

# **Barents Youth Cooperation Office**



## **Activity report 2007**

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## **Introduction**

In May of 2001, a conference of ministers responsible for youth affairs in the Barents region was held in Tromsø, Norway. At the conference, a Plan of Action for the future Barents cooperation in the youth field was adopted. In this Plan it was stated that mechanisms for information and guidance for youth groups in the Barents region would be established. The Barents Euro-Arctic Working Group on Youth Policy is responsible for the implementation of the Plan of Action. As a result of this, the Barents Youth Cooperation Office was established in Murmansk, Russia.

The overall objective for the establishment of such a service is:

- A well functioning multilateral cooperation in the youth field, that contributes to an improved situation for young people in the Barents Region, as well as a sustainable development of the region.

Coordinators for youth cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region are appointed by the Barents Euro-Arctic Working Group on Youth Policy. These coordinators shall provide information and guidance for youth groups, organisations and networks on:

- national and international resources for funding of projects
- education in project planning, implementation and follow-up
- possible cooperation partners nationally and internationally
- planned and ongoing youth projects and meetings in the Barents Region

The coordinator shall also stay in close and regular contact with the regional and local administrations in the Barents Region and with other cooperation structures and organisations working with youth issues in the northern part of Europe.

## **Work in 2008**

During the report period the Office has provided support to 28 international youth projects in such spheres as culture, youth entrepreneurship, education, environment, indigenous issues, sport, youth NGO and youth policy. 21 projects were successfully completed, and 7 projects were cancelled or postponed. Among the biggest projects to be mentioned are Barents Youth Seminar 2007 “Youth in the Barents region lottery win or a bad luck?”, Young Entrepreneurs of the Barents Region, Murmansk 2016, etc. More detailed information about these projects can be found in the attachment 3 to the Report.

Following the priorities of the Finnish Chairmanship in 2007 BYCO was involved in the organization of the Part II of the seminar "Youth in the Barents Region - a lottery win or bad luck?". The aim of the seminar was to examine the situation of young people in the Barents Region from different perspectives. BYCO was also cooperation this Russian authorities concerning the preparation of the coming Russian Chairmanship.

The office also supports the work of Barents Regional Youth Council, working in constant contact with the members of the council and Norwegian Barents Secretariat. Barents Regional Youth Council is a council consisting of 14 youth representatives (1 from each region + 1 indigenous representative), was created 2004. The tasks of the council are: to strengthen the youth cooperation in the Barents region, to influence regional authorities in questions concerning youths and their future in the Barents region, to empower young people to actively participate in the shaping of the Barents region and the society in which they live. The Council meets twice a year to exchange information about youth news from the regions and to discuss their activities. A training course for the members of the BRYC is normally held in connection with the meeting to give the members necessary skills for their work.

One of the main functions of BYCO is to facilitate cooperation between the regions, so it functions as a link between youth authorities of different regions,

facilitating contacts between them. For example, BYCO is involved in cooperation and negotiations between youth authorities of Murmansk region and Lapland.

The expertise gained by BYCO is acknowledged and widely used by other actors. The office staff has been invited as an expert to the grant committee of the Murmansk regional board for youth affairs where the best projects were chosen and financed.

In 2007 BYCO was took part in the Consultative seminar on cooperation between the Russian Federation, the Council of Europe and the European Union, where the perspectives for youth cooperation were discussed. And youth cooperation in the Barents Region was mentioned among the most successful examples of such cooperation.

As it concerns cooperation with other international bodies, BYCO is cooperating with the Baltic Youth Secretariat on Youth Affairs. There is an interlinkage on the websites of these 2 organizations and news exchange.

BYCO staff was participating in the meeting of the Baltic Youth Forum in St.Petersburg as an observer. The main aim of the meeting was to find new ways for development of Baltic Youth Cooperation, and Barents Youth Cooperation was mentioned as a positive example. New contacts with the representatives of youth councils established there will be very useful in future work.

Another important issue in 2007 was the evaluation of the WGYP and BYCO activities. Dr Julia Zubok from the Institute for Socio-Political Research at the Russian Academy of Sciences was assigned by the WGYP to conduct an evaluation of WGYP and BYCO activities. BYCO was assisting Mrs. Zubok in the planning of her survey, finding experts, providing information and counselling support. The aim of the evaluation was to provide elements that could be taken into account by the subsequent Chairmanships in the preparation of its programmes and thus strengthening a continuity between chairmanships.

The office provides information and counseling for youth groups concerning project management, finding opportunities, partner search abroad. In

some projects it is even involved in such practical matters as visas, hotel and conference arrangements, and transportation.

Counseling concerning studies abroad and possibilities for getting stipends and grants for long term studies or short summer courses provided by BYCO is also in great demand by the youths and their parents. The office also gets a lot of enquiries about possibilities to go on a traineeship or voluntary service to the Nordic countries or Europe.

Office staff is often invited to regional youth forums where BYCO provides the information about cooperation possibilities, but also creates a wider contact network of youth organizations. Office representative travels around the Barents region, meeting both youth authorities and youth organizations, spreading the information about cooperation and funding possibilities and encouraging them to international cooperation.

Besides project support the daily work of the Office includes maintenance of the web-site [www.byco.ru](http://www.byco.ru), where the news from the regions and various youth projects as well as information about coming projects is published. One can also find there useful information about project finding and links to funding organizations and youth organizations of the Barents region. The booklet containing updated information about project funding, exchange opportunities and advice on project management is planned to be published later this year.

*Work plan for the Barents Youth Cooperation Office for 2007*  
**Priorities 2007**

**1. To follow the priorities of the Finnish Chairmanship of the WGYP.**

Contribute to the planning and implementation of Barents Youth Seminar 2007 in Rovaniemi.

Status: BYCO has been involved in the preparation of the Barents Youth Seminar 2007, the seminar has been successfully carried out.

To provide the necessary information and materials for the evaluation of BYCO.

Status: the information, materials and assistance were provided to the evaluator, Julia Zubok, the evaluation was presented in December 2007 in Helsinki.

**2. Prepare to the coming Russian Chairmanship in the WGYP.**

To provide relevant information for the coming chairmanship, to investigate needs and topics for “key” events of the Russian Chairmanship.

Status: the information for the coming chairmanship was provided and the contact with the new members of the WGYP, representatives of State Committee of Youth has been established.

**3. To support planned and current youth projects in the Barents region.**

Status: 28 projects have been supported, see attachement for more detailed description

**4. Networking and information**

Aims/Goals	Tasks	Status
4.1 Cooperate with regional youth authorities of the Barents counties.	Intensify cooperation with the following Barents counties: Russia: Archangelsk region Nenets Autonomous Area Sweden: Norrbotten, Västerbotten Norway: Nordland Finland: Oulu Visit all other counties having important meetings in the region.	Visit in March 2008 Visit in April 2008 Visit in September 2007 Visit in September 2007 Visit in October 2007 Visit in 2008
4.2 Cooperate with funding institutions, get updated information about their funding programs	the Norwegian Barents Secretariat Nordic Council of Ministers Council of Europe European Union Interreg	Frequent contacts Frequent contacts Contacts Few contacts No contacts in 2007

<p>4.3 To provide information For youth organisations, groups and networks, as well as authorities and other relevant parties</p> <p>4.3.1 via website <a href="http://www.byco.ru">www.byco.ru</a></p>	<p>Update the information on financing for the youth projects in the Barents region</p> <p>Inform on local level through newspapers, radio, schools and arenas for youths and politicians Contribute with information about events to the Barents Youth Newsletter and <a href="http://barentsyouth.org">barentsyouth.org</a></p> <p>Inform about events in the youth field in the region, planned events and activities and partner search for planned projects</p> <p>Work of the Barents Youth Cooperation Office</p>	<p>The information was updated</p> <p>Contacts with local media have been established There is information exchange between <a href="http://www.barentsyouth.org">www.barentsyouth.org</a> and <a href="http://www.byco.ru">www.byco.ru</a> The information about events and projects was spread through the websites and direct contacts with organizations. The information about the work of BYCO was provided at the website.</p>
<p>4.3.2 Via personal consultations</p>	<p>To provide counselling and education for youths on financing, application procedures, and project management in general according to their needs To make presentations of the Youth Cooperation in the BR, work of the BYCO and its services, financing possibilities.</p>	<p>Counselling and guidance for youth has been provided whenever necessary.</p>
<p>4.3.3 At various youth expos, conferences and seminar</p>	<p>Organize educational seminars and training courses on funding possibilities, education in project planning and application procedures as well as project management, etc</p>	<p>Information about funding and possibilities for cooperation has been provided at the expos, conferences and seminars.</p>

OVERVIEW OF SUPPORTED PROJECTS  
2007

N	Name	Sphere	Participation	Notes*
01/2007	«Verges” theatre festival	culture	Bilateral ( Fi + Ru)	<b>P</b>
02/2007	Young entrepreneurs in the Barents region	entrepr	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
03/2007	Murmansk 2016 – Capital of the Arctic	entrepr	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
04/2007	Breaking Stereotypes	social	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
05/2007	Yukigassen sports festival	sport	Multilateral ( No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
06/2007	Media training course for BRYS	NGO	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
07/2007	Child care project	social	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
08/2007	Fenology of the Northern Calotte 2007	educat	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
09/2007	Youth Parliamentary Club	NGO	Multilateral (No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
10/2007	Mathematics project	educat	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
11/2007	Business planning seminar	entrep	Bilateral ( Se + Ru)	<b>P</b>
12/2007	Innovation Circle	Entrep.	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
13/2007	M-Puzzle	culture	Bilateral ( Fi + Ru)	<b>P</b>
14/2007	Air music festival	culture	Bilateral ( Fi + Ru)	<b>P</b>
15/2007	Barents Gathering 2007	Sport, culture	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
16/2007	Barents Youth Seminar	Youth policy	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
17/2007	Rajarock 2007	culture	Bilateral ( Fi + Ru)	<b>P</b>
18/2007	Workshop for young sami entrepreneurs	Indig	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
19/2007	Sami Youth Gathering	Indig	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
20/2007	Environmental Youth Conference	environ	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>P</b>
21/2007	International Security Issues	social	Bilateral ( No + Ru)	<b>P</b>
22/2007	Barents Builder School	educat	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>U</b>
23/2007	Conference for young scientists	educat	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>U</b>
24/2007	Komi Tourism Project	sport	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>U</b>
25/2007	Different youth culture	culture	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>U</b>
26/2007	Saami youth webpage	indig	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>N</b>
27/2007	Barents Tattoo Festival	culture	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>N</b>
28/2007	Youth Conference in Archangelsk	NGO	Multilateral (Se, No, Fi, Ru)	<b>N</b>

**Notes** \*: **P** – positive (successfully realized projects) - 21

**N** – negative (projects that were not realized) -3

**U** – unknown (projects that are still on preparatory stage or is being carried out)- 4

**Statistics:**

Multilateral projects – 14

Bilateral projects - 10 (Sweden + Russia= 1, Finland + Russia = 4 Norway + Russia =7)

Culture – 7

NGO and youth policy- 4

Youth Entrepreneurship – 4

Education -3

Sport – 3

Indigenous issues – 3

Environment – 1

Social -3

## Projects supported by BYCO

### Report 2007

#### I. Completed projects

##### **01/2007 “Verges” international theatre festival**

**Objective:** to develop and advertise youth theatre as a way of expression and self realization, expand the repertoire of the youth theatre groups, improve the quality of their performance and pay special attention to talented amateur groups

**Sphere:** youth culture

**Description:** An international festival of youth theatre groups. During the festival experience exchange between youth theatre groups from Murmansk region, other regions of Russian Federation & other countries, their directors, tutors of music, acting and speech, took place. They attracted a lot of attention of critics, mass-media and authorities to youth amateur theatre. There were awards in the following nominations: the best performance, the best actor, the best actress, the best musical accompaniment, the best screenplay, the original stage and setting design and the best ensemble of actors.

**Place and date:** Murmansk, 15-18 February 2007

**Participants:** Russia + Finland = around 50 participants + audience

**Organizer:** Murmansk Regional Board for Youth Affairs

**Financing:** Murmansk Regional Board for Youth Affairs, contributions of the participants

Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO’s involvement:** small: counseling, spreading the information about the event to the possible project partners.

**Duration of support:** December 2006– February 2007.

**Result:** After positive experience of Verges 2007 it was decided to make it an international annual youth theater festival. The applications for Verges 2008 will be received from September to December 2007.

##### **02/2007 Young Entrepreneurs in the Barents region.**

**Objective:** to improve youth entrepreneurship in the Barents, to increase knowledge of international business, to give young entrepreneurs special education and contacts

**Sphere:** young entrepreneurship

**Description:** The project aim is increase the knowledge about and experience of international entrepreneurial collaboration in the younger generation through specific education, as well as to establish a network across the national borders. The network should lead to the development of work opportunities and new and

innovative projects, which together will give increased growth within the Barents Region.

The primary aim of the project is to give young entrepreneurs increased opportunities for international business development. This is to be achieved through strengthening contacts between young entrepreneurs and businessmen, and improving knowledge of cultural differences within the Barents Region. First conference of the project was held in Finland. The participants got to know each other through speed-dating, there were arranged some presentations and workshops on such topics as creativity in business solutions, marketing and attracting customers.

Second conference was held in Sommaroy (Norway), the ideas from the first conference were developed there.

The work of the project was continued via web-based conferences and workshops.

**Place and date:**

**Conference 1:** Pyhatuntury (Finland) 01-04 February 2007

**Conference 2:** Sommaroy (Norway) 03-06 May 2007

**Conference 3:** Murmansk 26-28 October 2007

**Participants:** Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia – 70

**Organizer:** Municipality of Pajala, Murmansk State Technical University

Partners: Barents Regional Youth Council, County Administrative Board in

Norrbotten, Young Entrepreneurship in Norrbotten, County Council in

Norrbotten, Norrbottens Chamber of Commerce, Norwegian Barents Secretariat,

Country Administrative Board in Finnmark,

NHO – Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise, Young Entrepreneurship in Northern Norway

Halti Næringshage, Regional Council of Lapland, Lapplands Chamber of Commerce, Kemi Tornio Vocational College, Lapland Vocational College in Rovaniemi, Lapplands Youth Council, Administration of Murmansk region.

**Financing:** Total budget: 7 500 mln SEK: Interreg – 3 400 000 SEK. TESIS\ NMR\ NUK 1 400 000 SEK, North Calotte Council 1 050 000 SEK, Norwegian Barents Secretariat 325 000 SEK, regional financing Sweden 275 000 SEK, Finland 275 000 SEK, Norway 330 000 SEK.

**BYCO's involvement:** medium: counseling, participation in the meetings of the steering group of the project, assistance in practical arrangements, counseling of the YE coordinator and project participants.

**Duration of support:** February 2005 – present time.

**Result:** 2 conferences have been held. The participants meet in web conferences and lectures between the physical meetings. The work goes on. Next event will take place in October in Murmansk.

**03/2007 Murmansk 2016 – Capital of the Arctic *new!***

**Objective:** to investigate and to propose some ideas of making Murmansk a better place to live – to make it the capital of the Arctic by 2016.

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** a seminar where youths led by professional architects explored possibilities and made concrete suggestions on how to make Murmansk a better place, suggestions included renovating the old houses, taking care of the harbor area, making some pedestrian streets and opening more cafes.

**Place and date:**

**1 seminar:** Murmansk, 5-7 February 2007

**2 conference:** Murmansk, 10-13 June 2007

**Participants:** Russia + Norway = 30 participants, (60 participants – conference)

**Organizer:** Innovation circle group, Murmansk Regional Board for Youth Affairs

**Financing:** EU (through Innovation Circle), Norwegian Barents Secretariat-2000 euro

**BYCO's involvement:** small: counseling, spreading the information about the event, participation in the event.

**Duration of support:** February 2007.

**Result:** a lot of ideas on making Murmansk a better place were generated by the participants during the seminar, suggestions from the conference have been given to the Murmansk city administration and the Committee of city planning.

#### **04/2007 Breaking Stereotypes** *new!*

**Objective:** The main goal of the project was to create conditions for a common informational space where people from two countries could get a true and objective information about each other, not based on false stereotypes and further spreading of this informational space.

**Sphere:** culture (mass media)

**Description:**

During the seminar the participants discussed the problem of stereotypes and have determined the following topics for future work: 1. The basics of Norwegian economy. 2. Immigrants and inborn Norwegians. 3. Feminism among Norwegian women. 4. System of secondary education in Norway and Russia. 5. Food traditions in Norway and Russia. 6. Attitude to sexual minorities.

7. Freedom of speech in Russia. 8. Criminalization of business in Russia. 9. Traditions of alcohol consumption. 10. Peculiarities of business in Norway.

**Place and date:** February 17, 2007 Murmansk, 25 April 2007.

**Participants:** Russia + Norway = 30 participants

**Organizer:** Innovation circle group, Murmansk Regional Board for Youth Affairs

**Financing:** EU (through Innovation Circle), Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** small: counseling, spreading the information about the event, participation in the event.

**Duration of support:** February 2007.

**Result:** It is planned to continue discussion of the stereotype problem on the forums of partner sites of the project. According to the results of the discussion there will be formed a final list of topics.

### **05/2007 Yukigassen sports festival**

**Objective:** to establish stronger contacts between the youth of Vardø and Murmansk, to promote healthy life style and the spirit of the fair play.

**Sphere:** culture and sport

**Description:** Yukigassen is a traditional Japanese snowball fight, very popular in Northern Norway and Finland. Russian participants were invited for the first time. The programme of the festival also included some cultural performances and events.

**Place and date:** Murmansk 20-21 February , Vardo 20-25 March., Murmansk 25 April 2007.

**Participants:** Norway (10) (40) Russia (200)(10) Finland (10)

**Organizer:** Municipality of Vardø, Youth committee of Murmansk

**Financing:** Barents Secretariat, own financing of the organizers.

**BYCO's involvement:** medium: counseling, practical assistance, coordination of activities

**Duration of support:** February – April 2007

**Result:** the project was carried out. It is planned to continue cooperation next winter.

### **06/2007 Media training course for BRYC**

**Objective:** to strengthen the cooperation between youth organisations in the Barents region.

To give the BRYCers some necessary skills in media work.

**Sphere:** NGOs cooperation

**Description:** A council consisting of 14 youth representatives (1 from each region + 1 indigenous representative), was created 2004. The tasks of the council are: to strengthen the youth cooperation in the Barents region, to influence regional authorities in questions concerning youths and their future in the Barents region, to empower young people to actively participate in the shaping of the Barents region and the society in which they live.

The training course was held together with the annual meeting of BRYC. The BRYCers got some basic education in newspaper articles and press release writing, presentation techniques, public speaking, radio interviewing, as well as project management and team building.

**Place and date:** Murmansk (Russia), 21-25 March

**Participants:** Sweden (2), Norway (3), Finland (3), Russia (5), (1)-indigenous people

**Contact:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat, BYCO

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat (80 000 NOK), regional financing.

**BYCO's involvement:** large: practical arrangement and organizing the event, providing the content of the training course, counseling, cooperation with Russian regional authorities, transport and accommodation, participation in BRYC meetings, coordinating of activity.

**Duration of support:** January – March 2007.

**Result:** The course was appreciated by the BRYCers. BRYC is doing good job, the work goes on.

### **07/2007 Child care project *new!***

**Objective:** to exchange experiences and views on acute problems of child care and youth work.

**Sphere:** social

**Description:** experience exchange seminar for Russian and Norwegian youth workers on acute problems like school drop-outs, effects of alcohol and drugs on children, child care in specialized institutions, etc.

**Place and date:** 4-11 Mai 2007 Trondheim (Norway)

**Participants:** Russia + Norway = 50 participants

**Organizer:** Norwegian union of children and youth workers, Murmansk Regional Trade Union

**Financing:** Norwegian union of children and youth workers

**BYCO's involvement:** small: counseling, establishing contacts with the Russian partner, practical assistance and coordination of activity.

**Duration of support:** March – April 2007.

**Result:** The project has been successfully carried out, the partners agreed to continue cooperation in the future.

### **08/2007 Fenology of the Northern Calotte 2007 *new!***

**Objective:** to attract youths to study environmental issues, observe nature.

**Sphere:** environment, education

**Description:** a 3-day seminar for school children interested in environmental issues and ecology, participants learned about nature of the region, made water and soil analyses, observed plants and animals of the region. Teachers exchanged experiences of teaching nature related subjects and making children interested in them.

**Place and date:** 9-11 Mai 2007 Murmansk (Russia)

**Participants:** Russia + Norway = 60 participants

**Organizer:** School N1 (Murmashi), schools of Apatity, Kandalaksha (Russia, Murmansk region), shools of Alta, Vardø and Vadsø (Norway)

**Financing:** Ministry of environment of Norway, own contributions of the participants.

**BYCO's involvement:** small: counseling, establishing contacts with the Russian partner, practical assistance and coordination of activity.

**Duration of support:** April – Mai 2007.

**Result:** The project has been successfully carried out, the partners agreed to continue cooperation in the future.

### **09/2007 Youth Parliamentary Club *new!***

**Objective:** to exchange experiences of work of youth councils from different countries and regions

**Sphere:** NGO

**Description:** a 3-day seminar for members of youth councils from different regions and countries, with discussions concerning the role of youth councils and importance of their work, discussion of their common problems together with representatives of state structures.

**Place and date:** 15-18 May 2007, Petrozavodsk

**Participants:** Russia (Murmansk region, Republics of Komi and Karelia), Norway, Germany – total number 60 persons

**Organizer:** Committee for sport and youth affairs of the Republic of Karelia

**Financing:** Committee for sport and youth affairs of the Republic of Karelia

**BYCO's involvement:** spreading the information about the event, participation in the event, contact making work, spreading the information about BYCO, counseling.

**Duration of support:** April – Mai 2007.

**Result:** The project has been successfully carried out, the partners agreed to continue cooperation in the future

### **10/2007 Mathematics project *new!***

**Objective:** to attract youths to mathematics, to show the practical use of theory. .

**Sphere:** education

**Description:** the project has been organized in two parts. First Norwegian students came to Murmansk and studied theory for shooting a racket and measuring how high it would go. And second part of the project was when Russian students came to Norway and built and launched the racket, after that they calculated how high it went. They also had a opportunity to explore cultural and traditions of Norway and Russia.

**Place and date:** 26-29 March Murmansk (Russia), 28-31 Mai 2007 Vardø (Norway)

**Participants:** Russia + Norway = 30 participants

**Organizer:** Vardø videregående school, Murmansk professional college N6.

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat, own financing of the organizers.

**BYCO's involvement:** medium: counseling, practical assistance (visas and papers) and coordination of activity.

**Duration of support:** April – Mai 2007.

**Result:** The project has been successfully carried out, the partners agreed to continue cooperation in the future.

### **11/2007 Business planning seminar *new!***

**Objective:** to provide young entrepreneurs with information concerning business planning.

**Sphere:** entrepreneurship

**Description:** during the seminar the participants learned a lot about unusual and innovative ways of business development.

**Place and date:** 26-28 May Murmansk (Russia)

**Participants:** Russia + Sweden = 30 participants

**Organizer:** Murmansk state technical university, YE-group.

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** small: counseling, participation in the seminar.

**Duration of support:** Mai 2007.

**Result:** The project has been successfully carried out.

### **12/2007 Innovation Circle 2007**

**Objectives of the activity:** strengthening influence of youth to development of local society, translational promotion of institution building, strengthening the capacity for spatial development activities.

**Description:** A long term project. The project focuses on how young people can influence the local and regional development. The aim is to attract and engage the younger generation in democratic processes, being aware that they are an important resource of new ideas and energy. The project includes training programs to provide knowledge and skill for regional development, entrepreneurship and innovation.

**Place and date:** project countries, 1 January 2005 until 31 September 2007 (33 months)

17 May, Alytus, Lithuania

**Participants:** Russia, Sweden, Norway, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland  
Total number of participants is not available.

**Organizer:** Baltic Innovation Group, Alytus Lithuania

**Financing:** European Union

**More info:** [www.innovationcircle.net](http://www.innovationcircle.net)

**BYCO:** counseling, spreading the information about the event to possible participants..

**Duration of support:** February 2004 – May 2005

**Result:** Positive, the project is going to be continued

**13/2007 M-Puzzle** *new!*

**Objective:** to play rock music

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** a festival of contemporary rock music.

**Place and date:** Kostamuksha (Republic of Karelia, Russia) 25-26 August 2007

**Participants:** Russia , Finland = total number of participants 60 + audience

**Organizer:** Kostamuksha department of culture

**Financing:** own financing of the organizer and contributions from the participants

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, spreading the information about the event, finding participants.

**Duration of support:** June 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project has been successfully carried out

**14/2007 Air music festival** *new!*

**Objective:** to play rock music

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** a festival of contemporary rock music.

**Place and date:** Petrozavodsk (Republic of Karelia, Russia) 15-17 July 2007

**Participants:** Russia ,Finland = total number of participants 80+ audience

**Organizer:** Petrozavodsk Municipality

**Financing:** own financing of the organizer and contributions from the participants

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, spreading the information about the event, finding participants.

**Duration of support:** June 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project has been successfully carried out

**15/ 2007 Barents Gathering 2007**

**Objective:** strengthening youth cooperation, to get to know the culture of the countries in the Barents area.

**Sphere:** culture and sport

**Description:** a 5-day camp for schoolchildren from Norway, Finland, Sweden and Russia aged 13-15, concentrated mostly on various outdoor activities and adventures, as well as language and culture exchange, performances and communication. There will be 4 representatives from each school, each country will be represented by 3 schools. Each school will make a presentation about their own home area (history, culture and other important things). All schools will contribute with cultural performances in the evenings. All the participants will take part in the exiting outdoor activities, adventures and challenges.

**Place and date:** End of August, Tromsø

**Participants:** Russia – 13 , Sweden – 13, Norway – 13, Finland - 13

**Organizer:** Natur og utfordring AS

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat ( 20 000 NOK), own contributions of the participants.

**More info:** [www.naturogutfodring.no](http://www.naturogutfodring.no)

**BYCO's involvement:** Russian partner search, establishing contacts, counseling, coordinating of activity, practical issues (visas and transport)

**Duration of support:** March 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project has been carried out with great success, it is planned to have a response visit of Norwegian youths to Murmansk next year.

### **16/2007 Barents Youth Seminar**

**Objective:** to examine the situation of young people in the Barents Region from different perspectives, such as active citizenship, social empowerment, living conditions, mobility and diversity.

**Sphere:** NGO

**Description:** A seminar for young people, youth workers, researchers and authority representatives of the Barents Region. This is a follow up seminar of the seminar "Youth in the BR – a lottery win or bad luck" held in Rovaniemi in august 2006. Young people will play a leading role in the seminar and through using interactive meeting techniques will be led to some ideas by a professional possess leader.

**Place and date:** Rovaniemi (Finland) October 2007

**Participants:** Finland, Russia , Norway, Sweden = 90 participants

**Organizer:** Ministry of Education of Finland

**Financing:** Ministry of Education of Finland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland

**BYCO's involvement:** participation in the planning and preparation of the event, spreading the information about the event, searching participants, practical issues for Russian participants – travel arrangements and visas.

**Duration of support:** since March 2007.

**Result:** The seminar was a great success. Lots of new project ideas and political statements were generated by the young people. 5 young people (one from each country + one indigenous representative) got an opportunity to make a speech at the meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Barents region.

### **17/2007 Rajarock 2007**

**Objective:** to bring together young rock musicians, and to improve the quality of their playing.

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** The aim of this traditional annual festival is to gather together young rockplayers to one common happening to play in same concerts and to learn something new. The event is meant for young players between the age 14 years up

to about 18 –years. The theme of this whole event is work against drug and alcohol addiction among young people.

**Place and date:** Poliarnie Zory (Murmansk region, Russia) 8, December

**Participants:** Russia, Finland.

**Organizer:** Municipality of Poliarnie Zory, House of Culture, Municipality of Ivalo, youth department

**Financing:** Murmansk regional administration, Municipality of Poliarnie Zory, Municipality of Ivalo.

**BYCO's involvement:** participation in the planning and preparation of the event, partner search, coordination of activities between the partners.

**Duration of support:** since February 2007.

**Result:** After a number of consultations with the partners it was decided to have a “light” version of Rajarock this year that is with only Russian and Finnish participants. The event took place during the regional rock festival of the Murmansk region, that attracted more attention to the event. The Finnish group had a great success at the concert, a good level of cooperation between the partners had been reached, the partners decided to continue with the project and arrange “Rajarock 2008” in Poliarnie Zory as well.

### **18/2007 Workshop for young sami entrepreneurs *new!***

**Objective:** to establish contacts for the young sami entrepreneurs from the Barents region

**Sphere:** youth entrepreneurship, indigenous

**Description:** a workshop for young sami entrepreneurs, main goal is to expand the network of business contacts, to have inspiring lectures and discussions, to develop a common marketing strategy for young sami entrepreneurs in the region.

**Place and date:** Bodo (Norway) 18-21 October 2007

**Participants:** Russia, Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 60

**Organizer:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** search for participants, visa and transport support, assistance in practical arrangements, participation in the event.

**Duration of support:** September 2007 – October 2007

**Result:** the conference was successfully carried out, the participants created a lot of project ideas and discussed their common problems.

### **19/2007 Sami Youth Gathering *new!***

**Objective:** to give an opportunity for sami youth to meet and discuss topics important for them

**Sphere:** indigenous

**Description:** a gathering for young sami over 18, who are in the phase of life when they have to choose have to live in the future. They will get a chance to reach out and front their opinions in topics like culture, politics and the future of

the sami community. To encourage older youths to participate in youth work and to join sami youth organizations

**Place and date:** Bodo (Norway) 18-21 October 2007

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 100

**Organizer:** Youth organization of Swedish sami council

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, spreading the information about the event.

**Duration of support:** June 2007 – October 2007

**Result:** The project has been a success, sami youths had an opportunity to meet and discuss their common future.

### **20/2007 Environmental Youth Conference** *new!*

**Objective:** to discuss ecological problems and what to do to protect the environment

**Sphere:** environment

**Description:** Environmental conference for activists of environmental and political youth organizations. Youths from the Barents countries will gather to discuss what they want the politicians to do to protect the environment in order to make it a good future for the young generation to live in the North. Such problems as oil and gas activity, nuclear waste, loss of biodiversity, pirate fishing and the effects of changing climate will be discussed during the conference.

**Place and date:** Bodo (Norway) 18-21 October 2007

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 80

**Organizer:** Natur og Ungdom

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, spreading the information about the event, participation in the event.

**Duration of support:** June 2007 – October 2007

**Result:** the project has successfully been carried out, young people from the Barents countries discusses environmental issues of the North.

### **21/2007 Murmansk school. International security issues: in the world and in the Barents region.** *New!*

**Objective:** to explore and strengthen the role of youth in providing security in the modern world

**Sphere:** social

**Description:** A seminar held after international summer school of international security issues in Tromso. The main topics discussed were the role of young generation in strengthening interaction, international relations, role of mass media.

**Place and date:** 5-10 October 2007, Murmansk

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway = total number of participants 35

**Organizer:** non-commercial partnership "S-Plus"

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat, NATO Information Office in Moscow  
**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, spreading the information about the event, participation in the event.  
**Duration of support:** June 2007 – October 2007  
**Result:** the project has successfully been carried out

## **II. Planned projects**

### **22/2007 Barents Builder School *new!***

**Objective:** to give active youngsters education on project management and to increase the number of projects carried out by youths

**Sphere:** education

**Description:** The aim of the project is to build up a group of youngsters (24 persons) who have gone through specialized project management education and will be able to implement projects and be project leaders. The education will take place via 4 study sessions. At the second stage of the project is the participants will plan, implement and evaluate one of their projects, and also become resource persons for 5-10 other youth from their home town.

**Place and date:** Barents region 2008

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 24

**Organizer:** Urkraft (Sweden), Tvibit youth house, Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Interreg

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, participation in planning, spreading the information about the project, search for participants, practical assistance.

**Duration of support:** January 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project is being prepared

### **23/2007 Conference for young scientists *new!***

**Objective:** to strengthen cooperation between young researchers of the region

**Sphere:** education

**Description:** to arrange a conference where young scientist from all the countries of the Barents region could present their research result and exchange experiences

**Place and date:** Autumn 2008, Murmansk

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 80

**Organizer:** idea comes from IC project group

**Financing:** The Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Nordic Council of Ministers, participating regions and universities.

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, finding partners

**Duration of support:** September 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project is being prepared

### **24/2007 Komi Tourism Project *new!***

**Objective:** to explore the opportunities of youth eco&ethno tourism in Komi republic.

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** a series of eco&ethno tourism trips in Komi republic and Finland. More detailed program of the event is being worked out.

**Place and date:** Komi republic, Finland

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden

**Organizer:** Department of youth policy (Komi republic)

**Financing:** Planned about 30 000 USD

**BYCO's involvement:** partner search, counseling, spreading the information about the event, assistance in application writing.

**Duration of support:** January 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project is being prepared

### **25/2007 Different youth culture *new!***

**Objective:** multicultural youth exchange

**Sphere:** youth culture

**Description:** a series of workshops devoted to different topics like public art, graffiti, snow sculpture, street art installation, public theatre street animation, live sculpture, juggling,circus, urban sports, excursions, visual arts – photography, video art, open air performances, interior decoration, contemporary dance, music and sound design – contemporary music, sound production, radio art.

**Place and date:** Murmansk 2008

**Participants:** Russia , Norway, Finland, Sweden = total number of participants 80

**Organizer:** Humanistic Youth Movement

**Financing:** not known yet

**BYCO's involvement:** counseling, search for participants, spreading the information about the event.

**Duration of support:** September 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project is being prepared

## **III. Cancelled projects**

### **26/2007 Saami youth webpage *new!***

**Objective:** to create a website for saami youths from all over the Barents

**Sphere:** indigenous cooperation

**Description:** the project idea was to create a website for saami youths from all regions of Barents Russia, Norway, Sweden and Finland. And to publish there

news from the regions, history, language, other useful information for the youths, advice, guidance and so on.

**Place and date:** Murmansk 2007-2008

**Participants:** Russia, Norway, Finland, Sweden

**Organizer:** AllP saami youth organization

**Financing:** Norwegian Barents Secretariat

**BYCO's involvement:** partner search, counseling, spreading the information about the event, assistance in application writing.

**Duration of support:** Summer 2007 – present time

**Result:** The application have been submitted to the Barents Secretariat, but the project idea did not get any financial support, though the organizers have been advised to use the existing in Norway recourses for saami youth to publish Barents news there as well. Also the organizer has been offered a traineeship to learn to work with the web-site.

### **27/2007 Barents Tattoo Festival** *new!*

**Objective:** to explore and show tattoo culture of the Barents Region

**Sphere:** culture

**Description:** A festival of young tattoo artists of the Barents Region

**Place and date:** Petrozavodsk

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden

**Organizer:** Tattoo studio Kontr-Marka

**Financing:** not known yet

**BYCO's involvement:** partner search, counseling, spreading the information about the event, assistance in application writing.

**Duration of support:** March 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project was cancelled, the organizer does not have time to work with it.

### **28/2007 Youth Conference in Archangelsk** *new!*

**Objective:** to discuss acute problems of youth in the Barents region

**Sphere:** NGO

**Description:** the idea is to gather youth of the Barents region, during a conference and discuss youth problems connected with everyday life of young people

**Place and date:** Archangelsk 2008

**Participants:** Russia ,Norway, Finland, Sweden

**Organizer:** Archangelsk branch of Russian Youth Council

**Financing:** not known yet

**BYCO's involvement:** partner search, counseling, spreading the information about the event, assistance in application writing.

**Duration of support:** Summer 2007 – present time

**Result:** the project has been postponed, the concept of the conference will be worked put later.

