

PRIORITY 3

Strengthening the organisational capacity among NPA communities to make use of cooperation opportunities

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3.1 Enhance institutional **capacity** of public authorities and stakeholders **to implement** macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, as well as other **territorial strategies**



Specific objective 3.1: Enhance institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders to implement macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, as well as other territorial strategies

The goal for actions to enhance organisational capacity of public authorities and stakeholders in NPA is to develop more resilient communities. This includes working with natural and cultural heritage to protect, promote and develop these important features for the programme area and developing wider territorial synergies and links to the benefits of the programme area.

The NPA Programme has the potential to bring strong regional and territorial development perspectives to the EU Arctic Policy, as well as national Arctic policies, recognising the unique circumstances and challenges of the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme area compared to other parts of Europe. In particular, common characteristics in relation to demography, indigenous perspectives, peripherality, insularity and harsh conditions .

Northern Periphery and Arctic

The NPA programme has a leading role in the cooperation between the Arctic INTERREG programmes (a cooperation that potentially will be extended to national programmes and other Arctic networks). To bring the cooperation to a project level, the NPA can support projects that cooperate across programmes in order to encourage increased alignment, synergies and results.

The specific objective does not only target Arctic regions, but also other northern European regions that have similar features and challenges.

Types of actions to be funded:

- Development and transfer of capacity building concepts to engage stakeholders in cooperation based on local knowledge, supporting them to implement strategies for Northern Periphery and Arctic regions.

In all activities that are approved by the NPA programme, there should be an integration of the horizontal criteria. This means that the activities should strive for a performance with low carbon footprint, with equal opportunities for men and women and inclusion of underrepresented groups, including indigenous peoples and other culturally and linguistically distinct groups originating from the NPA area.

The objectives of the programme take into account the “do no significant harm” principle.

Main target groups:

- Local public authority
- Regional public authority
- National public authority
- Sectoral agency
- Interest groups including NGOs
- Higher education and research
- Education/training centre and school
- SME
- International organisation, EEIG
- General public (including local communities)

Indicators:

- Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects (RCO 84)
- Strategies and action plans jointly developed (RCO 83)
- Organisations cooperating across borders (RCO 87)
- Jointly developed solutions (RCO 116)
- Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations (RCR 79)
- Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations (RCR 104)

