



**Northern  
Periphery  
Programme**

2007–2013

Innovatively investing  
in Europe's Northern  
Periphery for a sustainable  
and prosperous future



## Call for Preparatory Projects

At its most recent meeting the PMC decided to continue a call for preparatory projects from **3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2010** as outlined in this paper.

In preparation for the Sixth Call, a wider definition of products and services has been developed, which is part of the NPP core concept of added value. The wider definition includes:

- Producing a new product or service that has a transnational or transregional character.
- Transfer and adaptation of existing products and services from one region into transnational or transregional solutions
- Update and adaptation of existing transnational or transregional products and services with additional features

Projects applicant should demonstrate their potential to address the negative impacts of the global economic crisis and its effects in the Northern Periphery area, by creatively seeking to increase the creation of jobs and businesses that prevent unemployment, and develop innovative solutions for recovering from the global economic crisis. Projects applicants are encouraged to turn the current global economic crisis into opportunities by combining technological sectors with non-technological sectors such as collaborations between traditional and creative industries.

The themes below are open for preparatory project applications:

### **In Priority 1:**

- Objective “To promote competitiveness by increasing and developing the capacity for innovation and networking in rural and peripheral areas”, the two themes:
  - i) exchange of best practice and establishment of cooperation networks between R&D institutions and SMEs to increase the capacity for innovation, facilitate the design of innovation systems and strengthen competitiveness (*alternative wording: design of support mechanisms (innovation systems) to improve competitiveness, in collaboration between different stakeholders*)
  - ii) cooperation and exchange of best practice between SMEs on how to address and reach markets with existing and new products



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- Objective “To facilitate development through the use of advanced information and communication technologies and transportation in the programme area”, the four themes:
  - i) increased use of ICT to overcome distance
  - iii) developing innovative product/service solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure with regard to roads, railways, airports and ports under harsh climatic conditions
  - iv) development of transport schemes that benefit rural communities, such as new maritime routes
  - v) maritime safety in relation to remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions.

**In Priority 2:**

- Objective “To improve sustainable development in peripheral regions by strengthening urban-rural (*alternative wording: towns and surroundings*) relations and enhancing regional heritage”, the three themes:
  - i) urban-rural partnerships for new service solutions  
(*alternative wording: collaboration between towns and surroundings.*)
  - iii) private, public and voluntary sectors cooperation and networks to develop new and innovative service solutions for remote and peripheral regions
  - iv) promotion of natural and cultural heritage that supports the development of sustainable industries

**Note** that alternative wording has been provided to facilitate for a broader and more correct interpretation of the themes. Please contact the Programme Secretariat if you wish to have additional explanations or examples for these themes.

The application form and guidance can be downloaded from the [Preparatory Project Call Page](#) on the programme website.

