



Supporting Civil Society - The EEA and Norway Grants

Paivi Anttila, Senior Sector Officer, EEA Grants
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Today's presentation

Short overview :

Overview of the NGO programmes

Achievements of the NGO Programmes

Bilateral cooperation:

What are the results of the bilateral cooperation in the NGO programmes?

Lessons learned

Civil Society Programme Area 2014-2021:

Overview of the Civil Society programme in the draft Blue Book

What are the EEA and Norway Grants?

Funding period: 2009-2014

ABOUT THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:



reduce
disparities
in Europe



strengthen
bilateral
relations



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 94%, Iceland 5%, Liechtenstein 1%) – Norway Grants €804.6 million, financed by Norway alone

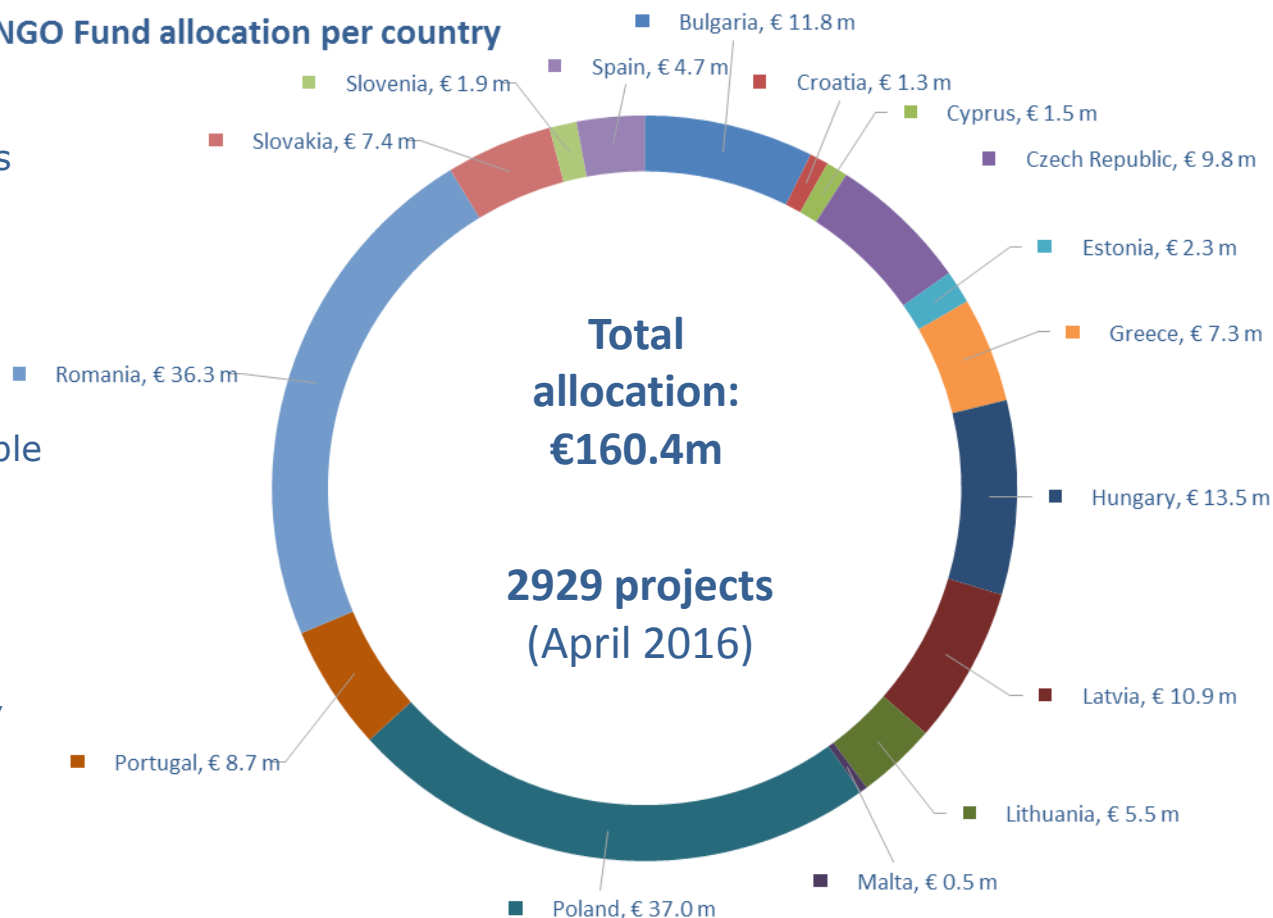
Overview of NGO Programmes

Objective: 'Strengthened civil society development and enhanced contribution to social justice, democracy and sustainable development'

Areas of Support

- Democracy, good governance, human rights
- Anti-discrimination, combating racism and xenophobia
- Social inclusion, empowerment of vulnerable groups
- Gender equality, gender-based violence
- Environmental protection, climate change

NGO Fund allocation per country



Some key achievements

- Nearly 17,000 people have benefitted from **human rights support**
- **47 human rights campaigns** sensitise decision-makers and public to importance of respect for diversity
- **1,551 advocacy/watchdog** NGOs supported
- Over **380 NGOs** report **greater engagement** with local, regional and national authorities
- Around **177 laws, policies and practices** improved in line with NGO advocacy
- **160,000 people from vulnerable groups** have better access to welfare and basic services



Achievements in capacity building

- €16 million
- 383 projects
- Capacity built at 3 levels:
 - **individual NGO**: eg mentoring, skills in fundraising, strategy development, human resource management, volunteerism
 - **sector** : networking, coalitions for policy and advocacy work, civic infrastructure
 - **regional** : networking and exchange across the region

Results:

- Over **1,300 NGOs** report strengthened capacity
- **730 NGOs** participating in cross-sectoral partnerships
- Over **260 NGO coalitions and networks** supported
- Nearly **600 NGOs** showing good governance and management, including robust financial procedures
- Over **650 NGOs** regularly consulting with users, beneficiaries and other stakeholders

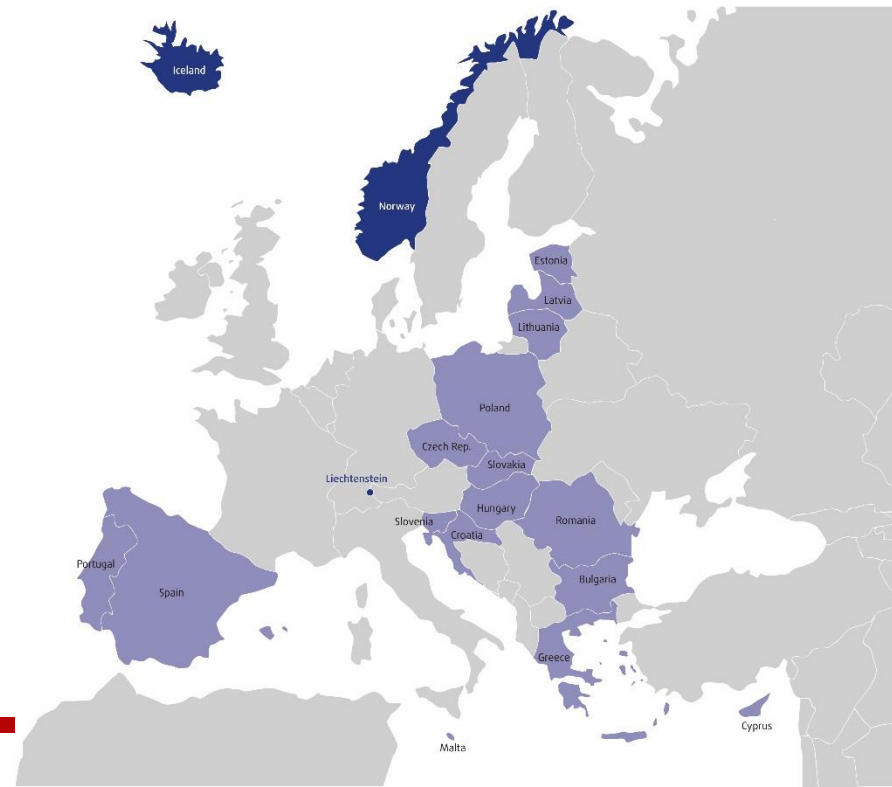


Strengthening bilateral relations

- NGO programmes support bilateral exchange between civil society in the beneficiary and donor countries
- Nearly 300 NGO projects have a donor partner
- These partnerships introduce civil society to different perspectives from elsewhere – broaden horizons

Tools:

- Project partnerships
- Matchmaking events
- Seed money
- Internships
- Study tours
- Bilateral initiatives
- Conferences & events



Results and lessons learned for bilateral cooperation

Results:

- Facilitate peer-to-peer learning
- Trigger social innovations
- Strengthen ties between people, NGOs, municipalities, civil society
- Increase legitimacy of projects:
“Both government and the public take you more seriously if you have a donor partner”
(Mid-Term Evaluation)

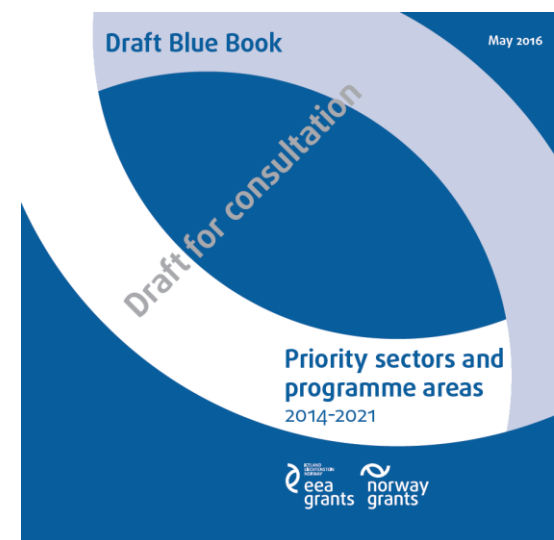
Lessons:

- Need for more strategic & long term bilateral cooperation
- More flexible rules
- Measuring results in a longer term rather than number of projects
- Existing database of Norwegian NGOs



Civil Society Programmes

EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021



Support by country 2014-21

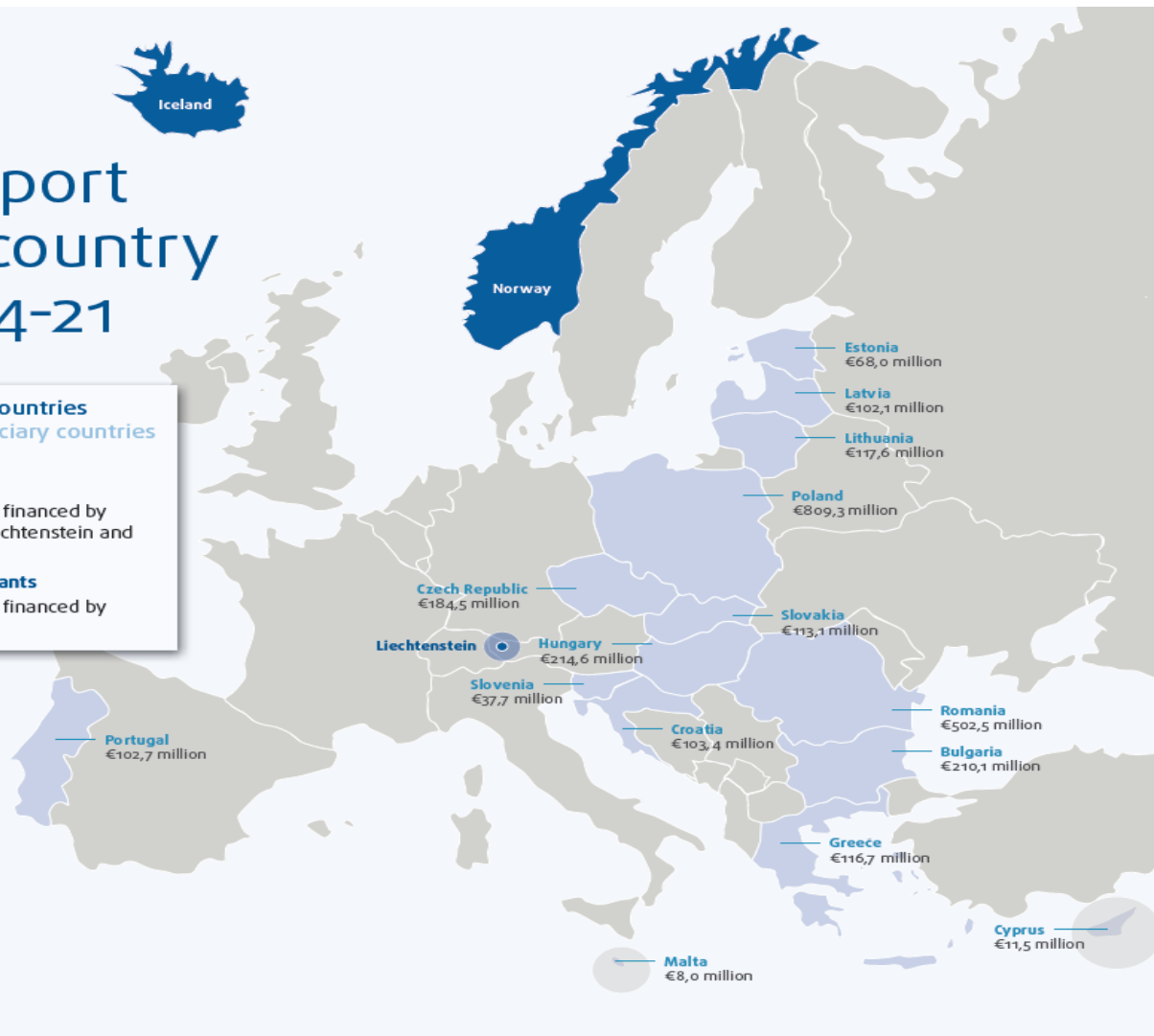
3 donor countries
15 beneficiary countries

EEA Grants

€1,5 billion financed by
Iceland, Liechtenstein and
Norway

Norway Grants

€1,3 billion financed by
Norway



Sectors of support 2014-21

- Innovation, Research, Education and Competitiveness
- Social Inclusion, Youth Employment and Poverty Reduction
- Environment, Energy, Climate Change and Low Carbon Economy
- Culture, Civil Society, Good Governance, and Fundamental Rights and Freedoms
- Justice and Home Affairs





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

Programme area n 15

Civil Society

OBJECTIVE

Civil society and active citizenship strengthened and vulnerable groups empowered

AREAS OF SUPPORT

- >> Democracy, active citizenship, good governance and transparency
- >> Human rights, minority rights and anti-discrimination, including combating racism and xenophobia
- >> Social justice and inclusion of vulnerable groups
- >> Gender equality and gender-based violence
- >> Environment and climate change

PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

- >> At least a third of the re-granting amount shall be allocated to democracy and human rights relevant projects
- >> All programmes shall address youth inclusion
- >> Protection of the environment and climate change shall only be supported as part of measures to promote civic participation, advocacy, social innovation and active citizenship
- >> Provision of welfare and basic services shall only be supported as part of wider actions addressing awareness-raising, advocacy, empowerment and reform initiatives
- >> At least 15% of the re-granting amount shall contribute to capacity development and sustainability of the civil society sector



PRIORITY SECTOR
Culture, Civil Society, Good
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Programme area n 15

Civil Society

OBJECTIVE

Civil society and active citizenship strengthened and vulnerable groups empowered

SUGGESTED MEASURES

- >> Advocacy, awareness-raising and outreach to citizens
- >> Watchdog and monitoring, including following up on recommendations of international monitoring bodies
- >> 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 and media
- >> Countering hate speech, including support to networks working with hate crime victims
- >> 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
- >> Multicultural dialogue, including platforms for minority/majority interactions
- >> 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

Public Consultation

- On-line survey
- Open to all stakeholders
- 27 May to 8 July 2016
- All information at:
eeagrants.org/BlueBook
- Questions? Contact
consultationQA@efta.int




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[FRONTPAGE](#) > [WHO WE ARE](#) > [HOW WE WORK](#) > [PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PRIORITIES FOR THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS 2014-2021](#)

WHO WE ARE

HOW ARE PRIORITIES SET?

MANAGING FOR RESULTS

PROGRAMME MODEL

MANAGING RISK

EVALUATIONS >

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

GIVE YOUR INPUT

Follow the link below to give your input to the content of the priority sectors and programme areas for the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021. The consultation will be open until 8 July 2016.



PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PRIORITIES FOR THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS 2014-2021

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 agreed between the European Union and the three donor countries. An amount of € 2.8 billion will be made available.

The content of the 5 priority sectors and 23 programme areas eligible for funding in this period will now be finalised. These are brought together in the draft 'Blue Book', which is the document subject to this public consultation.

Aim of consultation

The draft 'Blue Book' has 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 believe that those likely to benefit from the Grants, those that are likely to manage the funding and other stakeholders could have valuable input to the texts of the priority sectors and programme areas. This consultation therefore offers an opportunity

THE DRAFT BLUE BOOK



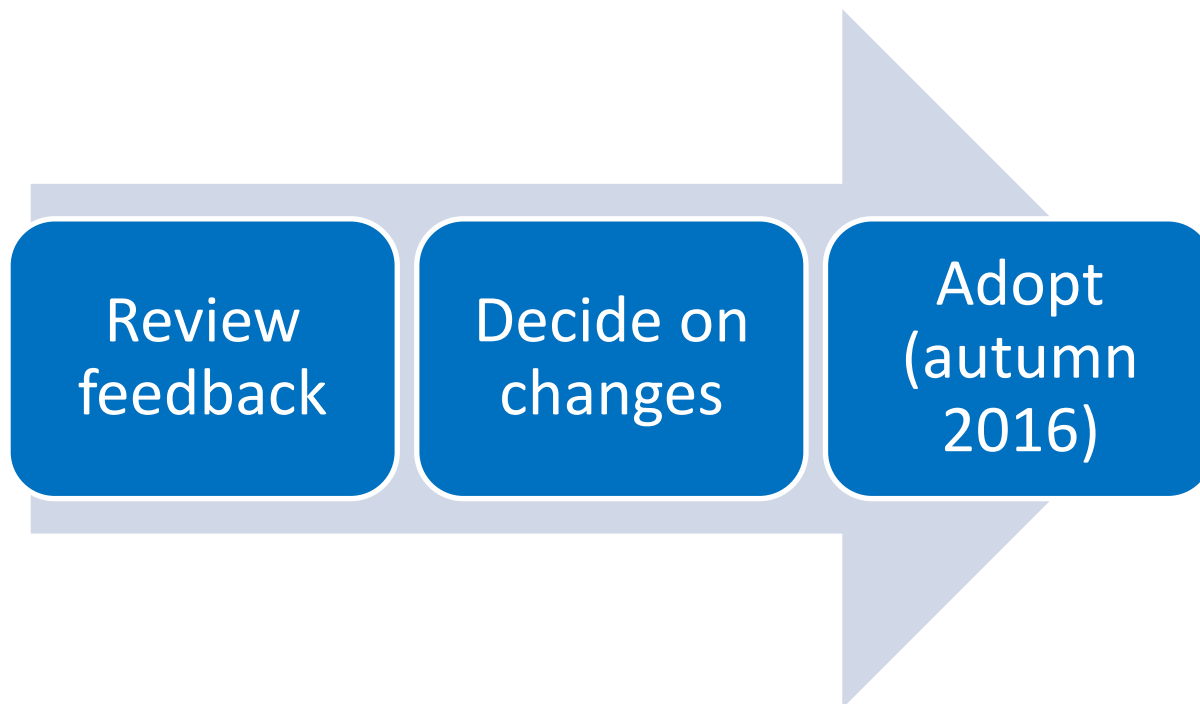
> PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSULTATION

NEWS AND UPDATES

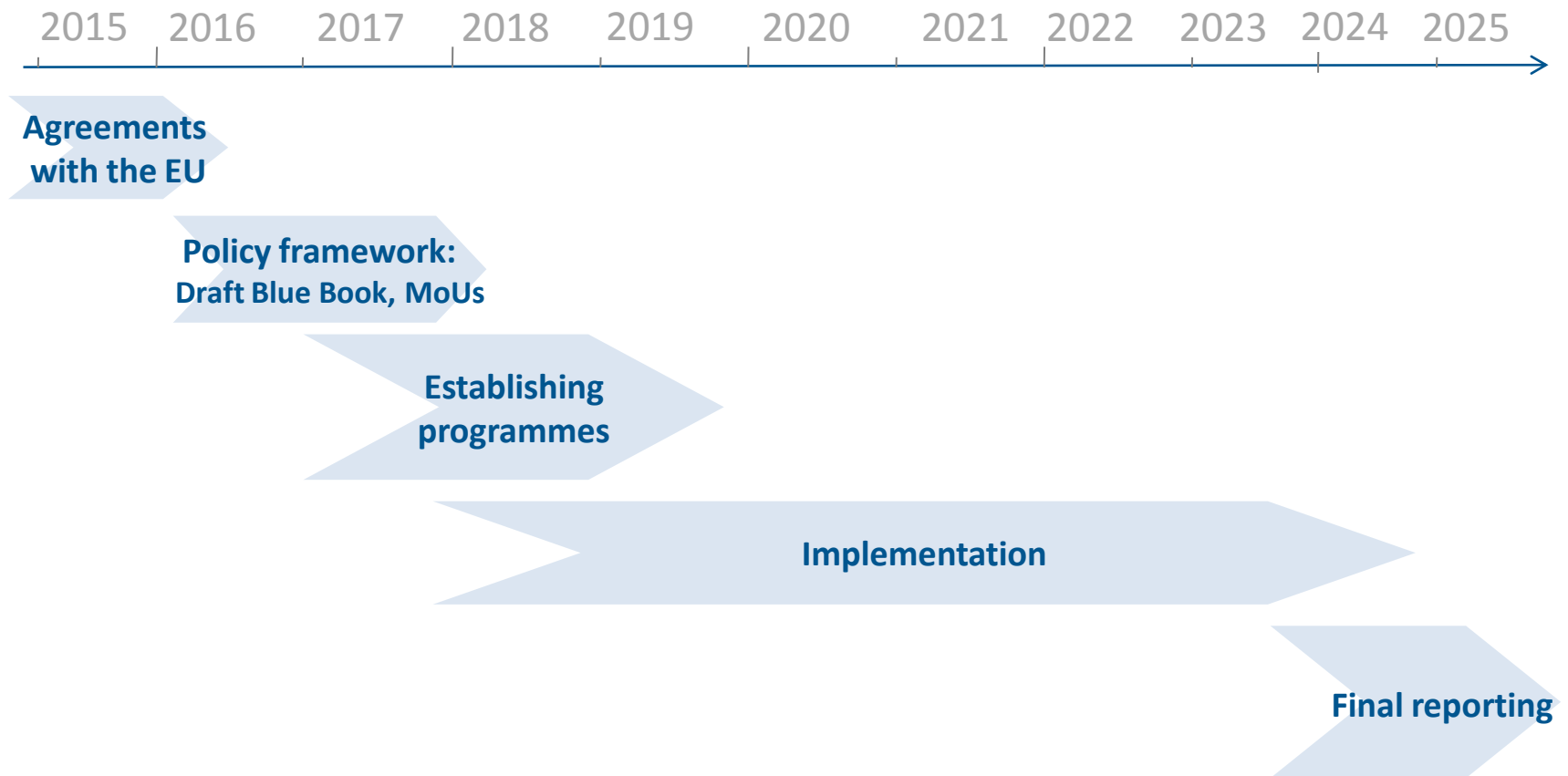
[EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021: Working together for a green, competitive and inclusive Europe](#)
[Agreement secured on new funding round](#)

USEFUL LINKS

Finalising the 'Blue Book'



Timeline



Thank you!

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