



# Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment Rules of the open call for the project proposals Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites

Cabinet Regulations governing the implementation of the programme	18 February 2020 Cabinet Regulation No. 93 "Regulations for the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment" (hereinafter Cabinet Regulation No. 93)		
Programme	Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment (LV-CLIMATE)		
Programme operator	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development		
Project proposal selection type	Open call		
Open call name	Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites		
Financial conditions	The programme budget available for projects within the open call amounts to EUR 11,000,000.  Programme budget available for one project:  - minimum: EUR 1,000,000  - maximum: EUR 4,350,000  Maximum programme support rate: 85% of the total eligible costs of the project. The project applicant shall provide own budget of at least 15% of the total eligible costs of the project.		
Deadline for submitting project proposals	Project proposal submission start date: 5 June 2020 Project proposal end date: 7 December 2020		
Method of submitting project proposals	Only in the form of an electronically signed document, sent to email: <a href="mailto:sanacija@varam.gov.lv">sanacija@varam.gov.lv</a>		
Contact information for queries:	Only sent questions to email: sanacija@varam.gov.lv		

#### I General issues

- 1. On 14 December 2017, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Latvia signed a Memorandum of Understanding <sup>1</sup>on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021 in Latvia. The Memorandum of Understanding provides for the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment (hereinafter the Programme). On 23 April 2019, an agreement was signed by and between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia on the implementation of the Programme<sup>2</sup>.
- 2. The Programme aims to mitigate climate change and reduce vulnerability by it. Taking into account the special interest of the Programme in the remediation of contaminated areas, an open call of project proposals **Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites** (hereinafter open call) is organised within the Programme.
- 3. The aim of the open call is to support the remediation of historically contaminated sites with a view to improving the quality of soil, ground, groundwater or surface water, restoring and improving the quality of the environment in and around contaminated sites and to prevent public health and environmental hazard.
- 4. Through the implementation of the open call projects, the Programme aims to achieve the following output and result indicators:

	Description	Indicators	Achievable value
Outcome 3	Reduced risk of pollution from polluted sites	Number of inhabitants benefitting from reduced risk of polluted sites	30,000
Output 3.1	Improved environmental	Number of sites remediated	3
	conditions of polluted sites	Number of awareness raising campaigns carried out	3

- 5. The project applicant may ask questions about the open call and preparation of the project proposal by sending them electronically to the e-mail (<a href="mailto:sanacija@varam.gov.l">sanacija@varam.gov.l</a>) no later than three business days before the deadline for the submission of the project proposals.
- 6. The Programme Operator shall answer the received questions electronically within three business days after the receipt of the question, but not later than one business day before the deadline for submission of project proposals. The Programme Operator shall publish

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.eeagrants.lv/files/MoU NOR 2014-2021 LAV.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.eeagrants.lv/files/VARAM Klimataprogrammasligums 23042019.pdf

# II Requirements for project applicants and project partners

- 7. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 20 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, the project applicant is a local government, direct or indirect administration institution, port authority or special economic zone authority, which is responsible for the port.
- 8. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 22 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, the project applicant shall implement the project alone or together with one or more project partners. The following may be involved in the implementation of the project as project partners:
  - 8.1. A direct administration institution of the Republic of Latvia or a derivate public person, or its institution;
  - 8.2. An association, foundation or merchant registered in the Republic of Latvia only in relation to the public awareness activities implemented within the project;
  - 8.3. legal entity governed by public or private law from the donor state (Kingdom of Norway) and the beneficiary states of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Croatia, Estonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary).
- 9. If a project partner from Norway is involved in the implementation of the project activities, the project application will be awarded additional two points in the quality assessment. Additional two points in quality assessment may also be obtained if the public awareness activities are implemented in cooperation with the project partner, a non-governmental organization registered in the Republic of Latvia, the donor state or the beneficiary states of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism.
- 10. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 21 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, the project applicant may apply for the project budget under the open call if:
  - 10.1. the project activities are planned to be implemented in the territory that meets the following conditions:
    - 10.1.1. it is a historically contaminated site where the "polluter pays" principle cannot be applied because the person responsible for contamination no longer exists and there is no direct successor of such a person, and the State or local authorities could not prevent such contamination;
    - 10.1.2. the real property, in the territory of which the historically contaminated site is located, is the property of the State or local government and it is the property of or in possession of the project applicant;
    - 10.1.3. it has been registered in the Register of Contaminated and Potentially Contaminated Sites and has been recognized as a contaminated site in accordance with its data;
    - 10.1.4. the project proposal has been submitted by the deadline specified in the notification;

- 10.1.5. the project involves implementing a public awareness campaign on topical environmental and climate issues;
- 10.1.6. the project objective is in line with national development planning documents.
- 11. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 18 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, aid for activities carried out within the project may not be qualified as aid for commercial activity in accordance with the features characterising aid for commercial activity referred to in Section 5 of the Law on Control of Aid for Commercial Activity. The project applicant shall provide appropriate justification in the project application form.
- 12. The project applicant, its Board or Council Member, beneficial owner, a person entitled to represent it or its procurator, or a person authorised to represent the project applicant in activities related to the branch, and the project partner (and its relevant officers) shall not be subject to sanctions under Section 11.<sup>2</sup> of the Law on International Sanctions and National Sanctions of the Republic of Latvia.

# III Supported actions and eligible costs

- 13. Within the framework of the project, only eligible activities specified in Paragraph 11 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93 can be planned:
  - 13.1. project administration;
  - 13.2. elimination of the source of contamination;
  - 13.3. remediation of the contaminated site;
  - 13.4. disposal of contaminated material removed during the remediation process, if it does not generate revenue;
  - 13.5. establishment of a post-project monitoring network for the project site;
  - 13.6. organisation of events for exchange of experience, knowledge and best practices between the project promoter, project partner from Latvia and the project partner from the states referred to in Paragraph 8.3 of the Rules of the open call for attaining the project objectives (these activities can be planned in the project only if a project partner from the states referred to in Paragraph 8.3 of the Rules has been involved);
  - 13.7. public awareness campaign;
  - 13.8. publicity measures for the project.
- 14. In addition to remediation work, the project must include a public awareness campaign including at least two public awareness events regarding topical climate and environmental issues in order to inform and educate the public, such as organising seminars, information campaigns or developing publications, including through various communication channels (media (for example, periodicals, TV, radio, video) and the Internet (including social media), outdoor media (for example, billboards, posters) and other solutions. Note that the project applicant must earmark at least 2% of the total eligible costs of the project, but not less than EUR 50,000 for the implementation of these measures.

- 15. Eligible costs shall be planned in the project proposal in accordance with the conditions specified in Paragraph 13.3 of the Cabinet Regulation No.93, and the following may be envisaged in the project:
  - 15.1.direct eligible costs:
    - 15.1.1. project administration costs that shall not exceed five percent of the total eligible costs of the project:
      - 15.1.1.1. staff remuneration costs (salary, social security);
      - 15.1.1.2. costs of domestic and foreign business trips (work trips) of the staff involved in the administration of the project in accordance with the limits of expenses specified in the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips;
      - 15.1.1.3. costs of preparation of the report by an independent and certified auditor, if a partner not registered in the Republic of Latvia has been involved in the project;
    - 15.1.2. costs of remediation work, including construction work, and costs of building and infrastructure demolition related to the remediation work project;
    - 15.1.3. costs of services related to the implementation of rehabilitation works:
      - 15.1.3.1. costs of engineering supervision (including supervision of rehabilitation works, construction supervision, engineering consulting and research);
      - 15.1.3.2. costs of legal and other consultancy services;
    - 15.1.4. costs related to implementation of the experience, knowledge and best practice exchange events, public awareness campaigns and project publicity measures: rent of premises, translation services, domestic and foreign travel expenses of persons participating in the event in accordance with the limits of expenses specified in the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips, costs of other supply and service agreements necessary for the organisation and provision of the event;
    - 15.1.5. costs of establishing a monitoring network;
  - 15.2.indirect eligible costs, including costs related to the rent of premises, costs of utilities, costs of purchasing office supplies, equipment and software, and other costs indirectly linked to the administration of the implementation of the project, shall be calculated as a single cost item at a flat rate of 15% of the staff remuneration costs, or actual indirect costs not exceeding 15% of staff remuneration costs.
- 16. The costs in the project application shall be planned in accordance with the conditions for expenditure eligibility referred in Paragraphs 16 and 17 of Cabinet Regulation No 93.

17. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 17.1 of the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, the project implementation period and eligibility period for the costs shall not exceed 30 April 2024.

# IV Submission of project proposals

- 18. The project applicant shall draft and submit the project proposal in one copy <u>only in the form of an electronic document</u> signed by a secure electronic signature containing a time stamp, using electronic mail, sending it to the e-mail address: <u>sanacija@varam.gov.lv</u>. The project applicant will receive an automatic system notification regarding receipt of the e-mail, but it will be opened and the identity and validity of the electronic signature will be checked only after the deadline for submission of project proposals.
- 19. The project proposal must be submitted by the deadline for submission of project proposals specified in the notice, i.e. by 23:59 on the last day of the deadline. The moment when the project proposal is received at the e-mail address specified in Paragraph 17 of these selection Rules shall be considered the moment of submission of the project. If the project proposal is submitted after the project proposal submission deadline, it will not be evaluated and the project applicant will receive a notification from the Programme Operator about refusal to evaluate the project proposal.
- 20. By submitted the project proposal must be observed:
  - 20.1.In accordance with the Paragraph 25 of the Rules of the Open Call the file containing the project proposal and its annexes must be inserted with a password protected archive (\*.zip; \* 7z, etc.) and encrypted with an AES—256 algorithm. The project applicant after the deadline for submission of project proposals will sent a password to the Programme Operator for the opening project proposal;
  - 20.2. The maximum amount of e-mail message data with attachments shall not be more than 50 MB. If the amount of the e-mail message and the attached files, which containing the project proposal and its annexes, exceeds the maximum allowable amount, individual annexes of the project proposal (except the detailed project budget) shall be sent in an additional e-mail in accordance with Paragraph 23 of the Rules of the Open Call;
  - 20.3. The project application form and annexes must be formatted in a way that the files can be opened with standard computer software (for example, *Microsoft Office, Apache Open Office, Adobe Reader*, etc.). If a specific computer program is required to read a file and it is not available to Programme Operator, the information contained in this file will not be evaluated
- 21. The project proposal consists of the project application form (Annex 1 to the Rules), its annexes and additional documentation to be submitted. The annexes to the project application and additional documentation to be submitted are:
  - 21.1. detailed project budget (project application form Annex 1, Excel file);
  - 21.2.documentation certifying the title or right of possession of project applicant to the real property (for example, a printout from the Land Register, or another) where the remediation works will be performed within the project

as well as the right to access and perform the remediation work (including construction work) in the real property where the project is intended to be implemented (if the property cannot be accessed via a public road, documentation shall be submitted regarding the established road easement, agreement regarding use of the access road or otherwise);

- 21.3.developed cost-benefit analysis (CBA), which includes the following sections: economic analysis, analysis of alternatives, risk analysis, project financing plan, project cash flow plan, fixed cost analysis after completion of remediation work, amount of project promoter credit obligations, an indicative remediation, including construction work, cost estimate and other sections justifying, supplementing or proving any result of the calculations specified in other sections of the CBA, or other information necessary to substantiate the significance, necessity and economic feasibility of the project;
- 21.4. cartographic material showing the area subject to remediation, including the cadastral data (cadastral designation) of the land units and the locations of the main activities (elimination of the source of contamination, remediation of the contaminated area, related infrastructure constructed or demolished during the project, etc.);
- 21.5. documents demonstrating the degree of readiness of the project (the documents shall be added as an annexes or shall be indicate a public databases or websites where these documents are available):
  - 21.5.1. documentation of the initiated or completed environmental impact assessment or the initial environmental impact assessment procedure in accordance with the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment, or a certification that the environmental impact assessment is not applicable;
  - 21.5.2. a developed remediation task in accordance with the Law on Pollution;
  - 21.5.3. detailed investigation documentation (defined amount of contaminants and fixed sources of contamination, planned remediation method defined);
  - 21.5.4. detailed list of work to be done and timetable;
  - 21.5.5. technical specifications for procurement of remediation works;
- 21.6. declaration(s) signed by the project partner confirming willingness to participate in the project and to enter into the partnership agreement if the project proposal is approved (if applicable).
- 22. The annexes of the project proposal shall be numbered sequentially. In addition to the annexes specified in these Rules, the project applicant may attach other documents that it considers necessary for quality assessment of the project proposal.
- 23. Each project applicant may submit only one project proposal. If the project applicant has submitted several project proposals, only one project proposal submitted closer to the deadline for submission of project proposals, will be evaluated.
- 24. The project proposal cannot be adjusted after its submission and until the decision is made. If the project applicant wishes to adjust the project proposal by project proposal

submission deadline, it shall withdraw the project proposal submitted earlier and shall resubmit the project proposal. If the project applicant wishes to attach additional documents to the submitted project proposal, it shall send such to the e-mail address: <a href="mailto:sanacija@varam.gov.lv">sanacija@varam.gov.lv</a> by the project proposal submission deadline, with a clear reference to the previously submitted project proposal.

# V Project selection procedure

- 25. Evaluation of the project proposals shall be carried out by a project selection committee formed by the Programme Operator (hereinafter the Selection Committee) and consisting of five voting members (including the Chairman); the Committee shall be chaired by the Chairman, who shall be a representative of the Programme Operator. The non-voting member of the Selection Committee shall be the Donor Programme partner. Representatives of the Managing Authority, the Norwegian Embassy in Riga and the Financial Mechanism Office<sup>3</sup> shall participate in the status of observers.
- 26. In the next day after the deadline for the submission of project proposals:
  - 26.1. the Programme Operator send a request to the each project applicant and use the communication channels (e-mail address) specified by the Programme Operator the project applicants within two working days shall be submitted a password for the opening of the project proposals. If the passwords are not submitted within the specified time period, the project proposals shall not be evaluated;
  - 26.2. the Programme Operator open the project proposals received by the deadline and assign identification numbers to them and send a confirmation of receipt of the project proposal and the identification number to the project applicant.
- 27. The Selection Committee shall provide for the evaluation of project proposals in accordance with the evaluation criteria (administrative, eligibility and quality criteria) set forth in Annex 2 to the Cabinet Regulation No. 93, in accordance with the evaluation methodology set forth in Annex 3 to these Rules. The Committee shall observe confidentiality in its work and shall avoid any conflict of interest.
- 28. The Selection Committee shall involve independent experts to evaluate the project proposals who are selected by the Programme Operator in an open procedure. Each project proposal shall be evaluated on the basis of the quality evaluation criteria by at least two external independent experts. If the total number of points allocated by experts differs by more than 30% for all quality criteria (calculated from the highest number of points allocated), the evaluation of the specific project proposal shall be performed by a third expert on the quality criteria. The expert's evaluations have a recommendatory character.
- 29. If the project proposal does not meet any of the administrative or eligibility criteria that cannot be clarified, or does not receive the required minimum number of points under quality criterion 3.1, based on the conclusion of the Selection Committee shall recommend to the Programme Operator to reject it by stating the reasons for the rejection.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Financial Mechanism Office is an institution established by the states of the European Free Trade Association, which operates the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism on the donors' side.

- 30. Given the total number of points awarded to each project proposal under quality evaluation, the Selection Committee shall rank the projects in descending order according to the number of points. If several projects have received the same number of points, priority will be given to projects that have received the highest score under criterion 3.4. If the same number of points is obtained under this criterion as well, the project with the highest score under criterion 3.2 or 3.3 will be given priority, depending on whether the remediation is carried out in the aquatic environment or in the soil.
- 31. Prior to conclusion on project proposal, the Selection Committee will verify whether, in accordance with International and Latvian National Sanctions Law, the project applicant, its Board or Council Member, beneficial owner, person entitled to represent or procurator, or the person authorized to represent the project applicant in activities related to the branch, and, where applicable, the project partner(s) or its respective officials, has not been subjected to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market.
- 32. If the Selection Committee established that the project applicant or any of its relevant officials is subject to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market, based on the conclusion of the Selection Committee shall recommend to the Programme Operator to reject project proposal.
- 33. If the Selection Committee established that the project partner or any of its relevant officials is subject to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market, based on the conclusion of the Selection Committee shall recommend to the Programme Operator will request replacing such partner or excluding it from participation in the project. If the project applicant fails to comply with such a request, the Programme Operator to reject project proposal.
- 34. The conclusion of the Selection Committee which the project proposal is proposed for approval, conditional approval or rejection shall be drawn up in the form of the meeting protocol or a decision of the written procedure.

# VI Making the decision on the project proposal

- 35. Based on the conclusion of the Selection Committee, the Programme Operator shall issue a decision:
  - 31.1. regarding the approval of the project proposal;
  - 31.2. regarding the approval of the project proposal with a condition;
  - 31.3. regarding the rejection of the project proposal.
- 36. The Programme Operator shall take a decision on the approval, conditional approval or rejection of the project proposal within four months after the deadline for submission of project proposals. Considering that the Selection Committee shall be performed the evaluation of the project proposals sequentially following the administrative, eligibility and quality criteria, if the project proposal does not conform to the non-specified administrative and eligibility assessment criteria, the Programme Operator may take a decision regarding the rejection of such project proposal upon receipt of the relevant opinion by the Selection Committee without waiting for the conclusion of the evaluation process.

- 37. The Programme Operator shall take a decision regarding the rejection of the project proposal if the project proposal does not meet any of the project proposal evaluation criteria that cannot be clarified.
- 38. The Programme Operator shall take a decision regarding approval of the project proposal with a condition discussed in SubParagraph 31.1 herein if the project proposal does not meet any of the project proposal evaluation criteria that can be clarified.
- 39. If the Programme Operator has made a decision on the conditional approval of the project proposal, the project applicant must perform the actions specified in the decision within one month, so that the project proposal fully complies with the project proposal evaluation criteria and the project could be properly implemented. Conditions may apply to adjusting the project budget by eliminating calculation errors in it, adjusting costs within regulatory cost limits, clarifying implementation timelines, eliminating contradictory information in the project proposal, providing additional explanations to prove compliance with the relevant criteria, etc. The fulfilment of the conditions shall not affect the result of evaluation of the project proposal quality criteria.
- 40. The Programme Operator shall issue a conclusion regarding fulfilment of the conditions set forth in the decision within one month after receipt of the supporting documents and the revised project proposal. At the same time the Programme Operator shall gain confidence that on the closest date prior to the fulfilment of the conditions (even if the conditions have been specified for other criteria) the project applicant or the project partner (if applicable) do not have a tax debts exceeding EUR 150. If the conditions set forth in the decision of the Programme Operator regarding conditional approval of the project proposal are not fulfilled or if at the moment of fulfilment of the conditions tax debts exceeding EUR 150 will be established for the project applicant or the project partner, if applicable, the project proposal will be rejected.
- 41. The decision on the approval of the project proposal shall be taken if it meets the criteria for the evaluation of project proposals and funding for the implementation of the projects is available within the framework of the open call.
- 42. The Programme Operator shall inform the project applicant about the decision taken within five business days from the date of the decision.
- 43. The decision of the Programme Operator to approve, conditionally approve or reject the project proposal is a management decision. The decision may be challenged within one month after notification of the decision by submitting an application to the State Secretary of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development. The decision of the State Secretary of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development regarding the challenged decision of the Programme Operator is not appealable.

### VII Entering into the Project Agreement and Partnership Agreement

44. In order to avoid paying the Programme funds to subjects included in the list of sanctions, prior to entering into the Project Agreement, the Programme Operator will verify whether, in accordance with International and Latvian National Sanctions Law, the project applicant, its Board or Council Member, beneficial owner, person entitled to represent or procurator, or the person authorized to represent the project applicant in activities related to the branch, and, where applicable, the project partner(s) or its respective officials, has not been subjected to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the

- European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market.
- 45. If it is established that the project applicant or any of its relevant officials is subject to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market, the Programme Operator will not enter into the Project Agreement.
- 46. If it is established that the project partner or any of its relevant officials is subject to international or national sanctions or significant sanctions of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Member State affecting the interests of the financial and capital market, the Programme Operator will request replacing such partner or excluding it from participation in the project. If the project applicant fails to comply with such a request, the Programme Operator will not enter into the Project Agreement.
- 47. The Project Agreement (Annex 3 to the Rules) shall be entered into not later than within 30 business days from the date the decision approving the project proposal or the conclusion regarding the fulfilment of the conditions included in the decision has entered into force.
- 48. The Programme Operator may extend the deadline for entering into the Project Agreement specified in Paragraph 43 of these Rules not exceeding, in total, 60 business days after the date the decision approving the project proposal or the conclusion regarding the fulfilment of the conditions included in the decision has entered into force.
- 49. If the project applicant fails to enter into the Project Agreement by the deadlines specified in Paragraphs 43 and 44 of these Rules, the agreement with the project applicant shall not be entered into.
- 50. The project applicant shall submit the draft Partnership Agreement to the Programme Operator within 10 business days from the date the decision approving the project proposal or the conclusion regarding the fulfilment of the conditions included in the decision has entered into force.
- 51. The project applicant and the project partner must enter into Project Partnership Agreements within 40 business days after entry into force of the project Agreement and must submit a copy of the Partnership Agreement to the Programme Operator within 15 business days after entering into the Partnership Agreement.

# VIII Payment procedure

- 52. Payments shall be made to the project promoter other than direct public administration authorities. The project implemented by the direct public administration authority is prefunded from the state budget.
- 53. The project promoter may request the advance payment of up to 20% of the Programme budget allocated to the project for the implementation of the project. The project promoter must cover the advance paid with the actual costs paid within 12 months after the date of payment of the advance.
- 54. The project promoter shall submit a project report every 6 months. Intermediate payments shall be made by the Programme Operator no later than within 20 business days after receipt of the report, in accordance with the expenditure certified in the project report, by covering a portion of the advance paid with the expenditure of each approved report.
- 55. The total amount of the advance and interim payments shall not exceed 90% of the Programme grant allocated to the project. The Programme Operator shall make the final payment no later than within 60 business days after receipt of the Final Report.

#### IX. Additional information

- 56. The project applicant must provide for the information and publicity measures specified in the project proposal in accordance with the requirements of the laws and regulations and the requirements of the Financial Instrument Bureau Communication and Design Manual (<a href="https://eeagrants.lv/files/EEA\_CommunicationAndDesignManual\_WEB.pdf">https://eeagrants.lv/files/EEA\_CommunicationAndDesignManual\_WEB.pdf</a>), subject also to the requirements for use of the financial instrument logotype.
- 57. During the implementation of the project, the project applicant shall ensure publication of the current project information on the project applicant's website in the project section in Latvian and English. When publishing information on project activities on the project applicant's website, the project applicant shall provide a link to the single Norwegian Financial Mechanism website (www.norwaygrants.lv).
- 58. These Rules and all other matters relating to the evaluation of project proposals the Programme Operator and the project applicant shall be considered together with the following documents:
  - 58.1. <u>Regulations on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism</u> 2014-2021 and its annexes;
  - 58.2.all <u>guidelines</u> adopted by donor states and published on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism website (<u>www.norwaygrants.lv</u>);
  - 58.3. <u>European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 Management Law;</u>
  - 58.4.16 November 2018 Cabinet Regulation No. 683 "European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2020 Management Regulations";
  - 58.5.18 February 2020 Cabinet Regulation No. 93 "Regulations for the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment";
  - 58.6.other adopted laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia in environmental and pollution area;
  - 58.7. Commercial Aid Control Law;
  - 58.8.Commission Notice on the notion of State aid as referred to in Article 107(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (2016/C 262/01).
- 59. If any mismanagement of funds of the financial instruments, conflict of interest or corruption in the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms is suspected, the Financial Mechanism Office, the Managing Authority or any other authority (the Ombudsman of Latvia, the State Audit Office, The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau, etc.) responsible for the successful implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms must be notified. Complaints and applications may be submitted in person, by mail and electronically. For more information on the institutions to report to see: <a href="https://www.eeagrants.lv/?id=122">https://www.eeagrants.lv/?id=122</a>.
- 60. The Rules of the Open Call is published on the Programme Operator website: <a href="http://www.varam.gov.lv/lat/fondi/grants/EEZ\_2014\_2021/">http://www.varam.gov.lv/lat/fondi/grants/EEZ\_2014\_2021/</a> un <a href="www.norwaygrants.lv">www.norwaygrants.lv</a> in Latvian and English.