

Norwegian Financial Mechanism programme “Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment”

Status: In progress

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The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (MoEPRD) offers support to the project applicants of the Open Call "Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites" in finding project partners from Latvia. The Deadline for submitting project proposals is 7 December 2020. The Open Call will support projects to clean up historically polluted sites. In addition to remediation work, the project must include also a public awareness campaign. The project implementation period and eligibility period for the costs shall not exceed 30 April 2024.

Those Norway organizations who are interested in this offer must complete [partner search form](#). It will be necessary to provide in this form details of your organization and offer for activities and experience in the fields covered by Open Call, as well as information about the role of potential partner. The information about Norwegian organizations seeking partnership in Latvia will be published on the MoEPRD [website](#).

We would encourage those willing to find their project partners in good time to complete and submit the form as soon as possible. The completed forms should be e-mailed to norwaygrants@varam.gov.lv with a reference - Application for Finding a Project Partner in Latvia.

The potential project partners from Norway may be involved as, for example, project remediation experts, or for the purposes of implementation of the public awareness campaigns, or for organizing specific activities for exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices.

Please note that as part of preparing a project application, the project partner from Norway should also sign a partnership statement confirming their commitment to the project. In case of a project award, it will be necessary to sign a Partnership Agreement with the project partners after concluding a Project Agreement.

More information about an Open Call is available [here](#).



Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development as operator for Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment (hereinafter the Programme) announces the open call for project proposals Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites (hereinafter the Open Call). 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.

What kind of project are supported?

The Open Call will support projects to clean up a historically polluted 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. 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.

The project implementation period and eligibility period for the costs shall not exceed 30 April 2024.

Who can apply?

The eligible project applicant is a local government, direct or indirect administration institution, port authority or special economic zone authority, which is responsible for the port. Each project applicant may submit only one project proposal. 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, such as:

direct administration institution of the Republic of Latvia or a derivate public person, or its institution;

an association, foundation or merchant registered in the Republic of Latvia - only in relation to the public awareness activities implemented within the project;

legal entity governed by public or private law from the donor country (Kingdom of Norway) and the beneficiary countries of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Croatia, Estonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary).

What is the available funding?

The total programme budget available for projects within the Open Call amounts to EUR 11,000,000. Programme co-financing available for one project:

minimum: EUR 1,000,000

maximum: EUR 4,350,000

Maximum project grant rate is 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.

How to apply?

The project applicant shall submit the project proposal only in the form of an electronic document signed by a secure electronic signature containing a time stamp, using electronic mail, sending it to the e-mail address: sanacija@varam.gov.lv.

The Deadline for submitting project proposals is 7 December 2020. The project proposal must be submitted by 23:59 on the last day of the deadline.

More detailed information can be found in the Open Call documentation:

No	Document	Download
1.	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"	Cabinet Regulation 93

1.1.	Annex 1: Values for outcome and output indicators to be achieved in the programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment	Annex 1
1.2.	Annex 2: Open call Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites criteria for evaluation of project applications	Annex 2
2.	Rules of the open call for the project proposals (translation) (with amendments on December 9th, 2020)*	Rules of Open Call
2.1.	Project Application Form (must be filled in Latvian)	Project Application form
2.2.	Detailed budget form (must be filled in Latvian)	Detailed budget form
2.3.	Project Evaluation Methodology (for information)	Evaluation methodology
2.4.	Draft Project Agreement (for information)	Project agreement

** Amendments have been made to point 25 of the Rules, changing the composition of selection committee from three to five voting members, taking into account the addendum to the Programme Agreement.*

[Video on requirements of Open call](#)

The Programme Operator has prepared an informative video on the most important requirements of the Open Call to help successfully participate in the Open Call and apply for Norway Grants support for the implementation of the project.

Contents:

- 0:00 Start
- 3:18 Project applicant and project partner
- 4:52 Support for attracting Norwegian partners
- 6:20 Conditions for participation in the open call
- 8:08 Supported activities
- 10:08 Public awareness campaign
- 12:46 Eligible costs
- 16:09 Project application preparation, design and submission
- 18:01 Filling in the project application form
- 36:19 Attachments to Project application
- 40:50 Bilateral Cooperation Fund
- 43:47 Conclusion

Information on how projects are selected?

Evaluation of the project proposals shall be performed according with Annex 1 of 18 February 2020 Cabinet Regulation No. 93 and carried out by a project selection committee formed by the Programme Operator. Based on the conclusion of the Selection Committee, the Programme Operator shall issue a decision on regarding the approval of the project proposal, regarding the approval of the project proposal with a condition or regarding the rejection of the project proposal within four months after the deadline for submission of project proposals.

Questions?

The questions about the Open Call and preparation of the project proposal may be asked by sending them electronically

to the e-mail address (sanacija@varam.gov.lv). Answers to the received questions will be given 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.

Frequently asked questions and answers will be available here.

Contact information for queries:

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Investment Supervision Department

Project Monitoring Division

E-mail: sanacija@varam.gov.lv

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Detailed information on Norwegian Financial Mechanism is available on website www.norwaygrants.lv



On April 23 2019, an agreement has been signed 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 Norway Grants programme "Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment" (Programme) in Latvia.

Programme Operator: on December 14 2017 Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Latvia on the implementation of the Programme, that defines Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (MEPRD) as the Programme Operator.

The total allocation for the Programme: ~16.5 million *euros* (Norway Grants allocation 14 million (85%) and national co-financing ~2.5 million (15%) *euros*).

Objective: Climate change mitigated and vulnerability to climate change reduced.

The following activities have been planned in the Programme

by the spring of 2024, the Programme will contribute towards addressing climate and environmental issues in accordance with 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"", which includes:

two pre-defined projects:

MEPRD project "Integration of climate change policy in sectoral and regional policies" implemented in partnership with the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, the Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre and the Norwegian Environment Agency;

Ministry of Agriculture project "Enhancement of sustainable soil resource management in agriculture" implemented in partnership with the University of Latvia, the Latvian State Forestry Research Institute "Silava", the State Plant Protection Service and the Norwegian Institute for Bioeconomy Research.

an Open Call "Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites" dedicated on remediation of polluted sites;

Initiatives under the Fund for Bilateral Relations;

Programme administrative costs.

Pre-defined projects:

MEPRD project "Integration of climate change policy in sectoral and regional policies" envisages:

- the development and implementation of various tools for integrating climate change policies into sectoral and regional policies where within the framework of the project, a regional data collection and reporting system, an electronic database on ozone-depleting substances and F-gases will be developed;

- the national warning system will be improved, the latest data on Latvian coastal erosion will be developed, as well as other results will be achieved.

The Ministry of Agriculture project "Enhancement of sustainable soil resource management in agriculture" aims to improve climate policy planning and update national soil data, thus promoting sustainable land management and strengthening climate change adaptation capacity.

Open Call "Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites":

Aim - 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 reduce risk to human health and environment;

Eligible applicants – local government, direct or indirect administration institution, port authority or special economic zone authority, which is responsible for the port;

Each project applicant may submit only one project proposal;

An open call is intended to support the remediation of at least three historically polluted sites.

Fund for Bilateral Relations supports:

activities aiming at strengthening bilateral relations between Norway and Latvia;

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;

networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, experience and best practice between the co-financing beneficiaries and Norway and/or international organizations;

activities aiming at strengthening cooperation and exchanging experiences and best practices between the Programme Operator and similar entities within the Beneficiary States and Norway, as well as international organizations, provided that at least one entity within Norway is involved in the activity.

The Donor Programme Partner: the Norwegian Environment Agency

More detailed information is available at the National Focal Point's website: www.norwaygrants.lv

<https://www.varam.gov.lv/en/projects/norwegian-financial-mechanism-programme-climate-change-mitigation-adaptation-and-environment>