

EEA and Norway Grants

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide a substantial contribution to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area.

The EEA and Norway Grants aim to reduce economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area (EEA) and to strengthen bilateral relations between the donor and beneficiary states. The EEA and Norway Grants are linked to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, which makes Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway part of the EU's Internal Market. Funds are made available to the 12 newest EU member states, and to Greece, Portugal and Spain.

In the period 2004-09, €1.3 billion in support was made available to projects run by the private and public sector, NGOs, research and academic institutions in Central and Southern Europe. Norway provides around 97 percent of the funding. The support includes environmental protection and research, support of children and youth with special needs, conservation and revitalisation of cultural heritage, strengthening of civil society and the fight against organised crime. The EEA and Norway Grants also aim to strengthen bilateral relations between the donor states and the 15 beneficiary states. In addition to nearly 320 large-scale partnership projects, hundreds of smaller-scale partnership projects are supported under the many funds and programmes managed at national level.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the European Union have agreed that almost €1.79 billion in new financial contributions will be made available to the beneficiary states in the period 2009-14, within areas such as environmental protection, climate change and renewable energy, research and education, justice and home affairs, civil society, and promotion of decent work and tripartite dialogue.

Efforts and results 2004-09

Environment and sustainable development

In the projects focusing on energy efficiency and renewable energy, more than **350 schools, hospitals and other public buildings are being renovated** to reduce emissions of CO₂ emissions and other pollutants. Other efforts include reducing water pollution, preserving biodiversity, and supporting environmental research.

European cultural heritage

Restoration of historical buildings, renovation of museums and urban renewal will spur activity and employment. **150 cultural heritage sites** will be opened to the public following renovation works and more than **430 000 cultural artefacts** are being restored and preserved for future generations.



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Civil society support

In addition to 140 large-scale projects by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), more than 1860 sub-projects run by NGOs are awarded support through NGO funds in 12 beneficiary states. The support will strengthen civil society in the beneficiary states and enhance the capacity of NGOs to promote **social inclusion, environmental protection, democracy and human rights**.

Schengen and the judiciary

More than **70 Schengen border crossings** are being secured and **international police cooperation** is being strengthened to better prevent and combat cross-border crime. Prison facilities will be renovated and 1300 young inmates will receive education to help them reintegrate into society.



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Health and childcare

One third of all health projects focus on **children and youth**. In addition to renovation of sport facilities, nursery homes and orphanages, several health promotion programmes have been set up at schools. Refurbishment of hospitals, purchase of new technology and training of more than **9000 medical staff** will increase the annual diagnosis and treatment capacity by health services with **213 000 patients** per year.

Human resources development and research

More than **56 000 public sector employees** participate in capacity-building initiatives. Around **2000 students** will participate in exchange programmes with the donor states and **150 PhDs** are supported.

Regional and cross-border cooperation

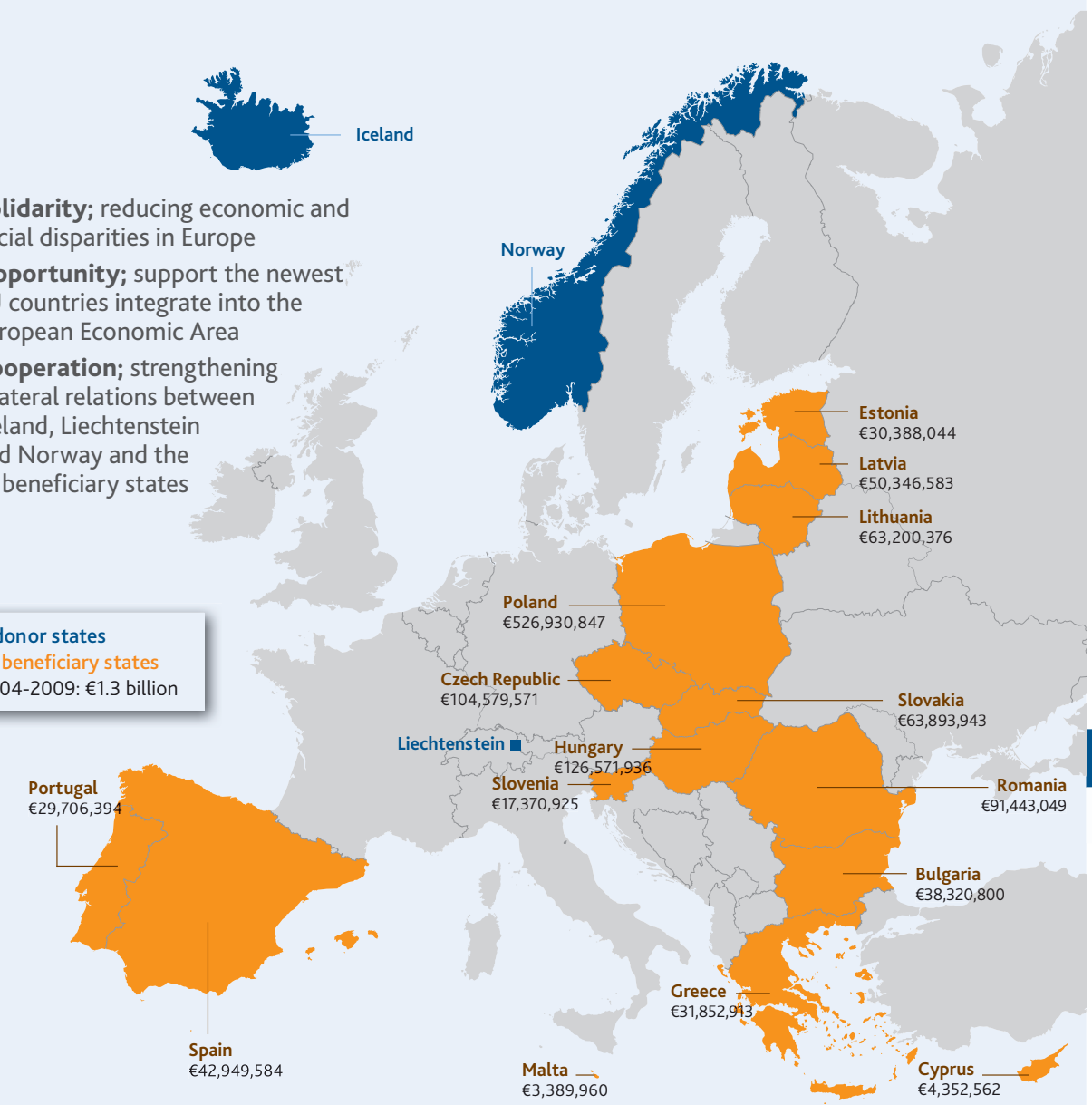
The regional policy projects aim to improve the efficiency, transparency and **quality of public policies and services** at local and regional level, including cross-border cooperation. Nearly **350 programmes** will be developed within these projects to encourage **regional economic development**.



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- **Solidarity;** reducing economic and social disparities in Europe
- **Opportunity;** support the newest EU countries integrate into the European Economic Area
- **Cooperation;** strengthening bilateral relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the 15 beneficiary states

3 donor states
15 beneficiary states
2004-2009: €1.3 billion



EEA GRANTS NORWAY GRANTS



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Making a difference

2004-2009

