

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM  
2014-2021

Between

ICELAND,  
THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN,  
THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY,  
hereinafter referred to as the “Donor States”

and

ROMANIA,  
hereinafter referred to as the “Beneficiary State”

together hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”,

WHEREAS Protocol 38c to the EEA Agreement, incorporated into the EEA Agreement by the Agreement between the European Union, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway on the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, establishes a financial mechanism (hereinafter referred to as the “EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021”) through which the Donor States will contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area;

WHEREAS the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 aims to strengthen relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State to the mutual benefit of their peoples;

WHEREAS by decision of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States No. 2/2016/SC of 2 June 2016 the Donor States have given the Financial Mechanism Committee, established by a decision of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States No. 4/2004/SC of 3 June 2004, a mandate to manage the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021;

WHEREAS the enhanced co-operation between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State will contribute to securing a stable, peaceful and prosperous Europe, based on good governance, democratic institutions, the rule of law, respect for human rights and sustainable development;

WHEREAS the Parties agree to establish a framework for cooperation in order to ensure the effective implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021;

HAVE AGREED on the following:

### **Article 1 Objectives**

1. The overall objectives of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 are to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area and to the strengthening of bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary States through financial contributions in the priority sectors listed in paragraph 2. Accordingly, the Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding shall endeavour to select for funding programmes that contribute to the achievement of these objectives.

2. The financial contributions shall be available in the following priority sectors:

- (a) Innovation, research, education and competitiveness;
- (b) Social inclusion, youth employment and poverty reduction;
- (c) Environment, energy, climate change and low carbon economy;
- (d) Culture, civil society, good governance, fundamental rights and freedoms; and
- (e) Justice and home affairs.

### **Article 2 Legal Framework**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be read in conjunction with the following documents which, together with this Memorandum of Understanding, constitute the legal framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021:

- (a) Protocol 38c to the EEA Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021;
- (b) the Regulation on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 (hereinafter referred to as the “Regulation”) issued by the Donor States in accordance with Article 10.5 of Protocol 38c;
- (c) the programme agreements that will be concluded for each programme; and
- (d) any guidelines adopted by the Financial Mechanism Committee in accordance with the Regulation.

**Article 3**  
**Financial Framework**

1. In accordance with Article 2.1 of Protocol 38c, the total amount of the financial contribution is € 1,548,150,000 in annual tranches of € 221,160,000 over the period running from 01/05/2014 to 30/04/2021, inclusive.
2. In accordance with Article 6 of Protocol 38c, a total of € 275,200,000 shall be made available to the Beneficiary State over the period referred to in Paragraph 1.
3. In accordance with Article 3.2.b) of Protocol 38c, 10.00 % of the total amount referred to in paragraph 2 shall be set aside for a fund for civil society.
4. In accordance with Article 10.4 of Protocol 38c and Article 1.9 of the Regulation, the management costs of the Donor States shall be covered by the overall amount referred to above. Further provisions to this effect are set out in the Regulation. The net amount of the allocation to be made available to the Beneficiary State is € 254,560,000.

**Article 4**  
**Roles and responsibilities**

1. The Donor States shall make funds available in support of eligible programmes proposed by the Beneficiary State and agreed on by the Financial Mechanism Committee within the priority sectors listed in Article 3.1 of Protocol 38c and the programme areas listed in the Annex to Protocol 38c. The Donor States and the Beneficiary State shall cooperate on the preparation of concept notes defining the scope and planned results for each programme.
2. The Beneficiary State shall assure the full co-financing of programmes that benefit from support from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 in accordance with Annex B and the programme agreements.
3. The Financial Mechanism Committee shall manage the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 and take decisions on the granting of financial assistance in accordance with the Regulation.
4. The Committee shall be assisted by the Financial Mechanism Office (hereinafter referred to as the "FMO"). The FMO shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 and shall serve as a contact point.

**Article 5**  
**Designation of authorities**

The Beneficiary State has authorised a National Focal Point to act on its behalf. The National Focal Point shall have the overall responsibility for reaching the objectives of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 as well as for the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 in the Beneficiary State in accordance with the Regulation. In accordance with Article 5.2 of the Regulation, the National Focal Point, the Certifying Authority, the Audit Authority, and the Irregularities Authority are designated in Annex A.

**Article 6**  
**Multi-annual Programming Framework**

1. In accordance with Article 2.5 of the Regulation, the Parties have agreed on an implementation framework consisting of the following financial and substantive parameters:
  - (a) a list of agreed programmes and the financial contribution from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 by programme;

- (b) identification of programmes, their objective, their main focus, as appropriate, the grant rate by programme, the bilateral ambitions as well as any specific concerns relating to target groups, geographical areas or other issues;
  - (c) identification of programme operators, as appropriate;
  - (d) identification of Donor Programme Partners, as appropriate;
  - (e) identification of International Partner Organisations, as appropriate;
  - (f) identification of pre-defined projects to be included in relevant programmes.
2. The implementation framework is outlined in Annex B.

## **Article 7**

### **Fund for bilateral relations**

In accordance with Article 4.6 of the Regulation the Beneficiary State shall set aside funds to strengthen bilateral relations between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State. The National Focal Point shall manage the use of the fund for bilateral relations and shall establish a Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds in accordance with Article 4.2 of the Regulation.

## **Article 8**

### **Annual meetings**

In accordance with Article 2.7 of the Regulation an annual meeting shall be held between the FMC and the National Focal Point. The annual meeting shall allow the FMC and the National Focal Point to examine progress achieved over the previous reporting period and agree on any necessary measures to be taken. The annual meeting shall provide a forum for discussion of issues of bilateral interest.

## **Article 9**

### **Modification of the annexes**

Annex A and B may be amended through an exchange of letters between the FMC and the National Focal Point.

## **Article 10**

### **Control and Access to Information**

The Financial Mechanism Committee, the EFTA Board of Auditors and their representatives have the right to carry out any technical or financial mission or review they consider necessary to follow the planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects as well as the use of funds. The Beneficiary State shall provide all necessary assistance, information and documentation.

## **Article 11**

### **Governing Principles**

1. The implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall in all aspects be governed by the Regulation and subsequent amendments thereof.
2. The objectives of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 shall be pursued in the framework of close co-operation between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State. The Parties agree to apply the highest degree of transparency, accountability and cost efficiency as well as the principles of good

governance, partnership and multi-level governance, sustainable development, gender equality and equal opportunities in all implementation phases of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

3. The Beneficiary State shall take proactive steps in order to ensure adherence to these principles at all levels involved in the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

4. No later than 31/12/2020, the Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding shall review progress in the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and thereafter agree on reallocations within and between the programmes, where appropriate. The conclusion of this review shall be taken into account by the National Focal Point when submitting the proposal on the reallocation of the reserve referred to in Article 1.11 of the Regulation.

**Article 12**  
**Entry into Force**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the day after the date of its last signature.

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This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in four originals in the English Language.

Signed in Brussels on 11/10/2016  
For Iceland

Signed in Bucuresti on 13/10/2016  
For Romania

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Signed in Brussels on 11/10/2016  
For the Principality of Liechtenstein

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Signed in Bucuresti on 13/10/2016  
For the Kingdom of Norway

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## **National management and control structures**

### **1. National Focal Point**

The General Directorate for European Non-reimbursable Financial Mechanisms and Instruments (GDENFMI) shall act as the National Focal Point.

The GDENFMI is a General Directorate within the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, headed by a General Director and under the coordination of a Secretary of State. In addition to its role as National Focal Point, the GDENFMI is designated Paying Authority for the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme and holds various roles in a number of EU financed programmes.

The General Director of the General Directorate for European Non-reimbursable Financial Mechanisms and Instruments shall act as the head of the National Focal Point.

The roles and responsibilities of the National Focal Point are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 5.3 thereof.

### **2. Certifying Authority**

The Certifying and Paying Authority (CPA) shall act as Certifying Authority.

The Certifying and Paying Authority is a General Directorate within the Ministry of Public Finance, headed by a General Director and under the coordination of a Secretary of State.

The CPA acts as the executive body of the National Authorising Officer (NAO) for EU pre-accession funds and Certifying Authority for the Structural and Cohesion Funds.

The General Director of the Certifying and Paying Authority shall act as the head of the Certifying Authority.

The roles and responsibilities of the Certifying Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 5.4 thereof.

### **3. Audit Authority**

The Central Harmonization Unit for Public Internal Audit (CHUPIA) shall act as Audit Authority.

The CHUPIA is a directorate within the Ministry of Public Finance, headed by a Director and under the direct coordination of the Minister of Public Finance.

The CHUPIA is the national authority responsible for the preparation and implementation of the strategy and general normative framework for public Internal audit, the coordination and evaluation of the public internal audit activity at national level, conducting public internal audit missions of national Interest with multi-sectoral implications and Audit Authority for the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme.

The Director of the CHUPIA shall act as the head of the Audit Authority.

The roles and responsibilities of the Audit Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 5.5 thereof.

The Audit Authority shall be functionally independent of the National Focal Point and the Certifying Authority.

#### **4. Irregularities Authority**

The Certifying and Paying Authority shall act as the Irregularities Authority.

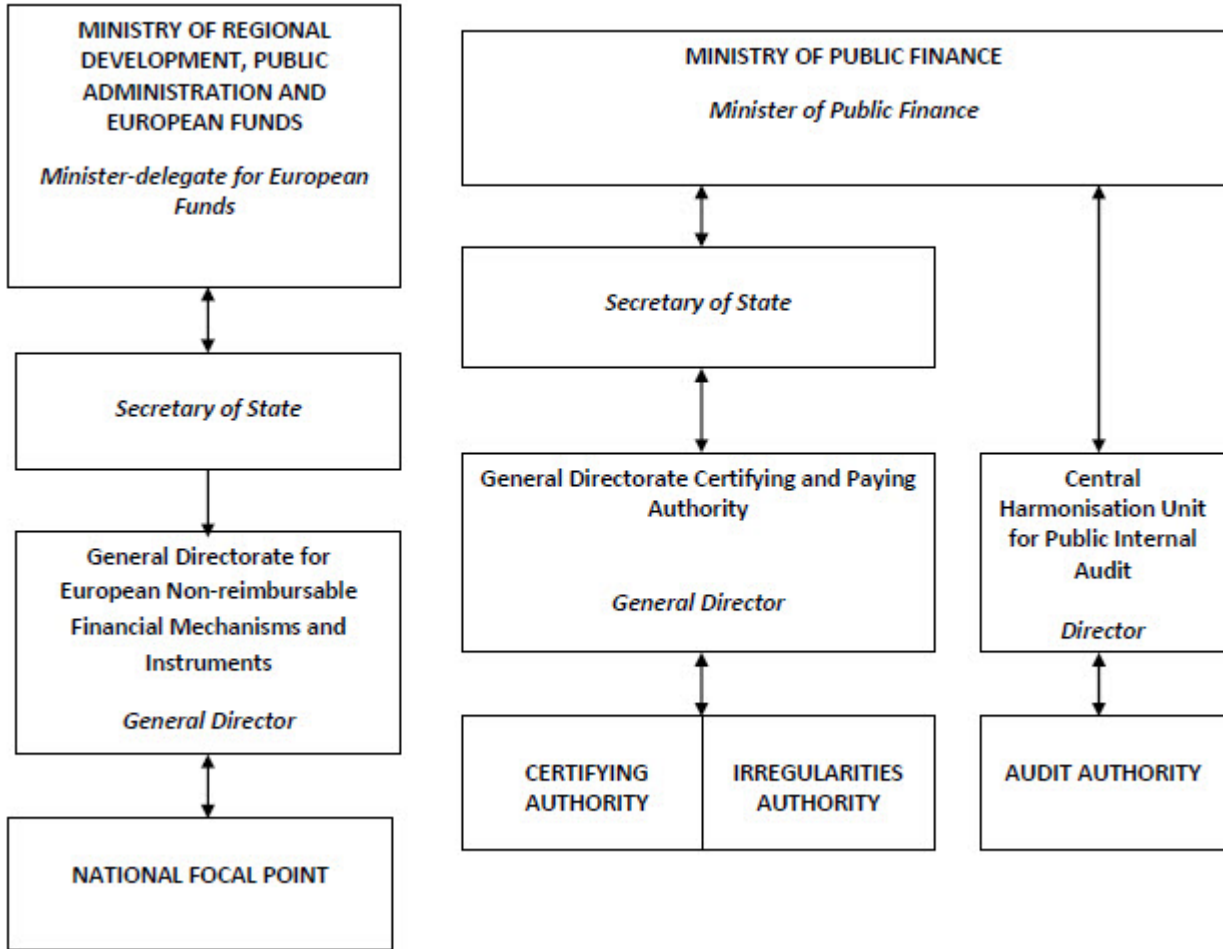
The Certifying and Paying Authority is organised as General Directorate within the Ministry of Public Finance, headed by a General Director and under the coordination of a Secretary of State.

The roles and responsibilities of the Irregularities Authority are stipulated in the Regulation, in particular Article 12.3 thereof.

#### **5. Strategic Report**

In accordance with Article 2.6 of the Regulation, the National Focal Point shall annually submit to the FMC a Strategic Report on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 in the Beneficiary State. The Strategic Report shall be submitted to the FMC at least two months before the annual meeting unless otherwise agreed

#### **6. Organigram**





## Implementation framework

In accordance with Article 2.5 of the Regulation, the Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding have agreed on an implementation framework outlined in this annex.

### 1. Financial parameters of the implementation framework

	<b>Romania</b>	<b>EEA Grants contribution</b>	<b>National contribution</b>
	<b>Programmes</b>		
1	Business Development, Innovation and SMEs	€ 23,000,000	N/A
2	Research	€ 19,800,000	€ 3,494,118
3	Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship	€ 10,660,000	€ 1,881,176
4	European Public Health Challenges	€ 38,132,500	€ 6,729,265
5	Local Development and Poverty Reduction, Enhanced Roma Inclusion	€ 27,500,000	€ 4,411,765
6	Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security	€ 29,703,000	N/A
7	Environment, Climate Change Adaptation and Ecosystems	€ 16,097,500	€ 2,840,736
8	Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural heritage and Cultural Exchange	€ 25,463,000	€ 4,493,471
9	Civil society	€ 48,000,000	N/A
	<b>Other allocations</b>		
	Technical Assistance to the Beneficiary State (Art. 1.10)	€ 1,500,000	N/A
	Reserve (Art. 1.11)	€ 0	N/A
	Reserve for completion of projects under FM 2009-2014 (Art. 1.12)	N/A	N/A
	Fund for bilateral relations (Art. 4.6.1)	€ 14,704,000	N/A
	<b>Net allocation to Romania</b>	<b>€ 254,560,000</b>	<b>€ 23,850,530</b>

### 2. Specific concerns

Bilateral relations between the Donor States and Romania shall be strengthened with the aim of stimulating and developing long-term cooperation within all areas listed in the Annex to Protocol 38c. It is also an ambition to strengthen bilateral cooperation at political level and European level in areas of common interest.

The Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding agree that, in addition to measures implemented under the programme 'Local Development and Poverty Reduction, Enhanced Roma Inclusion', at least 10% of the combined total eligible expenditure Of the programmes 'Research', 'Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship', 'European Public Health Challenges' and 'Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural Heritage and Cultural Exchange' and the programmes 'Research', 'Justice' and 'Home Affairs' under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, shall target the improvement of the situation for the Roma population. The Parties shall agree on how to reach this target through a plan to be coordinated by the National Focal Point.

### 3. Substantive parameters of the implementation framework

The programmes described below are to be implemented subject to the approval of the FMC, in accordance with Article 6.3 of the Regulation.

#### A. Programme Business Development, Innovation and SMEs

*Programme objective:* Increased value creation and sustainable growth

<i>Programme grant:</i>	€ 23,000,000
<i>Programme co-financing:</i>	Not-applicable
<i>Programme Operator:</i>	The Financial Mechanism Office in accordance with Article 6.13 of the Regulation. Innovation Norway (IN) is appointed Fund Operator in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 6.13 of the Regulation.
<i>Programme area(s):</i>	Business Development, Innovation and SMEs
<i>Special-concerns:</i>	<p>National Programme Partner could be considered in order to build up capacity and transfer knowledge.</p> <p>In developing the concept note and during the implementation of the programme, the Programme Operator shall seek to ensure synergies with the programme Research, the programme Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship, the programme Renewable Energy, Energy efficiency, Energy Security and other programmes, where relevant.</p>
<i>Bilateral ambitions:</i>	This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.
<i>Pre-defined projects:</i>	€ 150,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

The programme will be implemented in conjunction with the programme Business Development, Innovation and SMEs implemented under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

## **B. Programme Research**

<i>Programme objective:</i>	Enhanced research-based knowledge development
<i>Programme grant:</i>	€ 19,800,000
<i>Programme co-financing:</i>	€ 3,494,118
<i>Programme Operator:</i>	Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)
<i>Donor Programme Partners(s):</i>	Research Council of Norway (RCN) Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS)
<i>Programme area(s):</i>	Research
<i>Special-concerns:</i>	<p>The programme shall, inter alia, include support to research in the following areas: energy, environment, health, social sciences and humanities including gender studies and social inclusion studies.</p> <p>The programme should support basic and applied research selected on the basis of research excellence.</p> <p>This programme shall contribute to the improvement of the situation for the Roma population and shall contribute towards the target set in section 2 'Specific concerns' of this Annex.</p> <p>In developing the concept note and during the implementation of the programme, the Programme Operator shall seek to ensure synergies with the programme Business Development, Innovation and SMEs, the programme Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship, the programme Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security and other programmes, where relevant.</p>

*Bilateral ambitions:* € 100,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

The programme will be implemented in conjunction with the programme Research implemented under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

### **C. Programme Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship**

*Programme objective:* Enhanced human capital and knowledge base  
*Programme grant:* € 10,660,000  
*Programme co-financing:* € 1,881,176  
*Programme Operator:* National Agency for Community programmes in the Field of Education and Vocational Training (ANPCDEFP)

*Donor Programme Partners(s):* Directorate for Higher Education and Skills (HK-DIR)  
National Agency for International Education Affairs (AIBA)

*Programme area(s):* Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship

*Special-concerns:* The programme shall focus, inter alia, on tertiary education and vocational education and training. Higher education student and staff mobility shall be addressed in the programme. Social inclusion shall be targeted at non-higher education levels. Democracy and citizenship education shall be included in the programme.

This programme shall contribute to the improvement of the situation for the Roma population and shall contribute towards the target set in section 2 'Specific concerns' of this Annex.

In developing the concept note and during implementation of the programme, the Programme Operator shall seek to ensure synergies with the programme Research, the programme Business Development, Innovation and SMEs, the programme Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security and other programmes, where relevant.

*Bilateral ambitions:* €150,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

### **D. Programme European Public Health Challenges**

*Programme objective:* Improved prevention and reduced inequalities in health  
*Programme grant:* € 38,132,500  
*Programme co-financing:* € 6,729,265  
*Programme Operator:* Ministry of Health - Romania

*Donor Programme Partners(s):* Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH)  
Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR)

*Programme area(s):* European Public Health Challenges

*Special-concerns:* The programme shall focus on strengthening primary healthcare as well as universal access to healthcare and the reduction of social

inequalities in health with emphasis on health status of the Roma population.

The programme shall include measures addressing outreach to vulnerable groups and remote areas through community nurses and ambulatory medical services.

The programme shall include measures addressing prevention and control of communicable diseases and take account of challenges related to anti-microbial resistance.

The programme shall include measures to address neuro-cognitive disorders through community-based services.

The programme shall include measures to improve the quality of access to paediatric oncology and haematology services.

No more than 50% of the total eligible expenditure of the programme shall be available for infrastructure (hard measures).

The programme shall be implemented through calls for proposals as well as pre-defined projects.

The possibility of further developing the results of projects funded by the 'Public Health Initiatives' programme under the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 shall be explored in the development of the concept note.

The National Focal Point and the Programme Operator shall at the latest by the submission of the programme concept note, submit a plan to ensure adequate programme management capacity of the Programme Operator.

This programme shall contribute to the improvement of the situation for the Roma population and shall contribute towards the target set in section 2 'Specific concerns' of this Annex.

*Bilateral ambitions:*

€ 200,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

*Pre-defined projects:*

I. Strengthening the tuberculosis control in Romania through implementation of the WHO END TB Strategy 2016-2020

Project promoter: TBD

Donor project partner: LHL International

Maximum grant amount: € 11,176,470

2. Developing diseases registries in Romania

Project promoter: TBD

Project partner: TBD

Maximum grant amount: € 500,000

This project shall build upon the results of the project funded under

the programme 'Public Health initiatives' under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014.

### **E. Programme Local Development and Poverty Reduction, Enhanced Roma Inclusion**

<i>Programme objective:</i>	Strengthened social and economic cohesion
<i>Programme grant:</i>	€ 27,500,000
<i>Programme co-financing:</i>	€ 4,411,765
<i>Programme Operator:</i>	Romanian Social Development Fund (RSDF)
<i>Donor Programme Partners(s):</i>	Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
<i>International Partner Organisation(s):</i>	Council of Europe (CoE)
<i>Programme area(s):</i>	Local Development and Poverty Reduction Roma Inclusion and Empowerment Human Rights – National Implementation Children and Youth at Risk Good Governance, Accountable Institutions, Transparency
<i>Special-concerns:</i>	<p>A minimum of € 15 million of the programme grant shall be allocated to programme area 'Roma Inclusion and Empowerment'. The programme shall include measures that address education including combating early school leaving, housing improvement, employment and health components.</p> <p>Municipalities in disadvantaged areas with a high percentage of Roma population shall be given priority.</p> <p>The programme shall strengthen the national implementation of human rights standards and norms, focusing on anti-discrimination legislation.</p> <p>The possibility of pre-defining project(s) with the Council of Europe and, as relevant, other international stakeholders, shall be explored when developing the concept note.</p> <p>The possibility of pre-defining project(s) with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) shall be explored when developing the concept note.</p> <p>A maximum level of funding available from the total eligible expenditure of the programme for infrastructure (hard measures) shall be identified in the concept note.</p> <p>The National Focal Point and the Programme Operator shall at the latest by the submission of the programme concept note, submit a plan to ensure adequate programme management capacity of the Programme Operator.</p> <p>The additional funds allocated from other Programmes in 2023 shall be used to increase the budget of existing projects targeting the improvement of housing conditions for vulnerable people, including Roma, with the purpose of increasing the impact and results of the Programme. In case of projects receiving additional funds targeting</p>

the purchase of real estate and land, the maximum percentage for this component shall be set in the Programme Agreement, in line with Article 8.6.1 of the Regulation.

*Bilateral ambitions:* € 200,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

The programme will be implemented in conjunction with the programme Local Development and Poverty Reduction, Enhanced Roma Inclusion implemented under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

#### **F. Programme Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security**

*Programme objective:* Less carbon intensive energy and increased security of supply  
*Programme grant:* € 29,703,000  
*Programme co-financing:* Not-applicable  
*Programme Operator:* The Financial Mechanism Office in accordance with Article 6.13 of the Regulation. Innovation Norway (IN) is appointed Fund Operator in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 6.13 of the Regulation.

*Donor Programme Partners(s):* National Energy Authority (OS)  
Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE)

*Beneficiary State Programme Partner(s):* Romanian Ministry of Environment  
Romanian Ministry of Energy

*Programme area(s):* Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security

*Special-concerns:* Special concern shall be given to electricity supply solutions in areas where connection to the electricity network is not feasible with the aim to increase access to energy to at least 5000 households not connected to the energy network.

Special concern shall be given to research and development related to Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security.

Special concern shall be given to hydroelectric power as a source of renewable energy. The total allocation from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 shall not exceed € 7.5 million.

Special concern shall be given to geothermal energy as a source of renewable energy. The total allocation from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 shall not exceed € 7.5 million.

In developing the concept note and during the implementation of the programme, the Programme Operator shall seek to ensure synergies with the programme Business Development, Innovation and SMEs, the programme Research, the programme Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship and other programmes, where relevant.

*Bilateral ambitions:* € 200,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

The programme will be implemented in conjunction with the programme Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security implemented under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.

#### **G. Programme Environment, Climate Change Adaptation and Ecosystems**

*Programme objective:* Improved environmental status in ecosystems and reduced adverse effects of pollution and other human activities

<i>Programme grant:</i>	€ 16,097,500										
<i>Programme co-financing:</i>	€ 2,840,736										
<i>Programme Operator:</i>	Romanian Ministry of Environment										
<i>Donor Programme Partners(s):</i>	Norwegian Environment Agency (NEA)										
<i>Programme area(s):</i>	Environment and Ecosystems Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation										
<i>Special-concerns:</i>	<p>The environment component of the programme shall contain one or more small grant scheme(s) targeting, among others, civil society including non-governmental organisations (NGOs).</p> <p>The National Focal Point and the Programme Operator shall at the latest by the submission of the programme concept note, submit a plan to ensure adequate programme management capacity of the Programme Operator.</p>										
<i>Bilateral ambitions:</i>	€ 150,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.										
<i>Pre-defined projects:</i>	<p>A maximum of € 5 million shall be set aside for a pre-defined project on mapping with the Romanian National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration, the Norwegian Mapping Authority and Registers Iceland.</p> <table><tr><td>Name of project:</td><td>Pre-defined project</td></tr><tr><td>Project-Promoter:</td><td>TBD</td></tr><tr><td>Donor Project Partner:</td><td>TBD</td></tr><tr><td>Project Partner(s):</td><td>TBD</td></tr><tr><td>Maximum-grant:</td><td>€ 5,000,000</td></tr></table>	Name of project:	Pre-defined project	Project-Promoter:	TBD	Donor Project Partner:	TBD	Project Partner(s):	TBD	Maximum-grant:	€ 5,000,000
Name of project:	Pre-defined project										
Project-Promoter:	TBD										
Donor Project Partner:	TBD										
Project Partner(s):	TBD										
Maximum-grant:	€ 5,000,000										

## **H. Programme Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural heritage and Cultural Exchange**

<i>Programme objective:</i>	Social and economic development strengthened through cultural cooperation, cultural entrepreneurship and cultural heritage management
<i>Programme grant:</i>	€ 25,463,000
<i>Programme co-financing:</i>	€ 4,493,471
<i>Programme Operator:</i>	Ministry of Culture
<i>Donor Programme Partners(s):</i>	Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage (RA) Arts and Culture Norway (ACN)
<i>Programme area(s):</i>	Cultural Entrepreneurship, Cultural Heritage and Cultural Cooperation
<i>Special-concerns:</i>	<p>The programme shall focus on the role that culture and cultural heritage play in local and regional development with emphasis on employment, cultural entrepreneurship and vocational training and social inclusion.</p> <p>No more than 60% of the total eligible expenditure of the programme shall be available for infrastructure (hard measures).</p>

A minimum of € 6.5 million shall be set aside for cultural cooperation and exchange between the Donor States and Romania.

The programme should also support projects that relate to the documentation of the cultural history of social, ethnic and cultural minorities and groups.

This programme shall contribute to the improvement of the situation for the Roma population and shall contribute towards the target set in section 2 'Specific concerns' of this Annex.

*Bilateral ambitions:*

€ 250,000 shall be allocated to the programme from the fund for bilateral relations. This does not prevent the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds from allocating additional funds to the programme.

### **I. Programme Civil society**

*Programme objective:*

Civil society and active citizenship strengthened and vulnerable groups empowered

*Programme grant:*

€ 48,000,000

*Programme co-financing:*

Not-applicable

*Programme Operator:*

The Financial Mechanism Office in accordance with Article 6.13 of the Regulation.

*Programme area(s):*

Civil Society