

Questions and answers

Project Yggdrasil

25. January

Question: Is it possible to have a partner from outside the Nordics in the Yggdrasil project who can get paid/salary in the project?

Answer: Yes, it is okay, if there are three Nordic countries involved in the collaboration. You can make an agreement with a third party outside the Nordics who will carry out some work, but it is important that the Nordic perspective is in focus.

31. January

Question:

1. In the project there is a requirement of broad Nordic collaboration and we were wondering if this should be reflected in a consortium that are applying for the money or only in the selection of the cities to be incorporated in the study?
2. With regards to the cities to be involved, is there an existing list of cities to be included?
3. In the description it is mentioned some pilot projects that the study should build up on? (This sixth project is expected to build upon the findings derived from the synthesis and the forthcoming report from the second project, which features pilot projects (accessible through the designated contact person in section 2). Do you have a list of these pilot project and a description of this second project?

Answer:

1. It is a requirement that the project span a minimum of three Nordic countries. This should be reflected in the consortium and/or a steering group for the project. In addition, there should be cities in at least three of the 8 Nordic countries involved. Be aware that in countries where the 3-30-300 principle might not be relevant to implement (e.g. Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland) due to lack of native tree species, the aim should be to assess native shrub species in urban green areas.
2. There is not a list of cities to be included.
3. You can read more about the project here: <https://nordicsituation.com/s-ummation-practical-knowledge-about-nbs-in-the-nordics/> and the pilots here: <https://nordicsituation.com/the-nbs-pilot-studies/>

6. February

Questions:

1. Does NordGen have to be contacted before the offer is submitted, and if so, should vi contact Lise Lykke Steffensen lise.lykke.steffensen@nordgen.org or is there someone else who's the contact person at NordGen?
2. Are there any formal requirements for the proposal e.g. maximum number of words, length of the document or how the proposal should be submitted etc?
3. The tender specifies that the supplier "needs to be legally established company", does this mean that universities cannot be the project lead?
4. How will the assessment criteria "Offered price (50 %)" be evaluated? Is this e.g. based on not using the whole budget or hourly rates from the participating partners or some other rating criteria?
5. Is the budget (DKK 2.000.000) including or excluding VAT.?
6. Will the steering group be able to help the winner of the tender to get access to GIS-data for e.g. "vulnerable demographic groups, such as children, the elderly, and individuals with health issues, and areas with social-economic vulnerability"?
7. How can we get access to the questions and answers that other groups have sent to you?

Answers:

1. No, it is not necessary to contact NordGen regarding this tender.
2. The formal requirements can be found here: <https://keypsportal.fo/media/5910/Yggdrasil.pdf>, guidelines and templates can be found here: <https://www.norden.org/en/information/how-apply-funding-nordic-council-ministers>
3. Universities can be the project lead but be aware that the Nordic Council of Ministers does not finance research. This tender is about a project which aims to evaluate the 3-30-300 principle's effectiveness in enhancing biological diversity, climate resilience, and public health, with a specific focus on native tree species.
4. According to current legislation in the Faroe Islands, where the project's administrative body is located, the price must weigh 50 % in the selection of tenders. The amount of 2,000,000 is a maximum amount. You score higher in the selection if you have a bid that is lower than 2,000,000.
5. We do not pay VAT. So you must state the full amount that you are applying for.
6. As a standard practice, the project implementer is responsible for data collection. In cases where the data is challenging to locate, I will consult the steering group to explore potential access points. However, it's important to note that there's no guarantee of success in obtaining the data.
7. At the bottom of this page, you can find a file with Q&A: <https://keypsportal.fo/utbodsyvirlit/utbod/nature-based-solutions-in-the-nordics-yggdrasil/>

7. February

Questions:

1. There was some additional questions from us, in the call text it says something about a Spurnarfreist 7/2 15:00 (which google translates as questions are free). What does that mean?
2. What are the possibility to apply for overhead costs for universities to cover costs for administration and office space.
3. It states that audit – should be done on amounts that are more than DKK 500,000. Does this happen automatically at the main applicant or is it if our share of the amount exceeds DKK 500,000. For example, we need to have an audit if we divide the budget into 450,000 DKK main applicant, 400,000 DKK organization A, 400,000 DKK organization B, 400,000 organization B, 350,000 DKK organization D.

Answers:

1. “Spurnarfreist” means deadline for questions, and it is 7/2 15:00 (Faroese time i.e. 16:00 CET).
2. As a rule, we don’t pay OH costs. If there is a good reason why it is necessary, then exceptions can be made. But assume that no OH is paid.
3. You must include the costs for audit in the budget if the total amount for the project exceeds DKK 500,000. We do not look at how you divide the amount between you. For this, the main applicant must make subcontracts.

Questions:

1. I can’t see any formal requirements regarding the length of the applications. Is it then correct to assume that there’s no limit on the amount or format of the application?
2. Thank you for this clarification, but I’m still not sure I understand how the 50 % price-weighting will be assessed when rating project. Do you have any formulas that will be used? As we primarily will be competing with our competence this is an important aspect for us. If the tender more or less fully dependent of the price, then we might want to re-consider giving a bid. It would be very helpful if you could, by filling in the overall rating for these three examples, give us more understanding on how the evaluation model will work. Just let me know if my examples are confusing.

	Project 1	Project 2	Project 3
Understanding on the assignment (25 %), rated 1-100, where 100 is best	90	100	5
Competence and experience (25 %), rated 1-100, where 100 is best	90	100	5
Offered price (50 %)	1 900 000 DKK	2 000 000 DKK	400 000 DKK
Ranking 1-3, where 1 will win the tender			

3. (new) – is there any formal requirements when using sub-contractors in the tender?

Answers:

1. It is correct, that there is no limit on the amount of the application. But you must use these templates for project description and budget: [Start up: How to start your Nordic project | Nordic cooperation \(norden.org\)](https://www.norden.org/da/information/oekonomireglement-nordisk-ministerraad)

2. The steering group will assess the three criteria on a scale from 1-5, which will then be weighted with 0.25 (understanding), 0.25 (competence and experience) and 0.50 (price). If a tenderer makes an offer of DKK 400,000, it is conceivable that the steering group does not consider the price to be realistic to the task and thus rates it a grade of 1 on the scale from 1-5. Based on this, it is conceivable that project 1 in your example would win, project 2 would be number 2 and project 3 would be last.

3. “§ 12 Control

A company that has funds from the Nordic Council of Ministers' budget must check that these are used financially responsibly in accordance with the purpose, with the provisions of these regulations and with the assumptions in the adopted budget. If a company acts as a grantor to a third party, the company must ensure that accounts and other necessary documentation are received from the grant recipient.”

Source: <https://www.norden.org/da/information/oekonomireglement-nordisk-ministerraad>