



2020 | EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS 2014–2021 STATUS REPORT | SLOVENIA

BACKGROUND

In terms of the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants in Slovenia, Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy acts as the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation programme and of the Education – Enhancing Human Capital programme and as the Operator of the Fund for Bilateral Relations.

2020 was a **challenging year** requiring adaptation to new circumstances.

Nevertheless, many activities under the programmes and funds were carried out and significant **progress** in the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants in Slovenia was made.



Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation programme





Increased renewable energy production.

Enhanced sustainable mobility management.

Capacity for Circular Economy strengthened.

Improved management of ecosystems under climate change pressure.

Enhanced collaboration between the Slovene and Donor States' institution involved in the programme.



Education – Enhancing Human Capital programme







Improved institutional cooperation at all levels of education with a focus on improving skills for work and life in 21st century.

Education and social environment to support disadvantaged groups improved.

Improved work-life balance.

Improved skills for **good governance** and **cooperation** in the provision of **child victim services**.

Enhanced collaboration between the Slovene and Donor States' institution involved in the programme.

Other programmes and funds under the EEA and Norway Grants 2014–2021 in Slovenia are as follows:

Fund for Bilateral Relations managed by the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy **Active Citizens Fund** managed by CNVOS in consortium with Institute PIP and DRPD Novo mesto. **Social Dialogue – Decent Work** programme managed by Innovation Norway.

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2020 OVERVIEW

Implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014–2021 in 2020

National Focal Point

The Decree on the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014–2021 in the Republic of Slovenia was issued in November 2020.

Annual meeting with the Donor States was held in October 2020 to evaluate the progress in the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants in Slovenia, especially in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Most of **information and communication activities** in 2020 had to be adapted to the situation; certain activities were postponed to 2021, while others were implemented in an online format.

Programme Operator

The majority of the implemented activities were dedicated to preparing the **Calls for proposals** and making them ready to be published in 2021.

The project **Children's House/Barnahus** implemented by the Ministry of Justice under the Education – Enhancing Human Capital programme was approved. It is a pilot project based on the "Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children's House Act" which will ensure appropriate treatment of child victims, with a comprehensive support from highly qualified professionals provided in one place, in a child-friendly and safe environment.

Bilateral relations

The **Fund for Bilateral Relations** is an instrument designed to strengthen cooperation and increase mutual knowledge and understanding between the Donor and Beneficiary States. The purpose of the Fund is to financially support a wide range of activities that have a clear bilateral profile and contribute to strengthening bilateral relations.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, certain pre-agreed bilateral activities under the Fund were postponed or carried out in a different form. All of the planned activities under the bilateral initiative **Research on equal opportunities in national diplomacies** were implemented by the end of 2020.

Decree on the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants in Slovenia











About EEA and Norway Grants

The EEA and Norway Grants represent the contribution of **Iceland**, **Liechtenstein** and **Norway** towards a green, competitive and inclusive Europe. They pursue two overall objectives, i.e. to **reduce economic and social disparities in Europe**, and to **strengthen bilateral relations between the Donor Countries and 15 EU countries** in the Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. The three Donors cooperate closely with the EU through the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA).

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