

Guiding rules for the Pasvik-Inari Transboundary Area cooperation

1. Cooperation is coordinated by a working group and supervised and guided by an Advisory Board. Cooperation follows the timetable of the jointly agreed annual cycle.
2. The members and deputy members of the Advisory Board are nominated by the participating organisations. Participating organisations are the cooperating nature protection area authorities, relevant municipalities and other relevant authorities in each country, i.e. environmental authorities and Sami Parliament/ organisations.
3. Members of the working group are nominated by the national organisation responsible for the nature protection areas taking part in the cooperation.
4. Relevant observers¹ can be invited to take part in the cross-border cooperation and its annual meetings.
5. The level of involvement in the cooperation is defined internally by each participating organisation according to the current resources.
6. The Advisory Board holds annual meetings.
7. The working group holds at least one annual meeting (other meetings according to resources and tasks at hand).
8. A chairperson and a secretary of the Advisory Board are chosen for one-year period, and the place of the annual meeting is rotated between participating countries every year.
9. The hosting country keeps the record of the meetings.
10. The official working language is English, essential documents are translated to national languages.
11. The Advisory Board is a steering and if needed a decision-making body in international cooperation actions in areas concerning issues mentioned in the Action Plan.
12. The Advisory Board can give statements and recommendations regarding development and the management of the nature protection areas in accordance with national legislation and issues mentioned in the Action Plan.
13. Topical working groups can be assigned by the Advisory Board when considered necessary.
14. Chair and secretary of the working group(s) are chosen for one-year period, and the hosting country is responsible for record keeping.
15. The working group(s) reports and makes suggestions on joint actions to the Advisory Board at the annual Advisory Board meeting.
16. Each County carries the costs of their own participants.

These Guiding rules were adopted by the Pasvik-Inari Transboundary Area cooperation Advisory Board at their annual meeting 22.9.2025

¹ Examples of relevant observers can be: Environmental NGOs, representatives from indigenous and local groups, research institutes etc. This list is not exhaustive.