



## NPA Annual Conference 2015 – State of the Region 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 – Kuopio, Finland



Since the programme area analysis for the Cooperation Programme document was carried out in early 2013, the programme area has not stood still. Rapid developments are taking place, not least in the Arctic part of the area. There is a need to refresh our information.

During the spring of 2015, a process has taken place to establish baseline values for the 6 specific objectives of the programme. In addition, after 2 main project calls, it is possible to have an early reflection of which topics are being addressed and those topics that still need to generate project ideas. Furthermore, other programmes overlapping the area have been adopted and started their implementation.

**The purpose of this event is to provide an update on recent developments in the NPA programme area, as well as Arctic cooperation and the coordination with other EU programmes and instruments relevant for the NPA.**

This event is mainly targeted at:

- NPA main (and preparatory) projects
- Representatives from programme bodies
- A number of baseline experts and other experts in these fields
- Representatives from neighbouring programmes and funding instruments

The conference will be organised as a back-to-back event with a Lead Partner seminar for approved NPA projects on 1<sup>st</sup> October. It is expected that the total number of participants will be 80-100.

### How to participate

Participation is by invitation only and invitees will receive their invitation by e-mail. Registration will be open from 12<sup>th</sup> June to **31<sup>st</sup> August**.

The conference is free of charge. However, participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. You can find hotel and travel details on the registration page.

For more information, please contact Saija Tikkanen at the Joint Secretariat, [saija.tikkanen@northernperiphery.eu](mailto:saija.tikkanen@northernperiphery.eu).

# Draft Agenda

<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
19:00	<b>Welcome Reception</b> for conference participants – venue tbc. Early registration.	
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – NPA Annual Conference 2015, Scandic Hotel Kuopio</b>		
08:45-09:00	Registration	
09:00-09:15	<b>Chair:</b> Harry Ekestam, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Finland tbc <b>Welcome address</b> – Region Mayor Jussi Huttunen	
<b>Programme Results</b>		
09:15-09:30	<b>Importance of making results focus concrete in European Territorial Cooperation programmes</b> – European Commission DG Regio speaker tbc	
09:30-10:00	<b>How to measure results</b> – Nathalie Wergles tbc and panel experts Outcome of the exercise to establish baseline values for the programme result indicators. What is the current state of the programme area, and which targets do we set for ourselves? Where do we have to go in order to deliver the results sought?	
10:00-10:30	<b>Panel discussion</b> – What is the meaning of the baselines and how can projects contribute? Panellists: Nathalie Wergles tbc, max. 4 panel experts and interviewer	
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
<b>Coordination between programmes</b>		
11:00-11:20	<b>Outcomes preparatory project Coordination Mechanism</b> , regional policy coordination in the Arctic – Jim Millard, Scottish Government tbc	
11:20-11:40	<b>Coordination with other instruments</b> – speaker tbc	
<b>Programme Status</b>		
11:40-12:10	<b>NPA Programme Status</b> after programme approval and 2 calls – Joint Secretariat	
12:10-12:30	<b>Introduction of afternoon programme</b> - Joint Secretariat	
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
<b>Workshop sessions – 2 parallel sessions</b>		
13:30-15:30	<p><b>Workshop for projects</b></p> <p>Mind map exercise with projects to find thematic synergies and gaps, to promote greater awareness among projects of each other, and where they can make a contribution. (links back to baseline exercise and programme status)</p>	<p><b>Workshop on coordination</b></p> <p>Panel discussion with representatives from several programmes/instruments. Identifying synergies and opportunities for coordination, potential barriers for a better integration.</p>
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break. After the break, all participants gather again in the plenary room.</i>	
<b>Closing session</b>		
16:00-16:20	<b>Report from workshop sessions</b> - rapporteurs	
16:20-16:30	<b>Launch of the Third Call tbc</b> – Joint Secretariat	
16:30-16:50	<b>Key note speech:</b> State of the Region – Finnish speaker tbc	
16:50-17:00	<b>Wrap up</b> - Chair	
18:30	<i>Buses leave for conference dinner</i>	