

## Overview Fifth Call Approved Projects

Project name	Budget in EUR*	Partnership:	Summary
<b>Priority Axis 1 - Innovation</b>			
<b>277 EMERGREEN</b> Emerging technologies for greener communities	Total cost 1.592.723,00 Total grant 1.035.269,94 ERDF 875.364,74 Faroe Islands 159.905,20	Lead partner: ERNACT (IE) Donegal County Council (IE), Association of Local Authorities Västernorrland (SE), University of Helsinki (FI), Derry City and Strabane District Council (NI), National University of Ireland (IE), Faroese Environment Agency (FO)	EMERGREEN addresses these challenges by bringing new innovative models for participative, user-centred, quality and sustainable public services aiming greener communities. The exploration of new business models for public services provision in remote areas. They will seek for suitable models based on shared solutions and more intense use of new technologies. A common approach involving the relevant stakeholders will be followed by the partnership to test different emerging technologies in the provision of green growth type of public services in the 5 participating regions including marine litter and zero waste circular management, green growth advisory services, intelligent green participation and data story telling of green energies service. A transnational platform making the services accessible on a transboundary basis will be set up with the vision to be expanded and host other technology-led public services from other NPA regions and service areas.
<b>Priority Axis 2 - Entrepreneurship</b>			
<b>274 ARTICSEN</b> Culturally Sensitive Tourism in the Arctic	Total cost 1.455.547,88 Total grant 876.400,09 ERDF 479.003,71 ERDF 20% 173.323,00 Norway 224.073,38	Lead partner: University of Lapland (FI). Partners: Arctic University of Norway(NO), University of Waterloo (CA), World Indigenous Tourism Alliance (NZ), Aalborg University (DK), Mountain and Sami Museum (SE), Umeå University (SE), Northern Norway Tourist Board (NO)	The project 'Culturally Sensitive Tourism in the Arctic' – ARCTISEN – develops a support system for start-ups and existing small and medium-sized enterprises offering innovative tourism products and services. Expanding tourist interest in the Arctic brings unforeseen opportunities to maintain local livelihoods and lifestyles. The pressing demand for new tourism products and services that draw on the rich natural and cultural resources of the region. Simultaneously, limited knowledge of indigenous and other local cultures in Northern communities calls for more open and sensitive dialogue among different tourism actors. The transnational cooperation among project partners produces a support system that consists of the following three components: 1) Toolkits and online courses that enhance tourism companies' cultural sensitivity, digital, product development and business innovation capacities, 2) Cluster of culturally sensitive tourism enterprises across the programme area and 3) Co-creation of new tourism products, services and business innovations.

\* Disclaimer: the final amounts will be established during the contracting phase. Figures displayed here are no guarantee.

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<b>289 W-POWER</b> Empowering women entrepreneurs in sparsely populated communities	Total cost	1.820.498,54	Lead Partner: Karelia University of Applied Sciences Ltd (FI)	<p>W-POWER aims for equal growth and increase in the contribution of women to regional economy in sparsely populated Northern and Arctic communities, as women leaving the North is one of the main challenges to beat in the region. All project partner regions suffer from similar challenges caused by peripherality, which creates a strong argument for transnational cooperation. The project makes a difference for rural businesses by providing transnational learning and capacity building possibilities, but also creating new business concepts and support mechanisms. W-POWER creates new start-ups, helps to take the next step of maturity from start-up, and supports the growing phase of existing SMEs. In addition, business advisory bodies will get new tools for gender-sensitive coaching and diversity management.</p> <p>Project objectives include capacity building of women entrepreneurs, improvement of gender-related business advisory services, and encouragement for self-employment in sparsely populated communities. Development work of W-POWER is based on actual needs, joint collaboration and close engagement with key stakeholders in a quadruple-helix manner. As a result, greater understanding of regional and transnational barriers which impact negatively on women entrepreneurs will be reached, as well as mechanisms to overcome the barriers.</p>
	Total grant	1.147.837,95	Partners: Highlands and Islands Enterprise (SC), Innovation and Management Centre CLG T/A WestBIC (IE), Strukturum (SE), Innovation Center Iceland (IS), Joensuu Regional Development Company JOSEK Ltd (FI), Lapland University of Applied Sciences (FI), Pure Energy Centre (SC).	
	ERDF	1.069.598,25		
	Iceland	78.239,70		
<b>316 BizMentors</b> BizMentors	Total cost	1.343.494,28	Lead Partner: Western Development Commission (IE)	<p>Poor access to business expertise and networks is a challenge for SMEs and entrepreneurs across the NPA. This is especially true for SMEs in low business density and population density areas and for under-represented groups including women, the disabled and ethnic minorities. While an established mentoring support system exists in all the partner regions, many fail to meet the criteria to qualify for mentoring support, the mentors lack a working knowledge of specific areas of expertise or the funding model is unsustainable. The BizMentors model, developed by SCCUL, has been proven to support individuals and businesses in a small dispersed community setting in Galway since 2012. It relies on the local support of established business people (mentors) to provide free guidance to those seeking it (mentees) in a structured and low cost way.</p> <p>In a quadruple helix partnership approach, this project aims to innovate the model using an online interactive platform and shared learning to scale and</p>
	Total grant	813.371,74	Partners: SSCUL Enterprises CLG (IE), Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (NI), Savonia University of Applied Sciences (FI), Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network (IS), Northeast Iceland Development Agency (IS).	
	ERDF	670.577,91		
	Iceland	142.793,88		

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				<p>expand BizMentors in the NPA Region, making expertise accessible to all enterprises and entrepreneurs. To test the new model, the partnership will focus on the Agri-Food sector. Having identified 587 existing agri-food businesses in the partner regions during the preparatory phase, the project will support end users to take advantage of the unique natural capital, innovation capacity and markets that remains untapped in the region. The mentoring model developed will be piloted in each region participating in the project. The output from these pilots will inform future transferability to other business sectors and countries (not just in the NPA region).</p>
<p><b>254 BLITZ</b> Business of Literature Zones</p>	Total cost	1.952.668,94	<p>Lead Partner: Irish Central Border Area Network Ltd. (ICBAN) (NI) Partners: Western Development Commission (IE), Kajaani University of Applied Sciences (FI), Lapland University of Applied Sciences (FI), Regional Council of Kainuu (FI), Wigtown Festival Company (SC), Arts Over Borders (NI).</p>	<p>The Vision of the project is “to grow entrepreneurship and SME reach beyond local markets by developing and marketing literary tourism products.” The project will thereby ensure the enhanced capacity of SMEs to act beyond local markets through increased awareness, enhanced visibility and changed attitudes towards the Literary Tourism sector as an economic driver within the region.</p> <p>The project will achieve this change through the creation of 1 SME Literary Tourism focused support programme. Within this programme 4 models for Literary Tourism will be developed and trialled facilitating knowledge transfer of economic development solutions, their practical application, and means by which to maximise their transformative economic impact, from one country to another. Engaging 40 SMEs with the project on a transnational basis, working collaboratively to engage with the Literary Tourism sector. 12 support workshops/sessions delivered to participating SMEs. 1 cluster of SMEs assembled to ensure complementarity of literary tourism products and services developed, shared learning and effective transnational marketing. A minimum of 20 new literary tourism focused products or services developed thereby ensuring changed market behaviour and integration of SME activity within the LT sector. Creation of a digital platform to capture and increase visibility of literary tourism products, services &amp; sites, thereby ensuring the use of innovative ICT solutions, e-commerce and social media, to overcome distance to market. Creation of a Literary Tourism network engaging key stakeholders from across the NPA region thereby ensuring shared learning. 1 literary tourism methodology / best practice guide developed facilitating dissemination of good practice across national boundaries.</p>

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<b>290 Digi2Market</b> Digital Access to Markets for Sustainable Rural Business	Total cost 1.762.811,31 Total grant 1.122.371,97 ERDF 1.044.187,65 Iceland 78.184,36	Lead Partner: The Gaeltacht Authority (IE) Partners: Karella University of Applied Sciences (FI), Innovation and Management Centre CLG T/A WestBIC (IE), Ulster University (NI), Irish Central Border Area Network Ltd. (ICBAN) (NI), North West Region Association (IS).	<p>The project will develop Innovative Immersive Digital Technologies Tools for SMEs. Immersive technologies are a vehicle through which Storytelling based marketing solutions are developed for SMEs and Clusters. Its focus is on sectors using natural biological resources and supplying industries. It will develop Regional and Transnational SME Clusters in Agri Enterprises (Food &amp; Biomass), Marine Enterprises (Food &amp; Health Products) and Engineering Enterprises (Fabrication &amp; Agri/Marine) to increase market reach.</p> <p>Immersive technologies and digital communication form the most resource efficient means of marketing and sales for the enterprises. 50 enterprises will be introduced to and use immersive technologies in marketing activities. The project will create a B2B Collaborative Digital Platform with the functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host Immersive technologies (Augmented &amp; Virtual Reality) Toolkits, adapted for SMEs</li> <li>• Host Marketing and Sales Toolkits adapted for SMEs</li> <li>• A platform for small SMEs to collaborate and achieve synergies of scale (and/or product offering) to enter new markets</li> <li>• Provide Interactive collaboration facilities for Digital Hubs, Business Parks, SMEs and Knowledge Providers</li> <li>• Provide Knowledge Centre on Green Standards for SME adoption</li> <li>• Provide a Research and Marketing Platform for SMEs.</li> </ul>
<b>299 BCE</b> Blue Circular Economy	Total cost 1.812.578,53 Total grant 1.074.865,00 ERDF 404.625,92 ERDF 20% 171.102,28 Norway 344.370,00 Greenland 154.766,83	Lead Partner: Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NO) Partners: North Highland (SC), Western Development Commission(IE), Arctic Technology Center - Technical University Denmark (GL), University for the Creative Arts (EN)	<p>Due to immature value chains most of the discarded nets end up in landfills or incineration plants instead of being recycled or upcycled. Most of the companies exploring waste fishing nets, ropes and components (FNRCs) to develop new resources, are micro-SMEs which operate within a regional or local market, where the demand is limited and product costs remain too high. Blue Circular Economy (BCE) aims to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) offering products and services within fishing gear recycling solutions in the NPA region to attain a greater market reach. Building on the network developed under Circular Ocean (2015-2018), the project will set up a multi-level cluster to connect and catalyse SMEs in the region. The cluster formation will be used as a hub, multiplier and network enabler where knowledge and experience is developed and shared, all the while adopting an inclusive gender-equal approach. The cluster establishment and operation will be done in collaboration with academia, industry and government agencies following a</p>

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				triple helix approach. BCE will therefore contribute to sustainable development in the NPA region at the economic, environmental and social levels.
<b>Priority Axis 3 - Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>				
<b>260 HANDIHEAT</b> Heat and Anaerobic Digestion For District Heating	Total cost Total grant ERDF Iceland	2.015.553,65 1.264.049,48 1.165.027,49 99.022,99	Lead Partner: Northern Ireland Housing Executive(NI) Partners: Arc Healthy Living Centre(NI), Natural Resources Institute Finland(FI), Claremorris Irish Centre for Housing(IE), PURE Energy Centre (SC), Karelia University of Applied Sciences Ltd. (FI), Austurland's Energy Transition (IS)	HANDIHEAT will focus on energy performance in rural housing and public infrastructure challenges in peripheral and arctic regions. It will support the development of jobs and renewable energy business opportunities provided by extreme conditions in rural communities. The overall objective will be to develop a set of resources, implementation toolkits, decision making guides and a roadmap for the rural community housing sector. Pilots will provide visible proof and an enduring guide to what can be achieved.  The project focuses on energy networks for rural communities such as housing, both social and private, which are subject to fuel inequity/poverty and reliant on imported fossil fuels for energy. The development of community energy systems will increase the vitality of rural businesses and lead to a reduction in fuel inequity for those identified as vulnerable. It is aimed at identified opportunities for example to identify anaerobic digestion feedstocks and other underutilised local energy resources.
<b>298 SMARTrenew</b> Smarter renewable energy and heating Management for Arctic and northern Rural Territories	Total cost Total grant ERDF Norway Iceland Faroe Islands	1.644.350,20 991.407,61 600.957,63 136.500,00 133.375,00 120.575,00	Lead Partner: Letterkenny Institute of Technology (IE) Partners: Oulu University of Applied Sciences (FI), Derry City and Strabane District Council (NI), Environment Agency (FO), Heat Research and Development (IS), Donegal County Council (IE), Northern Research Institute Narvik A.S. (NO), Orkusetur (IS).	The aim of SMARTrenew is to transfer renewable energy and smart storage solutions to dispersed regions of the NPA. Transnational knowledge transfer will be demand led, supported by the quadruple helix approach (academia, business, public authority, citizens), and impact will be maximised by focusing on implementation and smart energy awareness building in communities.  Common territorial challenges to be addressed by SMARTrenew include the high cost of fossil fuel dominated energy and heat supplies, remoteness, low population density, cold climate and low uptake in smart renewable technology resulting in energy poverty and lack of energy security combined with poor grid infrastructure in remote areas.  To address the challenges the project will deliver transnational knowledge and expertise from the partner regions into each of these communities, to increase awareness, and implement solutions with an innovative renewable mix combined with smart energy storage. The main results will be: (i) greater awareness in communities and local authorities; (ii) renewable energy

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			implementations that will show that local energy poverty can be decreased, and energy security increased. The project outputs will be: 6 “showcase” Smarter Energy Rural Communities”, 11 houses and public buildings retrofitted with smart renewable energy/storage solutions, 4 smart storage services and 5 renewable services.
<b>Total 9 main projects</b>	Total cost 15.400.226,33 Total grant 10.471.208,64 ERDF 14.281.791,44 ERDF 20% 1.124.097,59 Norway 704.943,38 Iceland 531.615,93 Faroe Islands** - Greenland** -	Explanation country codes FI – Finland FO – Faroe Islands GL – Greenland Zealand IE – Ireland IS – Iceland NI – Northern Ireland NO – Norway SC – Scotland SE – Sweden DK – Denmark EN – England NZ – New	

\*\* In the Fifth Call, Faroese and Greenlandic partners are funded from the ERDF 20% source.