

Climate change

Addressing and limiting the impacts of climate change is a key priority for Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. More than €50 million has been set aside for addressing climate change issues in the current funding period.

WHY FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

The world's climate and weather patterns are changing, with increasingly far-reaching human and environmental consequences. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), if the global average temperature rises more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels, significant negative impacts of climate change will be more likely and the cost of managing them will rise sharply.

Robust, collaborative efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases as well as adapt to climate change are needed. The EU has already pledged to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020. Through the EEA Grants, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway can support European countries in developing and implementing their ambitious climate policies.

WHAT WILL WE ACHIEVE?

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway have allocated €51.6 million to programmes addressing climate change in Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. The programmes contribute to:

- > Making societies and ecosystems less vulnerable to climate change
- > Reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants
- > Strengthening the knowledge base on the environment and climate change and increasing the use of environmental technologies

HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE IT?

Support is focused on three areas:

- > Adaptation to climate change and policies to reduce emission of greenhouse gases
- > Environmental protection and management
- > Climate change-related research and technology



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Additionally, over €200 million has been allocated under EEA Grants-funded "Energy efficiency and renewable energy" programmes that also contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Types of activities supported by the programmes include:

- > Development of long-term climate change adaptation policies responding to expected impacts for the second half of this century
- > Improvement of databases and statistics on greenhouse gas emissions to address gaps in knowledge
- > Analytical tools to support decision-making and development of solid national climate change policies
- > Measures to prevent flooding and retain flood water
- > Introduction of systems to collect rainwater such as green roofs, rain gardens and recycling of rainwater

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Projects are supported under the specific programmes in ten EU countries as well as under the NGO programmes and one project in the capacity-building programme in Lithuania.

While some are pre-defined, generally projects are selected following calls for proposals organised by the programme operator in each country. Calls are published on the websites of the programme operators and donor programme partners and on www.eeagrants.org

BILATERAL COOPERATION

To enhance knowledge exchange and mutual learning, partnerships between organisations in the donor and beneficiary countries have been established. Several public bodies from the donor countries are involved as donor programme partners (DPPs). They play a strategic role in programme planning and implementation as well as in facilitating project partnerships.

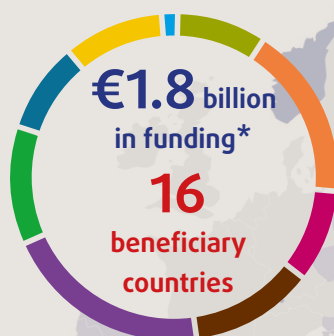
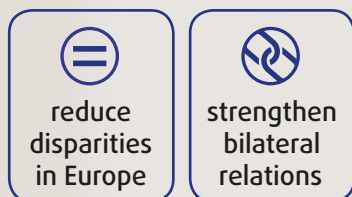
Entities from the donor countries also participate in individual projects as project partners. To encourage cooperation, funding is available through the bilateral funds. This can be used for developing joint project applications or to facilitate partner searches, as well as for activities not directly related to projects, such as networking, joint events or exchange of best practice.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW: CLIMATE CHANGE

Country	Adaptation to climate change	Biodiversity and ecosystem services	Integrated marine and inland water management	Environmental and climate change-related research and technology	Partners	Grant amount (€ million)
Czech Republic	•					3.1
Estonia			•			1.0
Hungary	•				• Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection	7.0
Latvia	•				• Norwegian Environment Agency • Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection	3.1
Lithuania		•				0.2
Malta	•					0.5
Portugal	•				• Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection	3.0
Romania	•					3.2
Slovakia	•				• Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate • Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection	12.5
Spain				•	• Innovation Norway	18.2
Total						51.6

ABOUT THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:



AREAS OF SUPPORT

- Environmental management
- Climate change
- Civil society
- Cultural heritage and diversity
- Human and social development
- Green industry innovation
- Justice and home affairs
- Research and scholarships
- Decent work and social dialogue

* EEA Grants €993.5 million (Norway 95.7%, Iceland 3.2%, Liechtenstein 1.1%) – Norway Grants €804.6 million, financed by Norway alone