

Fund for Bilateral Relations EEA and Norwegian Grants 2014-2021

1st meeting of the Joint Committee for the Bilateral Funds (JCBF)

Riga, 6 December 2018

Diana Rancane

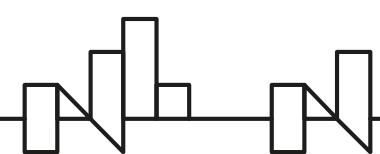
**Head of EU Funds Investments Management Department
Ministry of Finance of Latvia**



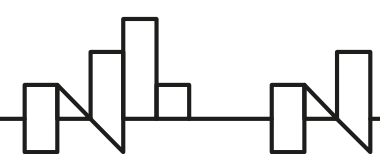
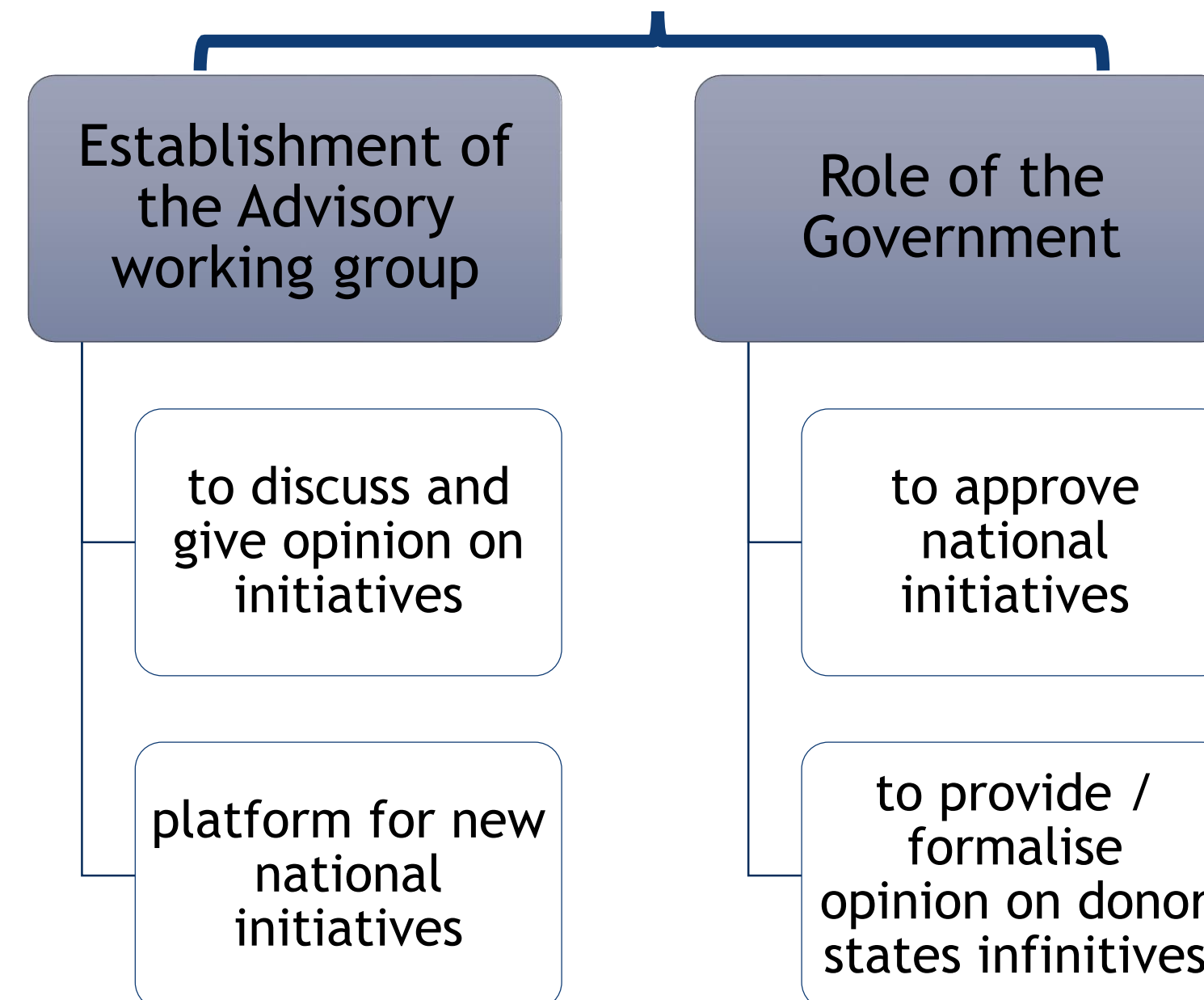
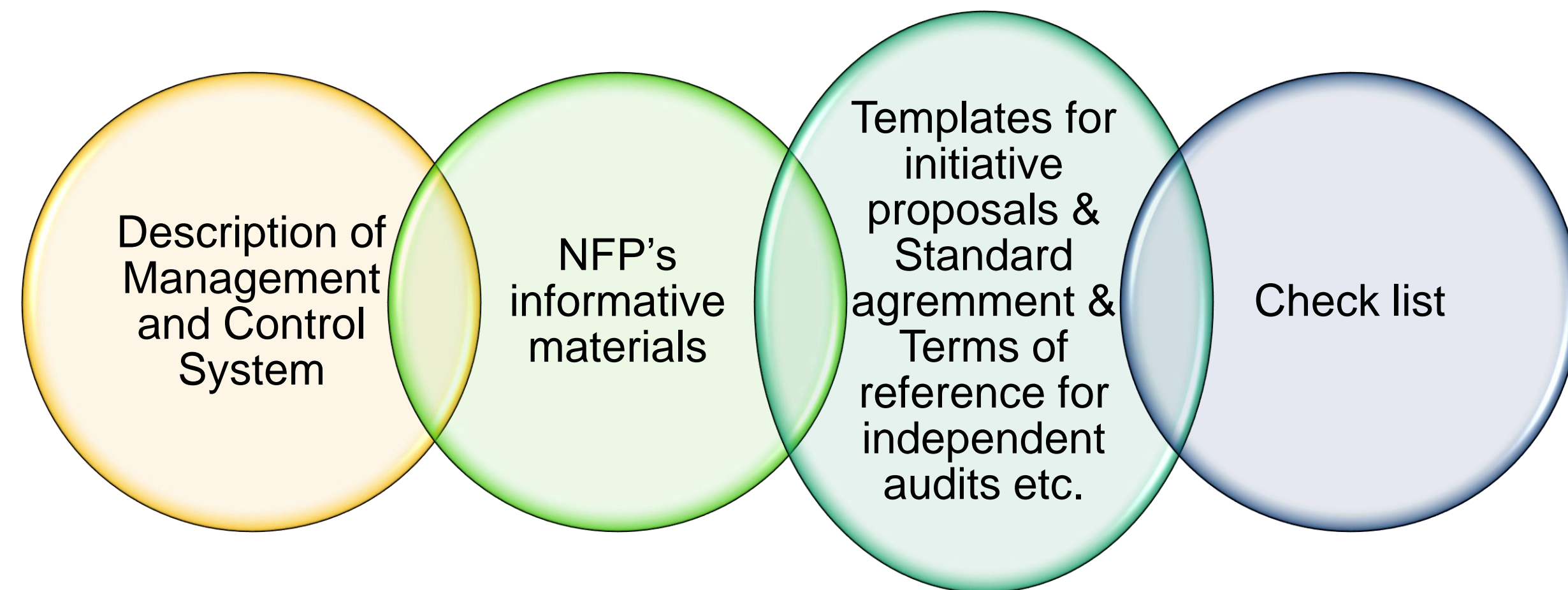
**MINISTRY OF FINANCE
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA**

Agenda

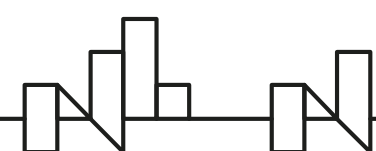
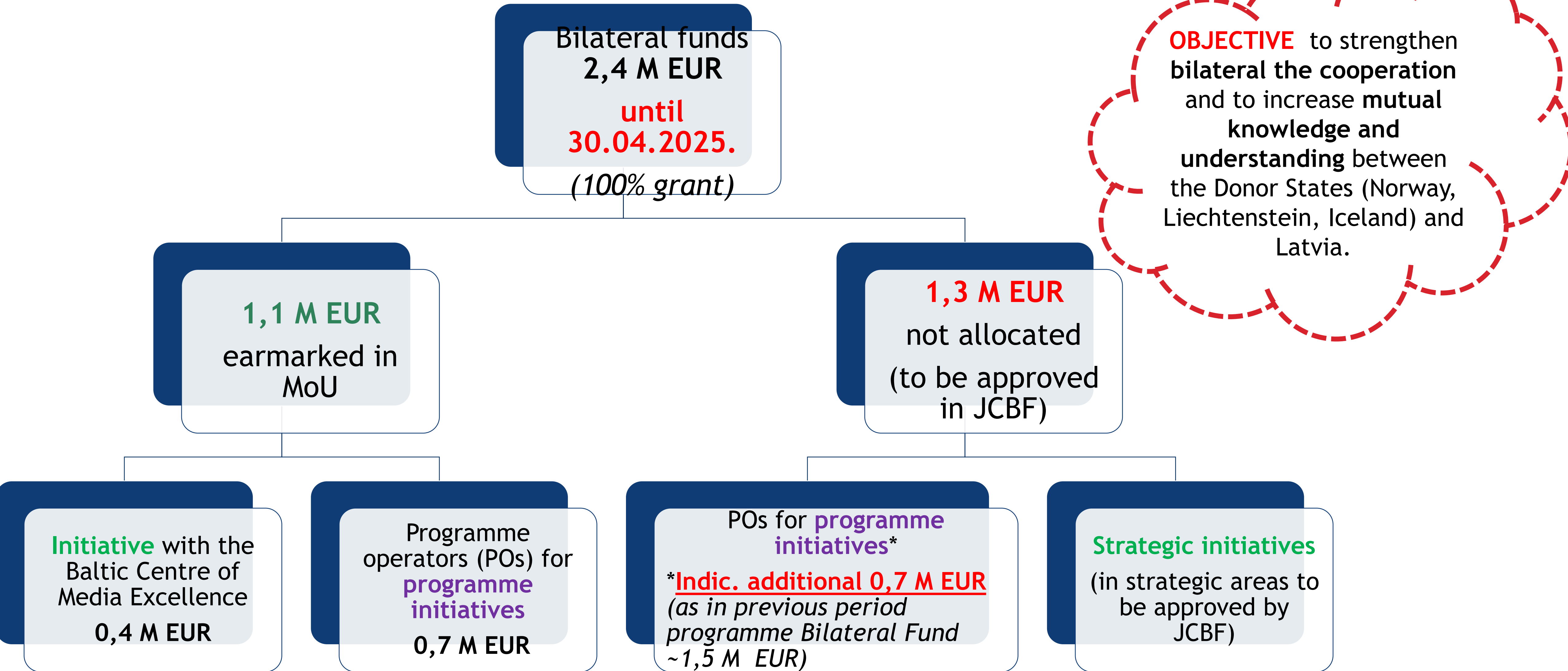
1. Legal framework and opportunities
2. Implementation system
3. Initiatives and next steps



Legal framework & Supporting documents & Guides



Distribution of bilateral funds on 06.12.2018



Conditions to be approved in the Work plan

Threshold for initiatives

10 000 EUR and above per initiative

Strategic areas for strategic pre-defined initiatives

Education and research

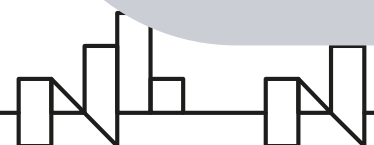
Art and culture

Promotional activities for business development and bilateral cooperation

Cooperation projects between local governments

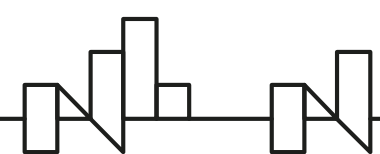
Promoting transparency and democratic participation

Promotional events for bilateral cooperation



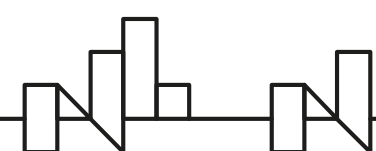
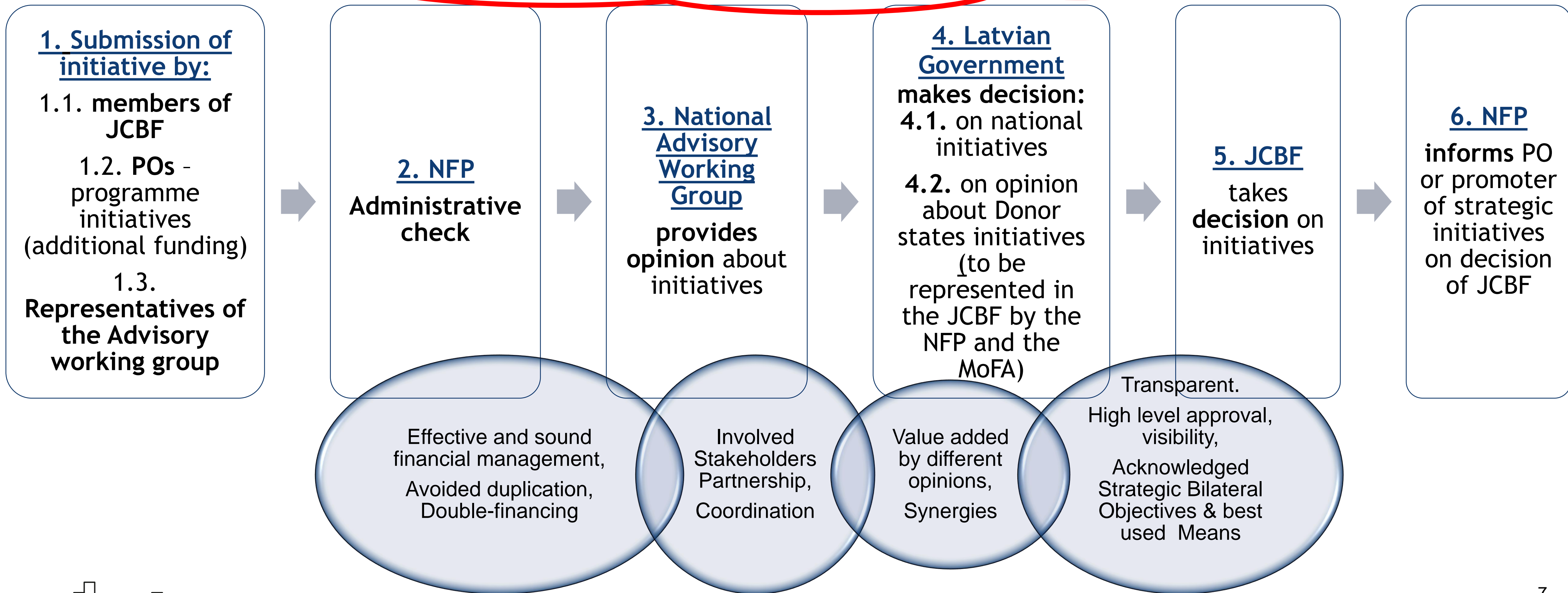
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Approval process of bilateral initiatives

In practise - flexible, parallel processes corresponding to start of the initiative!



Possible timing of initiatives approval

Minimum time needed for approval of initiative is 3 months (if urgent start of initiative)

	1 st month					2 nd month				3 rd month				
Weeks	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Submission of initiative														
NFP														
Advisory working group				5 working days prior 										
Latvian Government						Procedure prior submission to Government 				Decision in Government				
JCBF						4 weeks prior 								
Drafting and signing agreement														

Implementation of initiative

Conclusion of the agreement

- Draft agreement will be available on the web page www.eeagrants.lv.
- MoF prepares the draft agreement to be coordinated with the promoter of initiative (*provisions for POs are set in the Government's horizontal Regulations on the Management of Grants*)
- Implementation of the initiative starts after the conclusion of the agreement

Reimbursement of the funding

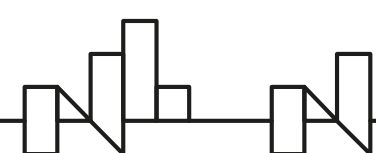
- State budget entity - pre-financing from the State budget
- not a State budget entity - advance payment possible and the MoF reimburses incurred expenditures

Verification of supporting documents

- In-house or outsourced independent auditor selected by the promoter (PO will ensure verification of expenditures incurred by promoters of programme initiatives)
- MoF provide standard terms of reference for auditorS

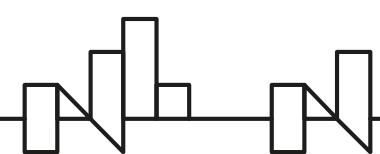
Reporting

- at least once a year promoter or PO report about implementation of initiative to MoF together with audit report



Agenda

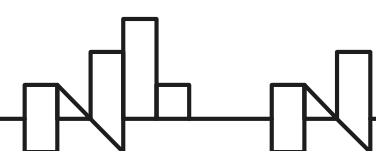
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Programme level bilateral initiatives

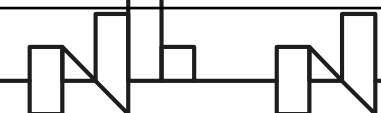
done in 2018 and *planned in 2019*

Programme	2018	2019
Correctional Services programme	Study visit of potential pre-defined project partner Ullersmo prison and Correctional Service of Norway Staff Academy to Latvia	International experience exchange visits to Latvia and Norway
Baltic Research programme	Match making event for scientists in Tallinn	International conference in Riga for scientists from Donor states and Baltic states
Business Development programme		Match making event in Oslo for SMEs



Strategic Initiatives proposed for 6 December 2018 JCBF (most plan implementation from the second half of 2019)

No	Title	Promoter	Starting - need for financing	Amount (EUR)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Bilateral Fund				2 442 000							
Allocation in MoU				1 100 00							
1.	Building Resilient Media and Inquisitive Audiences in the Baltic States	Baltic Centre for Media Excellence	January 2019	400 000	147 877	126 679	125 444				
2.	6 programmes			700 000	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
06.12.2018. - Available funding for decision by JCBF				1 342 000							
Initiatives proposed by the Norwegian Embassy:											
1.	3D scanning and new technologies in cultural heritage management*	National heritage board of Latvia	May 2019	126 606	20 403	18 732	18 232	15 202	14 232	21 172	18 633
2.	“Undercurrents” - immersive documentation of Arctic environment*	Visionary Culture Foundation (Latvia)	May 2019	97 339	44 394	31 782	21 163				
National initiative proposals:											
3.	Norway Baltic Research Network. Critical Infrastructure: Institutional Coordination and Policy Preferences*	Latvian Institute of International Affairs	June 2019	187 000	48 000	139 000					
4.	Participation in the Conversation Festival LAMPA*	Communications Department of the Ministry of Finance of Latvia	June 2019	40 000	10 000		10 000		10 000	10 000	
Total				450 945 (34%)	122 797	189 514	49 395	15 202	24 232	31 172	18 633
Leftover (not allocated funding)				883 055 (66%)							
In process for the next round											
5.	MOT Latvia	Foundation «MOT Latvia»	May 2019	59 000	18 600	23 400	17 000				



*On conditional approval by the Government.

Next steps - no need for urgency based on the timing of proposed initiatives

06.12.2018.

1st official meeting of JCBF (approval of Work plan and initiatives on conditional approval by the Government)

~ April 2019

Conclusion of agreements with the promoters of strategic initiatives

Improve initiatives

Advisory Group/JCBF Written procedure

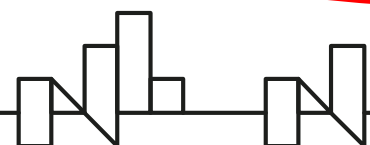
~ March – April 2019

Decision by the Government & informe JCBF - final decision

~ May 2019

May start implementation of initiatives

New Proposals - Written procedures of national Advisory group + JCBF - timing according to the quality of proposals and need for start of initiatives



Working together for strengthening bilateral relations!

www.eeagrants.lv

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