Application for subsidy under the Norwegian government`s action plan for nuclear activities and the environment in northern areas. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has delegated the task of administration of the subsidy funds to the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority in the form of an annual authorisation under chapter/item 118.70.11.

The application should be sent electronically to nrpa@nrpa.no
See www.stralevernet.no/ for more information.

Statens strålevern
Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

Grini næringspark 13
Postboks 55
NO-1332 Østerås
nrpa@nrpa.no

1. Project title and scope.

Applicant

Miljøstiftelsen Bellona / The Bellona Foundation

Project title

Nuclear challenges in Russia in 2017

Total cost ceiling (NOK)	Budget year (mm yyyy-mm yyyy)
4 200 000	01.17-12.17

For multi-year projects	Year 1(NOK)	Year 2(NOK)	Year 3(NOK)
	4 200 000		

Is this a new project or a continuation of previous support; state agreement number:

This is a continuation of a previous project, agreement no.701

2. About applicant Contact information.

Name and abbreviation of name

Miljøstiftelsen Bellona / The Bellona Foundation

Address	Postal code	Postal town	Country
Postboks 2141	0505	Oslo	Norway

Telephone	Fax	E-mail	Web address
23234600		info@bellona.no	Bellona.no/.org/.ru

Contact person	E-mail	Fixed telephone/mobile
Nils Bøhmer	nils@bellona.no	90037517

2.1. Type of organisation, org. no. (Norwegian/non-Norwegian/multilateral, private sector/state-public/ voluntary organisation/ other - specify).

Norwegian NGO, no. 948 77 8599

2.2. The organisation's competence Brief description of the applicant's competence and experience in the relevant field, experience of the geographical area in question and any other relevant experience.

Bellona Foundation has an extensive experience in managing international projects. The Bellona Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2016, with over 20 years of presence and environment work experience in Russia, with special emphasis on nuclear safety problems in Northwest Russia. Bellona has offices in Murmansk and St. Petersburg, and officially is the third largest environmental organization in Russia. Being a fearless watchdog,

monitoring and reporting on environmental situation in the relevant regions on a daily basis, Bellona is also providing new sustainable solutions for better environment within several disciplines, like renewables and industries. Alexander Nikitin, working in Norway and Russia, has a vast experience in radioactive waste management and dealing with Russian nuclear corporation Rosatom, trying to make them more transparent and attentive to civil society voices and bring them to round tables with international experts.

2.3. **About the organisation** Brief description of size/number of employees, years in operation, any connection to larger networks, financial situation

The Bellona Foundation is an independent non-profit NGO that aims to meet and fight the climate challenges, through identifying and implementing sustainable environmental solutions. Bellona was founded in 1986, with its first activity in Russia in 1991. We are currently 65 employees, working at the main office in Oslo and our international offices in Brussels (Belgium/EU), and our two Russian offices in Murmansk and St. Petersburg. With almost 30 years of experience, we have established a unique network both nationally and internationally, and are engaged into environmental work over the whole globe.

3. **About partner** (if more than one partner, attach an appendix).

Name		Contact person	
OOO "ERC Bellona"		Artem Alexeev	
Address	Postal code	Postal town	Country
Pr. Suvorovsky 59	19102	St Petersburg	Russia
Telephone	E-mail		Web address
+7-812-2757761	mail@bellona.ru		www.bellona.ru

3.1. **Type of collaborating organisation, org.no.** (Norwegian/non-Norwegian/multilateral, private sector/state-public/ voluntary organisation/ other - specify).

Russian Limited Liability Company

3.2. **About the collaborating organisation** Brief description of the applicant's experience with the partner, the partner organisation, competence and prerequisites for contributing to the project.

Environmental Rights Centre Bellona- St Petersburg is the first partner of the Bellona Foundation in this project. ERC has long experience in working with nuclear projects in Russia and were previously engaged in the most important Bellona projects in the field of nuclear safety and democracy in Russia. Bellona Murmansk is our second partner in this project. The Bellona Foundation has over 20 years of positive experience with Bellona-Murmansk.

In 2015, Bellona Murmansk was declared a foreign agent and closed down as a consequence. Until recently, the office has been operating as a project group under our organization ERC in St. Petersburg. In January 2017, ERC Bellona in St. Petersburg was also declared a foreign agent. Our organizations in Russia are now undergoing a restructuring process to make it possible for us to continue to work in Russia.

Ir[illegible]

4. **Role and work distribution between applicant and partner**

Bellona-Oslo coordinates the project and gives all the support and follow-up, plans the project development and arranges seminars, writes working papers and supports the web pages. Bellona in Russia implements the concrete projects and tasks, collects information, conducts hearings at the NPPs, writes articles for the web and social media and arranges seminars.

5. About the project

5.1. Brief description of the project

Also describe the project's endorsement within the framework of the Nuclear Action Plan. The text will be published on the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority's website as part of information to the public about the subsidy scheme.

Russia still has major challenges with the legacy of the old Soviet Union and the Cold War. The legacy includes a complex nuclear industry and large quantities of radioactive waste.

Today there are still large quantities of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel stored in a very unsatisfactory way in various places in Russia and at naval bases and shipyards on the Kola Peninsula. The situation remains serious for storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel at Andreeva Bay and still on board the nuclear storage ship Lepse which is located at the Nerpa shipyard since the autumn of 2012.

The Russian government plans to further extend the life time of the two oldest reactors at Kola nuclear power plant. There are still no plans or funding to decommission these reactors.

Although the population is beginning to take a greater role in decision-making processes, there is still a great need to strengthen the Russian civil society and local democracy in the region especially in relation to the nuclear challenges described above.

Bellona divides the activities in three main parts:

1. Nuclear Challenges in Northwest Russia

The activities within this area will follow Russian and international nuclear safety projects in the North West Russia, secure access to information for the public, public participation in decision making and critical assessment of the nuclear safety projects.

Bellona will continue to stay focused on the Andreeva Bay, Lepse, nuclear icebreakers, nuclear service ships, Kola nuclear power plant and other nuclear hazardous facilities in the region by producing notes, publish articles and organizing and participating in seminars in cooperation with Rosatom and Russian NGOs (see i.e 'Implementation Plan point 1).

Bellona will actively participate in the Public Council for Nuclear Safety in Murmansk. Bellona will also be an active participant and co-organizer of public hearings on nuclear hazardous projects with, among others, Rosatom. Bellona will monitor events that could pose nuclear danger in the region to ensure proper and impartial information to the public if an accident occurs (see IP, 5.4, 1.12 and 1,15 for examples).

Bellona will follow Russia's plans to clean up the Barents and Kara Sea, where it is dumped huge amounts of nuclear waste and two sunken submarines and will work towards international engagement to solve the problems (See IP 5.5 and 5.6).

2. Russian nuclear policy

After several years of activities in the Rosatom Public Council and their Working Group on interaction with NGOs concerning repository for radwaste Bellona has gathered a lot of valuable experience in the field of interaction between civil society and nuclear industry. It helps to reach compromise and come to the solution approved by the state authorities and local population. Bellona will continue these activities and work towards more understanding and faster progress of securing radioactive and nuclear waste in the new modern repositories. (see IP p. 1).

Bellona is planning to publish 2 working papers in 2017 on the topics of Nuclear power plants and Rosatoms domestic and international activities, as well as on Andreyeva Bay, building no. 5 in particular. (See IP 3.1 and 3.2)

3. Bellona Web, information work

Bellona will further develop their Russian, English and Norwegian websites as a press platform on nuclear issues in Russia and provide the public with an independent source of information (see IP p.4).

5.2. Describe the project's target group, and the extent to which the target group participates in implementing the project.

The target group is Russian local authorities and responsible federal bodies of the government, Environmental NGOs

from Russia, which are working on radioactive waste problems. The target group takes part in the project by participating in Bellona's hearings and round tables, visiting Bellona's website and receiving Bellona's information electronically and printed.

5.3. **Status of any previous phase of the project**, including status of reporting.

Bellona has worked with nuclear problems in Russia over 20 years and was the bridge between various decision makers and involved civil society in the decision making process.

6. **Goal hierarchy for the project** Fill in the table with short formulae/point lists, referring to other parts of the application if needed. See *Guidelines for application for subsidy* for more information. The goal hierarchy may be set up as a separate attachment to the application.

6.1. **Baseline** description of the present situation and the need/grounds for the project, with reference to concrete measures. The baseline creates the basis for assessing the achievement of goals in the project.

1. Cooperation with the authorities and nuclear authorities on the national level (Rosatom), i.e through continuous meetings in the working groups on federal level and on the regional level in Murmansk (at least 4 or more each year).
2. Good media coverage of the nuclear issues through Bellona web pages and Facebook, more than 50 articles on nuclear issues each year.
3. Over 300 000 visitors on Bellona.ru in 2016.
4. Still many nuclear issues on the Kola peninsula remain unsolved and can be suspended due to economic difficulties.
5. Russian NGOs and civil society is not satisfied with the cooperation and transparency in the nuclear safety projects.

6.2. **Anticipated results/services/products** (output) Measurable effects of activities performed within the framework of the project.

Description	Indicator (present situation)	Indicator (after conclusion of project)
1. Bellona produces working papers and reports with its independent view on nuclear energy and nuclear waste. Working papers are aimed at stakeholders in Russia, Norway and other countries working on these issues.	1. Bellona has produced independent notes and reports on the use of nuclear energy and nuclear waste management in Russia over the past 20 years.	1. It is planned to write **2 working papers** in English in 2017.
2. Bellona makes regular updates of Bellona Web in Russian, English and partly Norwegian about current nuclear problems in Russia.	2. Bellona has created web with regular updates on the nuclear issue in Russia since 1996.	2. At least **80 published articles** on Nuclear issues on Bellona WEB
3. Bellona conducts and participates in seminars with Russian and foreign stakeholders on nuclear issues.	3. Bellona has conducted and participated in a series of seminars for the past 20 years had facilitated nuclear solutions in Russia.	3. Bellona will conduct seminars and round tables and participate at various seminars and hearings: total a minimum of **15 in 2017** (Hereunder Public hearings, conferences, meetings, round tables, technical tours, forum dialogues, etc.) And at least **4 meetings in the working group**

4. Bellona conducts meetings with Russian stakeholders on nuclear issues.	4. Bellona has had good working relations with Russian nuclear authorities that help the government get more information before they make decisions.	of Rosatom's public council. 4. In 2017 Bellona attends at least **4 Direct meetings** with Rosatom's management and/or local nuclear authorities in Murmansk to gain support for our proposals.

Preconditions for achieving results

Our organizational restructuring process must leave us able to continue our work, both with regards to our relationship to grant donors and to Russian authorities. Nuclear authorities continue to cooperate and maintain dialogue with civil society. Bellona continues to get relevant information from the nuclear authorities. Open access to Bellona Web pages from Russia. Bellona maintains their expertise in Oslo and in Murmansk and St. Petersburg offices that depend on available funding.

6.3. **The project's goal** (purpose/Intended outcome) compared with the baseline described in point 6.1. One goal only. The positive situation that is desired to be realised for the target group.

Description	Indicator (present situation)	Indicator (after conclusion of project)
Population in Russia and other countries is more informed about the problems and challenges during the usage of the nuclear energy in Russia. Russian authorities are willing to share information and discuss the actual problems with the NGOs.	1. Two reports and 1 book on nuclear topics were published in 2016 2. There were 336 706 visitors on Bellona.ru in 2016 3. 5+ meetings with Rosatom in 2016, 5+ meetings in the Working Group	1. Minimum 2 reports and working papers in 2017 2. Increase the quantity of visitors to Bellona.ru by 15% minimum. 3. Keep the quantity of meetings stable in 2017 and secure the involvement of stake holders and civil society in the discussions.

Preconditions for achieving results

Russia maintains a focus on nuclear safety and continues its international cooperation on the issue. Continued international pressure for final solutions.

6.4. **Development goal/societal effect** (Goal/Intended impact) One goal only. The situation that is desired to be contributed to in the long term.

Promote increased nuclear safety and safe management of radioactive waste in a more open and democratic Russia.

6.5. **Implementation plan for activities** concrete activities in order to achieve the desired result. The plan must give an overview of the project's activities and if relevant give milestones for important events/results. The plan may be set up as a separate attachment to the application. Milestones are numbered and stated with planned duration (months).

Number	Milestones, activities	Responsible party (abbreviation)	Planned start	Duration
	Please see attachment 3			

7. The project's sustainability and risk assessments

Give an assessment of the project's local/institutional endorsement.
Participation by various stakeholders and coordination with others.
Other relevant sustainability elements (environmental, technological, economic, socio-economic and cultural aspects etc.).

The measure is aimed at Russian governments, NGOs and the population on the regional level in Russia and Norway. Authorities should be able to get submitted an alternative view on the issue (besides Rosatom). NGOs and population should benefit from access to information and participate in decision-making about treatment and storage of nuclear waste.

7.1. Environmental consequence analysis

Has an environmental consequence analysis been performed? Performing an environmental consequence analysis before allocating funding is a requirement if the project might lead to radioactive contamination.

This is not applicable for this project.

7.2. Internal control

Briefly describe the system for internal control at the subsidy recipient. Does the applicant have anti-corruption routines/purchasing routines? The applicant's assessment of the need for tenders when procuring goods and services. Among other things, internal control must help to identify risk factors that might cause the organisation to not reach its goals and to find suitable countermeasures to these risk factors. This should in turn help to prevent and reveal irregularities and economic crime. It must be possible to document internal control on request.

Bellona's expenditures mostly cover personnel costs. Our Russian offices are under much stricter financial control of Russian authorities than a normal commercial enterprise. All this minimizes the risk of financial irregularities. When it comes to office in Oslo when we have established administrative procedures, inter alia, all purchases over 5000 NOK must be approved by the CEO. All invoices and disbursements are approved by 2-3 people. As an extra precaution we have also an external accounting firm.

We have named in the budget the freelancers/journalists/translators that Bellona will use in this project. These are people that we have used for years, and we are confident that they deliver good quality at a reasonable price. It is in this regard important to remember that nuclear team is relatively unique, and that there are relatively few experts in Russia who can do this job for an NGO. When it comes to our permanent translator, she has been associated with us for over 10 years and she knows well the special nuclear terminology.

To arrange a tender in Russia can, by law, costs around 50 000 NOK and we think this is not applicable in our situation, where each mission is less than this sum.

7.3. Risk factors

Identifying risk factors, including corruption	Handling identified risks, including corruption

Bellona identifies the following risk factors:	Bellona has the following strategies:
1. Our restructuring process might run into unforeseen obstacles or opposition from authorities. 2. Our new structure might lead to misunderstandings with the government, including Rosatom, which in turn might render Bellona excluded from the dialogue with the Russian nuclear authorities. In addition, the Russian authorities might decide to stop including civil society in decision making processes overall. 3. There is a risk that we may experience financial irregularities of our employees. 4. To an extent, activities connected with participation in Rosatom events, including the public council and its working group are beyond our control. These events might be postponed or be cancelled.	1. Bellona has several lawyers working on this issue daily. We are bent on following Russian law and work within the framework of the system. We continually assess the situation with regards to this. 2. If Rosatom reduce or terminate their cooperation with Bellona or civil society in general, we will continue to work for a greater understanding among authorities of how important it is to involve civil society in decision-making processes related to the nuclear issue. 3. Bellona's offices in Russia is under strict control of Russian financial supervisory authorities. Besides performing external accounting firms regularly audit by our office and associated accounts. Bellona operates with zero tolerance for economic crimes. 4. Bellona is striving to stick to the plan, as shown in attachment 3. We will do our outmost to make sure that the activities are rescheduled, even if they are postponed within the framework of Rosatom. In the case of cancellations, we will inform our grant donors about this in progress reports and annual reports.

7.4. **Follow-up** Describe exit strategy/follow-up on conclusion of the project.

Bellona has worked on nuclear issues in northwest Russia for more than 20 years and believes that the work should continue until the objective is reached. A continuous international presence and monitoring of challenges relating to the atom is very important that the Russian authorities will maintain its commitment.

7.5. **Gender and equal opportunity perspective** How is the gender and equal opportunity perspective safeguarded in the project? How is equal opportunity safeguarded in recruitment and training?

Gender equality is an integral part of Bellona's work and working in Norway. We are working actively to ensure that gender equality must also be as a natural part of the activities at our offices in Russia. There are 1 woman and 3 men associated with Bellona's nuclear project in Russia and Norway.

8. Budget and financing plan

The budget must be specified in a separate attachment. See *Guidelines for application for subsidy* for more information.

State currency:	**First year**	**Second year**	**Third year**	**Total**	**Percentage of total**
	(2017)	(yyyy)	(yyyy)		
Project costs – subsidy recipient Costs linked to the implementation of the measure	2 844 008			2 844 008	64,5
Project costs – partner Costs linked to the implementation of the measure	1 565 625			1 565 625	35,5
Overheads The organisation's administrative costs that can be *indirectly* linked to the implementation of the measure					
Total costs	4 409 633			4 439 633	100
- Own contribution deducted	-159 633			-189 633	3,62
- Other financing funds deducted (state which)	-50 000			-50 000	1,13
Fritt Ord					
= Amount applied for from The Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority	4 200 000			4 200 000	95,25

Status of application/award from other financing sources

The application is filed to Fritt Ord, but we have not received the answer.

9. Supplementary information Any other information that is considered relevant to the application.

10. Bank information Subsidy recipients must set up a separate joint account for all subsidies received from the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority. This does not apply to governmental recipients.

If the applicant has not previously received subsidy from the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority, or if the applicant's bank information has changed, the bank information must be documented with the organisation's stationery, a bank statement or other written confirmation from the bank before any payment can be made.

The bank's name and address		
Nordea		
Name of account holder Nordea	Account number/TBAN number 6045 05 33834/NO3660450533834	Swift code NDEANOKK
Account currency NOK	Other information	