



**ENHANCING
COMPETITIVENESS AND
THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Cross-Border Cooperation - Financing Infrastructure,
Municipalities and Regional Development**

St Petersburg September 28, 2009 Igor Kovtun



Northern Europe's International Financial Institution

- Nordic and Baltic countries as owners
- Started activities in 1976
- Baltic countries joined in 2005
- AAA/Aaa credit rating
- Lending in member countries and emerging markets
- Headquarters in Helsinki





NIB'S Mandate – competitiveness and environment

- to finance projects which enhance Competitiveness of NIB member-states;
- to finance projects with a significant positive Environmental effect, in particular, within NIB's member states and neighbouring area.



Lending in member and non-member countries

- Member –states is the major area of operations of the Bank i.e.around 80% of the lending stock;
- Non-member countries activities comprise approximately 20% of the outstanding loans;
- Baltic Sea region, including Russia and Poland, is a priority region for operations;
- Russia is one of priority countries for operations (to deepen relations and increase the Bank's presence).



Programs and Facilities leading to Cross-Border Cooperation

NIB is actively involved in:

- Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership;
- Northern Dimension Transport and Logistics Partnership;

In 2008 NIB established:

- Baltic Sea Environmental Financing Facility (BASE)
- Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (CLEERE) lending facility.



Key sectors of operations

- energy (energy efficiency, renewable energy);
- environment (waste treatment, technologies, cleaner production ;
- infrastructure (transport, telecommunication and social infrastructure);
- innovation;



NDEP and Municipal Sector NIB Projects

- St Petersburg Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant ;
- St Petersburg Neva Closure of Direct Discharges;
- Leningrad Oblast Municipal Environment Investment ;
- Novgorod Vodokanal Rehabilitation;
- Murmansk District Heating;
- Petrozavodsk Water and Water Treatment Project.



Lessons learned.

- Importance of NDEP
- Cooperation between Russian stakeholders, IFIs and grant organizations
- Commitment on Russian side key to success!
- Patience!



Further information and contacts

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