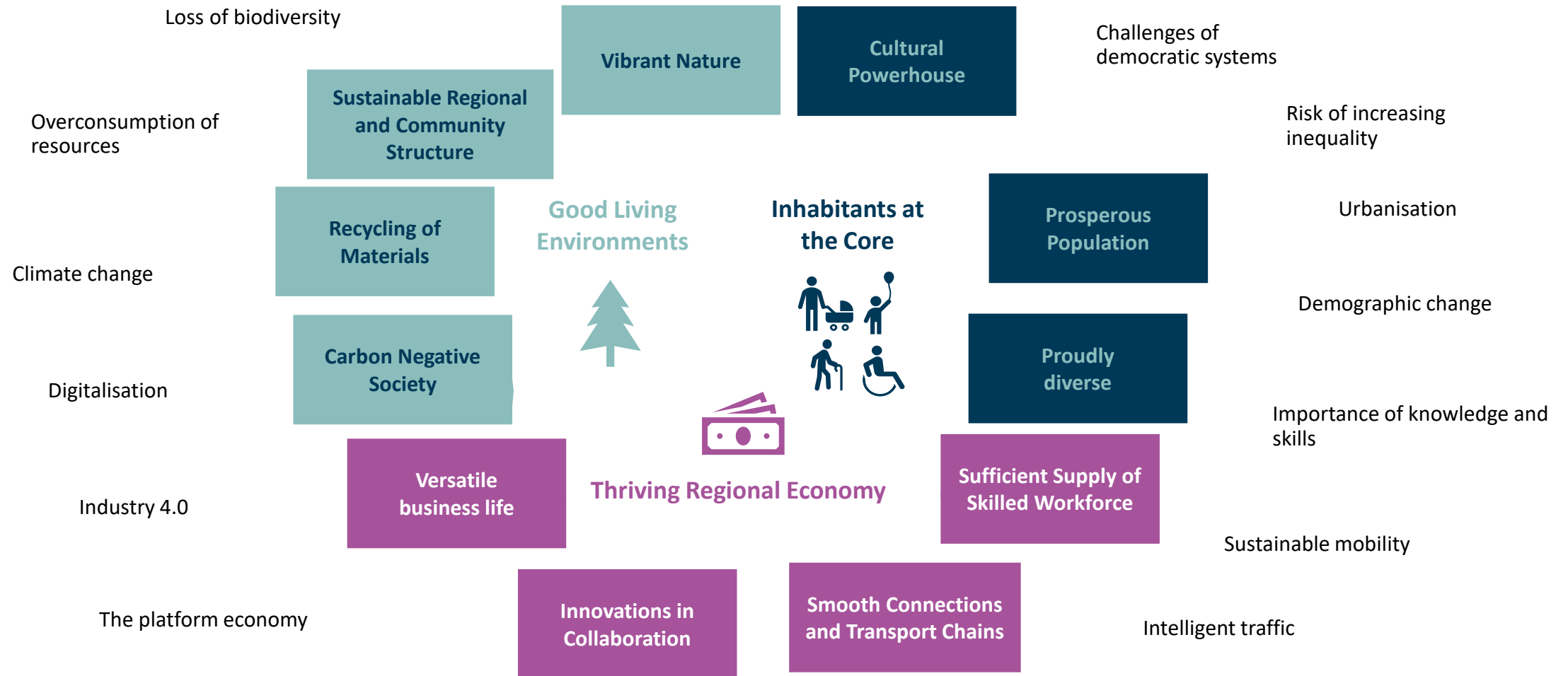
# Enabling transition

- **Underlying Long Term Drivers in Ostrobothnia:**
  - Entrepreneurial Economy & Manufacturing Traditions
  - A Good Level of Education & High Labour Participation Rate
  - High Intensity of Business Driven Research, Development and Innovation -> R&D and innovation are driving forces of regional development
  - Frontrunners in several areas
- **Self reported investments in the Confederation of Finland's Industry EK:s Data Dashboard**
  - 25,6 billion € in Ostrobothnia alone
  - Wide portfolio: Wind, onshore, offshore; battery industry; energy storage; green hydrogen; e-fuels, carbon capture; transmission grids etc
    - Ostrobothnia has 3 % of Finland's population and 4 % of GDP, but approx. 8 % of FDI in green investments

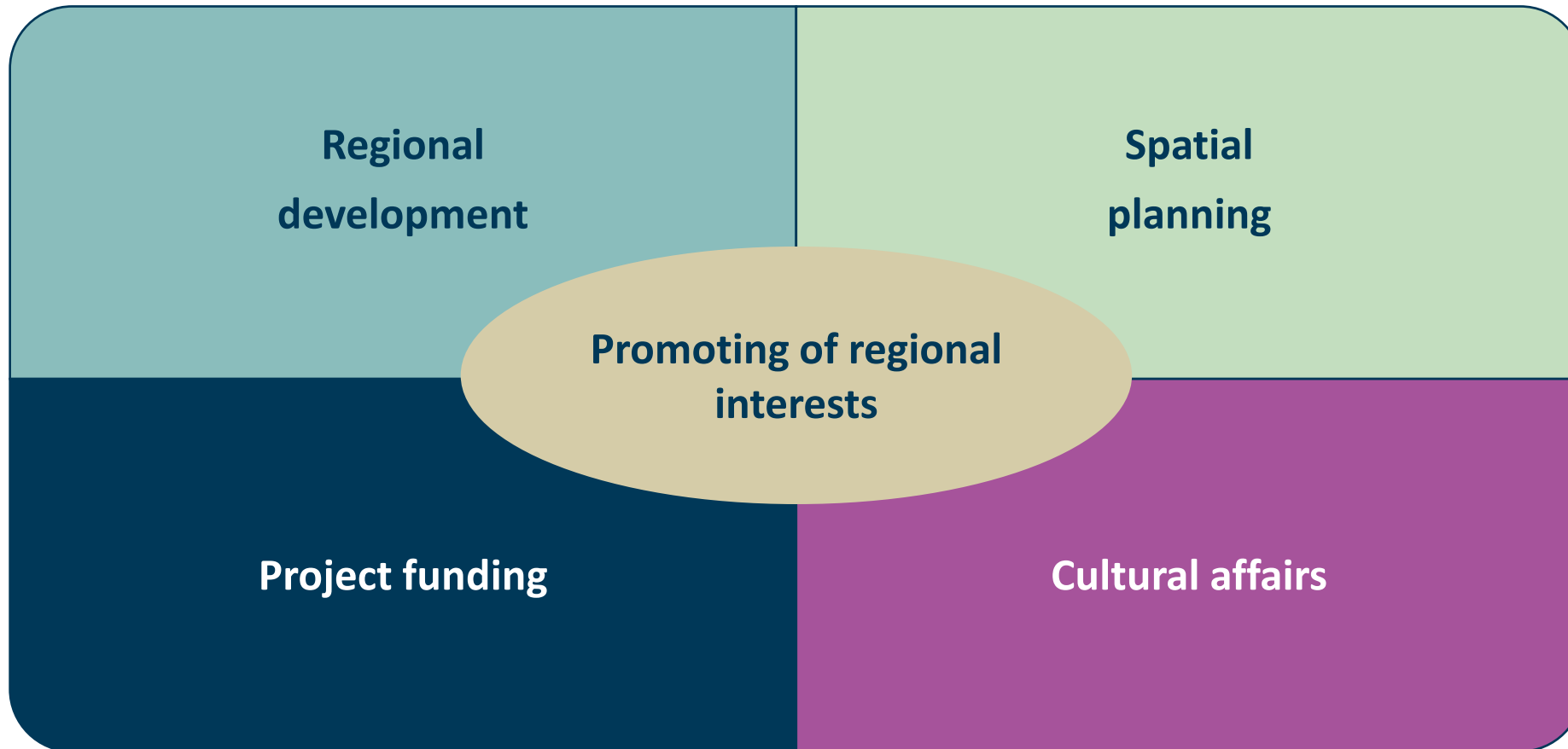
Investments by municipalities



# Our development objectives 2050



# Primary areas of responsibility





# Starting points for the S3-strategy



- **Global value chains:** The region's **international economy**, and **global competition** place **high demands** on the **capacity for innovation and renewal** of both companies and the entire innovation ecosystem



- **Industrial transition & competitiveness:** The starting point of the strategy is the **manufacturing industry's need** for new technology and expertise, and to promote the **emergency of new activities and export industries**.

Priority areas 2022-2025:



ÖSTERBOTTENS FÖRBUND  
POHJANMAAN LIITTO

# Thank You!

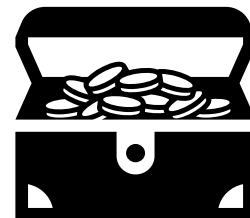
**Maria Backman**

maria.backman@obotnia.fi

**Please contact us!**



**REGIONAL COUNCIL  
OF OSTROBOTHNIA**



# Interreg Aurora 2021-2027

- Finnish national co-financing for Finnish beneficiaries
- Control functions of the EU programme (former FLC)



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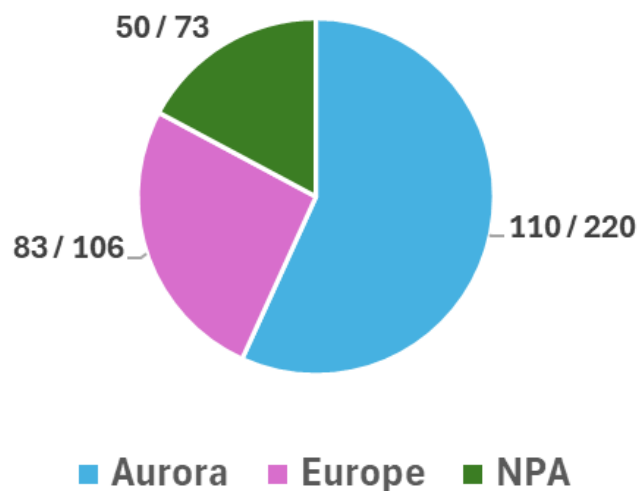


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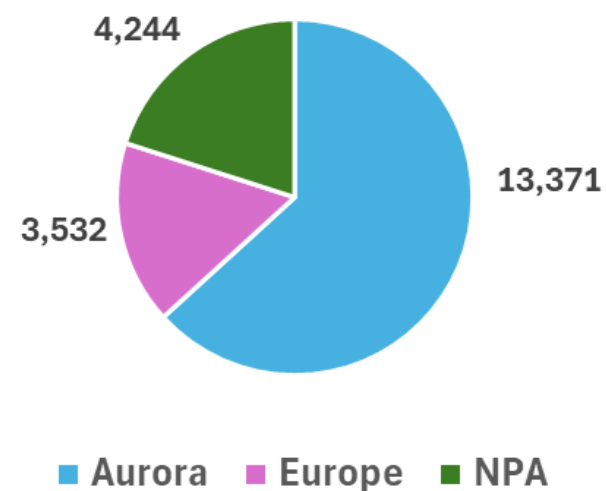


# Finnish national co-funding - granted

Number of project / beneficiaries



Committed national financing M€



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# Finnish national co-funding

- Regional Council of Lapland makes the co-funding decisions and administers the payment applications of three Interreg programme; Interreg Aurora, Interreg Europe and Interreg Northern Periphery and Arctic
- Financing is granted within the limits of annual financing allocation from the national authority, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland.
- National co-funding can be up to 70% of the non-EU portion of the budget, min 4 900 € and max 200 000 € **per project**.
- Beneficiary can apply pre-financing, max 30 % of the grant. The need for the pre-financing shall be justified.

The image shows a screenshot of a Finnish application form for national co-funding of Interreg projects. The form is titled "ANSÖKAN OM NATIONELL MEDFINANSIERING FÖR ETT INTERREG-PROJEKT". It includes sections for project details, applicant information, and funding preferences. The form features the Interreg logo and the European Union flag. The form is in Swedish and includes fields for project name, start and end dates, applicant name, address, and contact information. It also includes checkboxes for selecting the Interreg program (Aurora, Europe, or Northern Periphery and Arctic) and for indicating if the project is a pre-financing application.



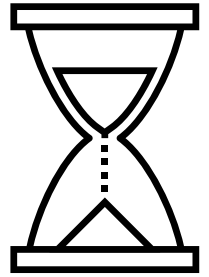
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# How and when to apply



- Application submission to the Regional Council of Lapland **within 4 months** of the official decision of the EU-funding - decision is an annex of the application
  - Only in very limited cases a late application can be accepted.
- If the project has several Finnish partners, one (Finnish lead partner) of them shall apply the financing on behalf of all Finnish project partners – one application submitted
- Finnish lead partner receives the decision and manages the communication with the financier (reporting, payments etc.)



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# Partnership contract



- If the project has several Finnish partners, they shall prepare the partnership contract, including agreement of
  - the Finnish Lead partner who will apply the financing and request the payments
  - the use of financing only for the purposes specified in the decision
  - mutual rights and obligations
  - mutual procedures regarding financial transactions



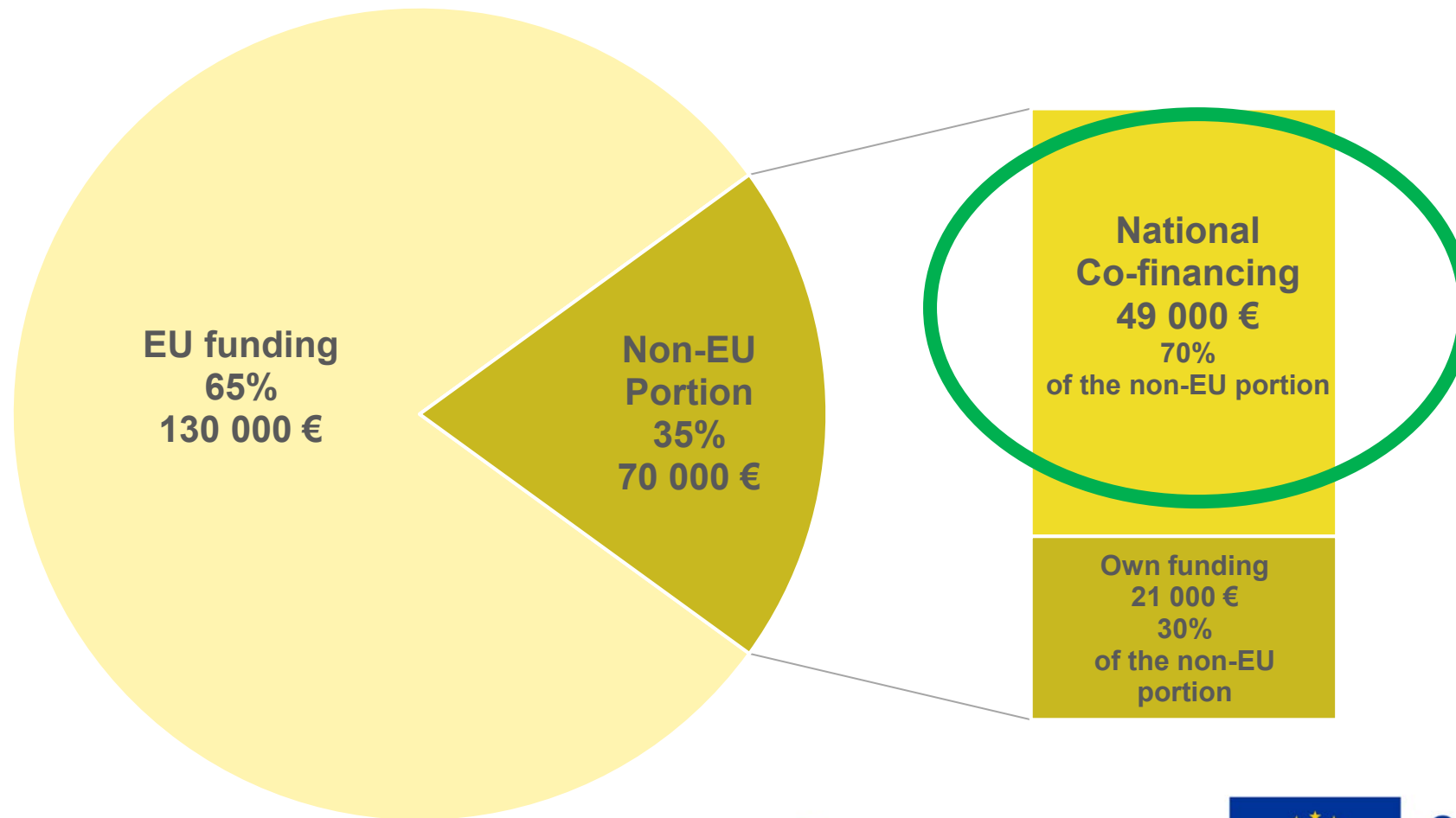
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# Example: Budget for Finnish partners 200 000 €



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# Control (FLC) functions in Aurora



- Finland has a centralised model, Aurora control tasks are located in the Regional Council of Lapland
- No costs to the project partners
- The check is carried out in Min Ansökan –system

National co-financing payment is requested within 3 months of the EU-payment decision.



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# Three "take-aways":



1. Apply national co-financing only after you receive the EU-decision (*Notification of decision EU-support*) from the EU programme.
2. If the project has several Finnish partners, one of them submits the co-financing application on behalf of others. Cooperation agreement is needed as an annex.
3. No need to reserve funding for the "FLC" costs in the budget!



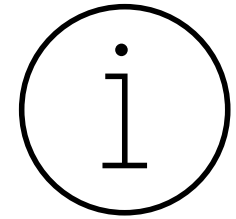
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# Where to find information



- Regional Council of Lapland webpages, instructions for applying and reporting
  - <https://www.lapinliitto.fi/rahoitus/2021-2027interreg-vastinrahoitus-ja-valvonta/>
  - <https://www.lapinliitto.fi/sv/nationell-medfinansiering-och-kontroll-i-interregprogram-2021-2027/>



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# Who to contact?

## National co-funding decisions



Financial expert

[Katri.niska-honkonen@lapinliitto.fi](mailto:Katri.niska-honkonen@lapinliitto.fi)

[+358-40 711 8392](tel:+358407118392)

Prepares the management processes for the co-funding administration, and the co-funding decisions.



Interreg expert

[Maiju.jolma-taylor@lapinliitto.fi](mailto:Maiju.jolma-taylor@lapinliitto.fi)

[+358-40 660 8546](tel:+358406608546)

Prepares the management processes for the co-funding administration, and the co-funding decisions.



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## Payment applications and control functions



Finance expert

[marika.kipinoinen@lapinliitto.fi](mailto:marika.kipinoinen@lapinliitto.fi)

[+358-40 487 5717](tel:+358404875717)

Contact person for management verifications and co-funding payment decisions.

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# Coffee/tea and networking

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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# Project pitches, partner search and meet up fair for networking

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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Aurora

# Project pitches – 3 minutes

Venue: Tonsalen

Approx. starting time	Title and topic of project idea	Name and organization
15.05	Strategic cooperation between education and industry in connection with the green transition	Ann-Maj Björkell-Holm, Yrkesakademin i Österbotten Svenska Österbottens förbund för utbildning och kultur
15.10	European Festivals Fond for Emerging Artists - EFFEA	Erik Palm, Musikarrangörer i Samverkan - MAIS
15.15	Other side of games	Timo Ylikangas, Yrkeshögskolan NOVA
15.20	Arctic Waste Collaboration + Nature-based Solutions for Snowmelt Water Treatment	Henna-Mari Laurila, Kajaani University of Applied Sciences
15.30	Resilience	Sara Nilsson, Region Västerbotten
15.35	Excess heat as a booster for climate resilient local food production + Greenlink	Outi Laatikainen, KAMK University of Applied Sciences
15.45	Industrial Applications of Low Power Energy Harvesting	Joel Haverinen, University of Vaasa
15.50	Aurora XR TechTour	Juho Pirttilahti, Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences
15.55	Women of the North – Building Future Indigenous Entrepreneurs	Katarina Påve-Gaup, Aimi of Sápmi AB / Arctic Prime AS
16.00	The third sector's role in corporate social responsibility	Pernilla Howard, Centria University of Applied Sciences
16.05	Beyond Blue Zones - Kvarken on the Global Market As a Leading Lifestyle Medicine and Community Health Innovation Cluster Through Research, Education, Tourism and Food	Sarah Åkerman, Åbo Akademi University
16.10	Fossil-free logistics through electrification and renewable fuels, as well as innovation and knowledge exchange around biogas production and digestate as a resource in agriculture	Hanna Olovsson, BioFuel Region
16.15	INVOLVE - involve more parties for greater engagement and for continuity in the work with education, eradication and controlling invasive non-native species	Åsa Laurell, Umeå kommun / The municipality of Umeå
16.20	Utunyange Health Initiative: Empowering Girls and Young Women through SRHR, Technology, and STEM	Noella Lidvine, Utunyange Initiative
16.25	Small scale on demand Wire Arc Additive Manufacturing of one of its kind components in Sapmi	Per Lindström Lussi, LNU Weling Mechanics Laboratory, Linnéuniversitetet



# Closing Address of the Day

Tina Nilsson  
Programme Director, Interreg Aurora

#InterregAurora  
Umeå 18 September 2025

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