

Regulations for the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment

Issued pursuant to Paragraphs 2 and 12 of Section 15 of the [European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 Management Law](#)

I. General issues

1. The Regulation sets forth the following regarding the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment (hereinafter the programme):
 - 1.1. the objective, the funding available and the results to be achieved;
 - 1.2. to operator and predefined project applicants;
 - 1.3. supported activities in the projects and predefined projects;
 - 1.4. conditions for eligibility of predefined project and project costs;
 - 1.5. requirements for project applicants and project partners;
 - 1.6. the procedure for amending the project agreement and the conditions for unilateral termination of the project agreement;
 - 1.7. the procedure for implementation of activities of the fund for bilateral relations;
 - 1.8. project application evaluation criteria.
2. The objective of the programme is to mitigate climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.
3. The total funding available for the programme is EUR 16,470,588, consisting of a 15 percent co-financing from the Latvian state budget of EUR 2,470,588 and a co-financing of 85 percent from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism of EUR 14,000,000.
4. The programme co-financing available within the framework of the open call Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites (hereinafter the open call) is EUR 11,000,000 and the aid intensity of the programme co-financing does not exceed 85% of the total eligible costs of the project.
5. The programme includes:
 - 5.1. two predefined projects:
 - 5.1.1. the predefined project Integration of Climate Change Policy into Sectoral and Regional Policies of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development implemented in partnership with the Central Statistical Bureau, the state limited liability company Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre and the Norwegian Environment Agency;
 - 5.1.2. the predefined project Enhancement of Sustainable Soil Resource Management of in Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture implemented in partnership with the University of Latvia, Latvian State Forestry Research Institute Silava, State Plant Protection Service and Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research;
 - 5.2. open call;

- 5.3. activities under the fund for bilateral relations;
- 5.4. programme management activities.

6. The programme aims to achieve the result and outcome indicators specified in Annex [1](#) to this Regulation.

7. The programme operator is the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development.

8. The donor programme partner is the Norwegian Environment Agency.

9. The Cooperation Committee shall be composed of two representatives of the programme operator and one representative of the donor programme partner as voting members. A representative of the programme operator shall chair the Cooperation Committee. The programme operator shall invite representatives of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Managing Authority and the Financial Mechanism Office to attend meetings of the Cooperation Committee as observers. The programme operator shall provide for the functioning of the Cooperation Committee in accordance with the Rules of the Cooperation Committee.

II. Eligible activities of predefined projects and projects

10. The following activities are supported within the predefined projects:

10.1. administration of the predefined project;

10.2. activities for exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices;

10.3. drafting documents and gathering information to analyse the output and result indicators of the predefined project;

10.4. activities directly related to the performance of the requirements specified in the project agreement;

10.5. other activities aimed at the achievement of the objective of the programme or the predefined project and agreed by the authorities of the donor state;

10.6. publicity measures for the predefined project.

11. The following activities are supported within the projects:

11.1. project administration;

11.2. elimination of the source of contamination;

11.3. remediation of the contaminated sites;

11.4. disposal of contaminated materials removed during the remediation process, if there is no revenue generated;

11.5. establishment of a monitoring network;

11.6. events for the exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices between the co-financing beneficiary, the project partner from Latvia and the project partner from the states referred to in Subparagraph 22.3;

11.7. public awareness campaign;

11.8. publicity measures for the project.

12. In implementing the campaign referred to in Subparagraph 11.7 of this Regulation, the project shall include at least two public awareness events on current environmental and climate issues.

III. Conditions for eligibility of the programme, predefined projects and project costs

13. The following costs are eligible under the programme:

13.1. management costs of the programme operator:

13.1.1. direct eligible costs directly linked to the management of the programme, including staff remuneration costs;

13.1.2. indirect eligible costs (including costs related to rent of premises, cost of utilities, costs of purchasing office supplies, equipment and software, and other costs indirectly linked to the administration of the preparation and implementation of the programme) calculated as a flat rate of 10 percent of the direct eligible staff remuneration costs;

13.2. eligible costs of the predefined project:

13.2.1. direct eligible costs of the predefined project:

13.2.1.1. staff remuneration costs (wages, social guarantees and leave), as well as the costs of mandatory health examinations determined in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the remuneration of officials and employees of state and local government institutions, as well as the internal regulations of the respective institution regarding performance of job duties;

13.2.1.2. costs of domestic and foreign business trips (work journeys) of the persons involved in the implementation of the predefined project in accordance with the norms of expenses specified in the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips;

13.2.1.3. costs of preparation of the report of an independent and certified auditor, if a partner not registered in the Republic of Latvia is involved in the implementation of the predefined project;

13.2.1.4. costs of organising meetings of the Cooperation Committee;

13.2.1.5. costs of external expertise and services;

13.2.1.6. costs of purchasing new equipment;

13.2.1.7. costs of implementing the measures referred to in Subparagraphs 10.2 and 10.6 of this Regulation:

13.2.1.7.1. rent of premises;

13.2.1.7.2. costs of translation services;

13.2.1.7.3. costs of domestic and foreign business trips of the persons involved in the event in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips;

13.2.1.7.4. costs of other supply and service agreements necessary for the organization and provision of the event;

13.2.1.8. other costs related to the implementation of the predefined project which ensure achievement of the objective and results of the above project;

13.2.2. indirect eligible costs of the predefined project (including costs related to rent of premises, cost of utilities, costs of purchasing office supplies, equipment and software, and other costs indirectly linked to the administration of the implementation of the predefined project) calculated as a flat rate of 10 percent of the direct eligible staff remuneration costs;

13.3. the following costs are eligible under the project:

13.3.1. direct eligible costs of the project:

13.3.1.1. administrative costs not exceeding five percent of the total eligible costs of the project:

13.3.1.1.1. staff remuneration costs (salary, social guarantees);

13.3.1.1.2. costs of domestic and foreign business trips (work journeys) of the staff involved in the administration of the project in accordance with the norms of expenses specified in the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips;

13.3.1.1.3. costs of preparation of the report of an independent and certified auditor, if a partner not registered in the Republic of Latvia is involved in the implementation of the project;

13.3.1.2. costs of remediation (including construction) works and costs of demolition of constructions and infrastructure related to the remediation project;

13.3.1.3. costs of services related to the implementation of remediation works:

13.3.1.3.1. costs of engineering supervision (including supervision of remediation works, construction supervision, engineering consulting and research);

13.3.1.3.2. costs of legal and other advisory service agreements;

13.3.1.4. costs of implementing the measures referred to in of Subparagraphs 11.6, 11.7 and 11.8 of this Regulation:

13.3.1.4.1. rent of premises;

13.3.1.4.2. costs of translation services;

13.3.1.4.3. costs of domestic and foreign business trips of the persons involved in the event in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedure for reimbursement of expenses related to business trips;

13.3.1.4.4. costs of other supply and service agreements necessary for the organization and provision of the event;

13.3.1.5. costs of setting up a monitoring network;

13.3.2. 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. Indirect eligible costs shall be calculated by using one of the following methods:

13.3.2.1. as a flat rate of 15 percent of the costs referred to in Subparagraph 13.3.1.1.1 of this Regulation;

13.3.2.2. bases on the actual costs that do not exceed 15 percent of the costs referred to in Subparagraph 13.3.1.1.1 of this Regulation.

14. The minimum admissible programme co-financing per project shall be EUR 1,000,000 and the maximum programme co-financing shall be EUR 4,350,000.

15. At least two percent of the total eligible costs of the project, but not less than EUR 50,000 shall be allocated for the implementation of the campaign referred to in Subparagraph 11.7 of this Regulation.

16. The following costs are not eligible under the programme:

16.1. debt interest, loan servicing fees and default interest;

16.2. financial transaction fees and other financial charges, with the exception of costs related to reports required by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Managing Authority or required under the applicable laws and regulations, and costs of financial services specified in the Project Agreement;

16.3. provisions for losses or the settlement of contingent liabilities;

16.4. losses resulting from exchange rate fluctuations;

16.5. recoverable value added tax;

16.6. costs covered by other sources;

- 16.7. fines, penalties and costs of proceedings, except where the litigation relates to the achievement of the project objectives;
 - 16.8. excessive or unjustified expenses;
 - 16.9. all payments (including advances) and costs for actual supplies, works carried out and services provided outside the cost eligibility period specified in the project agreement;
 - 16.10. costs of preparation of the predefined project and the project;
 - 16.11. bonuses, rewards, gifts or any other benefit paid to staff, unless provided for in external laws and regulations regarding the determination of remuneration for the performance of the job duties;
 - 16.12. real property acquisition costs;
 - 16.13. vehicle acquisition costs;
 - 16.14. investment in infrastructure within the predefined projects;
 - 16.15. costs that exceed the cost limits referred to in Subparagraph 13.3.1.1 of this Regulation;
 - 16.16. other costs not mentioned in Subparagraphs 13.2 and 13.3 of this Regulation.
17. Costs are eligible within the predefined projects and projects if they have been incurred by the co-financing beneficiary or the project partner and that they meet the following conditions:
- 17.1. they have been incurred during the cost eligibility period up to 30 April 2024. Costs invoiced in the last month of the cost eligibility period are also considered eligible if the payment is made within 30 days after the end date of the eligibility period;
 - 17.2. they are proportionate and necessary for the implementation of the predefined project or the project and to attain the objective of the predefined project or the project and have been included in the approved budget of the predefined project or the project;
 - 17.3. they have been made in accordance with the principles of usefulness, economy and efficiency;
 - 17.4. they have been made in compliance with the legal framework for public procurement;
 - 17.5. separate computerised accounting for the use of co-financing in the predefined project or the project is provided, separating the costs incurred in the predefined project or the project from other costs;
 - 17.6. they have been specified in the predefined project or project report and are certified by documents supporting expenditure;
 - 17.7. the start date of the eligibility period for the predefined project is the date on which the Managing Authority notifies the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the conclusion of the programme operator giving a positive assessment of the project.
18. Within the scope of this Regulation, no aid is provided to the activities of the project applicant or project partner that qualify as Aid for Commercial Activity.

IV. Requirements for project applicants and project partners

19. 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 the contaminated sites and preventing threat to public health and environment.
20. 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.
21. The project applicant can apply for co-financing within the open call if:

21.1. the project activities are planned to be implemented in the territory that meets the following conditions:

21.1.1. it is a historically contaminated site where the 'polluter pays' principle cannot be applied because the person responsible for the contamination no longer exists and there is no direct legal successor of such a person, and the State or local government authorities could not prevent occurrence of such contamination;

21.1.2. the real property, in the territory of which the historically contaminated area is located, is state or local government property and it is the property or in possession of the project applicant;

21.1.3. 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;

21.2. the project application has been submitted by the deadline specified in the notification;

21.3. the project involves a public awareness campaign on topical environmental and climate issues;

21.4. the project objective is in line with the national development planning documents.

22. The project applicant shall implement the project alone or together with one or more project partners. A project partner can be:

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

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

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

23. The project applicant shall prepare and submit the project application in accordance with the requirements of the rules of the open call and the project application evaluation criteria referred to in Annex [2](#) of this Regulation.

V. Making amendments to the project agreement and unilateral withdrawal from the agreement

24. Amendments to the project agreement shall be made in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedure how the institutions involved in the management of the financial mechanism provide for the management of the financial mechanism, insofar as Paragraphs [25](#) and [26](#) of this Regulation do not provide for a different procedure for making amendments.

25. If the amendments involve a change in the budget of a predefined project or the within one activity and the budget item cost increase does not exceed 10 percent of the cost planned under the budget item (except for remediation costs) and it can be covered by savings under another budget item, no prior consent of the programme operator is required to make such amendments and the co-financing beneficiary shall inform the programme operator about such when submitting the predefined project or project report.

26. If the proposed amendment affects the result and outcome indicators of the programme, the program operator shall coordinate it with the Cooperation Committee prior to the approval of such amendment proposal.

27. If the proposed amendment to the project agreement cannot be made without an amendment to the programme agreement, the amendment to the project agreement shall be approved after the relevant amendment to the programme agreement has been approved by the institutions of the donor state in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedure how the institutions involved in the management of the financial mechanism provide for the management of the financial mechanism.

28. The programme operator shall have the right to unilaterally withdraw from the Project Agreement in any of the following cases:

28.1. the co-financing beneficiary fails to comply with the project agreement, including failure to meet the deadlines specified in the project agreement;

28.2. the co-financing beneficiary no longer uses the values created or purchased in the framework of the predefined project or the project for the intended purposes;

28.3. the breach committed by the co-financing beneficiary leads to circumstances that have or may have an adverse effect on the achievement of the programme objective, its result or output.

VI. Fund for bilateral relations

29. Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding, EUR 100,000 have been allocated for the implementation of the bilateral cooperation initiatives of the programme (hereinafter the fund for bilateral relations), which is co-financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism at 100 percent. The implementation of initiatives of the fund for bilateral relations requires the participation of a public or private person from the donor state.

30. The Cooperation Committee shall take a decision approving or rejecting the initiative of the fund for bilateral relations.

31. Funding from the fund for bilateral relations is available to promote cooperation between Latvian and Norwegian institutions:

31.1. for the programme operator - for programme level activities;

31.2. for co-financing beneficiaries of predefined projects and projects - for networking, exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices.

32. The fund for bilateral relations initiatives include:

32.1. activities aimed at strengthening bilateral relations between the donor state and Latvia;

32.2. promotion of donor state project partnerships before and during the development of predefined project applications;

32.3. networking, exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices between the co-financing beneficiaries and the donor state institutions or international organizations;

32.4. activities aimed at strengthening cooperation, exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices between the programme operator and similar bodies in the beneficiary states and in the donor state or international organizations, provided that at least one institution from the donor state is involved in the activity.

33. If the activity referred to in Paragraph [32](#) of this Regulation is implemented by a fund for bilateral relations co-financing beneficiary who:

33.1. is not a Latvian state budget institution, it shall initially cover the expenses from its own funds. Within 30 days after the implementation of a fund for bilateral relations initiative, the co-financing beneficiary shall prepare and submit to the programme operator the fund for bilateral relations initiative review form, together with the supporting documentation. The certified costs

shall be reimbursed by the programme operator within 20 business days after receipt of copies of supporting documents;

33.2. is a state budget institution, but not the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development or its subordinate institution, the programme operator shall plan in the budget of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development the transfer of expenditure to other sectoral ministries and other central state institutions involved in the implementation of the above activities. Within 30 days after the implementation of a fund for bilateral relations initiative, the co-financing beneficiary shall prepare and submit to the programme operator the fund for bilateral relations initiative review form, together with the supporting documentation;

33.3. is the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, it shall, within 30 days after the implementation of a fund for bilateral relations initiative, the co-financing beneficiary shall prepare and submit to the programme operator the fund for bilateral relations initiative review form, together with the supporting documentation.

Prime Minister *A.K. Kariņš*

Minister of Environmental Protection and
Regional Development *J. Pūce*

Annex 1
to the
18 February 2020 Cabinet
Regulation No. 93

Values for result and outcome indicators to be achieved in the programme Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environment

	Description	Indicators	Baseline	Achievable value
Result 1	Improved climate change policy development and implemented at all levels ¹	Improved National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory System according to Paris Convention of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,% ²	50	75
		Number of public institutions ³ with improved capacity to develop and apply the climate change policy	0	16
		Overall positive score in the report Climate Change Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard of the European Union, % ⁴	60	80
Outcome 1.1	Additional national climate change policy planning tools developed	Number of tools for improving climate change policy planning and implementation developed	0	3
Outcome 1.2	Enhanced national warning systems developed	Number of new meteorological warning criteria for meteorological phenomena	0	5

		developed		
Outcome 1.3	Climate change policy integrated into sectoral and regional policies and activities	Number of experts trained regarding integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation aspects into sectoral and regional policies and activities (disaggregated by gender)	0	100
		Number of recommendations for improvement of laws and regulations ⁵ for integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation aspects into sectoral and regional policies and activities	0	6
Outcome 1.4	Competence base for combatting coastal erosion improved	National up to date coastal erosion assessment completed	No	Yes
		Set of possible solutions to abate coastal erosion developed	No	Yes
Result 2	National soil data for climate change policy planning updated	Climate-related soil information improved	No	Yes
		Number of public institutions with improved capacity in sustainable soil management	0	5
		Number of stakeholder organizations ⁶ benefitting from the updated database and maps	0	8
Outcome 2.1	Availability of reliable, country-specific soil information in agricultural land improved	Map of peat soil distribution in agricultural lands developed	No	Yes
		National soil classification system updated	No	Yes
		Number of experts trained to perform soil description and mapping according to the national and international FAO World Reference Base soil classification	0	10
		Number of soil profile data updates in the historical soil database	0	15,000
		Soil mapping methodology developed	No	Yes
Outcome 2.2	Soil carbon monitoring system on agricultural land established	Number of soil carbon monitoring sites in agricultural land established	0	200
Outcome 2.3	GHG emission calculation system improved	Number of GHG emission factors calculated ⁷	0	3
Result 3	Reduced risk of pollution from polluted sites	Number of inhabitants benefitting from reduced risk of	0	30,000

		polluted sites		
Result	Improved environmental conditions of polluted sites	Number of awareness raising campaigns carried out	0	3
		Number of sites remediated	0	3
Result of bilateral cooperation	Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme	Level of satisfaction with the partnership (disaggregated by State type)	Will be developed	≥ 4.5 and growth at baseline
		Level of trust between cooperating entities in Beneficiary States and Donor States (disaggregated by State type)	Will be developed	≥ 4.5 and growth at baseline
		Share of cooperating organizations that apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership (disaggregated by State type)	N/A	$\geq 50\%$
Result	Maintained partnerships between Beneficiary States and Donor States institutions	Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner (disaggregated by Donor State)	0	2
		Number of training courses co-organized by donor state and beneficiary state entities	0	8

Notes.

¹ Includes national, regional, local levels and different sectors.

² Positive score - decrease in % of additional findings on the Report on the individual review of the annual submission of Latvia submitted in 2016 (<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2017/arr/lva.pdf>) (Baseline) and the latest Report on the individual review of the annual submission of Latvia (Target).

³ Nacional and local level institutions.

⁴ Positive score – 'In place'/ 'Yes' or 'In progress' on the EU Adaptation preparedness scoreboard (https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/consultations/docs/0035/lv_en.pdf).

⁵ The mandatory requirement will be identified sector by sector.

⁶ The stakeholder organisations included governmental bodies, sector interest organisations, municipalities/municipality association and scientific institutions.

⁷ National emission factors for CO₂, CH₄ and direct N₂O emissions/removal for drained organic soils (cropland drained, grassland deep drained, nutrient rich). Method: closed-chamber method for

collecting of gas samples. Gas sampling once a month in five replicates from each study site for 24 months study period. Content of the gasses in the samples is going to be determined by gas chromatographic system.

Annex 2
to the
18 February 2020 Cabinet
Regulation No. 93

Open call Mitigation of Risks Related to Historically Contaminated Sites criteria for evaluation of project applications

No.	Criterion	Evaluation	
1. Administrative criteria			
1.1.	The project application has been submitted within the deadline specified in the notification	N	
1.2.	All sections have been completed in the project application form	P	
1.3.	The financial details of the project application are given in euro	P	
1.4.	The project application is prepared in Latvian (except the sections of the project application form, where the form is required to be completed in English) and all the documents specified for submission in the Rules (prepared in Latvian or featuring attached their translation into Latvian) are attached to it.	P	
1.5.	The project application is executed in accordance with the requirements of the laws and regulations governing the circulation of electronic documents, including that the project application has been signed with a secure electronic signature	N	
1.6.	The project application form has been signed by a person entitled or authorized to represent the institution of the project applicant	P	
2. Eligibility criteria			
2.1.	The project applicant complies with the type of the project applicant specified in the 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 the Cabinet Regulation)	N	
2.2.	The project applicant and its partner, if it is from the Republic of Latvia, have no tax debts in the Republic of Latvia, including debts of mandatory state social insurance contributions, for the total amount exceeding 150 euro for each one of them	P	
2.3.	The project partner corresponds to the type of project partner defined in the Cabinet Regulation	N/ (NA)	
2.4.	There is a public awareness campaign planned in the project, which will include at least two awareness-raising activities on topical environmental and climate issues	N	
2.5.	The objective of the project is in line with the objective of the open call specified in the Cabinet Regulation	N	
2.6.	The project application describes the climate change risks that justify the impact on the spread of contamination	P	
2.7.	The number of population in the administrative area where remediation is	N	

	carried out and which will benefit from a reduced risk of contamination following the implementation of the project is at least 4,000		
2.8.	The project objective is in line with national development planning documents	N	
2.9.	The planned outputs of the project are clearly defined, justified and measurable, and the project will contribute to the achievement of the program result and output indicators	P	
2.10.	The project is to be implemented in a historically contaminated area where the 'polluter pays' principle cannot be applied because the person responsible for the contamination no longer exists in the state and there is no direct legal successor, and the State or local government authorities could not prevent the occurrence of such contamination	N	
2.11.	The project is to be implemented in the area registered in the Register of Contaminated and Potentially Contaminated Sites and recognized as a contaminated site according to the details in the Register	N	
2.12.	The real property, in the territory of which the historically contaminated site is located, is the property of the State or local government and is owned or possessed by the project applicant	N	
2.13.	According to the project application, the programme co-financing:		
2.13.1.	intensity does not exceed the maximum intensity of the programme co-financing specified in the Cabinet Regulation	N	
2.13.2.	the amount is not less than the permissible minimum amount specified in the Cabinet Regulation or does not exceed the maximum amount established	N	
2.14.	Eligible costs, activities and cost items included in the project application comply with the Cabinet Regulation, including that they do not exceed the defined cost limits	P	
2.15.	The project cost-benefit analysis has been developed in accordance with the Project Application Selection Rules (including economic analysis, analysis of alternatives, risk analysis, project financing plan, project cash flow plan, fixed cost analysis after completion of remediation work, amount of loan obligations of the project promoter, indicative cost estimate of remediation (including construction works))	P	
2.16.	The project activities are planned to be completed by 30 April 2024	P	
2.17.	The information provided in the application confirms that the project applicant will ensure the sustainability of the project results and that the monitoring costs after remediation have been planned properly	P	
2.18.	The project applicant has sufficient administrative, implementation and financial capacity to implement the project	N	
2.19.	The project application does not include the activities, aid to which qualifies as commercial aid:		
2.19.1.	the territory intended for remediation within the framework of the project is publicly accessible	P	At least one of the sub-criteria must be met
2.19.2.	the aid to the planned activities within the framework of the project does not comply with at least one of the characteristics of commercial aid specified in Section 5 of the Commercial Aid Control Law (the sub-criterion is evaluated if negative evaluation has been received under sub-criterion 2.19.1)		
3. Quality criteria			
3.1.	Degree of readiness of the project during the research of the historically contaminated site (detailed research carried out in the last year before the submission of the project):		Must receive at least 1 point
3.1.1.	no environmental impact assessment or initial impact assessment procedure (if	0	

	applicable) has been initiated, no remediation task has been developed, the amount of contaminants and sources of contamination have not been determined or the planned remediation method has not been determined		
3.1.2.	environmental impact assessment or initial impact assessment procedure (if applicable) has been initiated or completed, remediation task has been developed, the amount of contaminants and sources of contamination have been determined as well as the planned remediation method has been determined	1	
3.1.3.	environmental impact assessment or initial impact assessment procedure (if applicable) has been initiated or completed, remediation task has been developed, the amount of contaminants and sources of contamination have been determined as well as the planned remediation method has been determined, a reasoned list of works to be done and time schedule have been prepared	3	
3.1.4.	environmental impact assessment or initial impact assessment procedure (if applicable) has been initiated or completed, remediation task has been developed, the amount of contaminants and sources of contamination have been determined, the planned remediation method has been determined, a reasoned list of works to be done and time schedule have been prepared, technical specifications for the procurement of remediation work has been developed	5	
3.2.	If it is planned to carry out soil remediation within the project - soil and ground quality standards established in the area indicate that:		The criterion gives extra points
3.2.1.	precautionary limit exceeded (B value)	1	
3.2.2.	critical limit exceeded (C value)	3	
3.3.	If it is planned to carry out remediation in water environment within the project - the water or soil quality standards established in the territory indicate that:		The criterion gives extra points
3.3.1.	chemicals hazardous to the aquatic environment have been found and their amount exceeds the annual average concentration in surface waters or threshold value in groundwater, or the first threshold value for soil quality	1	
3.3.2.	priority hazardous chemicals have been found and their amount exceeds the maximum permissible concentration in surface waters or threshold value in groundwater, or the second threshold value for soil quality	3	
3.4.	Territory of the contaminated area in the Baltic Sea Action Program:		The criterion gives extra points
3.4.1.	is not included in the so-called Hot Spots list as an active area	0	
3.4.2.	is included in the so-called Hot Spots list as an active area	3	
3.5.	The contaminated site:		The criterion gives extra points
3.5.1.	is not included in the <i>Natura 2000</i> network	0	
3.5.2.	is included in the <i>Natura 2000</i> network	1	
3.6.	The number of population in the administrative area where remediation is carried out and which will benefit from a reduced risk of contamination following the implementation of the project is:		The criterion gives extra points
3.6.1.	from 4,000 to 10,000 (exclusive)	0	
3.6.2.	from 10,000 to 30,000	3	
3.6.3.	more than 30,000	5	
3.7.	To implement the project activities:		The criterion
3.7.1.	a Norwegian project partner is not involved	0	

3.7.2.	a project partner - a governmental, local government or private or non-governmental organization registered as a legal entity in Norway - is involved and it contributes to the objectives of the project	2	gives extra points
3.8.	In implementing the public awareness campaign:		The criterion gives extra points
3.8.1.	the project partner, a non-governmental organization, is not involved	0	
3.8.2.	the project partner, a non-governmental organization, is involved	2	
3.9.	The public awareness campaign planned in the project includes:		The criterion gives extra points
3.9.1.	two public awareness events on topical environmental and climate issues, providing a description of planned activities and involvement of target groups	1	
3.9.2.	at least three public awareness events on topical environmental and climate issues, providing a description of planned activities and involvement of target groups	2	
3.9.3.	at least three public awareness events on topical environmental and climate issues and the input and role of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism in improving quality of the environment and mitigating the risk of contamination, providing a description of planned activities and involvement of target groups	3	

Notes.

1. N - if the evaluation is negative, the project application is rejected.

2. P - if a negative evaluation is received, the decision on the conditional approval of the project may be made (the project applicant ensures compliance with the criterion within the period specified in the decision), except where a negative evaluation is received under sub-criterion 2.19.1.

3. NA - not applicable. If the specified criterion is not applicable to the particular project applicant, the project shall not be evaluated in this criterion.