

## Nordic research cooperation 2024-2028 – new instrument

Based on a decision in the Nordic Council of Ministers (MR-U) 18 December 2019, NordForsk has been given the task to establish a programme to promote long-term research cooperation in the Nordic region. In the development of the programme, NordForsk should strive to achieve the highest possible Nordic added value through a competition-based selection of projects.

NordForsk is now in the process of developing the new instrument.

The following established principles for NordForsk calls will apply for the new instrument:

- All NordForsk calls require projects that includes partners from at least three Nordic countries/autonomous regions (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Åland).
- The project owner must be a research-performing institution in one of the Nordic countries/autonomous regions.
- In accordance with the NordForsk principles for funding, NordForsk will fund up to 1/3 of the budget. The remaining 2/3 co-funding from the Nordic countries will for this initiative be provided by the research consortia themselves, and not, as in most other NordForsk programmes, be provided by the national research funders.
- The proposals will be assessed in a peer-review process using international experts and a Nordic call-committee based on specified criteria, including Nordic added value. The call-committee will give a funding recommendation to the NordForsk Board, who will make the final decision of which projects to be funded.

For other principles and requirements for a new instrument, NordForsk is flexible and will aim to find the best framework for the new call. In the table below, the most important principles and suggestions for the suggested call are listed. For some of the principles, there are different alternatives, listed in a prioritised order from NordForsk. We ask you to comment on each of the principles and the suggestions.

### Basic principles for the new call – for discussion

Principle	Suggestion(s)
1. Overall objective for the call	Strengthen international competitiveness and facilitate the development of world-leading Nordic research environments



2. Eligible applicants	Research-performing institutions in the Nordic countries. Other public and/or private institutions can be partners, but not receive funding from NordForsk.
3. Organisation and distribution of budget between partners	A: A distributed center-structure with a balanced contribution and budget between the national teams. B: One institution is the project lead and receives a higher proportion of the funding compared to the other partners
4. Themes	A: Interdisciplinary research underpinning <a href="#">the vision of the Nordic Council of Ministers</a> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A green Nordic Region – together, we will promote a green transition of our societies and work towards carbon neutrality and a sustainable circular and bio-based economy.</li><li>• A competitive Nordic Region – together, we will promote green growth in the Nordic Region based on knowledge, innovation, mobility and digital integration.</li><li>• A socially sustainable Nordic Region – together, we will promote an inclusive, equal and interconnected region with shared values and strengthened cultural exchange and welfare.</li></ul> B: Open to all themes and disciplines
5. Activities that can be funded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• mobility</li><li>• guest researchers</li><li>• workshops, seminars and conferences;</li><li>• higher education at the master's and doctoral level (e.g. intensive courses, field courses, summer schools and joint courses);</li><li>• communication and dissemination activities</li><li>• other activities that promote the co-operational framework and are necessary for implementation of the hub.</li></ul>
6. Time frame for funding	5 years (Jan 2024- dec 2028)
7. Total NordForsk funding	100 MNOK (20 MNOK annually)
8. Funding pr project	Maximum 4 MNOK annually
9. Assessment process	A: Two-phase process with pre-proposals in the first phase B: One-phase process with full proposals only