Template for description of regional research networks

Please note that paragraphs 1 – 6 must all be included.

Format requirements

- The description should be written in English. Be concise and to the point.
- Page limitations: max. 10 pages including figures / tables and references.
- Arial 11 pt or Times New Roman 12 pt font or similar may be used, single spacing, min. 2 cm margins. For references and figure texts a 9 pt font size can be used.

Applications will be evaluated by independent external peer review of the assessment committees. It is important that the network described in a clear and structured way.

The list is not exhaustive, and all bullet points are not relevant for all projects.

1. Title of the regional research network

The title should state "regional research network" and refer to the network's subject. The title should be written in English and consist of max. 150 characters. Do not use capital letters only.

2. Introduction

The introduction should give a brief description of the background for the network and the central scientific challenges within the subject area.

Provide a description of the following:

- A brief status update of the subject area
- Main challenges of the research area
- A brief history of the network and the initiative behind its establishment
- The network's significance in the research area

3. Needs description/ Impact on patient care

In the eSøknad application form, give a brief account of the expected impact/benefit for patient care and/or disease prevention and/or health service organization and quality in the short and/or long term. Describe for whom the proposed research project will have an impact (target group), and how the results of the project may come to use. This can be elaborated further in the description of the network.

4. Research aims and objectives

The network's research aims should be described with reference to the objectives. The research objectives should be entered in the application form (eSøknad) and may be elaborated in the description of the network. The objectives must be clearly defined, specific and verifiable.

Describe the following:

- Research aims
- Short term and long term objectives
- Expected results during the network period
- Expected added value of the network

5. Feasibility

The main concern regarding feasibility is to what degree it is likely that the network adds value during the grant period.

a. Network activities

Please describe the following:

- how the network will support research in the region within the specified area
- plans for strategic and scientific meetings
- plans for creating a website, dissemination and visibility
- plans for competence building exercises, such as seminars, courses etc. within the network.
- plans for exchange programmes/mobility of researchers
- plans for facilitating applications to international research funding sources, such as the EU.

b. Organization of the research network

The description should include an overview of the network's organisation and collaborations.

Please describe the following:

- how the research network is organized (hub, nodes, coordination)
- collaborations with relevant groups within the region, e.g. universities/colleges
- links to other national/international research networks

All active collaborators in the network should be listed in the application form (eSøknad).

c. Budget

The budget should be entered in the application form (eSøknad). Please provide additional information about the budget and use of resources in the network description. The budget should give a good overview of costs and match the content and objectives of the network. Also state any funding from other sources.

d. Plan for implementation

An activity plan (with milestones) for the network should be entered in the application form (eSøknad). The network description should include a more detailed description of the plans and proposed milestones during the grant period.

6. User involvement

Describe any plans for user involvement, or to which extent users will be involved in the network structure.

See new national guide on user involvement in health research

7. References

The references should refer to the forefront of research and relevant publications within the subject area.

General tips:

- *Follow format requirements. Applications may be rejected if attachments are missing, too long and/or are written in Norwegian.*
- *Avoid an exaggerated use of abbreviations and technological jargon etc.*