

North Calotte Region

→ Eligible areas

Finland:	Lapland
Sweden:	County of Norrbotten, Luleå, Boden and Piteå and other Sami areas

→ Financing

Total cost:	25.982 million euro
EU contribution:	11.309 million euro ¹

→ Areas of intervention

Business development	38.5 %
Logistics, service networks and environment	14.9 %
Human resources	27.2 %
Sami culture	12.6 %
Technical assistance	6.8%

→ Contact

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Examples of projects

→ East-west transport corridor

This project aims to expand the road and rail network of the North Calotte region to the east and west, by using the existing north-south rail connections from Narvik in Norway to the ports on the Gulf of Bothnia (between northern Sweden and Finland). The charting of the transport market in relation to the type of goods, mode and time of transport and destinations and the identification of physical and administrative obstacles is already underway. Complementary actions include assessing the transport needs in the corridor's area of influence as well as identifying which measures are required to develop an efficient corridor in an east-west direction. Partnerships between industries, authorities and centres of competence in the North Calotte region have been created, bringing together industries, universities, regional authorities and SME organisations from the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia and North Norway.

→ Arctic Investors Network

The overall objective of this project is to develop a network in the North Calotte region to promote and provide services for the complete innovation/inventing process, in other words, from the creation of an idea to the development of the commercial product. The goal is to counteract large companies from outside the region buying up patented business innovations. Steps already taken include the development of a network of companies, where marketing skills and contacts are shared, and a joint service network to aid investors, prototype manufacturers, marketing and manufacturing companies has been created. Obstacles caused by distance and national boundaries have been greatly reduced through these actions. The project has succeeded in increasing contacts with almost 350 inventors and has registered 785 new inventions. Seven new companies and four new manufacturing companies, as well as 34 jobs have been created, resulting in significant economic growth.

¹ 1 million euro were transferred from this programme to the PEACE initiative in 1998.