

Call for Applications: Pre-Project Funding for Institutional Cooperation between Norwegian and Ukrainian Municipalities

KS and AUC invite Norwegian municipalities to apply for funding for pre-projects aimed at establishing institutional partnerships with Ukrainian municipalities.

About the Scheme

The purpose of the pre-project phase is to enable Norwegian and Ukrainian municipalities to establish partnerships, explore areas of mutual interest, and jointly develop the basis for larger, three-year projects. The pre-project phase will contribute to capacity building in Ukrainian municipalities through knowledge exchange, network building, and joint activities.

The program is funded by Norad through the Norwegian Nansen Program and will contribute to achieving the overall goals of this program.

The program is managed by the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS) in cooperation with the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC).

Who Can Apply?

The lead applicant must be a Norwegian municipality, in cooperation with a Ukrainian municipality.

There is no requirement that a cooperation agreement be signed between the Norwegian and Ukrainian municipalities at the time of submission of the application. The Norwegian and Ukrainian municipalities must enter into an agreement if they are granted support.

What Can Be Funded?

Funding may be used for activities such as:

- Joint workshops, seminars, and study visits (physical or digital) in Norway, Ukraine, or a third country
- Network building and peer exchange
- Expert meetings and thematic discussions to identify needs and areas for cooperation
- Preparation of a joint project proposal for the main project phase (phase 2)

Funding Framework

- Each partnership may apply for up to NOK 210,000
- Funding may cover travel, accommodation, per diem, interpretation, meeting costs, and salary costs in the municipalities

- Projects can last up to 5 months. They can start no earlier than 1 January 2026 and must be scheduled for completion by 31 May 2026
- Applicants must expect to have some self-financing to carry out planned activities

Number of Grants

Up to 20 partnerships will be supported in the pre-project phase. Please note that support for a pre-project does not guarantee funding in the main project phase.

Application Process

- Applications must be submitted to KS at the email address: ukraina@ks.no
- The application should include a brief description of planned activities, the partnership's objectives, and how the cooperation is anchored in both municipalities.
- Application deadline: November 24

Conditions / Application requirements

See the Standard Terms and Conditions for a more detailed description [\[link\]](#).

- The application must be submitted within the application deadline that applies to the call
- The application must be submitted to KS at the above-mentioned email address
- The application must be written in English
- The application must be submitted on behalf of a municipality that can apply under this call
- The application must meet the requirements for duration that apply to the call

Applications that do not meet these requirements may be rejected or considered incomplete. For applications with errors, KS will give a short additional deadline to correct the error where possible.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed by KS and AUC based on:

- Relevance and quality of planned activities
- Commitment and motivation of the partnership
- Potential for continuation in the main project phase
- Balance between Norwegian and Ukrainian municipalities

The decision is final with no possibility of appeal.

Reporting

Norwegian municipalities are responsible for reporting and documentation of the use of funds.

See Standard Terms and Conditions for a more specific description of the reporting and audit requirements.

Contact

For questions about this call, please contact ukraina@ks.no