

## Questions received

**Question:**

Is there any template or explanation what the actual application should look like – e.g. number of pages, headings, format etc.?

**Answer:**

Regarding templates the only requirement is that you fill out the budget form where relevant, that is attached to the announcement on Keyportalur.

**Question:**

It says that “Coordination with NordGen on their work on crop-wild relatives is required” does this mean that they should preferably be partners in an application or is it more that through coordination make sure that knowledge and synergies are taking into account for both NordGen and the NBS synthesis project?

**Answer:**

The coordination with NordGen is to make sure that knowledge and synergies are taking into account for both NordGen and the Nature-Based Solution synthesis project. It is not expected that they should be partners in the application.

**Question:**

Is it possible to get access to some earlier application that is official and was successful?

**Answer:**

As this is a new program, unfortunately, we do not have any previous applications.

**Question:**

Is there an option for non-Nordic countries to lead/be involved in the call?

**Answer:**

Yes it is possible for non-Nordic countries to lead/be involved in the call. As long as there is co-operation with the Nordic countries, and the focus is on nature-based solution in these countries, there is nothing to prevent a non-Nordic country to lead the project.

**Question:**

Would there be an opportunity to receive the reports and synthesis about Nature-based Solutions so we can see what work has already taken place?

**Answer:**

Here are some reports about nature-based solutions, that might be useful::

UNCCD (2017): [GLO\\_Full\\_Report\\_low\\_res.pdf \(unccd.int\)](#)

IPBES (2019): [Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | IPBES](#)

IPCC (2019): [SRCCL-Full-Report-Compiled-191128.pdf \(ipcc.ch\)](#)

**Question:**

Regarding budgets – is there a general description of the rules regarding economy for the project (e.g. types of costs that are eligible, rules regarding subcontracting etc)

**Answer:**

We do not engage in subcontracting. You will find the requirements regarding economy for the project in the budget template, that goes with the call. And you will find general information regarding NCM-projects, including financial statements and audit, here: <https://www.norden.org/no/information/om-stotte-fra-nordisk-ministerrad>

**Question:**

Is there a programme reference group also decided for the NBS programme at the NCM level – the call text seems to imply this?

**Answer:**

There is a steering group and a reference group for the NBS programme.

**Question:**

Is says in the call text: "The Nordic project coordinator also coordinates the project's communication plan."  
Is that a communication plan that we will develop in this project (in this case then me being project coordinator) or will there be a communication plan for the NBS programme?

**Answer:**

It is a communication plan, that you will develop in the project. In addition there is also a communication plan for the programme in general.

**Question:**

Can a Department from a University apply for this bid?

**Answer:**

Universities are welcome to apply.

**Question:**

Do you have any guidelines for the project description in terms of structure, page limit or required content? Also, in the budget file there is a comment to see the instructions for post 3. External evaluation, post 6. Auditing and post 8. Overheads, but I am not sure which instructions are being referred to. Could you tell me where I can find them?

Finally, I wanted to double check that the deadline to send the application is the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, and to ask how the submission is to be done? Should the application be submitted to you via email or in some other way?

**Answer:**

You might find inspiration on this page, where you also will find instructions regarding your budget:

<https://www.norden.org/no/information/om-stotte-fra-nordisk-ministerrad>

The deadline has been postponed to the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, and you submit your application via email.

**Question:**

- 1) The financial framework excludes VAT. Does it mean that VAT is not paid by the project?
- 2) I did not find any guidelines for the proposal. Is there any form or the format and length of the proposal is free to be decided by the applicant?

**Answer:**

1. VAT is not paid by the project. Since there are different rules applicable to VAT in the different countries, we find it easiest, that the project contractor finds out for himself, which rules apply in the contracting country.
2. You will find guidelines for the proposal here: <https://www.norden.org/en/information/about-funding-nordic-council-ministers>

**Question:**

Is a project consortium required, or the applicant can just mention its network without involving other official partners in the proposal?

**Answer:**

There are no requirements for this, but if the steering group sees, that the collaboration is well organized, it will be included in the overall assessment.