

Feedback and Results from the Blue Book Consultations EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021

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Hello again!



Public Consultation

- Open to all stakeholders
- 746 completed

Consultation NFPs

- 11 responses

- WHO WE ARE
- PRIORITIES FOR THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS 2014-2021 CONSULTED AND FINALISED**
- HOW ARE PRIORITIES SET?
- MANAGING FOR RESULTS
- PROGRAMME MODEL
- MANAGING RISK
- EVALUATIONS >
- ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET



PRIORITIES FOR THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS 2014-2021 CONSULTED AND FINALISED

The EEA and Norway Grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to reducing economic and social disparities in Europe and to strengthening bilateral relations with 15 EU member states in Northern, Central and Southern Europe.

The funding is provided over a number of consecutive funding periods, the latest of which - for the period 2014-2021 - has recently been launched. An amount of € 2.8 billion is made available.

The content of the 5 priority sectors and 23 programme areas eligible for funding in this period are finalised following a period of public consultation. These are brought together in the 'Blue Book'.

Public consultation

A draft of the 'Blue Book' was subject to public consultation in the period 27 May – 8 July 2016. The consultation received nearly 1,500 responses from across all the donor and beneficiary countries as well as third countries and international organisations. Their feedback has contributed to the approved version of the 'Blue Book' 2014-2021. A summary of the results of the consultation is available [here](#).

Aim of consultation

The draft 'Blue Book' had been written by specialists of the donor country governments. Its content is based on the EU's cohesion policy, experience from earlier funding periods of the EEA and Norway Grants, and input from a number of international organisations and other stakeholders.

We nevertheless believed that those likely to benefit from the Grants,

THE 'BLUE BOOK'

Priority sectors and programme areas 2014-2021

- » 'Blue Book' online reading version
- » Access the 'Blue Book' in PDF

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

- » Summary of results

NEWS AND UPDATES

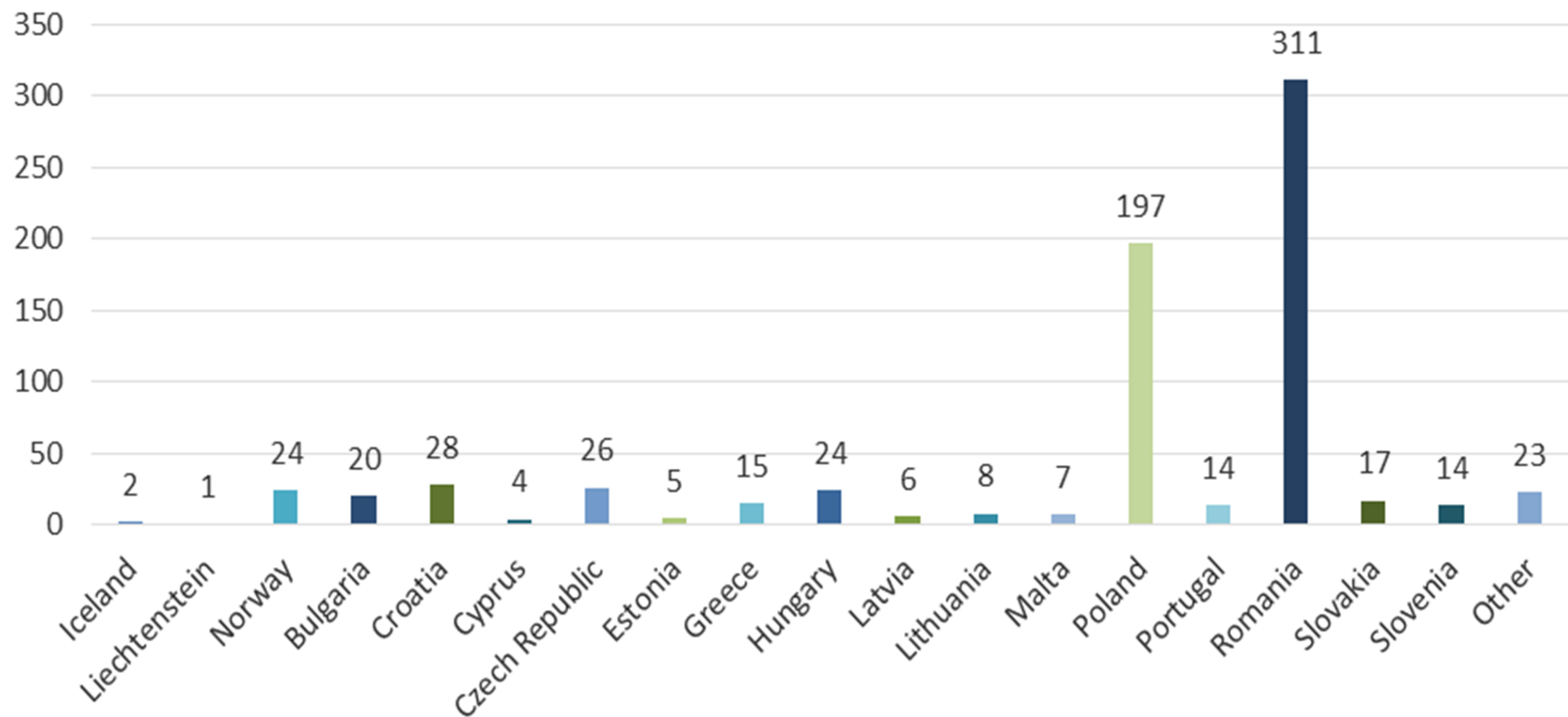
[The 'Blue Book' for the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 has been finalised](#)

[Great interest in consultation on priorities for EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021](#)

Aim of the consultation



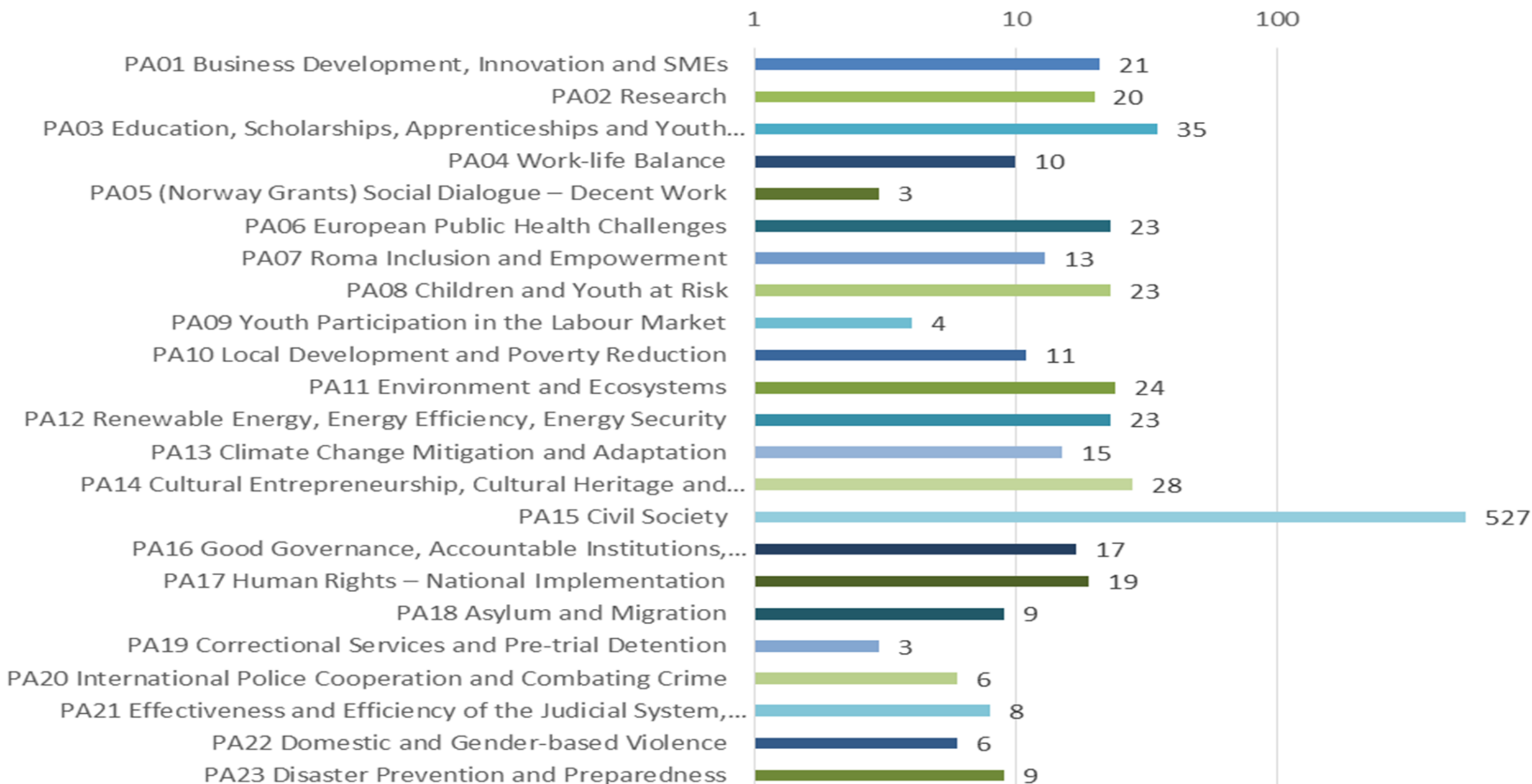
Where respondents are based



Number of responses per type of organisation



Respondents per programme area





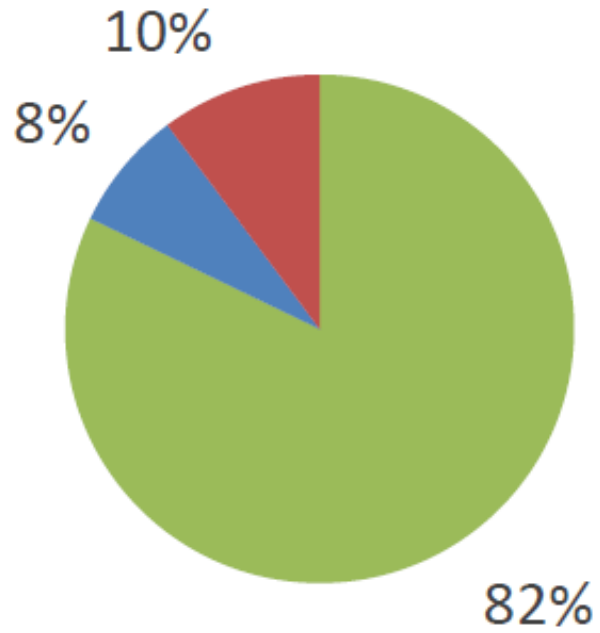
ICELAND
LIECHTENSTEIN
NORWAY

eea
grants

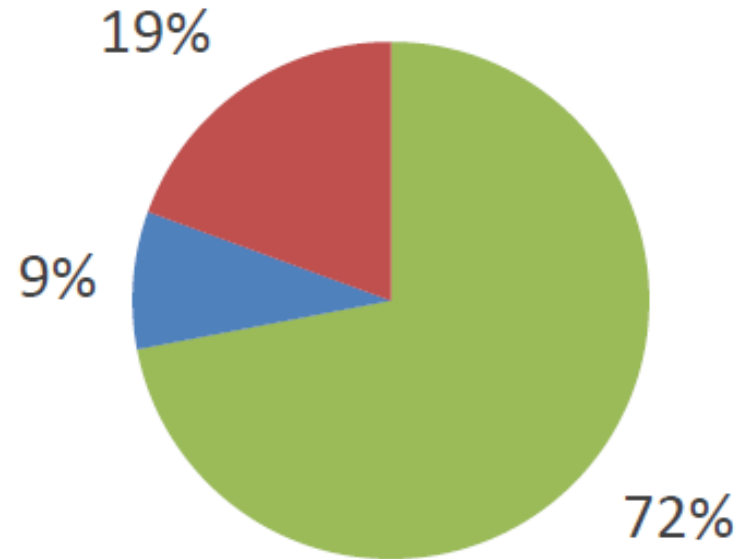


norway
grants

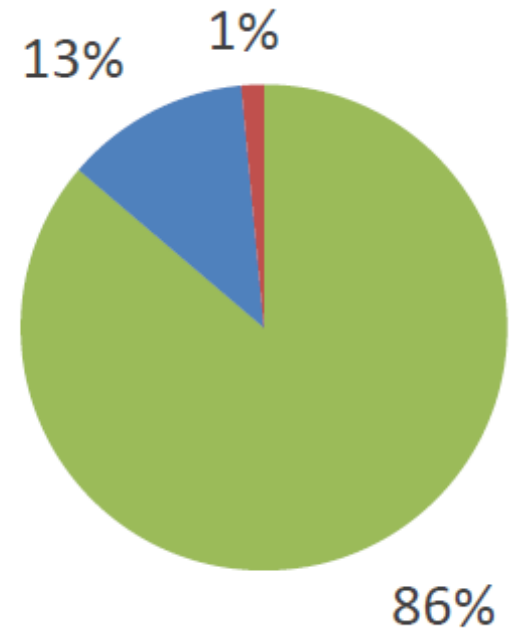
Objective



Areas of support



Bilateral



- Yes
- No opinion
- No



**Generally happy with
the Blue Book**

More clarity

70 changes

70 changes





PRIORITY SECTOR
Environment, Energy,
Climate Change and Low
Carbon Economy

Programme area n°11 Environment and Ecosystems

OBJECTIVE
Improved environmental status in ecosystems and reduced adverse effects of pollution and other human activities

- AREAS OF SUPPORT**
- > Environmental strategies, management plans, action plans and/or protection plans
 - > Environmental monitoring and evaluation
 - > Systems for the sharing of environmental information
 - > Management and control
 - > Compliance with environmental legislation

- SUGGESTED MEASURES**
- > Implementation of marine, inland water and terrestrial management plans and targets
 - > Development and implementation of action plans on threatened species and habitats and/or invasive alien species
 - > Mapping and monitoring of the ecological status in marine and inland waterways, and in terrestrial areas

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT
Quality of life, economic competitiveness, employment and security all rely on the natural capital of our ecosystems. Europe's ecosystems are under increasing pressure, and the natural resources on which social and economic development is based are under threat. Intensive agriculture practices, infrastructure development causing land-use change, pollution, use of chemicals, over-exploitation of forests, inland and marine waters, and climate change are some of the main threats.

Addressing environmental issues requires the integration of policies on protection and the sustainable use of biodiversity in fresh water, oceans, terrestrial ecosystems, and on hazardous substances with sectoral policies such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy and transport to ensure the resilience of ecosystems and provision of ecosystem services. Management plans may facilitate value creation while also maintaining

It lists nine priority objectives and identifies three priority areas where more action is needed: protect nature and strengthen ecological resilience; boost resource-efficient, low-carbon growth; and reduce threats to human health and well-being.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are committed to international efforts to address environmental challenges, a commitment shared with the EU. The EEA and Norway Grants will fund programmes focusing on environment and ecosystems in line with the Europe 2020 strategy targets.

- PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS**
- > The programmes shall contain small grant scheme(s) targeting, among others, civil society including non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
 - > Priority shall be given to bilateral partnerships offering added value

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

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considerable
time area.
rated marine
integrated
use is important
area of



PRIORITY SECTOR
Environment, Energy,
Climate Change and Low
Carbon Economy

Programme area n°12 Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security

OBJECTIVE
Less carbon intensive energy and increased security of supply

SUGGESTED MEASURES
> Energy efficiency measures in the industrial sector
> Production of renewable geothermal energy for multipurpose

AREAS OF SUPPORT
> Energy efficiency in produ
> Renewable energy produc
> Recovery of energy from v
> Energy security
> Renewable energy policies
> Energy markets

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

> Programmes targeting greenhouse gas reductions and/or avoidance through energy efficiency measures shall deliver considerable reductions at a reasonable cost; a maximum of 150 EUR grant per tonne CO₂ equivalent per year reduced/avoided should be aimed for

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT
The goal of the EU's energy strategy is to ensure that Europe has secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy. This implies a wide range of measures in all the five dimensions of the Energy Union: 1) energy security; 2) the internal energy market; 3) energy efficiency; 4) de-carbonisation of the economy; and 5) research, innovation and competitiveness.

Well-functioning and efficient energy markets - with adequate infrastructure and an effective legislative framework - are preconditions for security of supply, and for developing an effective climate policy in Europe.

The European energy sector is currently facing the challenge of moving from the use of fossil fuels and high energy consumption to an increased use of renewable energy and high energy efficiency. This move is fundamental for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Otherwise, Europe will not be able to meet its commitments to reduce emissions.

The move towards less carbon intensive economies calls for involvement from a wide range of stakeholders. This includes all sectors and levels of government, the private sector and in particular SMEs, the research community and the general public. Bilateral cooperation is an essential part of the EEA and Norway Grants allowing donor and beneficiary countries to share knowledge and experience when it comes to mitigating climate change. This is particularly the case when it comes to energy efficiency in industries and renewable energy solutions such as geothermal, solar, wind and hydro energy.

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS
> Programmes targeting greenhouse gas reductions and/or avoidance through energy efficiency measures shall deliver considerable reductions at a reasonable cost; a maximum of 150 EUR grant per tonne CO₂ equivalent per year reduced/avoided should be aimed for
> Priority shall be given to bilateral partnerships offering added value

more secure energy
experience is crucial.
All cooperate bilaterally,
energy, and renewable



PRIORITY SECTOR
Environment, Energy,
Climate Change and Low
Carbon Economy

Programme area n°13

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

OBJECTIVE

Climate change mitigated and vulnerability reduced

AREAS OF SUPPORT

- > Strategies, action plans and/or
- > Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- > Climate change adaptation measures
- > Climate change-related extreme risk management
- > Carbon capture and storage

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

> Climate change adaptation programmes shall contain small grant scheme(s) targeting civil society including non-governmental organisations (NGOs)

- contingency plans
- > Integration of climate change-related issues into general disaster/contingency plans
- > Awareness-raising activities

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT

Climate change is one of the challenges affecting economic and social development in Europe. It influences the sustainability of our societies, the potential for economic growth, the state of ecosystems, as well as our quality of life. The impact of climate change is global. It will however affect European citizens and ecosystems differently, depending on the magnitude and rate of climate change, and the ability of the ecosystems and our communities to adapt to these changes.

To mitigate climate change the emission of greenhouse gases needs to be reduced or prevented. This calls for new technologies, energy production with less emissions, more efficient energy use, protection of ecosystems as they store large quantities of carbon, changed management practices and

The EU 'Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050', outlines how to achieve much deeper emission cuts by the middle of the century with reductions milestones of the order of 40% by 2030 and 60% by 2040.

The agreement reached at the 21st Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris in November 2015 is a milestone in international climate change policy. The targets (on temperature rise and greenhouse gas emissions) and instruments agreed at the COP21, require committed implementation and follow-up, and this has triggered discussions in both the EU and donor countries on revision of policies and next steps.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are committed to

climate change, a commitment from Norway Grants will fund schemes in line with targets set under the 7th Environment Action Plan. Climate change demands international cooperation is essential to address challenges stemming from

emissions and adapt to climate change. Knowledge and experience is crucial. Countries shall cooperate to develop national plans, while ensuring the resilience of communities.

integrated policies for the longer term are needed. In April 2013 the European Commission adopted an EU strategy on adaptation to climate change. The so-called '2030 Framework', driving a continued progress towards a low carbon economy, was presented in January 2014. At the core of the framework is the proposal to reduce EU domestic greenhouse gas emissions by 40% below the 1990 level by 2030.



PRIORITY SECTOR
 Culture, Civil Society, Good
 Governance and Fundamental
 Rights and Freedoms

Programme area n°14

Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural Heritage and Cultural Cooperation

OBJECTIVE
 Social and economic
 cultural cooperation
 heritage management

AREAS OF SUPPORT

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- > Cultural, creative sustainable development
- > Audience development, culture, outreach
- > Networking and international cultural cooperation/exchange

> A minimum level of funding available for small grant scheme(s) shall be identified in the memorandum of understanding, or exceptionally in the programme's concept note

- > Developing new working methods/business models
- > Bridging the gap between creativity, culture and business, for example through public-private partnerships
- > Supporting minority culture
- > Promoting dialogue on history narratives
- > Bilateral cultural cooperation between cultural players
- > Good governance/shared European values through culture and local community development
- > Small grant scheme(s)

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT
 Culture's intrinsic value is widely recognised. Beyond this value the cultural and creative sectors are important drivers of economic growth, job development and social inclusion. In its impact assessment for the EU Creative Europe programme, the European Commission underlines the transformative economic and social power of culture: the cultural and creative sectors account for approximately 4.5% of the Union's GDP (2008) and employ some 3.8% of its workforce. These sectors trigger spill-overs in other economic areas such as tourism. They fuel the development of innovative content for ICT and greatly contribute to education, social inclusion and social innovation.

Within the EU's 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework, funding for the EU Creative Europe programme was increased in view of the sector's role in promoting smart, sustainable

The EEA and Norway Grants aim at broadening people's access to culture, at promoting cultural diversity, and at strengthening intercultural dialogue. The importance of media literacy, intercultural skills and other democratic competences is underlined in the Secretary General of the Council of Europe report "State of democracy, human rights and rule of law in Europe" (April 2014).

There is strong bilateral cooperation in this area which stimulates knowledge sharing, accelerated learning and the emergence of stronger networks for international cooperation.

- PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS**
- > Cultural heritage management and conservation shall take account of impact on regional and local development
 - > All programmes shall include cultural cooperation between

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PRIORITY SECTOR
 Culture, Civil Society, Good
 Governance and Fundamental
 Rights and Freedoms

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 OBJECTIVE
 Civil society a
 groups empov

> All programmes shall include youth inclusion

- AREAS OF SUPPORT
- > Democracy, active citizenship, good governance and transparency
 - > Human rights and equal treatment through combating any discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity
 - > Social justice and inclusion of vulnerable groups
 - > Gender equality and gender-based violence
 - > Environment and climate change

- > Citizen activism, volunteering and civic participation
- > Participation in policy and decision-making processes, including promoting an enabling environment for civil society
- > Support for freedom of expression, investigative journalism and media
- > Countering hate speech, including support to networks working with hate crime victims
- > Promoting LGBTI rights and anti-discrimination activities
- > Capacity building of the civil society sector, including sustainability, networking and accountability of NGOs
- > Partnerships between NGOs, public and private sector entities
- > Civic education and training
- > Research and analysis to inform policy-making
- > Social innovation and social enterprise development
- > Intercultural dialogue, including platforms for minority/majority interactions
- > Inter-generational cooperation
- > Awareness-raising and capacity building on environmental issues including climate change and adaptation
- > Access to information, participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters in accordance with the Aarhus Convention

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT
 Support from the EEA and Norway Grants to civil society reflects a firm recognition of the sector's role as a fundamental building block of democratic governance, human rights and social cohesion across Europe. The civil society programmes reflect the current challenges facing Europe against the backdrop of the economic crisis. In line with the objectives of the EU's cohesion policy, particular emphasis is given to combating discrimination, to promoting inclusion, and to harnessing the potential of social entrepreneurship in the fight against social exclusion. Support to young people at

Civil society organisations supported by the EEA and Norway Grants often work closely with public authorities and stakeholders. Partnerships between NGOs and public administrations, particularly at local level, can contribute to better access to services, accountability and good governance.

The programme area takes account of challenges identified in the Secretary General of the Council of Europe report "State of democracy, human rights and rule of law in Europe" (April 2014). Knowledge-sharing, exchange of experience and project partnerships are promoted through bilateral cooperation.

Ensuring the capacity of the sector

NGOs tackle social problems arising from inequality and discrimination. They contribute to the activation and empowerment of disadvantaged people and minority groups, such as Roma, by helping them overcome barriers to participation and ensure that their voices are heard.

Radicalisation, violent extremism, and the rise of populist forces demand a comprehensive and multi-sectoral response. Civil society support to inclusion, democracy and participation plays a role in addressing the easy dissemination of hateful views online, and can reinforce broad efforts to counter extremist narratives and prevent escalation leading to violence.

NGOs provide innovative solutions and services that help vulnerable people overcome barriers to participation in socio-economic life. The Europe 2020 strategy emphasises civil society organisations as agents of innovation, sustainable and inclusive growth.

It shall be allocated
 to projects
 on
 climate change shall
 to promote
 innovation and



PRIORITY SECTOR
 Culture, Civil Society, Good
 Governance and Fundamental
 Rights and Freedoms

Programme area n°17

Human Rights – National Implementation

OBJECTIVE

Human rights situation improved and discrimination and extremism combatted at national level

AREAS OF SUPPORT

- > Implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union
- > Developing national human rights mechanisms
- > Peaceful resolution of human rights issues
- > Combating discrimination and hate speech

SUGGESTED MEASURES

- > National implementation of relevant judgements and case law by the European Court of Human Rights
- > Follow-up of thematic and country-specific recommendations on human rights put forward by international organisations
- > Training of judges, lawyers and prosecutors on the European Convention on Human Rights and relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights

RELEVANCE OF SUPPORT

Fostering human rights and preventing discrimination and extremism are priorities for the donor countries. These aims are therefore streamlined across programmes within the EEA and Norway Grants in addition to this dedicated programme area.

The economic crisis has put human rights under additional pressure, and political extremism is on the rise across Europe. Combating all forms of discrimination is a fundamental principle of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as expressed in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Treaty of the European Union. It is also an objective for EU cohesion policy. Whilst ensuring implementation is the responsibility of the state, broad cooperation with citizens is necessary to succeed.

The ability of national governments to implement the conditions of international treaties will be strengthened under this programme area. Support is given to measures designed to give effect to judgements of the European Court of Human Rights.

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

- > Priority shall be given to empowering minorities and vulnerable groups to uphold their rights
- > Priority shall be given to initiatives targeting young people

BILATERAL INTEREST

This is an area where the donor and beneficiary countries can benefit from institutional networking and the sharing of best practice.

> Programmes shall include small grant scheme(s) for partnerships between the public sector and civil society including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), with minimum allocations for such scheme(s) to be identified in the memorandum of understanding or exceptionally in the programme's concept note



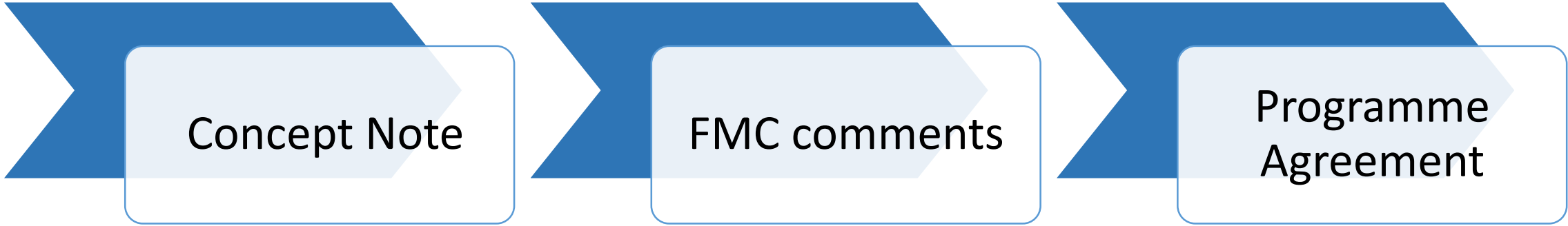
**Programme development -
made more efficient:**

Early stage cooperation

Clearer focus

More flexibility

The Concept Note



Strategic planning

**Better use of
resources**

Higher impact

Clear results



Timeline



**Agreements
with the EU**

**Policy framework:
Regulation,
Draft Blue Book, MoUs**

**Concept note,
Programme Agreement**

Implementation

Final reporting

Thank you!

