

Barents Cross Border University development project 2011 – 2013

Funding

- Kolarctic ENPI CBC program,
 Economic and Social development
- Budget 944 576 EUR
- Implementation period 2 years

Partners

- Lead Partner: University of Lapland
- University of Oulu
 Northern (Arctic) Federal University
 Northern State Medical University
 Murmansk State Humanities University
 Murmansk State Technical University
 Karelian State Pedagogical Academy
 Petrozavodsk State University
 Luleå University of Technology
 Narvik University College



INTRODUCTION

International mobility, knowledge society and higher education are powerful forces in economic growth. This growth can be enhanced by encouraging smooth flow of ideas, best practices, exchange students, lecturers and experts, knowledge, learning and teaching technologies, values and culture across the borders.

The Barents Cross Border University development (BCBU+) project is based on the cooperation among partner universities involved in the Barents Cross Border University network (BCBU). The project contributes to establishment of higher education in the Barents region by developing jointly international multidisciplinary Master's programs of BCBU in the fields of comparative social work, information systems, circumpolar health and wellbeing and environmental engineering. The twoyear study programmes are in the central fields of the EU Northern Dimension priorities and follow the principles of the Bologna process.

OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- To contribute to the development of the Barents region by promoting cross-border academic cooperation
- To train highly skilled, technologically literate workforce for the knowledge-based economies in the Barents region

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- With cost effective measures to futher develop and integrate MA programs to regular activities of BCBU partner universities aimed at meeting the labour markets need in the program area
- To develop models of best pratices for implementation and cooperation for MA programs
- To strengthen and institutionalise a crossborder campus for implementing the MA and later the PhD degree education

RESULTS

Virtual Campus

- Established cross-border e-learning and web conferencing platform
- Increased flow of academic and research information across the border

Best Pratices

- Designed and piloted mobility programs for students, teachers and supervisors
- Increased professional development of BCBU teachers and supervisors
- Designed and piloted programs of intensive training for teachers and supervisors
- Improved quality of cross-border academic education

Increased regional know-how for implementing future cross-border degrees in cost-effective way

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