The overall objectives of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 are to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area through financial contributions in the priority sectors listed below, and to strengthen bilateral relations between Norway and the Beneficiary States.

For each Priority sector, Programme areas are identified (see table below). In the Regulation the Programme area is defined as a thematic field within a priority sector, with a specific objective and specific measurable outcomes.

For each Programme area, one objective and several expected outcomes are defined. This definition of objectives is intended to increase the impact and focus of the Mechanism as well as facilitating the measurement and aggregation of results both within and across sectors and Beneficiary States.

Each programme must be in accordance with these objectives and expected outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Sector</th>
<th>Programme area / Objective</th>
<th>Expected outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Carbon Capture and Storage | Programme area: Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)  
Objective: Mitigate Climate Change | • CO2 captured and safely stored  
• Increased knowledge and transnational cooperation on CCS |
| Green Industry Innovation | Programme area: Green Industry Innovation  
Objective: Increased competitiveness of green enterprises, including greening of existing industries, green innovation and green entrepreneurship | • Realisation of the business opportunities of greening of the European economy  
• Reduced production of waste and reduced emissions to air, water and ground  
• More use of environmentally friendly technologies  
• Increased green job creation and entrepreneurship |
| Programme area: Energy Efficiency  
Objective: Reduced emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants | • Improved energy efficiency in buildings  
• Increased energy efficiency in industry and the transport sector  
• Increased utilisation of excess heat  
• Improved capacity at national, regional and local level to undertake energy-efficiency measures  
• Increased awareness of and education in energy efficiency  
• Reduced production of waste and reduced emissions to air, water and ground |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme area: Global Fund for Decent Work and Tripartite Dialogue</th>
<th>Objective: Decent work promoted and tripartite cooperation improved between employers’ organisations, trade unions and public authorities in supporting equitable and sustainable economic and social development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved social dialogue and tripartite dialogue structures and practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced understanding of the benefits of decent work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced access to employment and participation in the labour market</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced focus on the social dimension of workforce mobility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advancement of gender equality and non-discrimination in the workplace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improvement of work, family and private life balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worker adaptability and lifelong learning opportunities improved</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme area: Bilateral Research Cooperation</th>
<th>Objective: Enhanced research-based knowledge development in the Beneficiary States through enhanced research cooperation between Norway and the Beneficiary States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased research cooperation between Norway and the Beneficiary States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthened research capacity in the Beneficiary States and increased application of research results through research cooperation between Norway and the Beneficiary States</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme area: Bilateral Scholarship Programme</th>
<th>Objective: Enhanced human capital and knowledge base in the Beneficiary States</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased higher education student and staff mobility between Beneficiary States and Norway</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Increased and strengthened institutional cooperation within the higher education sector between Beneficiary States and Norway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme area: Capacity-building and Institutional Cooperation between Beneficiary State and Norwegian Public Institutions, Local and Regional Authorities</th>
<th>Objective: Strengthened institutional capacity and human resource development in public institutions, local and regional authorities in the Beneficiary States within the agreed priority sectors through cooperation and transfer of knowledge with similar institutions and authorities in Norway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased and strengthened cooperation between public institutions, local and regional authorities in the Beneficiary States and similar institutions and authorities in Norway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced institutional capacity and human resources development in public institutions, local and regional authorities in the Beneficiary States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced capacity and quality of the services provided by public institutions, local and regional authorities through enhanced institutional capacity and human resources development</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Programme area: Cross-border Cooperation
**Objective:** Strengthened cross-border cooperation between regions on both sides of the EU external border

- Closer contact and cooperation between local and regional institutions and NGOs on both sides of the EU external border
- Local and regional institutions and NGOs are enhancing knowledge and skills for developing cross-border cooperation
- Mitigation of existing barriers to cross-border cooperation
- Greater understanding of common cross-border challenges and opportunities
- New and innovative forms of cross-border cooperation developed

### Programme Area: Public Health Initiatives
**Objective:** Improved public health and reduced health inequalities

- Reduced inequalities between user groups
- Developed resources for all levels of health care
- Improved governance in health care
- Strengthened financing systems
- National health registries and health information systems, data management and use improved
- Improved access to and quality of health services including reproductive and preventive child health care
- Improved access to and quality of health services for elderly people
- Life-style related diseases prevented or reduced
- Improved prevention and treatment of communicable diseases (including HIV/AIDS and TB)
- Improved mental health services
- Improved food safety and increased access to information about food safety and health for consumers, public authorities and industry

### Programme area: Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Promoting Work-Life Balance
**Objective:** Gender equality and work-life balance promoted

- Gender issues across policies and practices mainstreamed
- Awareness raised and research on gender issues promoted
- Successful national policies and best practices on gender equality exchanged
- Balance between work, private and family life improved
- Gender balance on company boards improved
- Gender pay gap reduced
- Gender equality ombudspersons/authorities established
- Capacity of gender equality organisations and networks strengthened
| Programme area: Civil Society Support | • Active citizenship fostered  
• Increased involvement of NGOs in decision-making processes with local, regional and national governments  
• Cross-sectoral partnerships developed, particularly with government organisations at local, regional and / or national level  
• Democratic values, including human rights, promoted  
• Advocacy and watchdog role developed  
• Developed networks and coalitions of NGOs working in partnership  
• Strengthened capacity of NGOs and an enabling environment for the sector promoted  
• Increased contribution to sustainable development achieved  
• Provision of welfare and basic services to defined target groups increased  
• Empowerment of vulnerable groups |
|---|---|
| Programme area: Cultural Heritage | • Cultural heritage restored, renovated and protected  
• Cultural history documented  
• Local communities further developed and economically sustainable livelihoods established through the revitalisation of cultural and natural heritage  
• Cultural heritage made accessible to the public |
| Programme area: Local and Regional Initiatives to Reduce National Inequalities and to Promote Social Inclusion | • Regions and urban areas are cooperating in the fields of public and private services, and business development and innovation, to stimulate social and economic development  
• Regions are experiencing improvements particularly with respect to job creation and/or improvement of access to public services  
• Local and regional authorities, as well as private and civil society actors, are developing initiatives to strengthen anti-discriminatory measures for groups vulnerable to social and economic exclusion  
• Local and regional authorities are cooperating with private and civil society actors to strengthen participation in decision-making processes  
• Local and regional authorities are developing and modernising the public sector  
• Measures for groups vulnerable to social and economic exclusion established or strengthened |
| Justice and Home Affairs | Programme area: Domestic and Gender-based Violence | • Gender-based violence reduced  
• Domestic violence reduced  
• Victims of trafficking supported |
### Programme area: Schengen Cooperation and Combating Cross-border and Organised Crime, including Trafficking and Itinerant Criminal Groups

**Objective:** Increase citizen’s security through improvement of the efficiency of cooperation between law enforcement authorities in the Schengen Member States in fighting organised crime, including trafficking in human beings

- Development and improvement of structures, systems and technical equipment in order to improve the implementation of the Schengen acquis
- Strengthening of the cooperation between the police in the Schengen Member States
- Improved capacity to prevent and combat cross-border and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups
- Improved cooperation between the authorities and relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations, in assisting victims of trafficking

### Programme area: Judicial Capacity-building and Cooperation

**Objective:** A fairer and more efficient judicial system

- Improved access to justice, including for vulnerable persons (e.g. victims, minors, minorities)
- Alternative dispute resolutions developed (restorative justice)
- Improved efficiency of the court systems, including the development of systems for case handling
- Increased competence of actors within the judiciary

### Programme area: Correctional Services, including Non-custodial Sanctions

**Objective:** Improved correctional services system in compliance with relevant international human rights instruments

- Overcome challenges connected to growing prison populations and prison overcrowding
- Increased application of alternatives to prison
- Increased focus on vulnerable groups in prison
- Improved competences of both inmates and prison staff