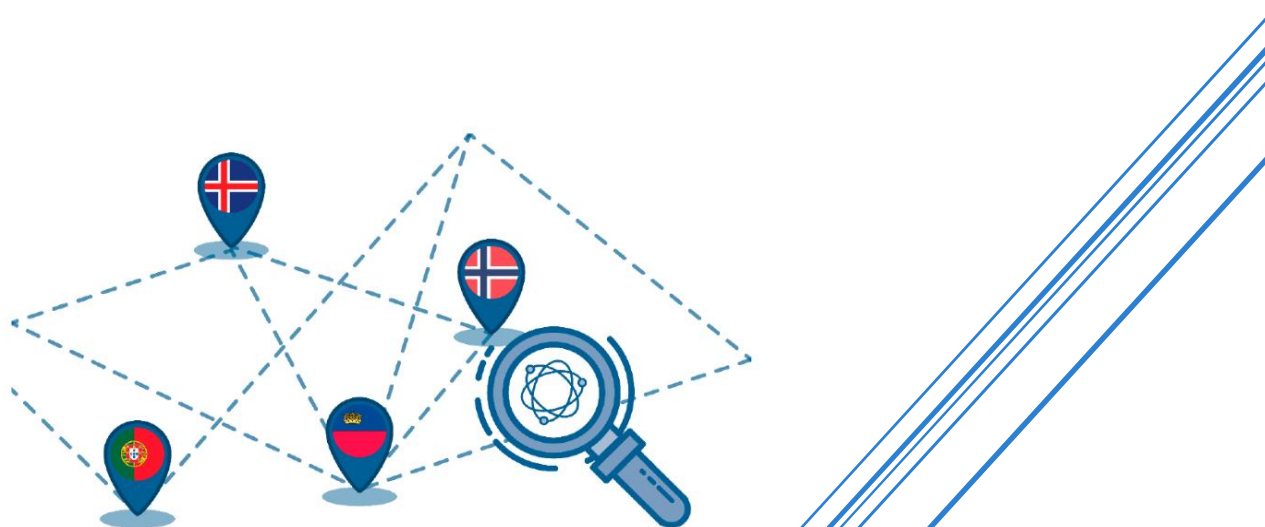


THE INCREASING ROLE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS

Common Solutions for shared challenges between Portugal
and Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein



May of 2025

EEA Grants Portugal 2014-2021
Programme Environment, Climate Change and Low
Carbon Economy

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Executive Summary

The reduction of existing economic and social disparities within the European economic area and the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between beneficiary countries and donor countries aiming to find common solutions to shared challenges has always been at the genesis of the creation of the EEA Grants, since the first financial mechanism established in Portugal between 1994 and 1999. Through the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement, signed in Porto in May 1992, the donor countries (Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein) committed to giving financial support to the Member States of the European Union with the highest deviations from the European GDP per capita average.

Throughout the several EEA Grants mechanisms implemented in Portugal, we have witnessed a gradual increase in the number of priority areas as well as an increase in the financial allocation. Under the current financial mechanism (2014-2021), a total of €102.7M was made available to the Environment Programme, which was divided between 5 program areas, and additionally by the Bilateral Relations Fund (BRF).

Bilateral relations have been playing an increasing role in the EEA Grants financial mechanisms. In the current, and particularly in the Environment Programme, we highlight the active role of partners of donor countries in 29 out of 60 projects. Within the scope of the Bilateral Relations Fund of the Environment Programme, around 12 bilateral initiatives were carried out, covering issues ranging from the Circular Economy to the Decarbonization of society.

The partnerships between the Portuguese promoters and donor entities aimed to meet areas such as the circular economy in non-reusable packaging and construction sectors, resilience to the effects of climate change, and support for the management and sustainability of biosphere reserves.

The main challenges faced in the partnership cooperation were the distance, the adequacy of the partner's expertise to the technical needs, and the administrative complexity. The main lesson learned from bilateral relations is the need to simplify application, approval, and reporting procedures.

Keywords: EEA Grants, Environment Programme, Portugal, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, European Economic Area, Financial Mechanism, Bilateral relations, Beneficiary countries, Donor countries.

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1) EEA Grants Framework

The EEA Grants is a financial instrument known as the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area (FM of EEA) through which Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein provide financial support to member states with the highest deviations from the European average GDP per capita. There are currently 15 countries benefiting from this mechanism, including Portugal.

In 1994, since the entry into force of the European Economic Area Agreement, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein, as Donor Countries, have contributed to the economic and social development of Portugal through financing priority areas such as the prevention of the proliferation of marine litter, promotion of circular economy principles in specific sectors or resilience to the effects of climate change. The two major EEA Grants goals, to which all projects and initiatives financed by the FM of EEA 2014-2021 contribute, are to simultaneously **reduce economic and social disparities and strengthen bilateral relations between beneficiary and donor countries**.

The 2014 - 2021 programming period represents the fifth financing cycle of EEA Grants in Portugal with a total financial allocation of 102.7 million euros split across five programs **which address five current challenges of the modern society** which includes: the **Blue Growth; Environment and Low Carbon Economy; Work-life balance**; the **Culture**; and **Active Citizens**. We should add the Bilateral Relations Fund to the five program areas defined above.

The strengthening of Bilateral Relations between donor and beneficiary countries is a landmark of the EEA Grants as a whole and, consequently, of the Environment Programme.

Under the current financial mechanism, the available allocation for the Bilateral Relations Fund was approximately 3 million euros, and the management and coordination responsibility was assigned to the National Focal Point (hereafter called NFP), which acts as a national focal point. The NFP, together with the *Joint Committee on Bilateral Relations* (JCBR), has the responsibility of supervising the evolution of the implementation of the fund, aiming to achieve the goals previously intended.

2) What is meant by Bilateral Relations and its main goals.

Bilateral relations between countries are understood as cooperation between their institutions and people at the administrative and political level, either by representing the private and public sector whether including the academy and the whole society. The accomplishment of bilateral relations can be carried out in two distinct ways, but of equal interest for both sides. On one hand, through direct partnerships with the promoters of the countries benefiting from the implemented projects, aiming to achieve the goals defined in the five programs already mentioned. On the other hand, through the Bilateral Relations Fund itself, which has its own endowment and covers a diverse set of initiatives between the parties, involving strategic cooperation, networking, exchange of experiences, sharing and transfer of knowledge, technology, and even good practices.

Therefore, bilateral relations represent initiatives across the EEA Grants financial mechanism, aiming to align the needs of beneficiary countries and those of the donor countries and other relevant stakeholders. These partnerships and activities accomplished along the program allowed the strategic articulation of the relationship with donor countries, networking, knowledge exchange, as well as the implementation of joint initiatives that go beyond the programs defined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The bilateral initiatives have as main goal to contribute to enhancing the mutual relationship between the parties involved, we have the following examples:

- ✓ Matchmaking events
- ✓ Technical cooperation and exchange
- ✓ Internships
- ✓ Training and intensive courses
- ✓ Seminars and workshops
- ✓ Study visits
- ✓ Studies and publications
- ✓ Campaigns, exhibitions, and advertising material

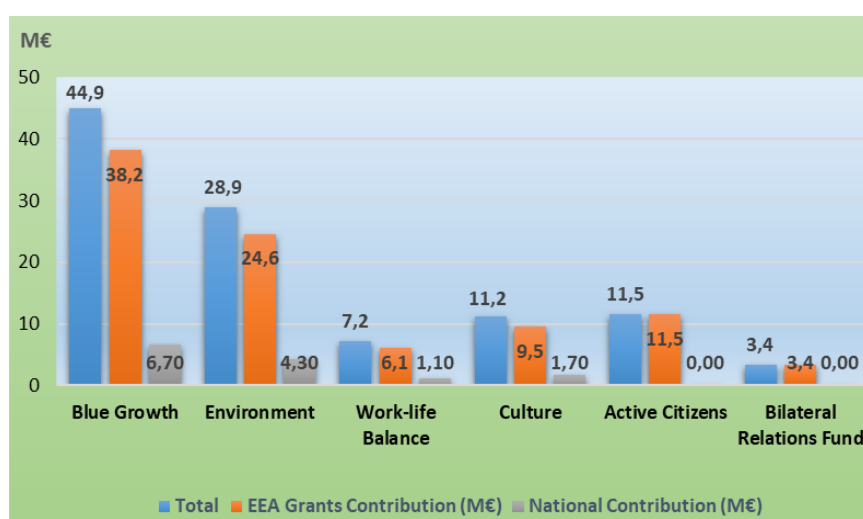
3) Financial Standpoint of FM of EEA 2014-2021

As mentioned before, Portugal benefited from this mechanism with a total amount of financing of 102.7M€, divided according to the following distribution (see graphs 1 and 2):

- i. **Blue Growth** represents a total amount of 44.9M€ (EEA Grants plus Portuguese Budget)
- ii. **Environment, Climate Change and Low Carbon Economy** with a total amount of 28.9M€ (EEA Grants plus Portuguese Budget)
- iii. **Work-life balance** was granted a total amount of 7.2M€ (EEA Grants plus Portuguese Budget)
- iv. **Culture** represents a total amount of 11.2M€ (EEA Grants plus Portuguese Budget)
- v. **Active Citizens Fund** with a total amount of 11.5M€ (EEA Grants plus Portuguese Budget)

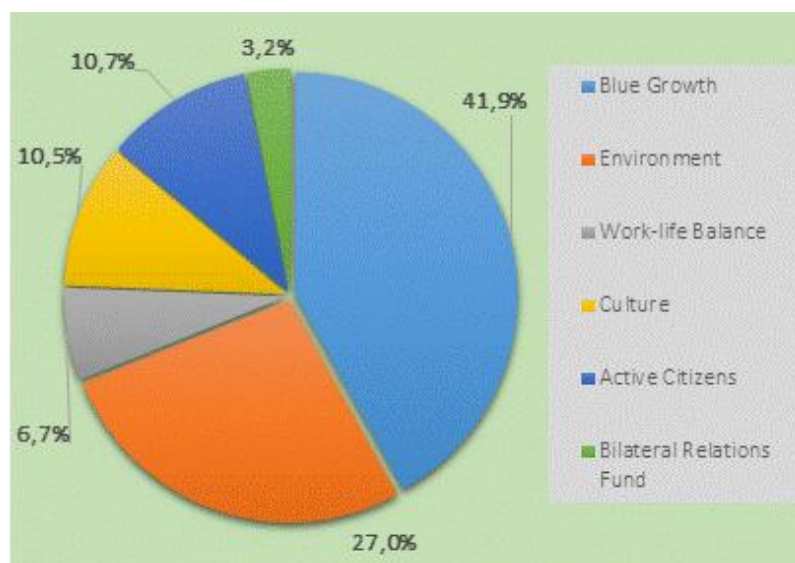
According to Article 4.6 from the FM regulation of EEA 2014-2021, each beneficiary country should reserve a minimum of 2% of the total allocation for this mechanism to finance the bilateral relations fund. Moreover, through the MoU, an amount of 2.054.000€ for RBF has been allocated. Based on the allocation given by the Reserve of article 1.11 of the RBF Regulation, this mechanism received a reinforcement of €903,000, totaling, as of June 21, 2021, the amount of €2.957.000 (approximately €3 million).

Graph 1 – Financial Allocation of FM EEA 2021-2021



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

Graph 2 – Relative share of the five programs of FM EEA 2014-2021



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

As you can see in the graphs above, **Blue Growth** was the program with the largest dimension from the FM EEA 2014-2021, totaling an amount of 44.9 M€ (EEA Grants plus OE), which represents a relative share of 42% in total financing of the mechanism. Next to Blue Growth is the **Environment Programme**, with a total available funding of 28.9M€, 27% of the total financing volume. The programs of **Culture**, **Work-life Balance**, and **Active Citizens**, jointly, account for approximately 28%. Finally, the bilateral relations fund represents a residual value, thus, only 3.2% of the total financing.

4) Qualitative assessment of the partnerships with donor countries: the Environment Programme case

Concerning the partnerships developed between donor countries and beneficiary countries, these may involve either the private or public sector, or even non-governmental entities (NGO) from both parties. The partnerships are mostly the result of thematic affinities or identification of shared challenges, which aim to deepen the work of the institutions on both sides.

Formally, there is a partnership agreement established with different partners, and at the same time, a contract is established between the partnership representative (promoter) and the Program Operator. These documents and respective annexes

regulate and bind both sides to the outcomes they intend to reach. Following the project approval and partnership signature, a set of responsibilities is assumed, which corresponds to the accomplishment of a set of activities, within a specific schedule and budget.

The Environment Programme attracted a total of 33 donor country participations across 29 projects out of a total of 60 deployed during the eligibility period (until the end of 2024). It should also be noted that the contribution of two partners from non-donor countries in the Call – *Promoting Circular Economy in the construction sector* comes from the Czech Republic and Romania.

The participation of all partners from donor and non-donor countries contributed, as already mentioned, to the sharing of knowledge or technology and exchange of experiences and know-how to tackle a common challenge, and through this interaction to find common solutions to shared challenges and reinforce knowledge in the areas of intervention of the projects.

Concerning **Outcome 1**⁽¹⁾, the partners of donor countries participated in 14 projects aiming to enhance the application of circular economy principles on the non-reusable beverage packaging sector, and, on the fight against the proliferation of marine litter, thus achieving the proposed goals in these priority areas. These initiatives have shown strong economic and environmental benefits, providing technical advice for a transition from traditional linear systems to circular approaches.

On one hand, these partnerships allowed us to design a regulatory framework for a future deposit and refund system of beverage bottles of glass, aluminum, and plastic (PET) in Portugal and pilot testing of this system, from which we highlight the role of Empower AS and Infinitum AS. On the other hand, they have significantly enhanced the efficiency in the use of materials and recycling of construction and demolition waste (CDW), through the development and implementation of innovative methodologies (e.g., life cycle analysis, passports, and protocols for circularity).

Regarding **Outcome 2**⁽²⁾, it should be emphasized that the results were reached through a unique and comprehensive project led by Quarternaire Portugal, S.A within the Call – *Fostering sustainable models for Biosphere Reserves*, targeting the

¹ According to FM EEA 2014-2021 regulation, Outcome 1 corresponds to the “Circular economy in specific sectors”

² According to FM EEA 2014-2021 regulation, Outcome 2 corresponds to the “Toolkit for valuation of biosphere reserves”

12 Portuguese biosphere reserves, carried out in partnership with two Norwegian entities (Nordhordland Utviklingsselskap IKS and Bergen University) and one from Iceland (Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO). These exchanges provided mutual benefits aligned with UNESCO's pillars of education, science, culture, and information and contributed directly to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As mentioned previously, the promoter Quaternaire Portugal S.A. is a company based in Portugal, which facilitated knowledge transfer and capacity-building efforts, enabling the development of the 12 Sustainable Development Plans. Portugal's extensive network of Biosphere Reserves served as a reference platform for sharing successful approaches and naturally provided a leading role in the partnership developed throughout the project.

Lastly, concerning **Outcome 3**⁽³⁾, 14 partners from donor countries have been actively involved in accomplishing the goal of enhancing the resilience against climate change. The fight against the negative effects of climate change was achieved through the application of adaptation and mitigation measures, which were achieved through Local Climate Change Plans, Riverside restoration, creation of Living labs for decarbonization of urban areas, and desertification prevention. In this context, we must highlight the role of Norwegian partners (e.g.: Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research) who played a crucial role in the promotion of the institutional alignment, knowledge transfer, and international cooperation.

The Bilateral Relations cooperation approach allows strengthening the bonds between countries, and connects entrepreneurs, firms, experts and scale-up researchers, investors, and other actors. Note that bilateral relations foster business cooperation in several areas related to the environment.

The Environment Programme bilateral relations fund initiatives work plan is based on very targeted actions, from a thematic point of view, aimed at discovering new partnerships, reinforcing others, and aiming at innovative-driven partnerships and the development of new markets. It was in this context that the 12 events were held during the program period, always a theme from both the Environment program and the Blue Growth Program, thus creating relevant "Sea-Environment" synergies. As an example, we mention the Bilateral Matchmaking Initiative Green Deal Event-Bulgaria, 3-5 June 2024, related to carbon capture and storage, digitalization of the sustainable blue economy, raw materials, and hydrogen for green transport.

³ According to FM EEA 2014-2021 regulation, Outcome 3 corresponds to the "Increased climate change resilience and responsiveness in targeted areas"

We would like to stress that the Bilateral Initiatives undertaken during 2018 were extremely important for exploring new partnerships aligned with priority areas of the Environment Programme. This work proved to be essential for the development and participation of donor countries in the Environment Programme projects. It also allowed for a methodological approach between the Environment Programme Operator and the Donor Country Partner, in particular Innovation Norway.

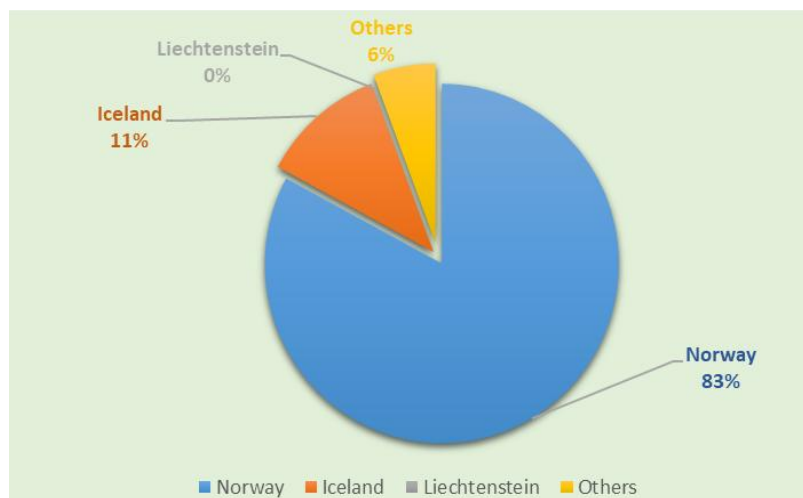
Furthermore, at the last stages of the implementation of Programme Environment, it was possible to get to know the results achieved from the closed projects, but also to establish bridges aiming at future partnerships and potential new projects. In this regard, we also should refer, as a good example, the initiatives developed in Portugal and in Norway for a sustainable and low-carbon construction sector.

5) Quantitative assessment of the partnerships with donor countries: the Environment Programme case

In the previous section (4. qualitative assessment), it was addressed the added value of the synergies achieved through the bilateral relations developed during the deployment of the 29 eligible projects and the events held within the scope of the Bilateral Relations Fund. In this section, we present some statistics on the partnerships developed under the Programme Environment and the activities carried out in the Bilateral Relations Fund (BRF).

It should be noted again, 33 participations were undertaken with donor countries, of which 29 were carried out with Norwegian partners, and only 4 with Icelandic partners. It is worth highlighting the participation of 2 partners from non-donor countries, however, with residual significance in the whole program. As illustrated in graph 3, Norway represents 83% of the partnerships carried out, and Iceland 11%, and the non-donor countries account for around 6% of the total.

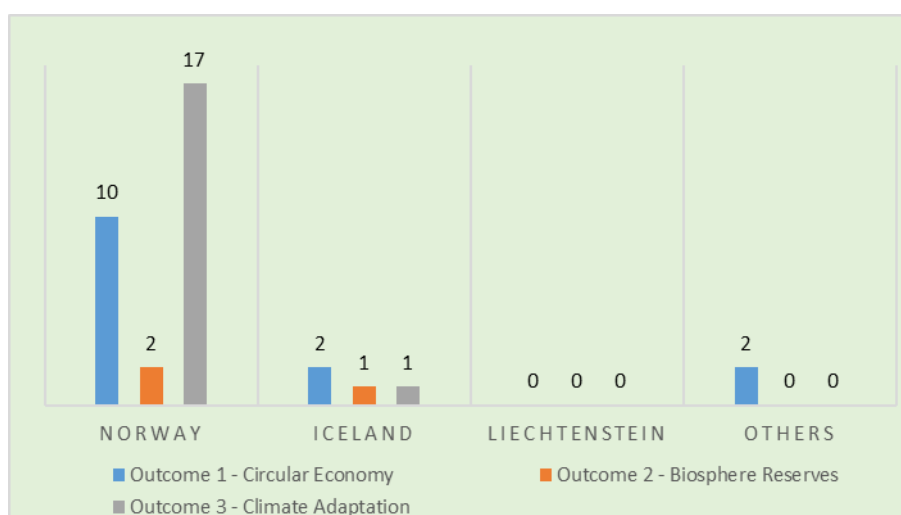
Graph 3 – Relative share of partnerships by country of origin.



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

From the Outcomes point of view, the circular economy and adaptation to climate change were the areas with the highest number of participations from donor countries, with 12 and 18 participations, respectively, standing out the leading role of Norway, representing, by each Outcome, 10 and 17 participations (see graph 4). Iceland and non-donor countries had an insignificant number of participations when compared with Norway.

Graph 4 – Number of participations of donor countries by priority area.

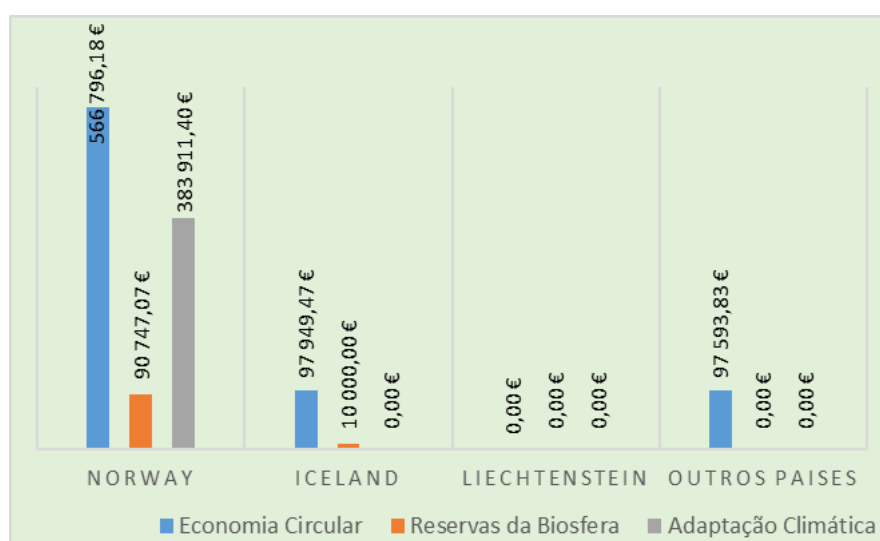


Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

Regarding the key financial figures, the “Environment Programme,” on FM EEA 2014-2021, made available to the donor countries (Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein), in the set of 29 projects, a total of 1,246,997.95€. This funding amount was distributed, by 762,339.48€ in **‘Decarbonization of Society (concrete measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change, at local level)’**, and finally, by 100,747.07€ in the **‘Valorisation of Biosphere Reserves’**. This endowment was distributed, considering the receiving country, as follows: i) Norway absorbed around 83% of the allocation (1.041M€); ii) followed by Iceland, 9% (0.108M€); iii) and other countries with 8% (€0.098M). Liechtenstein has not been involved in any project partnership, and as such, has not received any financial grant.

Moreover, concerning the number of participations, the Norwegian partners have, again, a key role, being the biggest recipients of the available financial amounts in all Outcomes (see graph 5).

Graph 5 – Financing amounts by donor country and priority area.



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

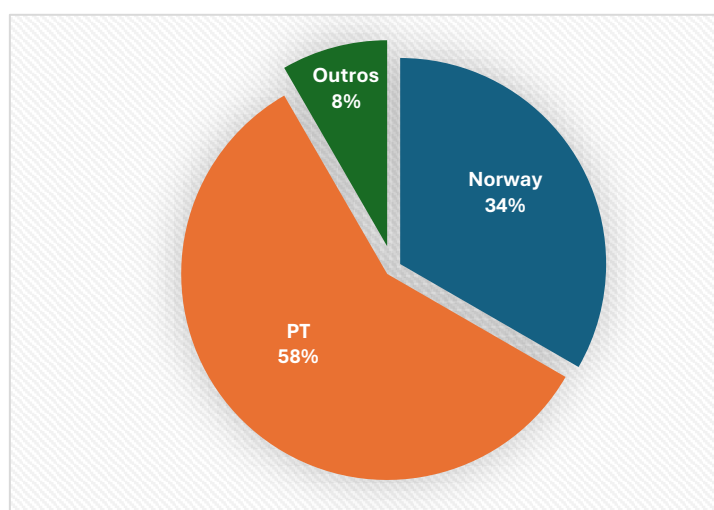
From an economic activity classification standpoint, it could be emphasized that the private sector accounts for 54% (14 participants) and the public sector represents the remaining part, thus, 46% (12 participants). We also highlight that there are 100% financed and other partnerships without financial contribution. In this case, we identified 3 situations of participation without financial endowment: two from Norway; and one from Iceland.

Finally, regarding the Bilateral Relations Fund, a total of 12 initiatives were developed under the [Environment Programme](#) with the purpose of strategic cooperation, *networking*, transfer and sharing of knowledge or technology, and also disseminating good practices encompassing the three priority areas (promoting the circular economy, decarbonizing society and valorization of the territory), which resulted in a financing amount of 198,006€.

The bilateral initiatives implemented result from a “work plan” previously designed on an annual basis and coordinated with the NFP and the preferential partner of the main Donor Country (ID Norway). The work plan establishes the conceptual basis of what is intended to be achieved, indicating the different initiatives, objectives, indicators, participants, themes, approach model, and budget.

The themes of these initiatives were around the Circular Economy, Biodiversity, and Climate Adaptation and are thus aligned with the Priority Areas of the ‘Environment Programme’ and the ‘Blue Growth Programme.’ Portugal was the main host of the initiatives developed, hosting 7 of a total of 12 events carried out and centered in Lisbon and other locations of the country, namely the Region of Alentejo and the North Region. Norway comes next with achievements in Bergen and Oslo.

Graph 6 – Initiatives under BRF by host country.

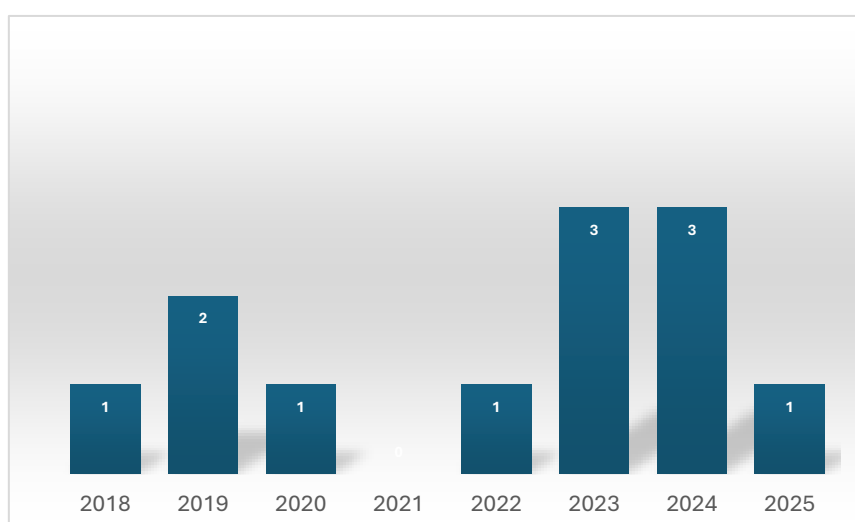


Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

The first bilateral initiative under the BRF took place in 2018, in line with the start of negotiations for the Environment Programme. It is also worth mentioning that around 50% of the initiatives took place in 2023 and 2024, which makes sense given the cruising speed of the Environment Programme during this period, establishing a direct and complementary implementation between the projects and BRF.

Finally, the non-realization of the initiatives predicted in 2021 is justified by the pandemic period that prevented the realization of the events in person.

Graph 7– Distribution of the bilateral initiatives by year.



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

6) Level of involvement of the donor partners and how the cooperation was established within the Environment Programme

The diversity of involved institutions is greater where there is a greater number of participants, particularly in the Norwegian case: Universities, Research and Development Institutes, and associative and private entities.

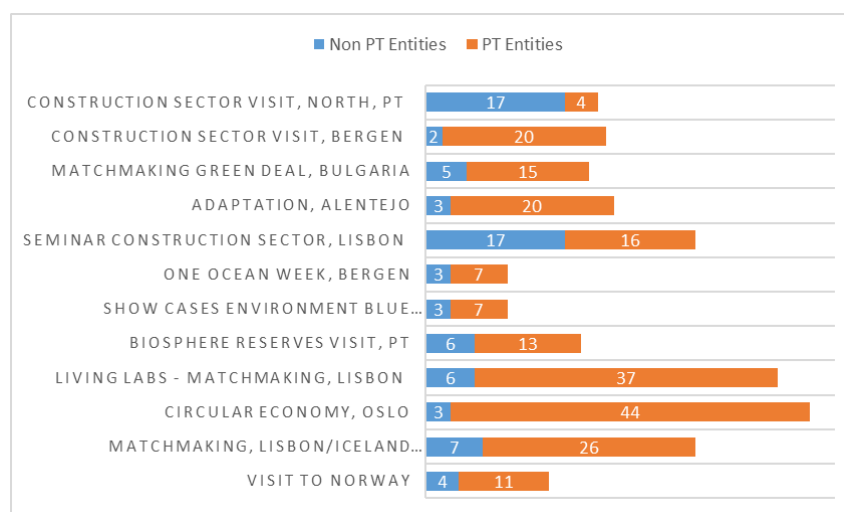
In the case of Iceland, the four participants are divided between a Foundation, the Soil Conservation Service and the Icelandic UNESCO Commission, and a research center.

The reference to Partnerships outside the donor countries should be highlighted here because it occurs in a very specific situation of a project in **priority area 1**, referring to the Circular Economy, involving two partners from different countries and with different legal status: ENVIROS from the Czech Republic is a private company that provides consultancy in the areas of ESG and Sustainability; CNPCD from Romania is a non-profit Non-Governmental Organization.

Regarding the distribution of BRF by participating entities, as can be seen in graph 8, there is a majority participation of national entities (PT) over those from donor countries (non-PT) in all events. Explained in figures, around 296 involved entities over the 12 events held, 220 are national, and 76 are from donor countries (or foreign). It is worth noting that a large part of these bilateral initiatives took place in Portugal (7 of the 12 initiatives), followed by Norway. It should also be mentioned that most of these bilateral initiatives took place in Portugal (7 from 12 initiatives), followed by Norway.

From the financial standpoint, the BRF endowment represented approximately 200,000€, which, when compared with the amount allocated to the participation of bilateral cooperation in projects (1.247M€), represents approximately six times less.

Graph 8 – Distribution of entities by event



Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

7) Main Challenges and Lessons learned.

Point of view of partnerships and approved projects

The partnerships established between national entities and entities from Donor Countries are relevant, they are adapted to the needs of both parties and bring added value to all involved. Even so, it is necessary to eliminate some identified constraints (financial and linguistic) and increase the participation of partners from donor countries throughout the entire life cycle of the projects, no longer focusing on activities limited in time.

The kind of participation of partners from Donor States was diversified, including the sharing of knowledge and good practices. In some cases, we need to highlight the role of the partners for the project in which partnership was essential, for example, for validating and testing project results.

The interest and preparation of conditions for the sustainability of the partnership are evident in most projects. The establishment of trusting relationships and teamwork practices, through the sharing of experience, knowledge, and resources and participation in international networks, played a key role in the sustainability of partnerships.

It is important and necessary to strengthen partnership relations between national partners and partners from donor countries in the context of funded projects and to increase their collaboration throughout their implementation. We reinforce the need for greater participation of partners from other donor countries, in particular Iceland and Liechtenstein, throughout the mechanism.

The projects developed under the Blue Growth Programme and the Environment Programme were conceptually aligned and complement each other in terms of achieving results. The effort to explore synergies has been favorable since the launch of the various calls for applications under the “Environment Programme.” As such, incentives should be created to establish partnerships in projects, for example, through a specific criterion for assessing merit and/or increasing support.

Point of view of the partnerships of the Bilateral Relations Fund of the Environment Programme

In terms of the Bilateral Relations Fund, the 12 initiatives developed reached the expected operational goals, and it can be considered that the financing fitted the promoters needs.

The Bilateral Relations Fund, through the way it was implemented, has fostered changes in the institutions that participate in its initiatives, both through established partnerships and through the acquisition of knowledge relevant to their areas of activity.

The development of a set of monitoring and follow-up indicators should be considered to allow for more effective and concrete measurement.

Create a *follow-up* system for the initiatives implemented under the Bilateral Relations Plan of the “*Environment Programme*” in such a way is possible to assess the progress of relations/partnerships established between entities, for example, through a questionnaire. The *follow-up* of these partnerships would make it possible to understand the scope of the changes. This system could cover the entire EEA Grants ecosystem in Portugal.

The cooperation efforts between the [Blue Growth Programme](#) and [Environment Programme](#) along the whole eligibility period are also evidenced by several joint communication moments, allowing to increase the visibility of the supported projects, present new business, and intervention opportunities to the Programs' target audiences, and thus promote possible partnerships and future projects.

8) Outlook for the next financial mechanism

Looking ahead, bilateral relations, whether through partnerships between beneficiary countries and donor countries in projects or through bilateral relations initiatives, are expected to play an increasing role in future mechanisms. So, the bilateral relations it is useful not only to find common solutions for shared challenges, but also to align the human resources skills to the needs of each priority area and thus promote the uptake of good practices from the donor country partners during the implementation period, aiming to successfully achieve the defined priority areas.

It is recognized that there is a need to deepen the synergies delivered by the partnerships, which result from the sharing and exchange of knowledge, the transfer of technologies, and experiences. This should be complemented by the Bilateral Relations Fund, which should fill the gaps arising from partnerships in projects.

The main challenges that have arisen from cooperation in partnerships under the current mechanism must be overcome, such as distance, adaptation of knowledge to technical needs, or administrative complexity. The simplification of administrative procedures, in particular application and reporting, stands as a relevant challenge for new partnerships and the consolidation of existing ones.

Overall, the stronger and the lasting the relations between the different actors greater will be the success of the Financial Mechanism in innovation and environmental areas.

9) Conclusion

Summing up, the bilateral relations enshrined in the regulations of the EEA Grants financial mechanism have a financial endowment, such as the defined programs, and are delivered both through project partnerships and through the Bilateral Relations Fund.

Not all initiatives can or should be continued, however, the relevance and adequacy of the Program's intervention logic, with a broad set of incentives for establishing partnerships, must be continued.

It is desirable to have greater alignment between the matchmaking initiatives developed under the Bilateral Relations Fund and the calls opened for the projects, in such a way that the Operator can make the most of the partnerships between national and donor countries entities. It should be emphasized that donor partners are chosen by project promoters, and the BRF must complement the work carried out in the project partnerships.

The program operators must seek greater and more effective coordination between the Environment Program and the Blue Growth Program since the launch to implementation phases. Strengthening and/or increasing the quantity and quality of partnerships, thus strengthening bilateral relations between Portugal and Donor Countries, should be another point to improve in upcoming mechanisms. Likewise, in the Bilateral Initiatives Fund.

Extending synergies to other EEA Grants programs, for example, Culture or work-life balance, should be encouraged.

Annex 1 – List of beneficiary countries of the EEA Grants

**Beneficiary Countries
(FM EEA 2014-2021)**

- 1 Bulgaria
- 2 Croatia
- 3 Cyprus
- 4 Czech Republic
- 5 Estonia
- 6 Greece
- 7 Hungary
- 8 Latvia
- 9 Lituânia
- 10 Malta
- 11 Poland
- 12 Portugal**
- 13 Romania
- 14 Slovakia
- 15 Slovenia

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

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Annex 2 – List of projects with partners from donor countries.

Grace ID	Project Code	Donor Country	Partner
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0002	PDP-2	Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0003	PDP-3	Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0007	05_SGS#2	Norway	østfoldforskning AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0013	38_SGS#1	Norway	Det Tverrfaglige Kunstinstitutt (DTK)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0015	04_Call#1	Norway	Empower AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0019	09_Call#1	Norway	Infinitum AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0022	03_Call#2	Norway	Reframe Arkitektur AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0023	07_Call#2	Norway	RISE Fire Research AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0024	08_Call#2	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0025	12_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0026	13_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0027	15_Call#2	Norway	ReSource International ehf
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0028	16_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0029	19_Call#2	Norway	A-Lab AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0030	29_Call#2	Iceland	EVRIS Foundation ses
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0031	37_Call#2	Norway	Stiftelsen for industriell og teknisk forskning
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0032	09_Call#3	Norway	University of Bergen
	09_Call#3	Norway	Nordhordland Utviklingsselskap IKS
	09_Call#3	Iceland	Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0035	13_SGS#3	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0036	14_SGS#3	Norway	BIOTEXT
	14_SGS#3	Norway	Ramboll AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0038	17_SGS#3	Norway	Norsk institutt for luftforskning stiftelse (NILU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0040	38_SGS#3	Norway	Stiftinga Vestlandsforskning (Western Norway Research Institute)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0042	42_SGS#3	Norway	Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0049	01_Call#4	Norway	Avfallsteknisk Montasje AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0050	02_Call#4	Norway	MARLO AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0051	03_Call#4	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0052	04_Call#4	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0053	05_Call#4	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0057	04_Call#5	Norway	NIBIO Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0058	10_Call#5	Iceland	Soil Conservation Service of Iceland
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0060	12_Call#5	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

Annex 3 – List of projects with partners from donor countries by Economic Classification

Grace ID	Project Code	Donor Country	Partner
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0002	PDP-2	Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0003	PDP-3	Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0007	05_SGS#2	Norway	østfoldforskning AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0013	38_SGS#1	Norway	Det Tverrfaglige Kunstinstitutt (DTK)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0015	04_Call#1	Norway	Empower AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0019	09_Call#1	Norway	Infinitum AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0022	03_Call#2	Norway	Reframe Arkitektur AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0023	07_Call#2	Norway	RISE Fire Research AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0024	08_Call#2	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0025	12_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0026	13_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0027	15_Call#2	Norway	ReSource International ehf
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0028	16_Call#2	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0029	19_Call#2	Norway	A-Lab AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0030	29_Call#2	Iceland	EVRIS Foundation ses
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0031	37_Call#2	Norway	Stiftelsen for industriell og teknisk forskning
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0032	09_Call#3	Norway	University of Bergen
	09_Call#3	Norway	Nordhordland Utviklingsselskap IKS
	09_Call#3	Iceland	Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0035	13_SGS#3	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0036	14_SGS#3	Norway	BIOTEXT
	14_SGS#3	Norway	Ramboll AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0038	17_SGS#3	Norway	Norsk institutt for luftforskning stiftelse (NILU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0040	38_SGS#3	Norway	Stiftinga Vestlandsforskning (Western Norway Research Institute)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0042	42_SGS#3	Norway	Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0049	01_Call#4	Norway	Avfallsteknisk Montasje AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0050	02_Call#4	Norway	MARLO AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0051	03_Call#4	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0052	04_Call#4	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0053	05_Call#4	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0057	04_Call#5	Norway	NIBIO Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0058	10_Call#5	Iceland	Soil Conservation Service of Iceland
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0060	12_Call#5	Norway	Internacional Development Norway AS

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

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Annex 4 – List of projects with partners from non-donor countries.

Grace ID	Project Code	Donor Country	Partner
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0024	08_Call#2	Romania	National Centre for Sustainable Production and Consumption (CNPCD)
PT-ENVIRONMENT-0024	08_Call#2	Czech Republic	ENVIROS s.r.o.

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

Annex 5 - List of projects with partners from non-donor countries by Economic Classification

Project Code	Donor Country	Partner	Economic Classification
08_Call#2	Romania	National Centre for Sustainable Production and Consumption (CNPCD)	NGO - Non profit
08_Call#2	Czech Republic	ENVIROS s.r.o.	Private Sector - Sustainability and ESG consulting company

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)

Annex 6 - List of initiatives promoted by BRF of Environment Programme

Event name	Thematic Area	Event Dates	Year	Host Country	Incurred Expense (€)	Involved Entities			Participants		
						Foreign	National	Total	Foreign	National	Total
Visit to Norway	Circular Economy	October 08 and 12, 2018	2018	Norway	13 061,12 €	4	11	15	22	16	38
Matchmaking, Lisbon/Iceland Roadshow	Circular Economy	February 28, 2019	2019	Portugal	21 526,49 €	7	26	33	1	11	12
Circular Economy, Oslo	Decarbonization	September 24 and 25, 2019	2019	Norway	20 021,76 €	3	44	47	3	49	52
Living Labs - Matchmaking, Lisbon	Circular Economy	February 13, 2020	2020	Portugal	5 462,82 €	6	37	43	10	41	51
Biosphere Reserves Visit, PT	Bio-reserves	30 May to 2 June, 2022	2022	Portugal	11 541,97 €	6	13	19	23	7	30
Show Cases Environment Blue Growth, PT	Maritime Technology	January 23 and 25, 2023	2023	Portugal	5 038,21 €	3	7	10	11	37	48
One Ocean Week, Bergen	Environment and Blue Growth	April 17 to 21, 2023	2023	Norway	15 799,11 €	3	7	10	9	39	48
Seminar Construction Sector, Lisbon	Circular Economy in Construction Seminar	October 18 and 19, 2023	2023	Portugal	19 358,76 €	17	16	33	31	21	52
Adaptation, Alentejo	Climate Adaptation	May 21 to 23, 2024	2024	Portugal	23 838,44 €	3	20	23	4	34	38
Matchmaking Green Deal, Bulgaria	Hydrogen for Decarbonization	June 3 to 5, 2024	2024	Bulgaria	13 804,37 €	5	15	20	7	16	23
Construction Sector Visit, Bergen	Sustainable Construction	September 10 and 11, 2024	2024	Norway	26 218,90 €	2	20	22	4	24	28
Construction Sector Visit, North, PT	Sustainable Construction	January 28 and 29, 2025	2025	Portugal	22 334,41 €	17	4	21	20	10	30

Source: EEA Grants, [Environment Programme](#)