



ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΔΑ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑΣ

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ΤΕΥΧΟΣ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟ

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ΑΠΟΦΑΣΕΙΣ

Αριθμ. 30773

Χρηματοδότηση του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021, με Διαχειριστή την Ειδική Υπηρεσία Προγραμματισμού, Συντονισμού και Παρακολούθησης της Υλοποίησης των Χρηματοδοτικών Μηχανισμών Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΕΟΧ) - Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής, με πόρους κατά 100% του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΧΜ ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021 και αντικατάσταση της υπ' αρ. 45504/8.5.2020 του Υφυπουργού Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων (Β' 1896).

**Ο ΥΦΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΣ
ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΕΝΔΥΣΕΩΝ**

Έχοντας υπόψη:

1. Το άρθρο 90 του Κώδικα Νομοθεσίας για την Κυβέρνηση και τα κυβερνητικά όργανα (π.δ. 63/2005, Α' 98), όπως διατηρήθηκε σε ισχύ με την παρ. 22 του άρθρου 119 του ν. 4622/2019 (Α' 133).

2. Το π.δ. 5/2022 «Οργανισμός του Υπουργείου Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων» (Α' 15).

3. Το π.δ. 81/2019 «Σύσταση, συγχώνευση, μετονομασία και κατάργηση Υπουργείων και καθορισμός των αρμοδιοτήτων τους Μεταφορά υπηρεσιών και αρμοδιοτήτων μεταξύ Υπουργείων» (Α' 119).

4. Το π.δ. 83/2019 «Διορισμός Αντιπροέδρου της κυβέρνησης, Υπουργών, Αναπληρωτών Υπουργών και Υφυπουργών» (Α' 121).

5. Την υπ' αρ. 51875/7.5.2021 κοινή απόφαση του Πρωθυπουργού και του Υπουργού Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων «Ανάθεση αρμοδιοτήτων στον Υφυπουργό Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων, Ιωάννη Τσακίρη» (Β' 1867).

6. Τον ν. 4314/2014 «Α) Για τη διαχείριση, τον έλεγχο και την εφαρμογή αναπτυξιακών παρεμβάσεων για την προγραμματική περίοδο 2014-2020, Β) Ενσωμάτωση της Οδηγίας 2012/17 του Ευρωπαϊκού Κοινοβουλίου και του Συμβουλίου της 13ης Ιουνίου 2012 (ΕΕL 156/16.6.2012) στο ελληνικό δίκαιο, τροποποίηση του ν. 3419/2005 (Α' 297) και άλλες διατάξεις» (Α' 265) και ειδικότερα την περ. β της παρ. 8 του άρθρου 58.

7. Τον ν. 4605/2019 «Εναρμόνιση της ελληνικής νομοθεσίας με την Οδηγία (ΕΕ) 2016/943 του Ευρωπαϊκού

Κοινοβουλίου και του Συμβουλίου της 8ης Ιουνίου 2016 σχετικά με την προστασία της τεχνολογίας και των επιχειρηματικών πληροφοριών που δεν έχουν αποκαλυφθεί (εμπορικό απόρρητο) από την παράνομη απόκτηση, χρήση και αποκάλυψή τους (ΕΕL 157 της 15.6.2016) - Μέτρα για την επιτάχυνση του έργου του Υπουργείου Οικονομίας και Ανάπτυξης και άλλες διατάξεις» (Α' 52) και ιδίως το άρθρο 27.

8. Την υπ' αρ. 85335/13.8.2015 (Β' 1706) κοινή υπουργική απόφαση, για τον επανακαθορισμό της λειτουργίας του κεντρικού λογαριασμού 23/200850 για την εθνική συγχρηματοδότηση των Διαρθρωτικών Ταμείων, Ταμείου Συνοχής και ΕΟΧ.

9. Την υπό στοιχεία 58969ΕΥΧΜ-ΕΟΧ738/25.5.2017 υπουργική απόφαση «Διάρθρωση της Ειδικής Υπηρεσίας Προγραμματισμού, Συντονισμού και Παρακολούθησης της υλοποίησης των Χρηματοδοτικών Μηχανισμών του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΕΥ - Χ.Μ. ΕΟΧ), του άρθρου 53Α του ν. 4314/2014» (Β' 2012).

10. Το διεθνές Πρωτόκολλο 38c της Συμφωνίας Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου, το οποίο συστήνει τον Χρηματοδοτικό Μηχανισμό ΕΟΧ 2014-2021 (εφεξής, ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021), μέσω του οποίου οι Δότεριες χώρες συνεισφέρουν στη μείωση των οικονομικών και κοινωνικών ανισοτήτων εντός του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου.

11. Τον από 8-9-2016 «Κανονισμό για την εφαρμογή του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού ΕΟΧ των ετών 2014-2021 (Regulation on the implementation of the European Economic Area-EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021)», όπως υιοθετήθηκε από την Επιτροπή Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού βάσει του άρθρου 10.5 του Πρωτοκόλλου 38c της Συμφωνίας ΕΟΧ.

12. Τις λοιπές κατευθυντήριες οδηγίες (Guidelines) περιόδου 2014-2021, που έχουν θεσπισθεί και υιοθετηθεί από την Επιτροπή Χ.Μ. ΕΟΧ (FMC).

13. Το από 31-10-2017 Μνημόνιο Κατανόησης (Memorandum of Understanding) για την υλοποίηση του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου περιόδου 2014-2021, που υπεγράφη μεταξύ της Δημοκρατίας της Ισλανδίας, του Πριγκιπάτου του Λιχτενστάιν, του Βασιλείου της Νορβηγίας αφενός και της Ελληνικής Δημοκρατίας αφετέρου, εκπροσωπούμενης από το Υπουργείο Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων, (εφεξής, Μνημόνιο Κατανόησης).

14. Την υπ' αρ. 13249/4-2-2020 κοινή υπουργική απόφαση «Καθορισμός Συστήματος Διαχείρισης και Ελέγχου για την υλοποίηση του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (Χ.Μ.-ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021 - Κατανομή των Πόρων» (Β' 526) (εφεξής, ΚΥΑ ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ).

15. Την υπ' αρ. 45504/8.5.2020 υπουργική απόφαση «Χρηματοδότηση του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021, με Διαχειριστή την Ειδική Υπηρεσία Προγραμματισμού, Συντονισμού και Παρακολούθησης της Υλοποίησης των Χρηματοδοτικών Μηχανισμών Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΕΟΧ)-Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής με πόρους κατά 100% του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΧΜ ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021» (Β' 1896).

16. Το έγγραφο του Εθνικού Σημείου Επαφής για τη συγκρότηση και λειτουργία της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 4.2 της υπ' αρ. 13249/4-2-2020 (ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ) κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης (Β' 526) (εφεξής, Μικτή Επιτροπή), με τίτλο «Σύνθεση, ρόλος και λειτουργία της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων - Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds, JCBF μεταξύ των Δοτριών χωρών και της Ελλάδας, το οποίο υιοθέτησε η Μικτή Επιτροπή για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων, σύμφωνα με τα πρακτικά της από 16/10/2018 συνεδρίασής της».

17. Το από 9.2.2022 ηλεκτρονικό αίτημα του Διαχειριστή του Προγράμματος «Διαχείριση Υδάτων» για αύξηση του ποσού για διμερείς σχέσεις κατά 50.000 €.

18. Την ανάγκη περαιτέρω απλοποίησης του πλαισίου υλοποίησης του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων, παρέχοντας ευελιξία για την ανακατανομή των ποσών εντός του προγράμματος.

19. Το αναθεωρημένο Σχέδιο Δράσης (Workplan) Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 2.4 της από 2.4.2019 Συμφωνίας Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων (εφεξής, Σχέδιο Δράσης) (Παράρτημα II), το οποίο υιοθέτησε η Μικτή Επιτροπή για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων, σύμφωνα με το υπ' αρ. 29783/18.03.2022 έγγραφο.

20. Το γεγονός ότι από την απόφαση αυτή δεν προκαλείται περαιτέρω δαπάνη σε βάρος του κρατικού προϋπολογισμού από εκείνη, ύψους 61.094.560 ευρώ, που αναφέρεται στην υπ' αρ. 13249/4-2-2020 κοινή υπουργική απόφαση «Καθορισμός Συστήματος Διαχείρισης και Ελέγχου για την υλοποίηση του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (Χ.Μ.-ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021 - Κατανομή των Πόρων» (Β' 526), αποφασίζει:

1. Τη χρηματοδότηση του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021 του άρθρου 4.6 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ (εφεξής, Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων), με Διαχειριστή την Ειδική Υπηρεσία Προγραμματισμού, συντονισμού και παρακολούθησης της υλοποίησης των Χρηματοδοτικών Μηχανισμών Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου - Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής (ΕΥ ΧΜ ΕΟΧ ή ΕΣΕ), με το ποσό των δύο εκατομμυρίων τριακοσίων τριάντα τεσσάρων χιλιάδων ευρώ (€ 2.334.000), κατ' ανώτατο επιτρεπτό όριο, στο πλαίσιο υλοποίησης του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού

Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΧΜ ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021.

2. Το ως άνω ποσό χρηματοδότησης, όπως ορίζεται στην Συμφωνία Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων, καλύπτεται κατά 100% (ήτοι € 2.334.000) από πόρους του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΧΜ ΕΟΧ, εφεξής) περιόδου 2014-2021.

3. Η χρηματοδότηση καλύπτει τη χρονική περίοδο επιλεξιμότητας των δαπανών από την υπογραφή του Μνημονίου Κατανόησης (Memorandum of Understanding) έως την καταληκτική ημερομηνία υλοποίησης Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021, ήτοι από την 31 Οκτωβρίου 2017 έως και την 30 Απριλίου 2025.

4. Το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων χρησιμοποιείται για τη στήριξη δραστηριοτήτων που αποσκοπούν στην ενίσχυση των διμερών σχέσεων μεταξύ των δοτριών χωρών του ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021 και της Ελλάδας, σύμφωνα με το άρθρο 4.1 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ.

5. Η υλοποίηση του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων, καθώς και οι υποχρεώσεις του Διαχειριστή Προγράμματος και των άλλων εθνικών αρχών διέπονται από το θεσμικό πλαίσιο του ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021 και το εθνικό δίκαιο, όπως ορίζονται στην υπ' αρ. 13249/4-2-2020 κοινή υπουργική απόφαση «Καθορισμός Συστήματος Διαχείρισης και Ελέγχου για την υλοποίηση του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (Χ.Μ. - ΕΟΧ) περιόδου 2014-2021 - Κατανομή των Πόρων» (Β' 526) και είναι δεσμευτικό. Ειδικότεροι όροι και προβλέψεις υλοποίησης ορίζονται:

(α) στην από 2.4.2019 Συμφωνία Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων (Παράρτημα I της παρούσας),

(β) στο Σχέδιο Δράσης (Workplan) Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 2.4 της από 2.4.2019 Συμφωνίας Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων (Παράρτημα II της παρούσας, όπως κάθε φορά υιοθετείται από την Μικτή Επιτροπή για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων),

(γ) στο Έγγραφο του Εθνικού Σημείου Επαφής για την συγκρότηση και λειτουργία της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 4.2 της υπ' αρ. 13249/4-2-2020 (ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ) κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης (Β' 526), με τίτλο «Σύνθεση, ρόλος και λειτουργία της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων - Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds (JCBF) μεταξύ των Δοτριών χωρών και της Ελλάδας», όπως το υιοθετεί η Μικτή Επιτροπή για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων και ισχύει.

6. Το Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής συντάσσει και υποβάλλει στην Μικτή Επιτροπή Σχέδιο Δράσης (Workplan) Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 2.4 της από 2.4.2019 Συμφωνίας Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων (Παράρτημα II της παρούσας). Το Σχέδιο Δράσης εγκρίνεται και τροποποιείται με απόφαση της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων και παραμένει σε ισχύ χωρίς να απαιτείται τροποποίηση της παρούσας απόφασης.

7. Ο προϋπολογισμός του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων (€ 2.334.000) κατανέμεται σύμφωνα με το παράρτημα II α) στα προγράμματα τα οποία υλοποιούν οι ελληνικές εθνικές αρχές, οι οποίες αναλαμβάνουν την διαχείριση των εκχωρηθέντων ποσών β) στα προγράμματα του άρθρου 6.13 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ.

Στην περίπτωση αυτή, η ΕΥ ΧΜ ΕΟΧ παραμένει υπεύθυνη για τη χρήση των πόρων, σύμφωνα με τα οριζόμενα στην παρ. 4.6 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ. γ) στην υλοποίηση διμερών έργων σε εθνικό επίπεδο. Σε αυτή την περίπτωση, την διαχείριση των πόρων έχει η ΕΥ ΧΜ ΕΟΧ.

8. Η ΕΥ ΧΜ ΕΟΧ διατηρεί την ευθύνη για την σύνταξη και υποβολή των ενδιάμεσων οικονομικών εκθέσεων, των εκθέσεων σχετικά με τα ποσά των τόκων που εισπράχθηκαν βάσει των άρθρων 6.11, 6.12, 9.3, 9.4 και 9.7. της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ για το σύνολο του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων, καθώς και την υποβολή στην Αρχή Πιστοποίησης των προβλέψεων των πιθανών αιτήσεων πληρωμών που θα απαιτηθούν ώστε η Αρχή Πιστοποίησης να εκπληρώσει τις υποχρεώσεις σύμφωνα με το άρθρο 9.5. της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ. Το Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής διατηρεί επίσης την ευθύνη για την εν γένει παρακολούθηση της υλοποίησης της εκχώρησης του Ταμείου Διμερών στα προγράμματα, και υποβάλλει αναφορά για τη χρήση των πόρων και την πορεία υλοποίησης για το σύνολο του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων στο πλαίσιο της ετήσιας Έκθεσης Στρατηγικής, σύμφωνα με της παρ. 2 του άρθρου 4.6 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ.

9. Η αρχική κατανομή της παρ. 7 προκύπτει από τις προβλέψεις του Μνημονίου Κατανόησης και αποτυπώνεται στο παράρτημα ΙΙ. Η κατανομή τροποποιείται με αποφάσεις της Μικτής Επιτροπής για το Ταμείο Διμερών Σχέσεων. Η εκάστοτε εν ισχύ κατανομή συμπεριλαμβάνεται στο Σχέδιο Δράσης, όπως τροποποιείται και ισχύει.

10. Τα διμερή έργα της της περ. α της παρ. 7 εγγράφονται σε Συλλογική απόφαση (ΣΑ) του αρμοδίου φορέα χρηματοδότησης του Διαχειριστή Προγράμματος, πλην αιτιολογημένων αιτημάτων όπου δύνανται να εγγράφονται σε ΣΑ του οικείου φορέα, εφόσον ο Έλληνας φορέας υλοποίησης - εταίρος αποτελεί φορέα της Κεντρικής Διοίκησης, Υπουργείο ή φορέα εποπτευόμενο από Υπουργείο.

11. Στα διμερή έργα που υλοποιούνται με την ευθύνη διαχείρισης κατά τις προβλέψεις της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ από το Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής (περ. γ

της παρ. 7), εγγράφονται σε Συλλογική απόφαση (ΣΑ) του Υπουργείου Ανάπτυξης και Επενδύσεων, πλην αιτιολογημένων αιτημάτων όπου δύνανται να εγγράφονται σε ΣΑ του οικείου φορέα, εφόσον ο Έλληνας φορέας υλοποίησης - εταίρος αποτελεί φορέα της Κεντρικής Διοίκησης, Υπουργείο ή φορέα εποπτευόμενο από Υπουργείο.

12. Σε περίπτωση διμερών έργων του Ταμείου που υλοποιούνται από φορείς που έχουν την έδρα τους στο εξωτερικό και Διαχειριστών Επιχορήγησης της παρ. 4 του άρθρου 6.13 της κοινής υπουργικής απόφασης ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ, οι οποίοι δεν προχρηματοδοτούνται από το Π.Δ.Ε, η Αρχή Πιστοποίησης δύναται να μεταφέρει από το Τραπεζικό Λογαριασμό που τηρείται στην Τράπεζα της Ελλάδος τα ποσά που δικαιούνται να λάβουν οι υπόψη φορείς, στους Τραπεζικούς τους Λογαριασμούς μετά από έγγραφο του Διαχειριστή Προγράμματος.

13. Οι Διαχειριστές Προγράμματος στα οποία γίνεται εκχώρηση ποσού κατά τις προβλέψεις της παρ. 12 συνεργάζονται με το Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής για την πιστοποίηση των δαπανών και υποβάλλουν στο Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής τις προβλεπόμενες από την κοινή υπουργική απόφαση ΣΔΕ ΕΟΧ αναφορές και εκθέσεις, καθώς και κάθε άλλα απαραίτητα στοιχεία ή έγγραφα που ζητούνται σχετικά με τη χρήση του ποσού εκχώρησης του Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων στο πλαίσιο του προγράμματός τους.

14. Η απόφαση αυτή αντικαθιστά την υπ' αρ. 45504/8.05.2020 (Β' 1896) απόφαση.

15. Η παρούσα απόφαση τροποποιείται α) με κάθε τροποποίηση της Συμφωνίας Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021 (παράρτημα Ι), β) σε κάθε άλλη περίπτωση κατά την οποία τροποποίηση του θεσμικού πλαισίου οδηγεί σε τροποποίηση των όρων και των διαδικασιών χρηματοδότησης του ταμείου.

16. Η ισχύς της παρούσας απόφασης αρχίζει από τη δημοσίευσή της στην Εφημερίδα της Κυβερνήσεως και παραμένει σε ισχύ για περίοδο πέντε ετών μετά την ημερομηνία έγκρισης της «Τελικής Έκθεσης Προγράμματος» από την Επιτροπή ΧΜ ΕΟΧ. Εάν, όμως, για οποιονδήποτε λόγο η Προγραμματική Συμφωνία τερματισθεί, τότε αυτοδικαίως παύει να ισχύει και η παρούσα απόφαση.

ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ Ι

Συμφωνία Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων, Χ.Μ. ΕΟΧ 2014-2021.

(Πρωτότυπο, υπογραμμένο την 2-4-2019 στην αγγλική γλώσσα)

European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2014-2021

AGREEMENT

between

The Financial Mechanism Committee and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
hereinafter referred to as the “Donors”,

and

The Special Service of Planning, Coordination and Monitoring of the Implementation of
Financial Mechanisms of the European Economic Area of
the General Secretariat for Public Investments and the NSRF
of the Ministry of Economy and Development,
hereinafter referred to as the “National Focal Point”,

representing GREECE,
hereinafter referred to as the “Beneficiary State”

together hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”

on the Fund for Bilateral Relations hereinafter referred to as the “agreement”

Chapter 1

Scope, Legal Framework, Definitions and responsibilities

Article 1.1

Scope

This agreement between the Donors and the National Focal Point lays down the rights and obligations of the Parties regarding the use of the Fund for Bilateral Relations under the financial contribution from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 (hereinafter referred to as the "Mechanism").

Article 1.2

Legal Framework

1. This agreement shall be read in conjunction with the following documents, which constitute the legal framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021:

- (a) the Protocol 38c to the EEA Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism (2014-2021);
- (b) the Regulation on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulation");
- (c) the Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU"), entered into between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State; and
- (d) any guidelines adopted by the Donors in accordance with the Regulation.

2. The legal framework as set forth in paragraph 1 of this Article is binding for the Parties. An act or omission by a Party to this agreement that is incompatible with the legal framework constitutes a breach of this agreement by that Party.

Article 1.3

Definitions

Terms used and institutions and documents referred to in this agreement shall be understood in accordance with the Regulation, in particular Article 1.6 thereof, and the legal framework referred to in Article 1.2 of this agreement.

Article 1.4

Co-operation

1. The Parties shall take all appropriate and necessary measures to ensure fulfilment of the obligations and objectives arising out of this agreement.
2. The Parties agree to provide all information necessary for the good functioning of this agreement

and to apply the principles of implementation as set out in Article 1.3 of the Regulation.

3. The Parties shall promptly inform each other of any circumstances that interfere or threaten to interfere with the successful implementation of this agreement.

4. In executing this agreement the Parties declare to counteract corrupt practices. Further, they declare not to accept, either directly or indirectly, any kind of offer, gift, payments or benefits which would or could be construed as illegal or corrupt practice. The Parties shall immediately inform each other of any indication of corruption or misuse of resources related to this agreement.

Chapter 2

Budget, objective and implementation system for the Fund for Bilateral Relations

Article 2.1

Budget

1. In accordance with Article 4.6 of the Regulation, the Beneficiary State, acting through the National Focal Point, has set aside EUR 2,334,000 for a Fund for bilateral relations.

2. The Fund for Bilateral Relations is supported by the EEA Financial Mechanism, in accordance with the allocation set in paragraph 1.

Article 2.2

Objective

The Fund for Bilateral Relations shall be used to support activities aiming at strengthening bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary States, in line with Article 4.1 of the Regulation. Such activities may take place both in the context of implementation of programmes or through joint initiatives beyond the programmes.

Article 2.3

Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds

1. The National Focal Point shall establish a Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds (JCBF) as soon as possible after the signature of the MoU. Its tasks shall *inter alia* include:

- a) discussing matters of bilateral interests, identifying initiatives and reviewing the overall progress towards reaching the objective of strengthened bilateral relations;

b) adopting the Work Plan for the fund for bilateral relations to be discussed at the annual meeting; and

c) identifying and allocating bilateral funds to programmes of bilateral interest.

2. The Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds shall meet at least once a year prior to the annual meeting. The National Focal Point is responsible for organising the meetings.

3. The Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds shall be chaired by the National Focal Point and composed of representatives from the Donor States, and from the Beneficiary State, including the respective ministry of foreign affairs.

4. Not applicable.

5. The National Focal Point is responsible for preparing the draft agenda, which shall be sent to the members of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds and the FMO at least two weeks before the meeting for comments.

6. Decisions from the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds shall be taken by consensus between the members of the Committee. In case no consensus can be reached, the decision shall be taken by the FMC.

7. Decisions taken at the meeting of the Joint Committee shall be set out in the agreed minutes. The National Focal Point is responsible for the drafting of the minutes from the meeting, summarising the main points discussed at the meeting and following the structure of the agenda. These minutes shall be decision oriented, follow-up oriented and task oriented.

8. Decisions of the Joint Committee may also be made in writing between the members.

Article 2.4 Work Plan

1. The National Focal Point shall, in consultation with the Donors, prepare a draft description of the proposed implementation and activities under the Fund for Bilateral Relations for the duration of the Fund (hereinafter referred to as the "Work Plan"). The Work Plan shall *inter alia* include a brief description of the implementation system for the Fund for Bilateral Relations, major activities to be organised under the Fund, and the programmes of bilateral interest.

2. The draft Work Plan shall be submitted to the members of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds and the FMO for comments at least four weeks prior to the meeting of the Joint Committee.

3. The draft Work Plan shall be further developed and adopted by the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds.

4. The Work Plan will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

5. Modifications to the Work Plan shall be decided by the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds and reported on at the Annual Meeting.

6. Any comments to the Work Plan made at the Annual Meeting shall be taken into account by the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds.

Article 2.5

Allocation of funds for bilateral relations

1. Allocation of funds for bilateral relations shall be based on the principles of transparency, equal treatment, accountability and sound financial management.

2. The Parties agree that the following activities, as a minimum, will be implemented under the Fund for Bilateral Relations:

Bilateral initiatives within the programming areas as allocated in the 2014-2021 MoU and initiatives as approved by the JCBF and contained in the Work Plan.

3. Parts of the funds for bilateral relations shall be made available to Programme Operators for activities aiming at strengthening bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State. The allocation of funds for bilateral relations to Programme Operators shall be based on expressions of interest submitted by the Programme Operators. Programmes of particular bilateral interest identified in the MoU shall be given priority.

4. Funds for bilateral relations allocated to programmes shall be managed by the relevant Programme Operator, in accordance with any recommendation from the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds. The management of the funds for bilateral relations by the Programme Operators shall be proportionate to the size of the funds allocated to their respective programme, should be aimed at facilitating the participation of Donor State entities in the funds and should be based on the principles referred to in paragraph 1.

5. Decisions on the management and use of the funds for bilateral relations allocated to programmes implemented in cooperation with Donor Programme Partners and/or International Partner Organisations shall be taken by consensus between the Programme Operator, Donor Programme Partner and/or International Partner Organisation.

6. The Programme Operators shall report to the National Focal Point on the use of the funds for bilateral relations allocated to their programme.

Article 2.6 Reporting

The National Focal Point shall, in accordance with Article 4.6 paragraph 2 of the Regulation, report on the use of the Fund for Bilateral Relations in the Strategic Report, as defined in Article 2.6 of the Regulation.

Article 2.7 Communication

1. All communication to the Donors regarding this agreement shall take place in English and be directed to the Financial Mechanism Office (hereinafter referred to as the "FMO"), which represents the Donors towards the National Focal Point in relation to the implementation of this agreement.

2. To the extent that original documents are not available in the English language, the documents shall be accompanied by full and accurate translations into English.

3. The National Focal Point shall bear the responsibility for the accuracy of the translation that it provides and the possible consequences that might arise from any inaccurate translations.

Article 2.8 Representations and Warranties

1. This agreement is based on information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point to the Donors.

2. The National Focal Point represents and warrants that all information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point in connection with this agreement is authentic, accurate and complete.

Chapter 3 Finance

Article 3.1 Eligible expenditures

1. Expenditure on the Fund for Bilateral Relations is eligible if it complies with the provisions of Article 8.8 of the Regulation.

2. Notwithstanding and in addition to the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, expenditures under this agreement are only eligible if they comply with the general principles on eligibility of expenditure contained in Chapter 8 of the Regulation, as applicable.

3. The first date of eligibility of expenditures under this agreement shall be 31 October 2017.

4. The final date of eligibility of expenditures under this agreement shall be 30 April 2025.

Article 3.2 Proof of expenditure

Costs incurred by the National Focal Point, the Programme Operators or any final beneficiary under this agreement shall be supported by documentary evidence as required in Article 8.12 of the Regulation.

Article 3.3 Payments

1. Payments under this agreement shall be made when all relevant conditions for payments stipulated in this agreement and the Regulation have been fulfilled.

2. Payments shall take the form of an advance payment, interim payments and payment of the final balance and shall be made in accordance with Articles 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 and 9.5 of the Regulation. The final balance shall be calculated and reported in the last interim financial report.

3. The level of the advance payment is EUR 233,400. The advance payment shall be made upon signature of this agreement. In exceptional cases, extraordinary advance payments may be made prior to the signing of this agreement.

4. Interim payments shall be paid based on an interim financial report submitted by the National Focal Point in a format provided by the FMC, certified by the Certifying Authority in accordance with Article 5.4 of the Regulation, and approved by the FMC. Article 9.3 paragraphs 3 to 9 of the Regulation apply *mutatis mutandis* to interim payments under this agreement.

5. At the latest by 20 February, 20 April, 20 September and 20 November each year, the Certifying Authority shall send to the FMC, in a format provided by the FMC (Annex 8 to the Regulation), a justified forecast of likely payment applications from the Fund for Bilateral Relations.

6. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 to 5 above, Chapter 9 of the Regulation shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to all aspects related to payments.

Article 3.4 Transparency and availability of documents

The Beneficiary State shall ensure an audit trail for financial contributions from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 under this agreement, in accordance with Article 9.8 of the Regulation.

Article 3.5**Irregularities, suspension and reimbursements**

The Donors have the right to make use of the remedies provided in the Regulation, in particular Chapter 13 thereof. The National Focal Point has a duty to take all necessary measures to ensure that the provisions in Chapter 12 and 13 of the Regulation regarding irregularities, suspension of payments, financial corrections and reimbursement are complied with.

Chapter 4
Final provisions**Article 4.1****Contact information**

1. The contact information of the National Focal Point is:

Special Service of planning, coordination and monitoring of the implementation of Financial Mechanisms of the European Economic Area, of the General Secretariat for Public Investments and the NSRF - Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Development.

3, Metropoleos Str

Athens 10563

Telephone: +30-2103726004, +30-2103332000

Telefax (general): + 30-210-3332449

E-mail: contact-eeagrants@mneec.gr

2. The contact information for the Donors and the FMO is:

Financial Mechanism Office

Att: Director

EFTA Secretariat

Rue Joseph II, 12-16

1000 Brussels

Telephone: +32 (0)2 286 1701

Telefax (general): +32 (0)2 211 1889

E-mail: fmo@efta.int

3. Changes of or corrections to the contact information referred to in this article shall be given in writing without undue delay by the Parties to this agreement.

Article 4.2**Dispute settlement**

1. The Parties waive their rights to bring any dispute related to the agreement before any national or international court, and agree to settle such a dispute in an amicable manner.

2. If a demand for reimbursement to the Donors is not complied with by the Beneficiary State, or a dispute related to a demand for reimbursement arises that cannot be solved in accordance with paragraph

1, the Parties may bring the dispute before Oslo Tingrett.

Article 4.3**Termination**

1. The Donors may, after consultation with the National Focal Point, terminate this agreement if:

- (a) a general suspension decision according to Article 13.6 of the Regulation or a decision to suspend payments according to paragraph 1(h) of Article 13.1 of the Regulation has not been lifted within 6 months of such a decision;
- (b) a suspension of payments according to Article 13.1 of the Regulation, other than under paragraph 1(h), has not been lifted within one year of such a decision;
- (c) a request for reimbursement according to Article 13.2 of the Regulation has not been complied with within one year from such a decision.

2. This agreement can be terminated by mutual agreement between the Parties.

3. Termination does not affect the right of the Parties to make use of the dispute settlement mechanism referred to in Article 4.2 or the right of the Donors to make use of the remedies provided in Chapter 13 of the Regulation.

Article 4.4**Waiver of responsibility**

1. Nothing contained in this agreement shall be construed as imposing upon the Donors or the FMO any responsibility of any kind to any third party for the supervision, execution, completion, or operation of any actions or obligations entered into pursuant to this agreement.

2. The Donors do not assume any risk or responsibility whatsoever for any damages, injuries, or other possible adverse effects caused as a result of actions entered into pursuant to this agreement. It is the full and sole responsibility of the National Focal Point to satisfactorily address such issues.

3. Neither the European Free Trade Association, its Secretariat, including the FMO, its officials or employees, nor the Donors, their officials or employees, can be held liable for any damages or injuries of whatever nature sustained by the National Focal Point, the Beneficiary State, Programme Operators, Project Promoters or any other third person, in connection, be it direct or indirect, with this agreement.

Article 4.5**Modification of the agreement**

1. Unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in this agreement, any modification of this agreement is subject to prior approval by the Donors.
2. Requests for modifications shall be submitted and assessed in accordance with the relevant provisions of Article 6.9 of the Regulation.

Article 4.6**Entry into force and duration**

1. This agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature of the Parties.
2. This agreement shall remain in force until five years have elapsed after the date of the acceptance of the final Strategic Report.

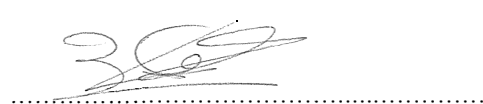
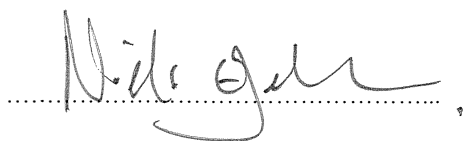
This agreement is drawn up in two originals in the English language.

For the Donors

For the National Focal Point

Signed in Orlo on 24 March 2019

Signed in Athens on 21/4/2019



Chairman of the Financial Mechanism Committee

on behalf of the Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Development

ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ II
Σχέδιο Δράσης (Workplan) Ταμείου Διμερών Σχέσεων του άρθρου 2.4 της από 2.4.2019 Συμφωνίας Ταμείου
Διμερών Σχέσεων, ΧΜ ΕΟΧ 2014-2021
(Πρωτότυπο, εγκεκριμένο την 2-3-2022 στην αγγλική γλώσσα)



EEA Grants 2014-2021 in Greece

FUND FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS

Work Plan

(In accordance with Article 2.4 of the Bilateral Fund Agreement and Article 4.2 of the Regulations on the implementation of the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021)

VERSION 16 March 2022



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
**MINISTRY OF
DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS**

General Secretariat for Public Investments & the NSRF
Special Service EEA Grants - National Focal Point

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PREAMBLE

In the context of Memorandum of Understanding –MoU, for the EEA Grants 2014 - 2021 the Beneficiary State sets aside a sum at least equal to 2% of the total EEA FM 2014-2021 funding, so that a fund may be established to enhance bilateral relations between Donor Countries and the Beneficiary State. The exact amount is stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). According to the MoU signed between the Donor Countries and Greece on October 31, 2017, the budget allocated for the Bilateral Relations Fund amounts to €2,334,000 and is 100% financed by the EEA Grants 2014-2021.

The Bilateral Relations Fund is a flexible financing resource used to support initiatives aiming at strengthening relations between the Donor Countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Greece as the Beneficiary State, so that they may enhance their cooperation strategy, networking and exchange of knowledge between their entities. The Fund should further strengthen political, professional, social and economic ties and lay foundations between the Donors and Greece.

The initiatives may be implemented either within the Programmes agreed on in the Memorandum of Understanding and are operated by Greek authorities or through initiatives taken outside the Programmes, managed by the NFP. Initiatives associated with the Programmes contracted directly by FMC/FMO, are also managed by the NFP. The NFP maintains the responsibility for the Bilateral Fund implementation monitoring and reporting in its entirety.

The Joint Committee for the Bilateral Funds 2014-2021 (JCBF), established according to the Regulations on the implementation of the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021, Art. 4.2 and Art. 3.2.1 of the Bilateral Guideline, has the tasks of:

- a) discussing matters of bilateral interests, identifying initiatives and reviewing the overall progress towards reaching the objective of strengthened bilateral relations;
- b) adopting the Work Plan for the fund for bilateral relations to be discussed at the annual meeting; and
- c) identifying and allocating bilateral funds to programmes of bilateral interest.

The present Work plan, according to Annex 3 of the Bilateral Fund Agreement presents the strategy that will be followed for the implementation of the Bilateral Fund. In particular, the work plan provides a brief overview of the proposed activities under the fund and a brief description of the management and control system provisions for the implementation of the fund.

Alongside the legal framework of the Bilateral Fund as set forth in Art.1.2 of the Bilateral Fund Agreement, this Work Plan shall be read in conjunction with the a) the Document for the Composition, role and functioning of JCBF, b) the Management and Control System at the national level.

The present work plan shall be subject to annual review and necessary modifications where appropriate during the years of its implementation. The initial Work plan, its reviews and modifications are discussed and decided by the JCBF, they are presented and reviewed by the annual meetings and are reported in the strategic report.

Workplan for BF Greece 2014-2021

1. Background

Greece has friendly and constructive diplomatic and bilateral relations with the Donor states of Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, while the countries also have longstanding and fruitful cooperation in the context of the EEA since 1994. Additionally, the countries cooperate in several international organizations and institutions (NATO, EEA, OECD, UN, Council of Europe, etc.).

Iceland

On a bilateral basis, Greece's diplomatic relations with the Republic of Iceland are supported through a parallel accreditation of the Icelandic Embassy in Oslo. An Honorary Consulate General of Iceland is also located in Athens and deals, mainly, with consular matters. Similarly, an Honorary Consulate General of Greece exists in Reykjavik. Few Greek citizens live in Iceland. Nevertheless, a Greek-Icelandic Cultural Club in Reykjavik is active and mainly supported by 200 Icelanders whose aim is to strengthen cultural bonds amongst them.

Liechtenstein

Greece's political relations with the Principality of Liechtenstein can be considered fair-minded. The Greek Embassy in Bern has parallel accreditation for Liechtenstein.

There are regular contacts between the two countries primarily with regard to international organizations. One of the main fields of cooperation between the two countries is the successful exchange of support for their respective candidacies in international fora. The relationship between the two countries has been significantly improved due to the EEA Grants' implementation since 1999.

Norway

Greece has longstanding and well-established bilateral relations with the Kingdom of Norway, with which diplomatic relations were initiated in 1918. There is currently a Greek community in Norway (ca 1.300 citizens), representing immigrants from the '60s. Reversely, Greece is one of the preferred tourist destinations for Norwegian travelers. Cooperation between Greek and Norwegian institutions has been achieved through the EEA Grants' partnerships mainly of prior funding periods.

Bilateral cooperation was established long ago in culture and archaeology, mainly through the Norwegian Institute's activities in Athens. Also, Norwegian culture – classical and contemporary – through cooperation with the Greek entities is well-known, as expressed in architecture exhibitions, concerts, photo exhibitions, theatre, etc. In the EEA context, countries' cooperation has been long and constructive, with Greece being a beneficiary of the EEA Grants since their initial launching in 1994. Over these three decades, the EEA Grants have allocated app. 180 million euros to Greece to implement more than 300 projects and have substantially impacted many diverse fields, such as civil society, asylum, migration, environment, culture, and science. At the same time, well-established networking of public authorities, institutions, and other entities and a significant volume of experience and mutual understanding has been acquired during the implementation phase.

Countries' longstanding cooperation in the EEA FM framework in Greece and the broader context of their relationship, in the spirit of mutual respect, interest, and exchange, pave the way for an ambitious and fruitful footprint of the Bilateral Fund 2014-2021.

Major fields of cooperation at present

The Bilateral Fund finances bilateral initiatives which contribute to the objectives of: (a) the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area, and (b) the strengthening of bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary States, through financial contributions primarily in the priority sectors, set in the Regulation and the MoU:

- (a) Innovation, research, education and competitiveness;
- (b) Social inclusion, youth employment, and poverty reduction;
- (c) Environment, energy, climate change, and low carbon economy;
- (d) Culture, civil society, good governance, fundamental rights and freedoms; and
- (e) Justice and home affairs.

Specific policy areas of common interest for the Donor States and Greece, within the priority sectors, have been endorsed by respective programmes set in the MoU. The bilateral fund complements this endorsement and contributes to the enhanced cooperation and improved mutual knowledge and understanding between the Donor and the Beneficiary States in the following thematic areas:

- Innovation, Business Development, and SMEs
- Roma Inclusion and Empowerment
- Local Development and Poverty Reduction
- Water Management
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency
- Good Governance, Accountable Institutions, Transparency
- Asylum and Migration (Capacity building of national asylum and migration management systems)
- Asylum and Migration (Addressing urgent needs for the reception and screening of new arrivals and for the accommodation of vulnerable groups)
- Civil Society

Programmes that characterise the existing bilateral relations in Greece cover three major fields:

1. Culture and arts, focusing on university exchanges, sound art residencies, community and schools' art projects, and numerous other actions, so as to enhance bilateral collaboration of artists, university music departments, and other entities related to music and art scene, and to boost peripheral European cultural collaboration.
2. Gender equality projects aim to: (a) face the difficulties of young people and women in accessing the labour market in Greece, and (b) create a digital hub devoted to gender perspectives of COVID-19 and its aftermath.
3. Offshore wind energy, focusing on adapting necessary legislative adjustments to promote offshore wind energy in Greece.

Lessons learnt from the previous programming period:

The 2009-2014 BFNL implementation started in 2014 and was completed in April 2018, with several intermediate amendments to the relevant Work Plan. As this was the first implementation, managerial and administrative issues had an impact on delivery and financial completion. The BFNL was in effect a small portfolio in terms of budget, but with a variety of participating bodies and Ministries, from Greece and third countries; this required coordination and guidance, as well as the streamlining of processes connected to the financial management of joint projects or international payments authorised/verified. Furthermore, legal issues and amendments concerning the person(s) authorised to execute state budget banking transactions on behalf of the NFP (co-responsibility with Ministry of Economy's General Directorate for Financial Services), also had an impact in this period.

The NFP regularly cooperated with all project promoters/beneficiaries of the BFNL to inform them about the processes, as these developed in practice and the step-by-step introduction of Management Information Systems (OPS-EOX), or electronic payment systems via the Bank of Greece--all these implemented for the first time in this programming period. Furthermore, the NFP frequently followed up and encouraged the acceleration of the implementation, e.g. the formal correspondence of the Secretary General PI & NSRF (Sep 2017) to all BFNL national recipients, in order to expedite progress and payments before the BFNL deadline of April 2018.

The implementation picked up towards the end of the programming period, as more than 50% of the BFNL budget was executed in the years 2017-2018 (see graph, source: DoRIS). In order to ensure timely implementation of bilateral activities at the national level, the last amendment to the BFNL Work plan was agreed in February 2018, between the Ministry of Economy & Development, the FMO, and the Donors (published in Ministerial Decree as per the MCS and usual practice).

Finally, the assistance of the FMO and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was indeed critical throughout this period as well as towards its end regarding the matching and bringing together possible partners for the successful completion of the BFNL, or supporting the implementation and dissemination of the BFNL project results to the general public.

On-going initiatives or upcoming events of importance for bilateral relations to build on

At the present time, five (5) on-going initiatives are at the beginning of their implementation phase:

1. Youth Employment and Gender Equality: Mobilizing human capital for sustainable growth in Greece

The project aspires to deal with the difficulties of young people and women who wish to access Greece's labour market, one of Greek society's most dynamic segments. The project will seek to benefit from and utilise knowledge transfer, experience, and best practices from Norway and other Nordic countries.

2. ProGender: A Digital Hub on Gender, the COVID-19 crisis, and its Aftermath

ProGender aims to promote bilateral activities between Iceland, Greece, and Norway by creating a digital hub devoted to gender perspectives of COVID-19 and its aftermath. The activities that will be carried out within the hub will be online and promote gender perspectives, analyses, and policy responses of the COVID-19 crisis through actions and initiatives that enhance cooperation and exchange between Greek, Icelandic and Norwegian institutions. ProGender will create a hub that will make it possible to transfer knowledge and best practices and perspectives from the North to the

South, and it will not rely on a one-way process as the scope of the hub will be to construct and support a framework within which productive and creative interactions benefiting participants from all three countries would take place.

3. Necessary legislative adjustments to promote offshore wind energy in Greece

This initiative will develop a partnership between Greek and Norwegian actors that concretely collaborate to produce a comparative analysis of regulatory frameworks for floating offshore wind. The initiative will attract international offshore wind energy players to invest in Greece and allow the competent Authorities to issue the necessary licenses for offshore wind projects.

4. Transmissions is another project that will foster state visits to enhance the bilateral collaboration of artists and university music departments. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions imposed by the *covid19 pandemic*, all these activities have been postponed.

5. HEAD to HEAD is a bilateral exhibition project connecting the two unique, dynamic, and ever-expanding artist-run visual art scenes of Athens, Greece, and Reykjavik, Iceland.

Funds can facilitate partnership projects in the following ways:

(a) Building partnerships through early planning of matchmaking activities;

(b) Issuing open calls that shall be:

- widely publicized and open for a minimum of two months;
- specify eligible promoters and partners;
- marked with the EEA Grants logo.

(c) Donor project partners are not obliged to contribute to the co-financing.

Funds could also show flexibility, while Donor and Beneficiary State entities could be eligible as promoters and partners. The diffusion of information and openness as a goal would generally benefit bilateral relations. Furthermore, alternative use of the Bilateral Fund could be adopted, such as:

- Open calls for small scale initiatives that can be held online could be issued in the fields of training, capacity building, conferences, studies/research, development or translation of information material, etc.
- Taking into consideration broader target groups, that is, bilateral partnerships that did not win through in the open Call could apply for scaled-down initiatives (restricted Call for BF), or the bilateral funds may repair the damage in calls with few bilateral partnership applications due to Covid 19.
- POs/ DPPs could organise activities, such as training for promoters and partners, conferences, promotional material for bilateral cooperation, or documentation of bilateral cooperation, etc.
- Finally, more funds can be allocated to high-quality initiatives.

2. Main objective

Enhanced cooperation and improved mutual knowledge and understanding between Donor and Beneficiary States.

Greece and the Donor countries recognise and take responsibility for the current challenges that the world and humanity face, such as the covid19 pandemic, the climate crisis, the humanitarian challenges, the need for sustainable use of natural and maritime resources, the need for peace, stability, and security. All countries share the will to work together for a green, competitive and inclusive Europe, as the EEA Grants 2014-2021 communication message states, and to promote policies in this direction.

Based on all the above, and the lessons learnt from the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanisms in the previous periods, the Bilateral Fund can develop its full potential and maximize its impact to achieve all the objectives.

As part of the EEA FM 2014-2021, the Bilateral Fund follows and implements its strategic approach. Furthermore, as stated in the MoU, bilateral relations between the Donor States and Greece shall be strengthened to stimulate and develop long-term cooperation within all areas listed in the Annex to Protocol 38c. It is also an ambition to strengthen bilateral cooperation at the political and European levels in areas of common interest.

Thus, the Bilateral Fund finances bilateral initiatives which contribute to the objectives of: (a) the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area, and (b) the strengthening of bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary ones, through financial contributions primarily in the priority sectors, all set in the Regulation and the MoU:

- (a) Innovation, research, education and competitiveness;
- (b) Social inclusion, youth employment, and poverty reduction;
- (c) Environment, energy, climate change, and low carbon economy;
- (d) Culture, civil society, good governance, fundamental rights and freedoms; and
- (e) Justice and home affairs.

[Note: The specific policy areas of common interest for the Donor States and Greece, within the priority sectors, are mentioned above in the "Background section."]

Policy areas of common interest beyond the MoU programmes

Further to the policy areas supported with programmes by the MoU, the Bilateral Fund might, in principle, be open to all thematic areas from all sectors, which may document and justify a mutual interest, benefit, and ground of bilateral cooperation. The Bilateral Fund implementation in the period 2014-2021 can provide a platform for increased political, cultural, professional, and academic relations and prepare the ground for more comprehensive cooperation of entities and sectors in the future. To that end, stakeholders from both the Donor States and Greece will access and benefit from the Fund for specific activities.

Policy areas of common interest and enhanced potential for bilateral cooperation between the Donor States and Greece include the following:

Blue growth, marine resources, and shipping

Greece and two of the Donor countries, Iceland and Norway, are maritime countries, with long seashores and thousands of islands. Greece and Norway have both a long tradition in shipping. All three countries' fate is linked with the sea, and blue economy with sustainable use of marine resources is a top priority for them. Therefore, a closer collaboration in this field can be highly beneficial for all parts. Activities may address advanced technology in the field, fight against marine litter and microplastics, contingency plans for oil spills, and many more.

Culture and arts

Donor countries and Greece are countries with rich and vibrant culture and arts scene of which they are all proud. As culture awareness and appreciation are a pivotal element in the approach and likelihood of countries and people, culture and arts policy area has a special and important role in strengthening bilateral relations. Music, fine and visual arts, literature, and publications are fields where bilateral relations can focus on. Another exciting field of added value for Greece might be the Donor countries' expertise in combining modern architecture with environmentally friendly solutions, resulting in an architectural character that combines functionality, sustainability, and artistic vibe.

Gender equality and social welfare

Donor countries, especially the Nordic ones, have achieved substantial results and gained worldwide recognition in gender equality, as they are found in the first places of relevant word indexes. At the same time, they are actively promoting social welfare policies as an integral part of their sustainability model. In particular, Iceland has expressed a special interest in this policy area because of its achievements in gender equality and its best practice in a social welfare watch for effective countermeasures and damage control during a crisis. Therefore, bilateral initiatives in this policy area can have a decisive contribution and impact on Greece's respective efforts. In this direction, Bilateral Fund can contribute to bringing together and networking the government, institutional, academic, civil society, and other stakeholders working in transferring expertise and best practices and introducing research, successful tools, and techniques in the field.

Climate change, civil protection, and natural disasters contingency

This is an essential area addressing the challenges we face in dealing with climate change and environmental disruption. All countries share awareness and are keen to promote policies in this direction. Several efforts are underway to this effect. Greece is receiving assistance from various sources and considers the cooperation with the Donor states in this field of added value, given their commitment to sustainability and their significant effort to painstakingly work on technological solutions. Therefore, expertise and networking in fields such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, prevention, and management of natural disasters will be highly beneficial.

The role of the JCBF regarding the abovementioned policy areas

During the last JCBF meeting, held on 27 February 2020, the Committee:

1. Approved the Workplan, and decided that further corrections would be made by the NFP in cooperation with Iceland on the text related to Iceland-Greece bilateral relations. The budget section would also be revised, in order to reflect the decisions of the JCBF. With these corrections, the Workplan would have been considered as final and the NFP could proceed to annex it to the BF Ministerial Decree.

2. Approved the selection of the first stage of the initiative “Youth Employment and Gender Equality: Mobilizing human capital for sustainable growth in Greece” as submitted by the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) in bilateral partnership with Fafo Institute for Labor and Social Research (Fafo). The promoter was obliged to submit additionally a more detailed budget breakdown which would correspond to the budget lines and deliverables and clearly separate between stages one and two of the initiative.

3. Acknowledged the qualities of the proposal for Pro-Gender university studies by Panteion University but did not approve its selection at this time.

4. Approved the selection of the initiative where Promoter was the NFP to cover all individual costs and small-scale events of the member countries, eligible to the Bilateral Fund.

Modalities and management

The endorsement of the Bilateral Fund to the MoU policy areas as well as the availability for the policy areas beyond MoU will be implemented through two central axes of the Bilateral Fund:

1. Bilateral funds to programmes

In the case of programmes implemented by the Greek national authorities, allocations will be managed by the Programme Operators. In the case of programmes led by the FMO/ Fund Operators, the National Focal Point will manage allocations. According to the “Composition, role and functioning of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds–JCBF” document the following terms apply:

- Any allocation of bilateral funds to programmes included in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is not subject to further approval by the JCBF.
- The JCBF may decide to grant additional bilateral funds to programmes of bilateral interest.
- The allocation of additional funds for bilateral relations as described in paragraph (b) above, shall be based on expressions of interest submitted by the Programme Operators.
- Following assessment, the JCBF allocates funds to programmes of bilateral interest. The funds shall be managed under any recommendation from the JCBF.

2. Bilateral funds at the national level

According to the “Composition, role and functioning of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds–JCBF” document the following terms apply:

Calls:

1. The NFP issued a call for proposals regarding six (6) predefined initiatives on December 8, 2020.
2. Where the JCBF decides to launch (an) open call(s) under the BF, the NFP shall be responsible for organising calls for proposals and drafting the call text, including eligibility criteria, according to the provisions of the Work Plan.
3. The JCBF and the FMO shall be consulted on the call text and comments received shall be duly taken into consideration.
4. Calls are published on the websites of the NFP, the Donor Embassies, and the EEA and Norway Grants.
5. The JCBF shall agree upon the rules for awarding funds and award decisions.

Predefined initiatives:

1. All members of the JCBF may propose predefined bilateral initiatives to be included in the Work Plan. Proposals shall be sent to the NFP in order to be assessed and submitted for consultation/ approval to the members of the JCBF, with the FMO in copy, along with the related modification of the Work Plan.

At present, there are five (5) bilateral initiatives selected and under implementation, and one (1) that the NFP shall implement. All initiatives are presented in section 6: Major activities.

3. Implementation system

The Bilateral Fund implementation falls under the Management and Control System at the national level, set in effect by a Joint Ministerial Decree, accompanied by a Manual of Procedures. At the national level, the MCS transposes the EEA Grants 2014-2021 Regulation and sets the implementation framework's national provisions. The Manual of Procedures sets the procedures, workflows, and templates for the day to day implementation.

On May 18, 2020, the Ministerial Decree (number 45504|Government Gazette/1896/Issue B/18.05.2020) was issued regarding the financial operation of the BF. In this BF MD, the NFP is defined as the overall BF Operator responsible for setting the entire framework of implementation, including the BF specific elements, such as allocation to programmes, financing, and payment flows, etc.

The NFP, as the BF Operator, initiates (where necessary) and facilitates all provisions and procedures related to the BF, including those related to the mandate of the JCBF, such as:

- the submission and review of proposals
- the adoption of predefined initiatives
- the tasks of reviewing matters of bilateral interest and the overall progress of the Bilateral Fund
- the adoption of the Workplan
- the identification and allocation of bilateral funds to programmes, and many more.

As regards the Workplan, the NFP, in consultation with the Donors, prepares the draft Work Plan, which then is submitted for comments and further development to JCBF members and the FMO. The Work Plan includes among other things a brief description of the areas of intervention, implementation system, major activities to be organised under the Fund, and so on. It also includes all selected predefined initiatives, possible calls of proposals, and selected initiatives managed by the NFP, including those related to Programmes contracted directly by FMO and the budget breakdown, including allocations to the programmes. The Work Plan is adopted by the JCBF.

Modifications to the Work Plan may be proposed by any of the members at any time. The modification proposal is prepared by the NFP, submitted to the members of the JCBF and the FMO for comments, and is reported in the Annual Meeting, which discusses its progress. Any comments to

the Work Plan made in the Annual Meeting shall be taken into account by the JCBF. The NFP will report on the use of the Fund for bilateral relations, including the work of the JCBF, in the Strategic Report and the Annual Meeting. The JCBF shall be invited to comment on the bilateral relations section of the Strategic Report before the NFP submits it to the Donors.

As regards eligible expenditure, the following activities are eligible for the Bilateral Fund:

- (a) Activities aiming at strengthening bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary ones;
- (b) The search for partners for Donor partnership projects prior to or during the preparation of a project application, the development of such partnerships, and the preparation of an application for a Donor partnership project;
- (c) Networking, exchange, and sharing of knowledge, technology, experience, and best practices between entities in the Beneficiary States and entities in the Donor States and/or international organisations;
- (d) Activities aimed at strengthening cooperation and exchanging experiences and best practices between the Programme Operators and similar entities within the Beneficiary States and the Donor States and international organisations, provided at least one entity within the Donor States is involved in the activity.

The above activities can be implemented through actions that may, indicatively, be related, but not restricted to the following:

- technical cooperation schemes and exchange of expertise
- secondments, practical training, short-term training
- workshops and seminars on topics of mutual interest
- educational excursions and visits
- reports, studies, research projects, data collection
- campaigns, reports, and promotional material.

Travel costs, including subsistence allowance per day, for the Greek public sector, are ruled by national provisions, valid also for the EEA Grants. In line with the principle of proportionality, travel costs, including subsistence allowance, for all other cases than Greek public sector may be eligible up to 50% above national provisions thresholds (example: where daily allowance for the public sector is 80E, for the non-public sector may be up to 120E). Above this limit, expenditure may be eligible upon justified documentation. Salary/ experts or other costs related to work deliverables on the travelling days are not calculated in the subsistence allowance.

As regards the BF initiatives implementation, the main provisions are:

1. At the implementation level, after selection, the NFP acts as Operator under the provisions of the MCS at the national level, in the following cases:

- (a) the BF allocated to the programmes managed by the FMO/ Fund Operators, and
- (b) the initiatives of axis 2.

Respectively, the POs of the programmes managed by the Greek authorities, act as Operators for their part of the BF.

2. The NFP will be responsible for the overall monitoring and reporting for the entire Bilateral Fund, including funds allocated to the Programmes. The NFP will be responsible for reporting to Grace and submitting IFRs for the entire Bilateral Fund.

3. The NFP and the POs may also act as BF initiative promoters. Separation of tasks will be documented upon submitting the initiative(s) proposal(s).

If the Work Plan provides for the use of an open call for proposals, the NFP, acting as Programme Operator, will publish the Call following mutatis mutandis the provisions in the Operational area I of the Manual of Procedures. The entire procedure, including the Call of proposals terms and conditions, as well as the evaluation and selection of initiatives, will be under the instructions and approval of the JCBF at the time of the Call.

The procedures for the proposal and selection of initiatives are foreseen in the document for Composition, role and functioning of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds between the Donor States and Greece and the MCS at the national level adopts them as such. The NFP has developed a standard template for predefined initiatives' proposals, which must be used for all proposed initiatives.

To conclude the selection procedure, the NFP or the POs will invite the promoter to submit a Technical Bulletin via MIS and all the necessary supporting documents, including the bilateral partner's cooperation agreement. The NFP or the POs, respectively, will issue a selection decision for each initiative, which falls under JMD MCS Art. 7.6 for Project contract. Upon issuance of the Project contract, a budget line is registered to PIP.

After selection, all BF initiatives will be implemented according to the MCS—Manual of Procedures in the operational areas II_Project Monitoring, III_Programme Monitoring, IV_Irregularities, and Complaints, V_Financial Management of Programmes, VI_Audits from Audit Authority. In these areas are included all management and control procedures during implementation, such as public procurement where applicable, monitoring of deliverables progress and financing, administrative and on spot verifications of expenditure, irregularities and complaints management, IFRs and PO reporting, etc. The verification of expenditure for the bilateral initiatives allocated to be implemented by the Programme Operators is a shared task between the POs and the NFP, implemented in steps before submitting the expenditure to the Certifying Authority.

For the needs of the standardized generic MCS templates and MIS, terms related to the implementation of programmes may also apply to BF, i.e. project, project promoter, programme operator, etc.

The NFP will inform and notify the FMO of all developments in the context of the Bilateral Fund.

All rules and procedures related to the BF will be also aggregated to the BF Annex of Manual of Procedures.

To facilitate smooth implementation, the NFP will issue a practical guide for the BF initiative promoters following the adapted MCS at the national level.

4. Bilateral Priority Programmes

Programme short name	DPPs	Funds allocated in MoU	JCBF Allocations	Total Allocations	Comments
A - GR-INNOVATION (FMO)		€ 150,000		€ 150,000	
B - GR-ROMAINCLUSION		€ 50,000		€ 50,000	
C - GR-LOCALDEV (FMO)		€ 50,000		€ 50,000	
D - GR-ENVIRONMENT		€ 50,000	€ 50,000	€ 100,000	
E - GR-ENERGY		€ 50,000	€ 50,000	€ 100,000	
F - GR-GOOD GOVERNANCE		€ 100,000		€ 100,000	
G - GR-HOMEAFFAIRS	Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI)	€ 125,000		€ 125,000	
H - GR-HOMEAFFAIRS (FMO)	Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI)	€ 125,000		€ 125,000	
I – CIVIL SOCIETY		€ 0		€ 0	

5. Planned open calls

Focus	Indicative Timing	Amount set aside. EUR	Max/Min amount grant
€ 400.000 of the available budget will be dedicated to a call for proposals on the "first in-first served" basis until the available funding of the call is exhausted. As far as the fields of activities are concerned, the NFP proposes to use the Pissarides report as a basis for a selection of activities of common interest for both Greece and Norway. On top of the Pissarides report, an additional field, which could be a topic relevant to the mitigation of COVID-19 problems in economies is proposed.	2021 - 3Q	€ 400,000	

6. Major activities

Please outline major initiatives foreseen under the Fund for bilateral relations. Following the results-based management approach, please keep a results-focus, identifying outputs with relevant indicators.

The initiatives shall contribute to the common bilateral outcome: Enhanced cooperation between Beneficiary State and Donor State entities involved.

Title:	Bilateral activities at the national level
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	National Focal Point (NFP) (NFP)
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 80,000
Short description	An initiative proposed based on experience from the previous period and the recognized need for an available and flexible budget line to fund timely and without administration burdens individual activities such as one trip or a small scale event. In the future, if there is a need for an initiative by the NFP on a specific targeted activity that requires a budget of more than 60.000€, then a separate, distinct initiative will be proposed.

Planned results¹

Output	Indicator	Target
Individual visits between Donor countries and Greece for information, networking, expertise exchange	Number of individual visits of experts	20
Promotion of the BF (e.g., networking and matchmaking events, events targeted to specific stakeholders, Informative events to selected promoters, etc.)	Number of activities	15

¹ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	Transmissions
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Onassis Foundation
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	ULTIMA Festival
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 284,400
Short description	The project is in the field of culture and arts, focusing on music. With its actions such as university exchanges, sound art residencies, community and schools' art projects, devised production, and public art programmes it aims to enhance bilateral collaboration of artists, university music departments, and other entities related to the music and art scene.

Planned results²

Output	Indicator	Target
A collaboration of university music departments	Exchange of visits for teachers and students	3 exchanges/30 students
Sound art residencies	Residency programmes in Lofoten and Syros	6 Residencies (2x3), 30 artists participating
Communities and schools art projects	Capacity building exchanges	4 exchange visits (2x2), 10 experts
Devised production	Performances	2 large scale performances
Public art programs	Exchange residencies Project proposals	2 exchange residencies 2 project proposals

² Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	Youth Employment and Gender Equality: Mobilizing human capital for sustainable growth in Greece
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	Fafo Research Foundation
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 119,077
Short description	The difficulties of young people and women to access the labor market in Greece deprive the country's economy of the labor potential of some of the most dynamic segments of Greek society. Given the urgent need to address the output gap produced by the crisis and reform the national growth model towards innovation and extroversion, mobilization of and investment in Greece's human capital is of paramount importance for Greece's economic future. In this context, the aim of the proposed initiative is twofold: (a) document and analyse the conditions of the Greek labour market and examine the main barriers that constrain access for the young people, emphasising gender aspects of such barriers; and (b) formulate appropriate policy proposals on how to facilitate the access of young people to the Greek labor market, including specific recommendations on how to overcome gender-related barriers. The project will seek to benefit from and utilize knowledge transfer, experience, and best practices from Norway and other Nordic countries.

Planned results³

Output	Indicator	Target
Youth barometer	Number of young people participating in the survey	1.000 participants in the survey
Gender Considerations	Number of women participating in the survey	50% of the total number of participants to the Youth Barometer
Workshop in Norway	Number of participants in the workshop in Norway	15 participants: 3 researchers from ELIAMEP, 5 researchers from Fafo

³ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	Necessary legislative adjustments to promote offshore wind energy in Greece
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Hellenic Wind Energy Association ELETAEN
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	Norwea
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 25,000
Short description	To develop a partnership between Greek and Norwegian actors that concretely collaborate to produce a comparative analysis of regulatory frameworks for floating offshore wind and, based on this, prepare draft input to legal documentation for offshore floating wind in Greece, with all the critical adjustments/modifications of Greek legislation to occur, to facilitate the development of offshore wind projects in Greece. The initiative will attract international offshore wind energy players to invest in Greece and allow the competent Authorities to issue the necessary licenses for offshore wind projects.

Planned results⁴

Output	Indicator	Target
Create a steering committee for the project with Norwegian and Greek partners under the Hellenic Wind Energy Association's auspices.	Number of proposals	N/A
Legal documentation for the necessary modifications of the Greek legislation in order to initiate the development and realization of offshore wind energy projects	Number of documents	N/A
Workshop to present regulatory models, and share the knowledge attained in a draft document with recommendations for Greece.	Number of participants	N/A
Workshop to present the recommendations and draft documents for Greece with authorities.	Number of participants	N/A

⁴ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	Head to Head, a bilateral exhibition project between Greece and Iceland
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Kling & Bang gallerí ehf, Iceland
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	A-Dash Space; ASFA / Athens School of Fine Art; Kling & Bang gallerí ehf, Iceland; The Icelandic Art Centre
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 20,000
Short description	HEAD to HEAD is a bilateral exhibition project connecting the two unique, dynamic, and ever-expanding artist-run visual art scenes of Athens, Greece, and Reykjavik, Iceland. The project aims to establish an energetic connection between Greek and Icelandic artists and spaces and boost peripheral European cultural collaboration. The project's execution will be based on an exchange and pairing of Greek and Icelandic artists resulting in exhibitions in both places. The Icelandic exhibition committee has proposed a selection of Icelandic artists to each of the collaborating exhibition spaces. The proprietors of each space then propose a Greek artist, pairing the two together to create an exhibition. During a research trip in Athens, last September 2019, the curatorial team met with several artist-run initiatives and institutions and confirmed their participation. They are beside A-DASH are KEIV, Hyle, Backspace, Pet Projects, Snehta, Space52, Zoetrope, Sunday Narratives, PS: Communitism, MEME and Stoa 42. This process will then be mirrored in Reykjavik, Iceland and the following artist-run initiatives and institutions have confirmed their participation in 2022; Kling & Bang, The Living Art Museum, Museum of Perceptive Art, Open, Gallery Port, Midpunkt, Reykjavik Association of Sculptors/ Reykjavik Sculpture Garden.

Planned results⁵

Output	Indicator	Target
To boost the peripheral European cultural collaboration	N/A	N/A

⁵ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	ProGender: A Digital Hub on Gender, the COVID-19 crisis and its Aftermath
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences (UPSPS)
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	RECollective; Stin Priza; Norwegian University for Science and Technology (NTNU); Institute for Gender, Equality and Difference at the University of Iceland (RIKK)
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 135,493
Short description	ProGender aims to promote bilateral activities between Iceland, Greece, and Norway by creating a digital hub devoted to gender perspectives of COVID-19 and its aftermath. The activities that will be carried out within the hub will be online and promote gender perspectives, analyses, and policy responses to the covid19 crisis through a set of actions and initiatives that enhance cooperation and exchange between Greek, Icelandic and Norwegian institutions. Globally, while the mortality rate of the covid19 pandemic seems to be more severe among the male population, the socio-economic impacts of the coronavirus crisis have serious consequences for the female population: women represent 70% of global health care personnel. They are hereby overly exposed to the risk of the virus. Women, who are also highly exposed to domestic violence and work-life imbalances, are expected to be affected more severely by unemployment and livelihoods. Although there are common gender challenges across the globe, there are countries, like Iceland and Norway, that are currently best positioned to deal with the crisis in gender-sensitive ways not only because they have female-led governments, but also because they have better gender equality infrastructures, policies and legislation in place. ProGender will create a hub that will make it possible to transfer knowledge and best practices and perspectives from the North to the South; it will not be based on a one-way process as the scope of the hub will be to construct and support a framework within which productive and creative interactions benefiting participants from all three countries would take place.

Planned results⁶

Output	Indicator	Target
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⁶ Please refer to the Results Guideline

10 online guest lectures	Number of participants in the online sessions	20 in each session x 10= 200 participations
5 online seminars	Number of participants in online sessions	5x10 in each seminar= 50 participations
5 online workshops	Number of participants in online sessions	5x10 in each seminar= 50 participations
series of 4 podcasts	Number of downloads or audio	20-50
1 video	Numbers of downloads or views	20-50
set of 5 reports	Number of downloads or views	20-50
educational material	Number of downloads or views	20-50
website and social media pages	Number of visitors and likes	50-80
online guest lectures	Increased learning and public awareness of gender equality issues during and post COVID-19. -Knowledge transfer and exchanges across Iceland, Norway, and Greece.	N/A
online discussion panels	Increased networking, collaboration, and exchange of perspectives on societal, scientific, and policy challenges and responses of gender and COVID-19 amongst policymakers, journalists, stakeholders, and the general public in Iceland, Greece, and Norway	N/A
online seminars	Increased networking, collaboration, and exchange of gender perspectives of the post coronavirus society.	N/A
online webinars	Increased networking, collaboration, and exchange of gender perspectives of the post coronavirus society.	N/A
online workshops	Increased networking, collaboration, and exchange of gender perspectives of the post coronavirus society	N/A
Video	Increased awareness and sensitisation on the impact of the coronavirus crisis on gender relations. The video can have a long-term impact after the end of the project as it can be useful for educational, research, and awareness-raising purposes.	N/A
reports	Increased understandings of the gendered aspects of COVID-19 The reports can have a long-term impact after the end of the project as they can be useful for educational, research, and awareness-raising purposes.	N/A
podcasts	Rising awareness of how gender perspectives can transform how we understand and deal with COVID-19. The podcasts can have a long-term impact after the end of the project as they can be useful for educational, research, and awareness-raising purposes.	N/A
educational material	Providing tools for educators with significant learning outcomes regarding gender equality and the role of women during crises. The material will be available and free to use for educators worldwide,	N/A
	delivering courses, classes and/or training programs related to gender equality and gender-based violence.	

Title:	Energy Governance for Sustainable Development (Norway-Greece ENERGO)
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	University of Ioannina, Department of Economics, Greece
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Economics, Political Economy of Sustainable Development Laboratory, Greece; Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 110,400
Short description	“Energy Governance for Sustainable Development” (ENERGO) aims at the advancement of scientific evidence-based mutual knowledge development. The project fosters bilateral relationships, research cooperation and long-term strategic partnership between partners from the donor and the beneficiary states. ENERGO further supports capacity building and continuous collaboration by bringing together a multi-disciplinary team of experts, from Norway and Greece, to systematically analyze common challenges and solutions. The project addresses challenges at national and transnational level in an inter-disciplinary approach and it extracts useful policy recommendations with regards to sustainable and inclusive energy policies in Greece and Norway through: ✓ Knowledge sharing and transfer of experiences from Norwegian to Greek actors and vice versa ✓ Increased contact between professionals in the two countries, with focus on supporting female experts and early-career researchers ✓ Discussion and joint working out of strategies to solve common challenges ✓ Capacity building ✓ Understanding and bridging of the priorities and incentives of different stakeholders (local communities, investors, policy makers)

Planned results⁷

Output	Indicator	Target
Joint scientific papers	Number of papers	2
Joint policy briefs	Number of policy briefs	2

⁷ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Presentation in open large audience events	Number of open large audience events	2
Informative online dissemination material	Minimum number of informative online dissemination material (social websites, in the Media, etc.)	36
Jointly prepared teaching material (lecture notes and slides	Set of lecture notes and lecture slides	2
Stakeholders (businesses, policy makers, local communities) in Greece and in Norway informed on the project progress and results, including information on bilateral collaboration.	Number of stakeholders (businesses, policy makers)- estimation	10,000
Partners from Greece and Norway engaged in active collaboration and dissemination of the project results (researchers, media communicators, businesses)	Number of partners (researchers, academics, businesses)- estimation	30
Students and early researchers in Greece and in Norway benefiting from the training material and informed on the project.	Number of students (undergraduate, postgraduate and early researchers)- estimation	3000+

Title: Review of Norwegian Oil & Gas Industry's Transformation during the Energy Transition and its Application to Greece

Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity): Hellenic Hydrocarbon Resources Management S.A.

Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity): SINTEF AS by its institute SINTEF Digital

Allocation (a detailed budget is not required): € 39,660

Short description The aim for the collaboration of Norway and Greece on this topic is in exploring how current hydrocarbon activities in Greece can be supplemented with "green" energy solutions, with a particular focus on the areas of a) carbon capture and storage and b) offshore wind energy. This will involve a comprehensive review of the successful transformation of the Norwegian Oil and Gas sector in the last few years, and application of techniques and lessons learned into the Greek energy sector.

Planned results⁸

Output	Indicator	Target
Joint policy briefs	Number of policy briefs	2
Workgroup meeting reports	Number of reports	5
Presentations in conferences and/or scientific papers	Number of conference presentations/papers	2
Communication activities through website, media posts etc.	Number of posts in online and social media websites	20
Increased public awareness for CCS and offshore wind energy in Greece	Improvement of the public's knowledge and opinion on the introduction of these new energy technologies	N/A
Possibilities for technology export from Norway	Identification of Norwegian technological developments with application in Greece	2
New markets for Norwegian companies	Identification of market products and services needed in the Greek market in the near future	2
Knowledge of other countries challenges and opportunities with regards to the transition to green energy	Increased level of knowledge for Greece, based on the Norwegian experience	N/A

⁸ Please refer to the Results Guideline

Title:	"Winds of Change": Can Renewable Energy shape a new geo-economic paradigm for the EU, Greece and its Neighbourhood?
Implementing Entity (donor or beneficiary state entity):	Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
Partner(s) (each initiative shall involve minimum one donor state entity and one beneficiary state entity):	Alma Economics; Norwea
Allocation (a detailed budget is not required):	€ 77,590
Short description	The proposed "Winds of Change" project aims to produce thorough analysis; initiate discussions and a constructive dialogue between key stakeholders; and build bridges of mutual trust and collaboration on green transition and the deployment of renewable energy (RE) sources, notably offshore wind energy, for a new energy model for Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean. Our proposal outlines a two-pronged approach: a regional dimension of a connected RE production and distribution in Greece's neighbourhood; and a domestic dimension with a focused socio-economic impact on offshore wind energy power. Both strands of work will provide evidence and substantiated analysis to. For the domestic Greek socio-economic impact study, we believe it is timely in context of the anticipated incoming regulatory framework for transition of the energy model, whilst at the same time twins with the work already conducted by ELTAEAN under its EEA grant. Focusing on alleviating national and local concerns of onshore wind farms in environmentally sensitive regions in Greece, the proposed socio-economic impact study will identify evidence and analysis on the introduction of offshore wind power in the energy mix for Greece. Specifically, this study will dovetail and support the regulatory analysis conducted by ELTAEAN and the stakeholder dialogues in Greece to date. At the same time, whilst it creates evidence and analysis for offshore wind power production as part of the domestic energy mix, it enables Greece to lead an informed discussion with its neighbours on offshore wind power production for a regional RE model. Greece as a southern eastern point of the EU, with the support of EEA Donor States, will have an opportunity to promote RE in the context of the EU Green Deal goals, in the entire region of Eastern Mediterranean. At the same time, the regional geopolitical scope of a connected RE grid for the Eastern Mediterranean region will provide an imperative analysis, with which to seed conversations for political discourse, as well as an indication on scale and scope of the opportunity for investors and likely commitment of private capital. By exploring the geopolitical state of play in the Eastern Mediterranean, this study aims to analyse the configuration of energy geopolitics in the Eastern Mediterranean,

which have been shaped by the discovery of sizeable natural gas resources in the region about a decade ago and by various energy monetisation projects, which included the connection of the Eastern Mediterranean with the energy grid of the European energy market. As the pandemic and the European Green Deal have shifted the focus from hydrocarbon to RE in the Eastern Mediterranean, this study aims to contribute to the identification of opportunities and risks for the successful development of a RE grid and offshore wind power farms in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Planned results⁹

Output	Indicator	Target
One closed online workshop with policy makers and government officials, representatives from the EEA Donor States; and representatives from civil society	Number of workshops organised Number of participants	1 workshop 15 - 20 participants
One public webinar for stakeholders and wider public	Number of webinars organised Number of participants Number of opinion pieces on online and print media	1 webinar 70 - 100 targeted participants 4 opinion pieces
Report with analysis on the geopolitical study entitled "From Hydrocarbons to Renewables: Rethinking Energy Geopolitics in the Eastern Mediterranean"	Increased level of understanding on energy geopolitics in the Mediterranean region.	Academia, Policy Makers, RE policy and governance experts, trade associations, national and local government, NGOs and Media
Report on Social Impact Analysis Study on Offshore Wind power generation for Greece's energy mix.	Increased level of understanding about socio-economic impacts of offshore wind energy power investments.	Academia, Policy Makers, RE policy and governance experts, trade associations, national and local government, NGOs and Media
A working model of the CBA in Excel format.	Number of excel workbooks to be submitted.	Academia, Policy Makers, RE policy and governance experts, trade associations, national and local government, NGOs, and Media

⁹ Please refer to the Results Guideline

7. Budget

Please note that this budget follows the structure of the IFR template.

Title	Budget	Comments
Activities carried out by the NFP	€ 80,000	
Call for proposals (national level: € 400.000 of the available budget dedicated to a call for proposals on the 'first in-first served ' basis until the available funding of the call is exhausted. As far as the fields of activities are concerned, the NFP proposes to use the Pissarides report as a basis for a selection of activities of common interest for both Greece and Norway. On top of the Pissarides report, an additional field, which could be a topic relevant to the Mitigation of COVID-19 problems in economies is proposed.	€ 400,000	
Pre-defined activities (total budget for planned pre-defined activities at national level)	€ 811,620	
GR-INNOVATION	€ 150,000	
GR-ROMAINCLUSION	€ 50,000	
GR-LOCALDEV	€ 50,000	
GR-ENVIRONMENT	€ 100,000	
GR-ENERGY	€ 100,000	
GR-GOODGOVERNANCE	€ 100,000	
GR-HOMEAFFAIRS	€ 125,000	
GR-HOMEAFFAIRS (FMO)	€ 125,000	
Funds still to be allocated	€ 242,380	
Total	€ 2,334,000	

Η απόφαση αυτή να δημοσιευθεί στην Εφημερίδα της Κυβερνήσεως.

Αθήνα, 22 Μαρτίου 2022

Ο Υφυπουργός

ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΤΣΑΚΙΡΗΣ



ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΤΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΕΙΟ

Το Εθνικό Τυπογραφείο αποτελεί δημόσια υπηρεσία υπαγόμενη στην Προεδρία της Κυβέρνησης και έχει την ευθύνη τόσο για τη σύνταξη, διαχείριση, εκτύπωση και κυκλοφορία των Φύλλων της Εφημερίδας της Κυβερνήσεως (ΦΕΚ), όσο και για την κάλυψη των εκτυπωτικών - εκδοτικών αναγκών του δημοσίου και του ευρύτερου δημόσιου τομέα (ν. 3469/2006/Α' 131 και π.δ. 29/2018/Α' 58).

1. ΦΥΛΛΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΔΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΕΩΣ (ΦΕΚ)

- Τα **ΦΕΚ σε ηλεκτρονική μορφή** διατίθενται δωρεάν στο **www.et.gr**, την επίσημη ιστοσελίδα του Εθνικού Τυπογραφείου. Όσα ΦΕΚ δεν έχουν ψηφιοποιηθεί και καταχωριστεί στην ανωτέρω ιστοσελίδα, ψηφιοποιούνται και αποστέλλονται επίσης δωρεάν με την υποβολή αίτησης, για την οποία αρκεί η συμπλήρωση των αναγκαίων στοιχείων σε ειδική φόρμα στον ιστότοπο **www.et.gr**.

- Τα **ΦΕΚ σε έντυπη μορφή** διατίθενται σε μεμονωμένα φύλλα είτε απευθείας από το Τμήμα Πωλήσεων και Συνδρομητών, είτε ταχυδρομικά με την αποστολή αιτήματος παραγγελίας μέσω των ΚΕΠ, είτε με ετήσια συνδρομή μέσω του Τμήματος Πωλήσεων και Συνδρομητών. Το κόστος ενός ασπρόμαυρου ΦΕΚ από 1 έως 16 σελίδες είναι 1,00 €, αλλά για κάθε επιπλέον οκτασέλιδο (ή μέρος αυτού) προσαυξάνεται κατά 0,20 €. Το κόστος ενός έγχρωμου ΦΕΚ από 1 έως 16 σελίδες είναι 1,50 €, αλλά για κάθε επιπλέον οκτασέλιδο (ή μέρος αυτού) προσαυξάνεται κατά 0,30 €. Το τεύχος Α.Σ.Ε.Π. διατίθεται δωρεάν.

• Τρόποι αποστολής κειμένων προς δημοσίευση:

Α. Τα κείμενα προς δημοσίευση στο ΦΕΚ, από τις υπηρεσίες και τους φορείς του δημοσίου, αποστέλλονται ηλεκτρονικά στη διεύθυνση **webmaster.et@et.gr** με χρήση προηγμένης ψηφιακής υπογραφής και χρονοσήμανσης.

Β. Κατ' εξαίρεση, όσοι πολίτες δεν διαθέτουν προηγμένη ψηφιακή υπογραφή μπορούν είτε να αποστέλλουν ταχυδρομικά, είτε να καταθέτουν με εκπρόσωπό τους κείμενα προς δημοσίευση εκτυπωμένα σε χαρτί στο Τμήμα Παραλαβής και Καταχώρισης Δημοσιευμάτων.

- Πληροφορίες, σχετικά με την αποστολή/κατάθεση εγγράφων προς δημοσίευση, την ημερήσια κυκλοφορία των Φ.Ε.Κ., με την πώληση των τευχών και με τους ισχύοντες τιμοκαταλόγους για όλες τις υπηρεσίες μας, περιλαμβάνονται στον ιστότοπο (**www.et.gr**). Επίσης μέσω του ιστότοπου δίδονται πληροφορίες σχετικά με την πορεία δημοσίευσης των εγγράφων, με βάση τον Κωδικό Αριθμό Δημοσιεύματος (ΚΑΔ). Πρόκειται για τον αριθμό που εκδίδει το Εθνικό Τυπογραφείο για όλα τα κείμενα που πληρούν τις προϋποθέσεις δημοσίευσης.

2. ΕΚΤΥΠΩΤΙΚΕΣ - ΕΚΔΟΤΙΚΕΣ ΑΝΑΓΚΕΣ ΤΟΥ ΔΗΜΟΣΙΟΥ

Το Εθνικό Τυπογραφείο ανταποκρινόμενο σε αιτήματα υπηρεσιών και φορέων του δημοσίου αναλαμβάνει να σχεδιάσει και να εκτυπώσει έντυπα, φυλλάδια, βιβλία, αφίσες, μπλοκ, μηχανογραφικά έντυπα, φακέλους για κάθε χρήση, κ.ά.

Επίσης σχεδιάζει ψηφιακές εκδόσεις, λογότυπα και παράγει οπτικοακουστικό υλικό.

Ταχυδρομική Διεύθυνση: Καποδιστρίου 34, τ.κ. 10432, Αθήνα	Ιστότοπος: www.et.gr
ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ: 210 5279000 - fax: 210 5279054	Πληροφορίες σχετικά με την λειτουργία του ιστότοπου: helpdesk.et@et.gr
ΕΞΥΠΗΡΕΤΗΣΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΥ	Αποστολή ψηφιακά υπογεγραμμένων εγγράφων προς δημοσίευση στο ΦΕΚ: webmaster.et@et.gr
Πωλήσεις - Συνδρομές: (Ισόγειο, τηλ. 210 5279178 - 180)	Πληροφορίες για γενικό πρωτόκολλο και αλληλογραφία: grammateia@et.gr
Πληροφορίες: (Ισόγειο, Γρ. 3 και τηλεφ. κέντρο 210 5279000)	
Παραλαβή Δημ. Ύλης: (Ισόγειο, τηλ. 210 5279167, 210 5279139)	
Ωράριο για το κοινό: Δευτέρα ως Παρασκευή: 8:00 - 13:30	

Πείτε μας τη γνώμη σας,

για να βελτιώσουμε τις υπηρεσίες μας, συμπληρώνοντας την ειδική φόρμα στον ιστότοπό μας.

