

EEA GRANTS
NORWAY GRANTS

Reducing disparities Strengthening relations

European Economic Area Seminar
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AGENDA

- I. Historic background
- II. EEA and Norway Grants 2004-09
- III. Bilateral relations
- IV. Lessons learned
- v. Key features 2009-14

I. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

EEA AGREEMENT

Article 115

...With a view to promoting a continuous and balanced strengthening of trade and economic relations between the Contracting Parties agree on the need to **reduce the economic and social disparities** between their regions...

FINANCIAL MECHANISM

1994-1998

Donor states: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Austria, Finland, Sweden

Beneficiary states: Greece, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Spain

Funding size: ECU 500 mln + interest rebates on €1.5 bln EIB loans

Sectors: Environment, Education and training, Transport

Projects: 56

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT

1999-2003

Donor states: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway

Beneficiary states: Greece, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Spain

Funding size: 119.6 mln

Sectors: Environment, Education and training, Transport

Projects: 25

10-FOLD INCREASE IN 2004



€1.3 bln

in funding 2004-09

+10 new members in 2004
75 mln inhabitants

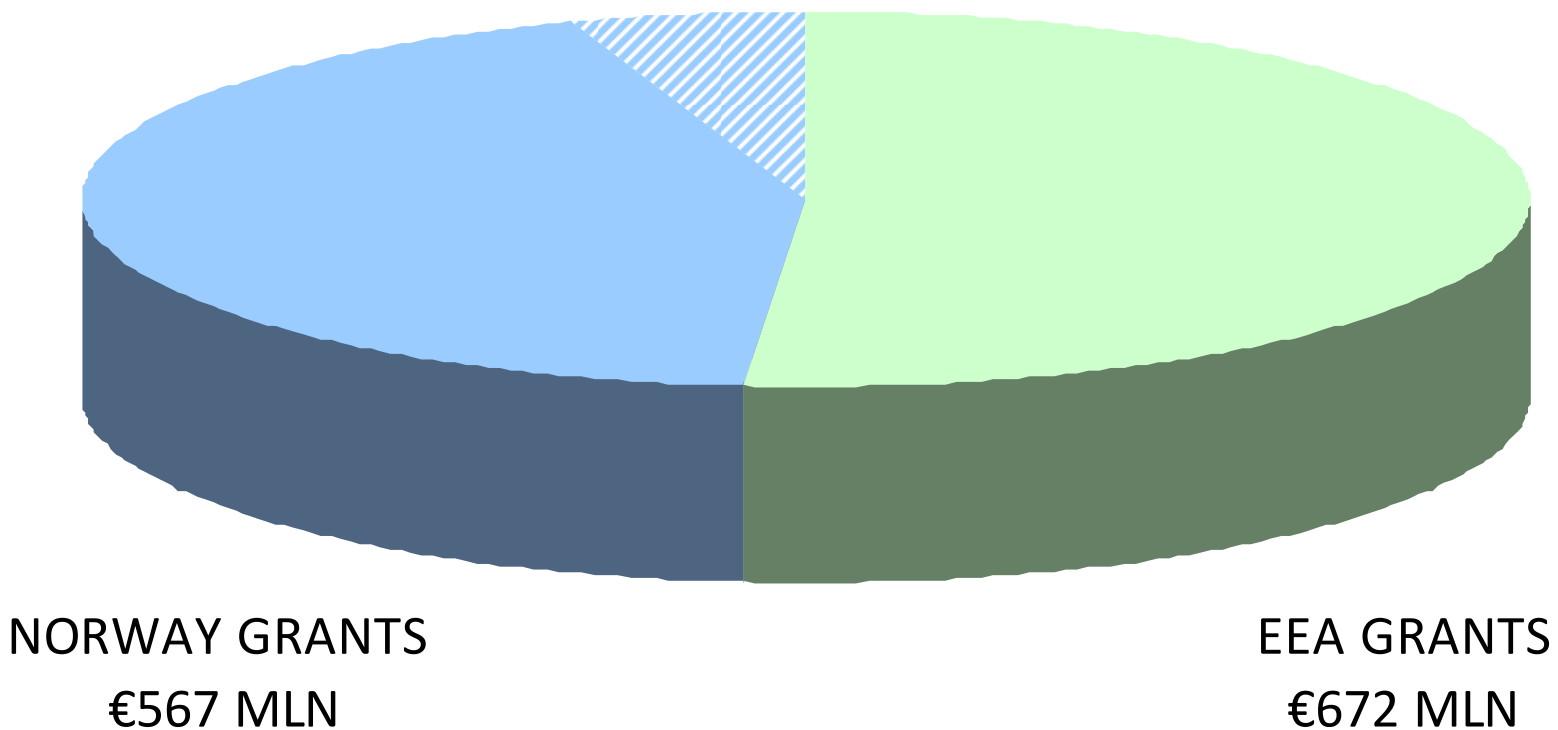
+2 new members in 2007
BG and RO w/ 29 mln inhabitants

+3 “old” member states
Greece, Portugal and Spain

II. EEA GRANTS NORWAY GRANTS 2004-09

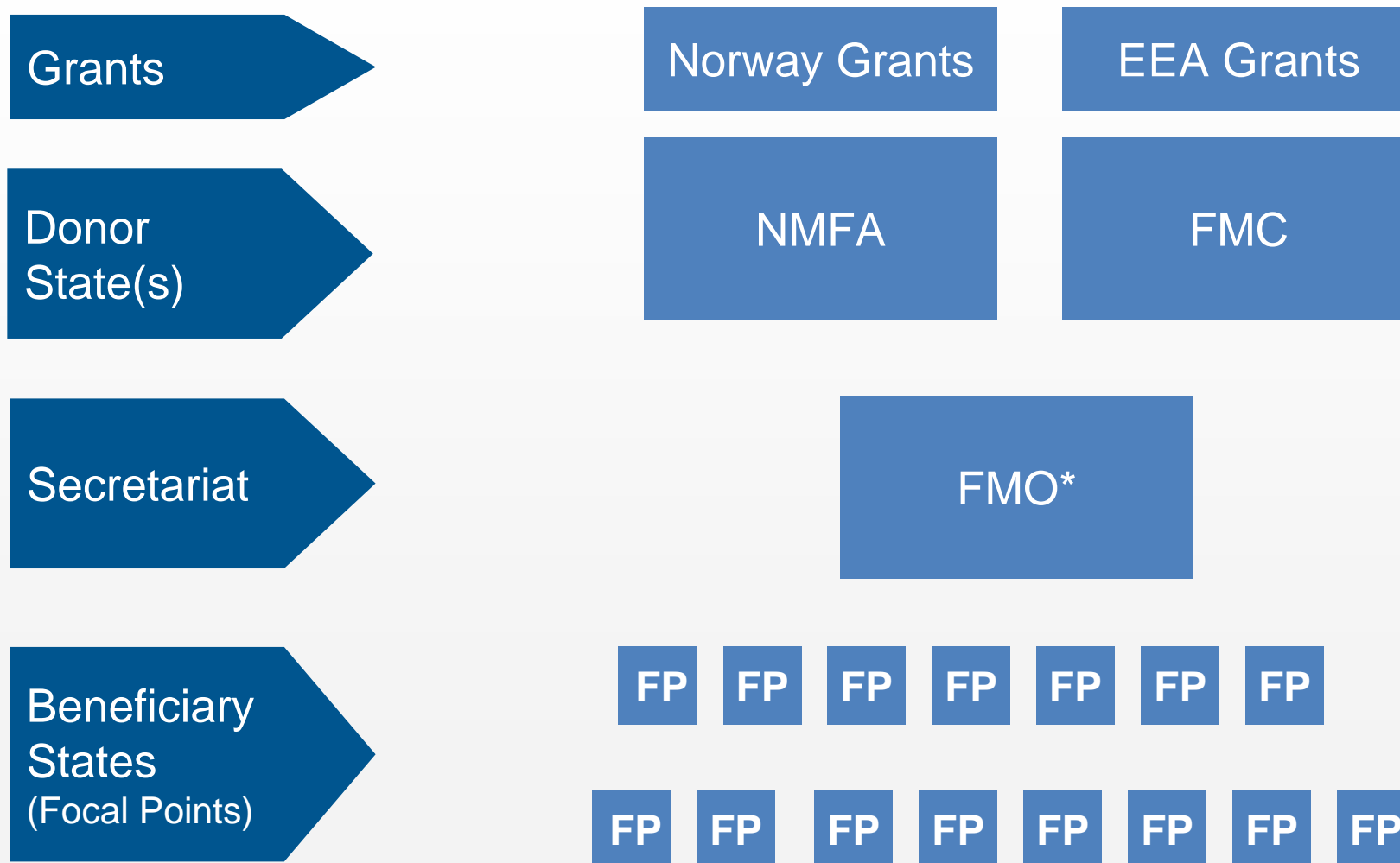
CONTRIBUTION 2004-09

Norwegian Cooperation Programmes with
BG & RO (NORWAY GRANTS) €68 MLN*



*administered by Innovation Norway

DECISION MAKING 2004-09

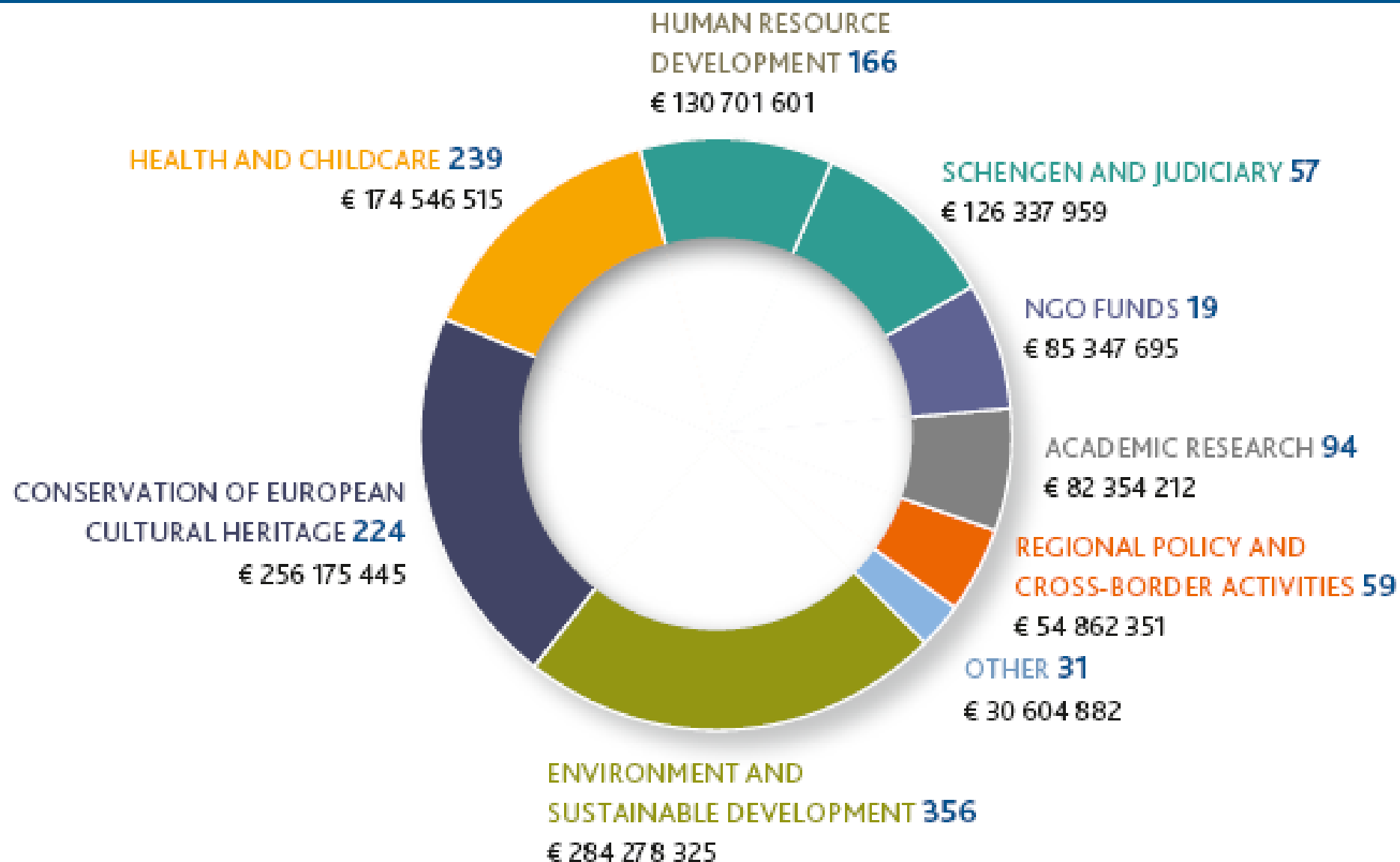


*Innovation Norway administers the Norwegian Cooperation Programmes with Bulgaria and Romania (Norway Grants)

KEY FIGURES 2004-09

- **€1.2 billion**
in net funding
- **1250 grants**
to individual projects, programmes and funds
- **3500 sub-projects**
under programmes and funds
- **300 partnership projects**
with donor state entities

DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS AWARDED



WELL ON TRACK

- **100% FUNDING ABSORBED**
 - All available funding committed in all beneficiary states
 - A few projects have been withdrawn after commitment
- **Most countries on track in their implementation**
 - 150 individual projects completed
 - 90% expected to finalise before 30 April 2011
 - 55% disbursed

III. BILATERAL RELATIONS

HIGH VISIBILITY



BILATERAL RELATIONS

300 PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

- 20-25% of projects
- Mostly academic research and environment
 - 3 in 5 research projects (environment & health)
- 1 in 3 partnership projects are in Poland
- Largest proportion of partnership projects in Bulgaria, Latvia, Hungary, Portugal and Romania

Improve environmental inspections, Poland

Norway Grants: €1.7 million

- Improve the effectiveness of environmental inspections
- The Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
- Norwegian Climate and Pollution Agency (former SFT)
- A project based on Norwegian experience
- Establish an effective system for handling inspection data;
- Procedures for prioritisation and execution of inspections
- Equipment for on-site inspections
- Complete a system for the dissemination of information

Improve public services in Poland

Norway Grants: €3.4 million

- Building institutional capacity of local government units for better public service delivery
- Association of Polish Cities
- Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
- Based on KS' model for sharing ideas and information between municipalities
- Benchmarking system for public services in local gov.
- Database for best practices
- Annual competitions among municipalities for the most efficient public services
- 1500 local government employees participate

Mapping Romanian land

EEA Grants: €1,0 million

- Establishing a national mapping authority
- National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration
- Land Registry of Iceland
- Norwegian Mapping and Cadastre Authority
- A major organisational and human resource dev. project
- Geographical data and land registration is fundamental to infrastructure and economic development
- Fulfilling EU INSPIRE directive and preparing transition to European reference system
- Strategies, staffing plans, product, service specifications
- New staff training centre
- New study centre

MOST INVOLVED NORWEGIAN INSTITUTIONS

PARTNER	PROJECTS
University of Oslo	16
SINTEF	13
Bioforsk (Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research)	8
Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)	8
Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)	7
Norwegian National Police Directorate	7
Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)	6
Norwegian Mapping and Cadastre Authority (NMCA)	6
City of Oslo	5
National Police Directorate in Norway	5
Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)	5
Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU)	5
University of Bergen	5

ICELANDIC PARTNERS

9 Icelandic entities are involved in partnership projects

- Centre for Life-long Education
- Centre of Immigration Research (CIRRA)
- Icelandic Forest Research
- Land Registry of Iceland
- Landspítali University Hospital
- Norðlingaskóli
- Office of International Education
- One Systems
- School for Renewable Energy Science in Iceland (RES)

VAST COOPERATION UNDER FUNDS

- Scholarship funds in 11 countries
2500 students and teachers on exchange to the donor states
370 cooperation projects between educational institutions
- Polish cultural exchange fund
71 cooperation projects between cultural institutions/artists
- Norway-Poland research fund
34 cooperation projects
- Regional development funds in the Baltic trio
Expert exchanges between municipalities

Polish-Norwegian climate change study

Norway Grants: €1.6 million

- ALKEKONGE: One of the largest bilateral research projects under the EEA and Norway Grants
- Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Science, University of Gdansk
- Norwegian Polar Institute
- University Centre in Svalbard
- Norwegian Institute for Water Research
- Impact of climate change on breeding and reproduction conditions for Little Auks, a small Arctic bird
- Evaluate the ecosystem response to climate change in the Arctic
- Focus on links between the physical environment, the biodiversity of zooplankton and seabird populations



Media freedom, Poland

Project under Polish NGO funds: €37.35 million

- Monitoring and protecting the freedom of Polish media
- 16 local correspondents report and keep track of attacks on free speech or breaches on media freedom in Poland
- Observe and provide legal aid for journalists in legal cases pending before the national courts
- Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
- Human Rights House Foundation in Oslo
- Spill-over:
 - New joint project on media freedom in South Caucasus
 - Transfer best practices from Poland to Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan

EXPECTED RESULTS

- 170 000 tonnes of yearly CO2 emissions reduced
- 140 environmental monitoring systems created
- 190 000 patients/year benefiting from increased capacity
- 150 cultural heritage sites opened to the public
- 770 scientific publications published
- 1100 buildings constructed or renovated
- 1650 permanent jobs created

IV. LESSONS LEARNED

MID-TERM EVALUATION

POPULAR, APPRECIATED AND VISIBLE

+

Highly popular and appreciated

Highly visible in the countries

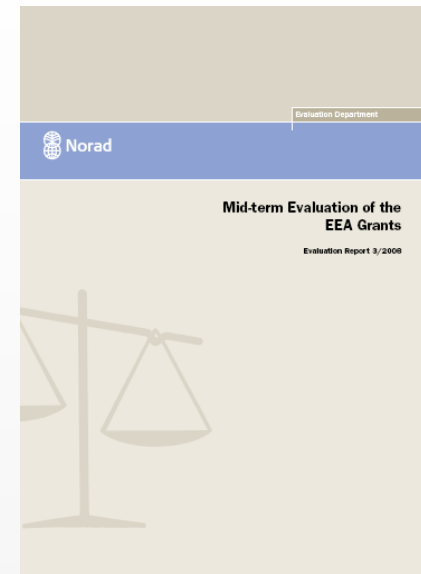
Funds and programmes appear most successful

-

Inefficiencies and double work in implementation have led to delays

More responsibility should be delegated to the beneficiary states

Need to provide clearer links between overall and project objectives



Recommendations taken into account in the continued implementation and have guided the development of the EEA and Norway Grants 2009-14

EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS SET-UP

- ✓ SOLID AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL
 - All available funding committed
 - Few irregularities to date
- ✓ GOOD COOPERATION WITH THE BENEFICIARY STATES
 - Shared checks and control systems
 - Close dialogue between FMO and Focal Point
- ✓ BUT CENTRALISED APPROACH CAN BE TIME-CONSUMING

ESTIMATION OF IMPACT

- ✓ MANY GOOD AND VIABLE PROJECTS WITH IMPORTANT RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS
- ✓ BUT LACK OF STRATEGIC APPROACH AND LINK BETWEEN OVERALL OBJECTIVE AND PROJECT ACTIVITIES
- ✓ PROJECT APPROACH (BOTTOM-UP) NOT IDEAL FOR SECURING AND MEASURING IMPACT

BILATERAL RELATIONS

- MOST SUCCESSFUL WHEN BUILDING ON EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS
- ...AND WHEN THE PARTNERS DEVELOPED THE PROPOSAL TOGETHER
- MANY SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS, BUT ALSO CHALLENGES:
 - High transaction costs due to administrative and bureaucratic procedures
 - Limited resources to develop partnerships
 - Uneven level of involvement by the partners and unclear expectations
 - Capacity constraints, language and cultural barriers

SECTOR EVALUATIONS AND REVIEWS

- Greenhouse gases
- Energy saving and renewable energy
- Biodiversity
- NGO funds
- Cultural heritage in the Czech Republic
- Schengen and the judiciary
- Bilateral partnerships

V. KEY FEATURES 2009-14

Overall objectives

Reduction of economic and social disparities

in the European Economic Area

and

Strengthen bilateral relations

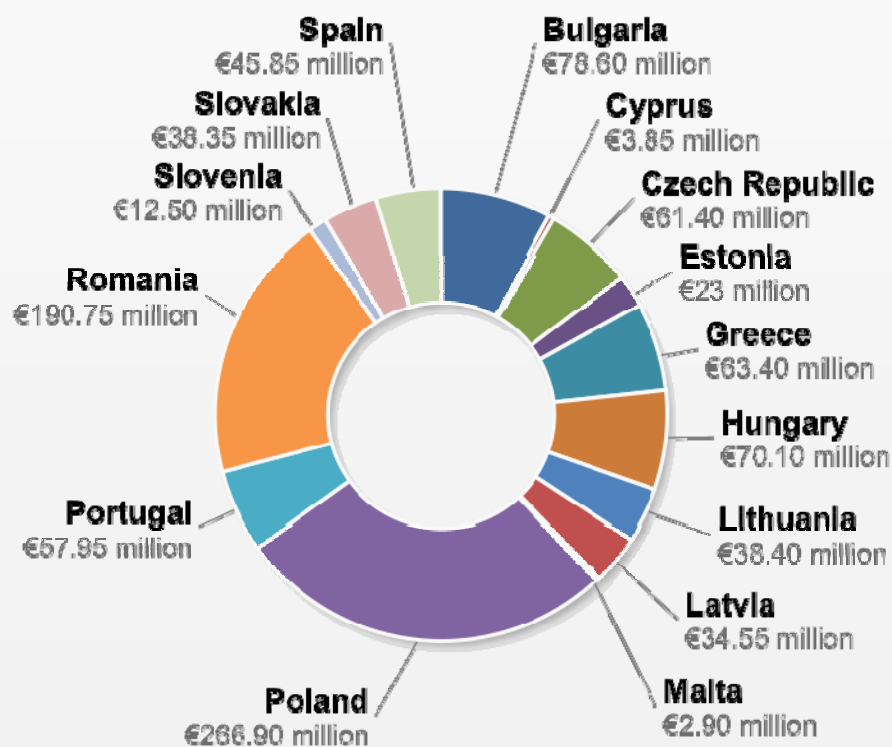
between the Donor States and the Beneficiary States

STRENGTHENED CONTRIBUTION

1.79 billion euro in total

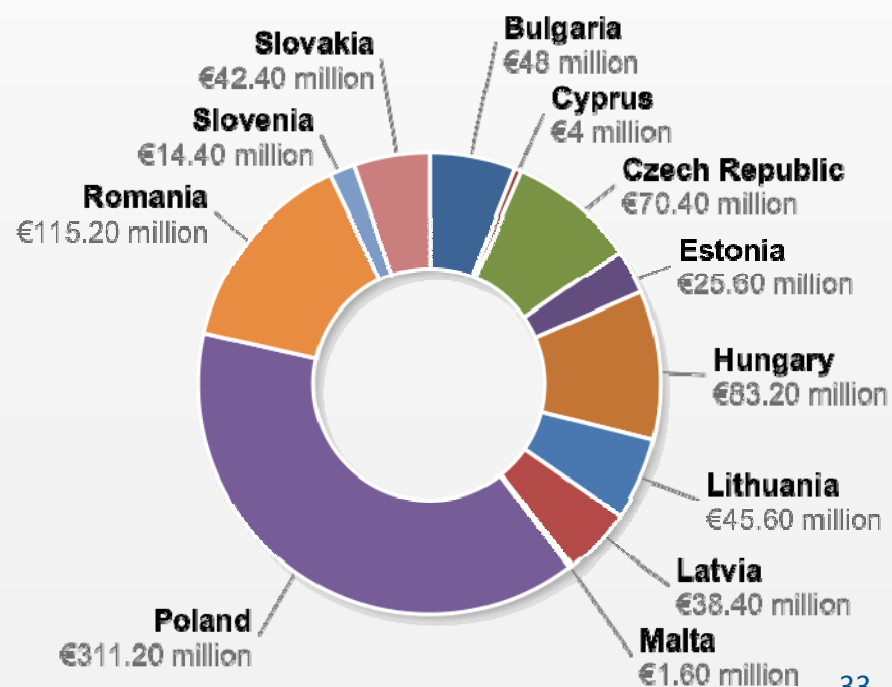
EEA Grants 2009-14

€ 988.50 million

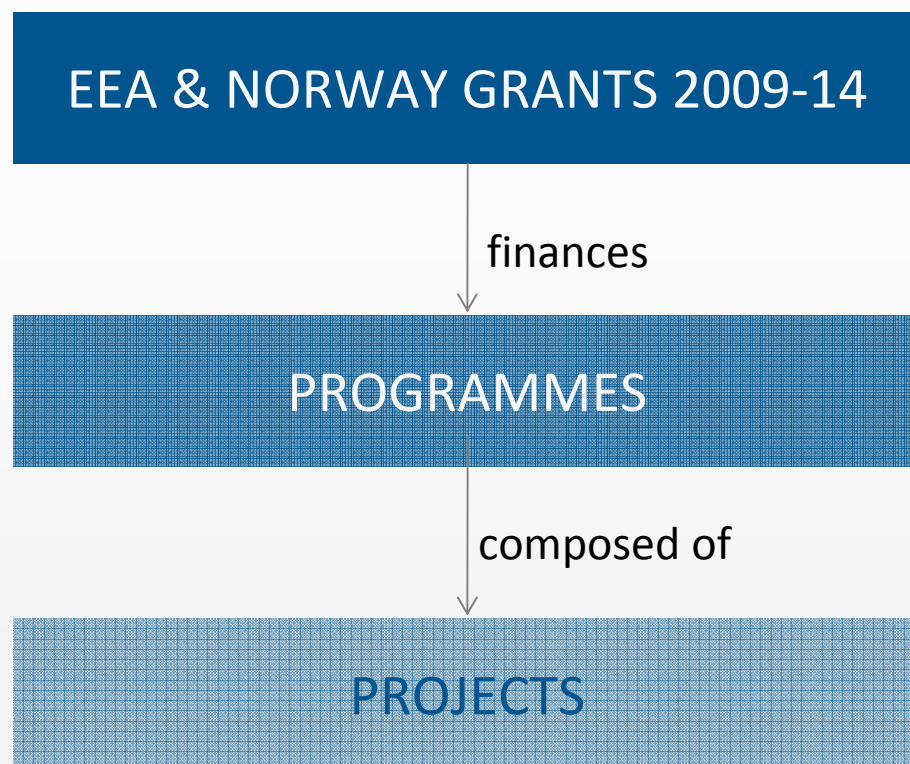


Norway Grants 2009-14

€ 800 million



PROGRAMME APPROACH



- More focused support for increased impact
- Recommendation from mid-term review and own experience
- Places more responsibility and tasks at country level

STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONS

- MORE STRATEGIC COOPERATION

- Strengthening bilateral relations is a new objective in the agreements
- Partnership at programme level for more strategic and long-term cooperation
- Partnerships at project level will continue
- Funds for networking and establishing partnerships

Donor Partnership Programmes

Cooperation between public entities in the Donor States and the Beneficiary States will be defined within priority sectors in each country

PRIORITY SECTORS

■ GREEN FOCUS

¼ of the funding to environmental and climate efforts

- Strengthened focus on climate change, incl. CCS
- Green industry innovation as a new area

EEA GRANTS

Min. 30% per BS to
environment, renewable
energy and climate change

NORWAY GRANTS

Minimum 20% to
Carbon capture and storage

PRIORITY SECTORS

- Continued focus on the development of **civil society**
- New funding for **social partners**
- Continued support to research and scholarships, cultural heritage, human and social development, the justice sector

EEA GRANTS

Minimum 10% per BS
to civil society

NORWAY GRANTS

1% per BS to Promotion of decent
work and tripartite dialogue

32 programme areas developed

Integrated Marine and Inland Water Management

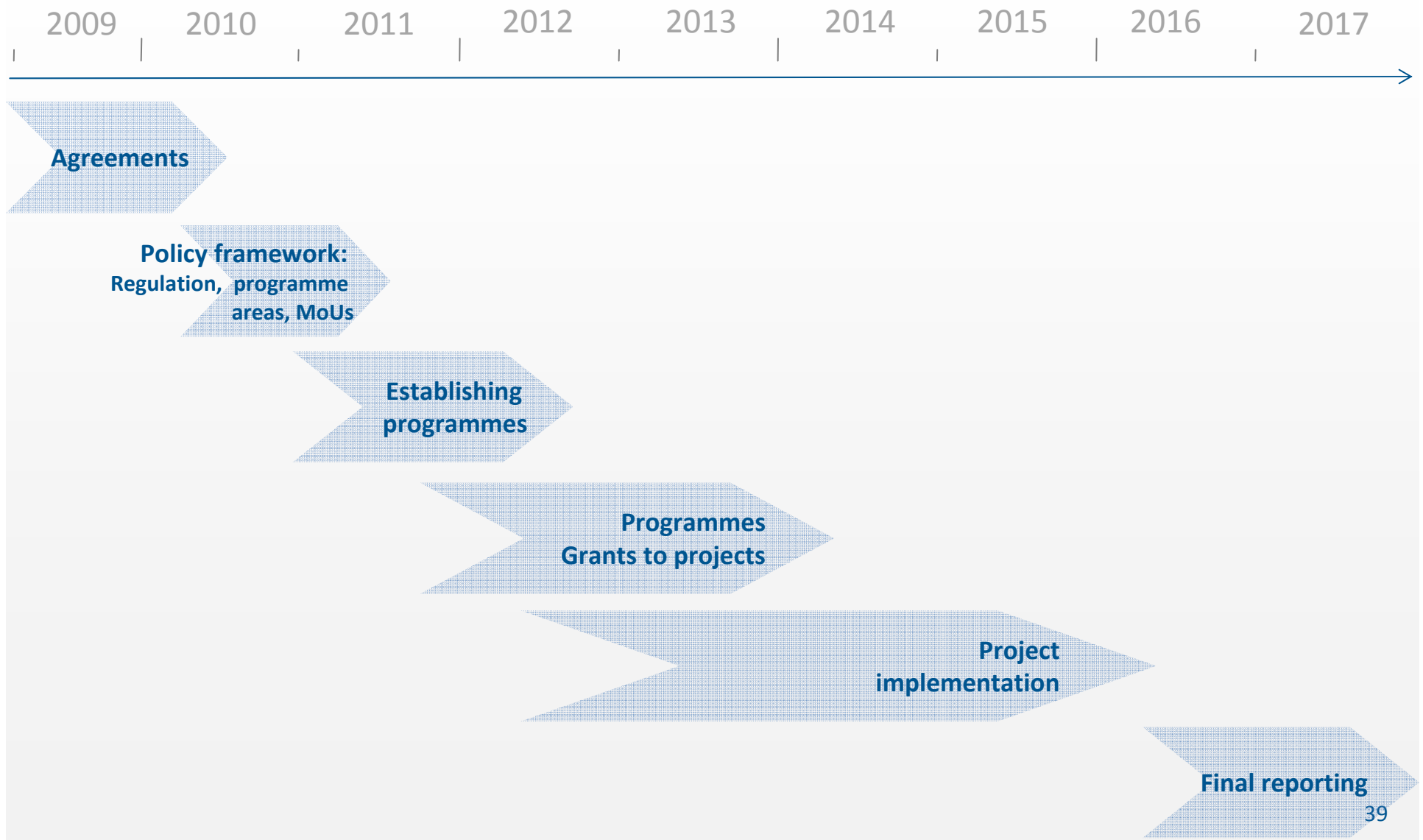
Expected outcomes

- More integrated management of marine and inland water resources
- Established environmental targets and management plans for marine and inland waters
- Improved water management infrastructure

Good environmental status in European marine and inland waters

- Improved monitoring on marine waters
- Increased capacity for assessing and predicting environmental status in marine and inland waters
- Increased awareness of and education in integrated marine and inland water management

TIMELINE



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FMC/Norway

- Management of FMs

FMO

- Day-to-day implementation

European Commission

- Screening of programme

National Focal Point

- Implement MoU
- Reach FMs objectives
- Strategic reporting

Auth. on irregularit.

- Preparation and submission of irregularities reports

Audit Authority

- Verifying the management and control system

Certifying Authority

- Certify financial information

Monitoring Comm.

- Review progress in the implementation

Progr. Operators

- Prepare/implement programmes
- Reporting
- Monitoring

(Donor) Progr. Partners

- Contribute to the development /implementation of programmes

Cooperation Comm.

- Provide advice on preparation and implementation of programmes

Project Promoters

- Initiate, prepare and implement projects
- Reporting

(Donor) Project Partners

- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of projects

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