Investment in high quality research is essential for building a knowledge-based economy, driving innovation and boosting global competitiveness. Through the EEA and Norway Grants, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway support research cooperation in seven Beneficiary States.

Why support research in Europe?
Investment in research and innovation is important for economic growth and competitiveness. There is a disparity in research and innovation performance across the EU member states. The EU target of investing 3% of GDP in research and development is still far from being reached. Beneficiary States of the EEA and Norway Grants get funding to produce excellent research with partners in Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. The researchers get a chance to network and exchange valuable knowledge and ideas on an international stage, and share state of the art facilities and research infrastructure. In addition to the research results, the partners increase their ability to access EU funding.

What is supported?
The Grants support both basic and applied research, and cooperation with the business sector is encouraged. Supported initiatives include:
- Collaborative projects in basic and applied research
- Establishing partnerships between academia and companies to ensure the application of research results
- Supporting women researchers and young researchers
- Research targeting societal challenges and social innovation
- Supporting the Beneficiary States’ participation in Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe and in the European Research Area

Amounts are in € million and for the period 2014-2021. The figures can be subject to change.
About the EEA and Norway Grants
Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:
• Reducing disparities in Europe
• Strengthening bilateral relations

Areas of support
• Innovation, research, education and competitiveness
• Social inclusion, youth employment and poverty reduction
• Environment, energy, climate change and low carbon economy
• Culture, civil society, good governance and fundamental rights and freedoms
• Justice and home affairs

* EEA Grants are jointly financed by Iceland (3%), Liechtenstein (1%) and Norway (96%) **Norway Grants are solely financed by Norway

Cooperation
Partnerships with entities from the Donor States are required in all projects funded through the research programmes. Partnership opportunities are open for both public entities such as research institutions, and private businesses. To support such bilateral cooperation, the main Donor Programme Partners in this area are the following: the Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannis) and the Research Council of Norway.

Key achievements from the 2009-2014 funding period
In the previous funding period, €132.3 million was allocated to research cooperation programmes resulting in nearly 200 projects in seven countries.

Country Programme Donor Programme Partner
Czech Republic Research Research Council of Norway
Estonia Research and education National Agency for International Education Affairs of Liechtenstein (AIBA), Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills (HK-DIR), Research Council of Norway
Latvia Research and education AIBA, HK-DIR, Research Council of Norway
Lithuania Research AIBA, HK-DIR, Research Council of Norway
Poland Research Research Council of Norway
Portugal Blue growth, innovation and SMEs HK-DIR, Icelandic Centre for Research, Innovation Norway, Research Council of Norway
Romania Research Icelandic Centre for Research, Research Council of Norway

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2 780 researchers were involved in projects
360 research institutions were cooperating
1 360 internationally refereed scientific publications were prepared or published
770 PhDs and Postdocs were supported

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Last updated
February 2022