

International Barents Secretariat



Sohvi Kangasluoma - JWGHS Oulu 22.-23.3.2017

What is new:

- Mandate template for the Working Groups (draft)
- Guidelines for the Working Groups (draft)
- Information event for the Chairs of the Working Groups in Moscow
27.4.2017
- New website on financial mechanisms
- Updating IBS communication: working on a new communication plan and active use of social media
- New series of Recent news of WGs → aiming to make the work of WGs more visible

Mandate template (draft)



BARENTS EURO-ARCTIC COUNCIL
BARENTS REGIONAL COUNCIL

Mandate for Name of working group

1. *Introduction*

Brief introduction to the working group, its establishment and previous work.

2. *Objectives*

Define both the long-term and short-term objectives of the work of the working group.

3. *Method of work*

Define the type of work conducted by the working group, the frequency of meetings, how communication is maintained between the meetings.

4. *Language*

Define the working language of the working group.

5. *Membership*

Define the scope of membership in the group. Who can be a member? How are new members nominated and accepted into the group? How many members can each region/state have? What position should the members have? Are there any observers to the group?

6. *Chairmanship*

Define the order of rotation, the length of terms, other restrictions etc.

1. *Financing*

What are the financing sources of the working group? How are projects financed? Who pays for meetings and travel and accommodation costs related to meetings?

2. *Duration*

Define the duration of this mandate.

3. *Communication*

How does the group communicate, both within the group and towards the IBS, BEAC Committee of Senior Officials and the Regional Council?

4. *Reporting*

When should the working group report to the International Barents Secretariat, the BEAC Committee of Senior Officials and the Regional Council?

5. *Other*

This mandate has been approved and accepted by NAME. on the DATE.

Guidelines for the Barents Working Groups (draft)

Guidelines for the Barents Working Groups

The role of the Chair

- The Chair of the Working Group (WG) has the right and responsibility to convene the meetings. The Chair is also responsible for drafting the agenda and the protocol of the meetings. Meetings of the WGs should be held at least twice a year to ensure continuous work.
- Rotation of the WG Chairmanship should be two years. Only under certain criteria can the chairmanship be prolonged.
- Rotation order rotates equally between Russia, Finland, Sweden and Norway. It is preferred to have the WG Chairmanship rotation synchronized with the national BEAC Chairmanship. If this is not feasible, the WG Chair should work to ensure seamless communication with the national BEAC Chairmanship.

Membership of the Working Group

- Appointed WG Members should be experienced experts in their field.
- The national/regional authority has the right to decide on the appointment of the members.
- In case of change within the members the institution in question has the responsibility to appoint new members *and* communicate about the change to the International Barents Secretariat.
- The main principle is that each state/region can have one member.
- Members of WGs are expected to actively participate in the work of WG.

Reporting

- The WG Chairs are responsible for submitting the annual report of the Working Group to the International Barents Secretariat by the end of December each year.
- The report should describe the activities, which have been undertaken during the past calendar year. The focus should be on the issues discussed, the results achieved as well as possible challenges encountered by the group.

- The International Barents Secretariat collects the reports and forwards the information to the Committee of Senior Officials and Regional Committee meetings.
- It is highly suggested that the WGs give updates on their activities regularly to the International Barents Secretariat, not only with annual reports.

Other

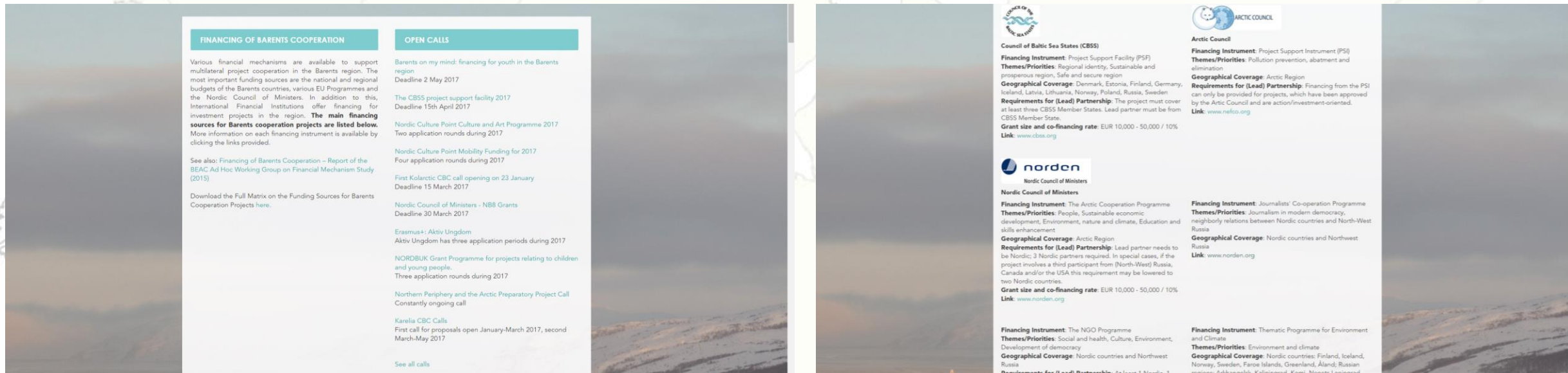
- The Chair of each Working Group has a big role in the successful work of WG. The Chair takes the initiative and responsibility for the activities of the WG during each two-year term. If the Chair does not fulfil this role can the other members of the WG also act as initiators.



Information event for the Chairs of the Working Groups

- First information event for the Chairs of all the Barents Working Groups in Moscow 27th of April.
- Sharing experiences and information. Chance to ask anything.
- IBS is planning the event to continue as annual event.

Financial mechanism page: funding calls + all Barents relevant financial mechanisms in one page



FINANCING OF BARENTS COOPERATION

Various financial mechanisms are available to support multilateral project cooperation in the Barents region. The most important funding sources are the national and regional budgets of the Barents countries, various EU Programmes and the Nordic Council of Ministers. In addition to this, International Financial Institutions offer financing for investment projects in the region. **The main financing sources for Barents cooperation projects are listed below.** More information on each financing instrument is available by clicking the links provided.

See also: Financing of Barents Cooperation – Report of the BEAC Ad Hoc Working Group on Financial Mechanism Study (2015)

Download the Full Matrix on the Funding Sources for Barents Cooperation Projects [here](#).

OPEN CALLS

Barents on my mind: financing for youth in the Barents region
Deadline 2 May 2017

The CBSS project support facility 2017
Deadline 15th April 2017

Nordic Culture Point Culture and Art Programme 2017
Two application rounds during 2017

Nordic Culture Point Mobility Funding for 2017
Four application rounds during 2017

First Kolarctic CBC call opening on 23 January
Deadline 15 March 2017

Nordic Council of Ministers - NBB Grants
Deadline 30 March 2017

Erasmus+ : Aktiv Ungdom
Aktiv Ungdom has three application periods during 2017

NORDBUK Grant Programme for projects relating to children and young people
Three application rounds during 2017

Northern Periphery and the Arctic Preparatory Project Call
Constantly ongoing call

Karelia CBC Calls
First call for proposals open January-March 2017, second March-May 2017

See all calls

Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS)

Financing Instrument: Project Support Facility (PSF)
Themes/Priorities: Regional identity, Sustainable and prosperous region, Safe and secure region
Geographical Coverage: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden
Requirements for (Lead) Partnership: The project must cover at least three CBSS Member States. Lead partner must be from CBSS Member State.
Grant size and co-financing rate: EUR 10,000 - 50,000 / 10%
Link: www.cbss.org

Arctic Council

Financing Instrument: Project Support Instrument (PSI)
Themes/Priorities: Pollution prevention, abatement and elimination
Geographical Coverage: Arctic Region
Requirements for (Lead) Partnership: Financing from the PSI can only be provided for projects, which have been approved by the Arctic Council and are action/investment-oriented.
Link: www.nefco.org

norden
Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Council of Ministers

Financing Instrument: The Arctic Cooperation Programme
Themes/Priorities: People, Sustainable economic development, Environment, nature and climate, Education and skills enhancement
Geographical Coverage: Arctic Region
Requirements for (Lead) Partnership: Lead partner needs to be Nordic; 3 Nordic partners required. In special cases, if the project involves a third participant from (North-West) Russia, Canada and/or the USA this requirement may be lowered to two Nordic countries.
Grant size and co-financing rate: EUR 10,000 - 50,000 / 10%
Link: www.norden.org

Financing Instrument: Journalists' Co-operation Programme
Themes/Priorities: Journalism in modern democracy, neighborly relations between Nordic countries and North-West Russia
Geographical Coverage: Nordic countries and North-West Russia
Link: www.norden.org

Financing Instrument: Thematic Programme for Environment and Climate
Themes/Priorities: Environment and climate
Geographical Coverage: Nordic countries: Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Åland; Russian regions: Arkhangelsk, Kaliningrad, Komi, Nenets Leninoard.

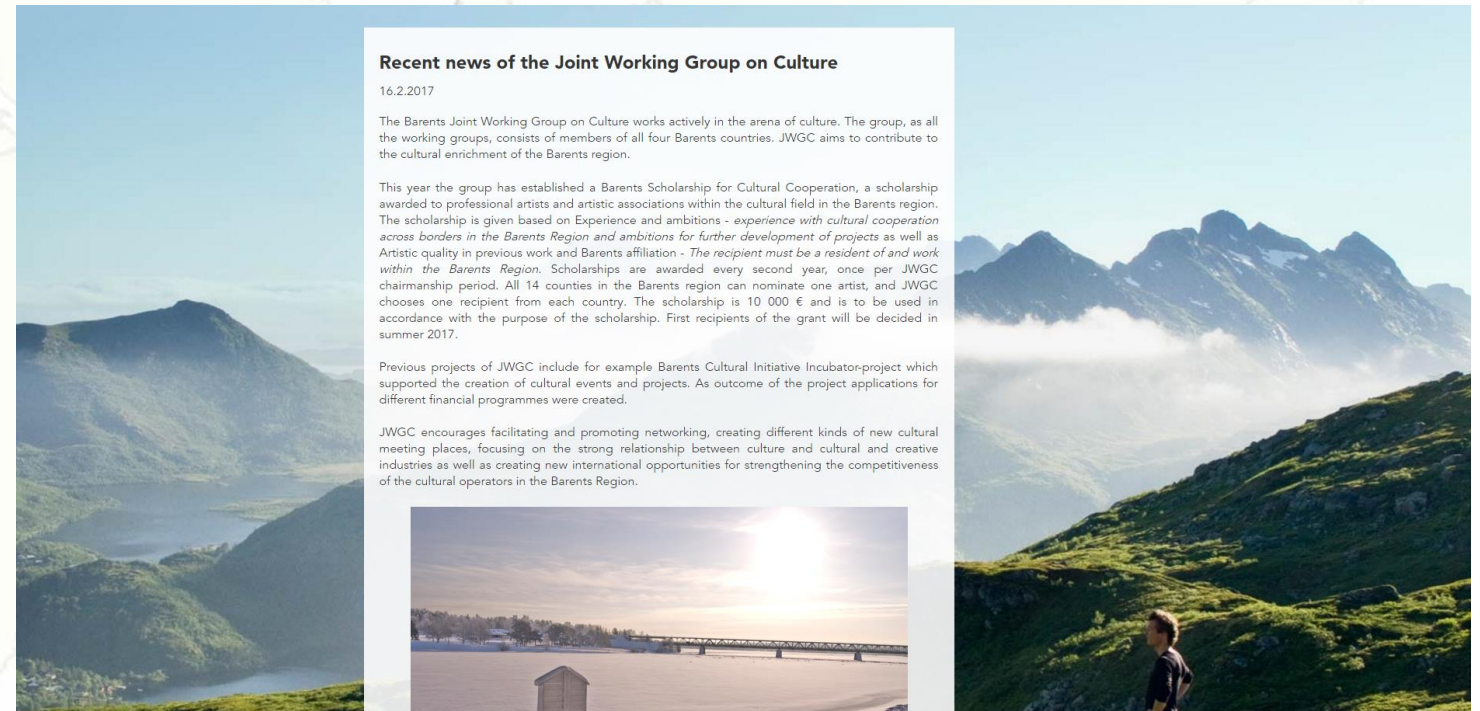
Communication

- IBS is working with a new Communication plan
- Increased use of social media – aiming to increase knowledge of the Barents region

The screenshot displays a website interface for the Barents region. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Oulu, Finland' and 'Alta, Norway'. Below these, there are sections for 'Recent news of the Joint Working Group on Culture' and 'Barents Regional Council meeting'. A 'Tweets' section features a tweet from @barents_beac about a meeting of the Working Group on Environment, accompanied by a photo of a snowy landscape. A Facebook post from the International Barents Secretariat is also visible, announcing an event called 'Barentslunsjen' with a photo of a snowy town. At the bottom, a banner reads 'THE BARENTS EURO-ARCTIC' over a background image of a snowy mountain range.

Publishing new series of Recent News of WGs

- IBS publishes regularly news of the current happenings of the Barents Working Groups
- Aiming to make visible the work that the WGs do



Recent news of the Joint Working Group on Culture
16.2.2017

The Barents Joint Working Group on Culture works actively in the arena of culture. The group, as all the working groups, consists of members of all four Barents countries. JWGC aims to contribute to the cultural enrichment of the Barents region.

This year the group has established a Barents Scholarship for Cultural Cooperation, a scholarship awarded to professional artists and artistic associations within the cultural field in the Barents region. The scholarship is given based on Experience and ambitions - *experience with cultural cooperation across borders in the Barents Region and ambitions for further development of projects* as well as Artistic quality in previous work and Barents affiliation - *The recipient must be a resident of and work within the Barents Region*. Scholarships are awarded every second year, once per JWGC chairmanship period. All 14 counties in the Barents region can nominate one artist, and JWGC chooses one recipient from each country. The scholarship is 10 000 € and is to be used in accordance with the purpose of the scholarship. First recipients of the grant will be decided in summer 2017.

Previous projects of JWGC include for example Barents Cultural Initiative Incubator-project which supported the creation of cultural events and projects. As outcome of the project applications for different financial programmes were created.

JWGC encourages facilitating and promoting networking, creating different kinds of new cultural meeting places, focusing on the strong relationship between culture and cultural and creative industries as well as creating new international opportunities for strengthening the competitiveness of the cultural operators in the Barents Region.

IBS wishes to continue efficient cooperation with the JWGHs

- We hope to hear about all changes in the members in JWGHs, new projects and current happenings.
- IBS also hopes that you could contribute a little piece of text for the new **Climate Change Action Plan** – proposed initiatives do not necessarily have to be specifically targeted on climate issues. Proposals could be connected with your on-going or planned activities, but involving a climate aspect / having positive impact on climate.
- If there is a need for an online platform for internal communication, the IBS can help at identifying suitable options.
- If you have any questions or concerns, you can be in touch with me. From the beginning of April you can contact Roy Hojem roy@barentscooperation.org

Thank you!

The logo for the International Barents Secretariat is a stylized, wavy banner with a color gradient from blue on the left to green on the right. The text "INTERNATIONAL BARENTS SECRETARIAT" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font across the center of the banner.

INTERNATIONAL
BARENTS
SECRETARIAT