

NKJ Announces a Call for Networking Activities in 2016-2017

Deadline for application submission is May 27 2016.

Who can apply?

Researchers at research institutions in the Nordic countries including the autonomous areas (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the autonomous areas Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland Islands) are eligible to apply. Stakeholders may be involved, but cannot be main applicants. Participants from research institutions in countries outside the Nordic region and stakeholders may participate in the project group, but cannot be main applicants.

Call description

The aim of the NKJ network call is to:

- increase North European regional synergy within agriculture and food research(*)
 - establish better contact between the agriculture and food research(*) communities in the Nordic countries
 - strengthen North European agriculture and food research(*) and networking
- (*) Including animal health and welfare and reindeer husbandry.

Applicants are encouraged to

- have PhD students and young researchers participating in the network
- build a network with an even gender distribution (aim: 40-60% gender balance)

Scope

The applications are expected to contribute to the strategic goals of the NKJ and to promote competitiveness and innovativeness of Nordic countries.

NKJ will in this strategy period, 2015-2018, focus on three thematic focus areas: climate change, globalization and the transition to the bio economy.

The NKJ-strategy 2015-2018 can be found here:

<http://nordicagriresearch.org/policy/strategi/>

Economic framework

Network grants are to be used for maximum of 2 years. Expected project start is September to December 2016.

The total budget for the call is at least 1 000 000 SEK.

- The maximum applied amount per network is 200 000 SEK
- A self-financing component of at minimum 50% of the total budget of the network is required

- The funding should primarily be spent on direct costs related to networking activities but not labor costs, or to costs of board meetings or other administrative meetings.
- Cost-efficiency: Applicants are encouraged to ensure that the cost-per-person in the network application is reasonable. In addition to physical meetings applicants are encouraged to make use of other means of meeting, e.g. video-conferences and web-based meetings to reduce travel costs and CO2 emissions.

Call conditions

- Applications must include research groups from at least **three** of the Nordic countries.
- Network activities should describe the expected Nordic synergies/added value within agriculture and food research.
- The network should have a plan for communication activities, and a publishable output of its topic/area is expected for publication in Nordicagri.org.
- Applications must be submitted by email using the application form to the NKJ secretariat (NKJ@slu.se). Applications have to be submitted in English. The currency in the applications should be Swedish Crowns (SEK).

Schedule

- The call is announced April 23th 2016 on the NKJ website and by mailing lists.
- Applications must be submitted no later than 24:00 CET on May 27st 2016.
- Decisions will be made in June 2016 and communicated to applicants in Juli 2016
- Expected project start is September to December 2016.
- Next NKJ call for network activities will be announced in summer 2016.

Evaluation criteria

Quality of the application

- Are the planned activities clearly described?
- Does the network have a working program/clear aim of activity?

Economic framework

- Is the self-financing component 50% in limits of the total budget of the network?
- Are the budgeted costs inside the scheme/timeframe of refunding?
- Is the activity in line with the amount applied?
- Is the amount applied within the funding frame?

Expected outcome

- Does the network produce a publishable output of its topic/area?
- Does the activity aim to produce other outputs, e.g. a project application, organising an open

conference, infrastructure services (e.g. database, dissemination activities)?

Relevance

- Is the activity/topic relevant to NKJ strategies?
- Does the activity increase regional synergy in the Nordic regions?

Composition of the network

- Does the activity involve three Nordic countries?
- Does the network involve young researchers/PhD students?
- Does the network have an even gender balance?

REPORTING AND ECONOMIC GUIDELINES

Reporting and economic guidelines for funded networks can be downloaded from the NKJ website

(www.nordicagriearch.org) and will be communicated directly to successful applicants by email.

Contact

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