Beskrivning av projektidé

Tilltänkt projektnamn	
Mini Urban Centres	

Insatsområde	Specifikt mål
Research and innovation	

Tilltänkt stödsökande organisation och eventuella medsökande

Main applicant and coordinator:
Aalto University, Department of architecture, Sotera Institute, Finland
       Pirjo Sanaksenaho, Head of Sotera Institute, professor of building design
       Laura Arpiainen, professor of Health and Wellbeing architecture

Other applicants:
Regional Council of Lapland, Finland (under negotiation)
       Mika Riipi, County Governor
       Maiju Hyry, Director of External Relations

Region of Jämtland Härjedalen, Sweden
       Head of Public Health Policy, Göran Hallman

Trøndelag fylke, Norway
       Kyrre Kvistad, Spesialrådgiver, Seksjon folkehelse, idrett og frivillighet
       John Tore Vik, Seniorrådgiver, Avdeling for kultur og folkehelse, Seksjon folkehelse, idrett og frivillighet

Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research, Norway
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Information

- En kort version av programmet finns på följande länk: http://www.interregnord.com/wp-content/uploads/interreg_popvers_low.pdf

- En projekthandbok om hur man planerar och genomför ett projekt inom Nordprogrammet finns på Interreg Nords hemsida, http://www.interregnord.com

- Planera redan nu hur ni ska ta hänsyn och arbeta med de horisontella kriterierna (hållbar tillväxt, lika möjligheter, icke diskriminering, jämställdhet samt samiska språket i de samiska projekten) som ett verktyg under projektgenomförandet.

Max 800 tecken per fält.

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1. Vilket skäl finns det för projektet? Hur ser kopplingen ut mellan projektidén och behovet i programområdet?
Beskriv det viktigaste skälet för att genomföra projektet. Vilket problem syftar projektet till att lösa eller vilka nya möjligheter/metoder som ska utvecklas eller förbättras. Beskriv kopplingen mellan projektidén och behovet i programområdet. Beskriv också om ni planerar att samarbeta med andra projekt eller insatser som pågår i eller utanför programområdet.

Small municipalities in Northern sparsely populated areas have to find new strategies to anticipate the population and demographic change and to steer territorial shrinkage. The aim of this research and development project is to promote resilient service structure and shared use of the built environment in these areas. The development is based on existing resources, buildings and infrastructure. Wider cooperation is needed to overcome the challenges of these areas, to share best practices and to introduce new models of service delivery. The project is focusing on wellbeing and health promotion of various resident groups, especially children and youth as well as older people. Moreover, focus is on equal access to services by Sami people. The project will be implemented in at least one municipality in each of the participating areas. The aim is to promote cooperation, and networking with municipalities, residents and service providers.

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2. Vilken liknande verksamhet pågår? Finns det kopplingar till projektet i andra EU- program eller till aktörer i andra länder?

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Beskriv om samma eller liknande verksamhet pågår någon annanstans. Beskriv i så fall hur er projektidé kompletterar denna verksamhet. Tänk på att undersöka det på lokal, regional och nationell nivå och, om det är relevant, även på internationell nivå. Beskriv även om projektet har kopplingar till något annat planerat eller pågående EU-projekt.

The Northern regions in Finland, Norway and Sweden have many common circumstances such as sparse population, and long distances. These areas are also specifically affected by demographic change. However, as the OECD report, the remote and rural regions hold great potential, if given the right adapted development support. In the sparsely populated areas, a greater concentration of population and services in the municipal centers, and collaboration between municipalities would reduce the costs of delivering public services. Improvements in connectivity will help to reduce travel times and improve the capacity to participate in the society. Furthermore, dense municipal urban areas also tend to be more attractive to younger people at working age. The mini-urban model promote an environment where people want to remain living also in the future and, as result, significant part of the demographic challenge will be resolved.

3. Vilket mål har projektet?
Redogör för projektmål, delmål och vision. Projektmål nås vid projektslut, delmål ska nås på kort sikt det vill säga under projektperioden och visionen ska nås på lång sikt (5-10 år efter projektets slut).

The aim of the project is to build transnational network and collaboration between regional administrations, businesses and research institutes. The aim is to promote versatile, inclusive living environments for sparsely populated areas. The goal is to develop a mini-urbanization service model for these areas. The model is based on shared use of existing local infrastructure for new services. The existing municipal center becomes a platform based in three principles: networking with local stakeholders, multi-use of existing infrastructure and part-time delivery of services, using new digital technology when relevant. Both remote and face-to-face services are needed. The sustainable use of resources and enhanced increasing the competitiveness of these areas. In long term, the project will provide better conditions for sustainable development, from a regional and global perspective.

4. Vilket är det gränsöverskridande mervärdet?
Projekten ska ha ett tydligt gränsöverskridande mervärde och bidra till konkreta resultat med bestående effekter. Projekten ska också bidra till målen inom något av programmets fyra

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insatsområden; Forskning och innovation, Entreprenörskap, Kultur och miljö samt Gemensam arbetsmarknad.

The project is targeting to improve the knowledge of public service providers, local actors and residents. Moreover, the aim is to develop knowledge exchange and know how in all of the participating areas through a series of transnational workshops. They are targeted to participants from all partner's institutions, and to existing and potential service providers, They aim at building up capacity to improve the competiveness of these areas. The project is using Health in All Policies approach to enhance wellbeing and growth in sparsely populated areas. Questionnaires and workshops targeted to local residents will enable to gather in-depth knowledge. Furthermore, the students in architecture and urban planning will visit in the areas; provide alternative design solutions for the re-use, renovation and extension of existing buildings. A local concept plan will be elaborated in the pilot areas in collaboration with regional and local actors.

5. Vilken målgrupp har projektet?
Redogör för de externa aktörer som projektet riktar sig till, det vill säga de aktörer som vill ha och behöver de resultat som projektet ska skapa.

The target group of the project is local municipalities, networks composed of various stakeholders, resources, and activities that integrate user-centered approach. It is a collaborative process where innovations, such as new local and regional services, can be created and validated in real-life environment. Local residents, public and private service providers and organizations are invited to collaboration. The universities can act as facilitators in the networking and collaboration. The main goal of the project is to develop sparesely populated areas attractive places to live in and to innovate service delivery in these areas. Many of the people who live in sparsely populated areas need different types of support to make it positive to stay. The model can be implemented in other municipalities tackling with similar challenges. The networking and pilots enable to elaborate new proposals and have stronger collaboration in future EU projects.

6. Vilket är det förväntade resultatet efter projektets slut?
Här ska ni beskriva nyttan med projektet och vilka resultat det ska generera efter projekttiden.

The service pilots carried out in each of the participating municipalities aim to keep the communities at the service level corresponding "the Mini-Urban Centre" service standard. It

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will combine existing resources, e.g. employment office, pharmacy, library, space for remote work, coffeshop, a small grocery's shop, in an existing building, "a service hub". The digital supportive structures will link to the "external" world using the available digital resources and those that will be available in the future. This will enable, for example, to run a remote health care service from the regional hospital, and to organize a space for long-distance learning. Both remote and face-to-face services are available. The hub will also be the center for regional bus-traffic and mobile services. Old schools and railway stations may be used for these hubs.

7. Vilka är de tänkta medfinansiärerna för projektet?

Ange vilka offentliga organisationer ni ser som möjliga medfinansiärer i projektet. Har projektidén presenterats för dessa ännu? Finns det privata organisationer som kan vara aktuella som medfinansiärer för projektets verksamhet? Har projektidén presenterats för dessa ännu?

The project partners will apply for national funding and use their own available resources (labor) in the project.

The idea has been presented to the possible pilot municipalities:

- Lierne Kommune, Snåsa Kommune (negotiations ongoing), Norway

- Krokom Kommun, Strömsund Kommun, Sweden

- Municipality of Muonio and Inari, (negotiatons ongoin), Finland

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