



**Republic of Latvia
Ministry of Finance (Focal Point)
European Union Funds Monitoring Department**

***Annual Report on the Implementation of
the Norwegian Financial Mechanism
2004 – 2009 in Latvia
September 2009 – August 2010***



Riga

Glossary of Acronyms

APA - the Academic Programme Agency
CBC - the Cross-border cooperation
CFCA - the Central Finance and Contracting Agency
EEA – the European Economic Area
Financial mechanism - the Norwegian Financial Mechanism
Financial mechanisms - the Norwegian Financial Mechanism and the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism
FMO - the Financial Mechanism Office
FP - the Focal Point
GA – the Grant Agreement
IB - the Intermediate Body
IDAL - the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia
MoF – the Ministry of Finance
MoRDLG - the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Governments
MoU - the Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2004 – 2009
NGO – the Nongovernmental Organization
OC - the Open Call
PCR – the Project Completion Report
PIP – the Project Implementation Plan
PIR – the Project Interim Report
PPP Programme - the programme “Promotion of development of public and private partnership in Latvia”
SEDA - the State Education Development Agency
SBG - the Scholarship Block Grant
SIF - the Society Integration Foundation
SMF – the Seed Money Fund
SRDA - the State Regional Development Agency
STEF - the Short Term Expert Fund
TAF - the Technical Assistance Fund

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Introduction

According to the Article 5 of the MoU as well as the Article 3.3 of the *Reporting and monitoring guidelines*, the MoF, acting as the FP for the implementation of the Financial Mechanism in Latvia, prepared the “*Annual report on the implementation of the Norwegian financial mechanism in Latvia September 2009 – August 2010*”.

The document aims to present the process of the implementation of the Financial Mechanism in Latvia, provides overview of the actual state of implementation and describes activities planned for the next reporting period: September 2010 – August 2011.

This document will be discussed during the annual meeting with representatives from the donorstate – Kingdom of Norway - planned for 11 November 2010. Taking into account the requirement set out in the MoU, before submission to the donorstate the report has been approved in the written procedure on 7 October 2010 by the joint Steering and Monitoring Committee for the Financial Mechanisms.

1. Implementation framework and regulatory environment

Within the reporting period the Administrative Territorial Reform and State Administration Structural Reform were still in process which made an impact on the implementation of the Financial Mechanism.

Administrative Territorial Reform

Succession of rights and obligations (including implementation of projects) due to changes of legal status of municipalities regarding Administrative Territorial Reform had to be managed till 1 January 2010. The FP on 3 February 2010 sent to the FMO a letter regarding overview of projects where changes in promoters' and partners' names due to respective reform took place. The FMO officially approved changes in all relevant GAs on 26 February 2010.

State Administration Structural Reform

Taking into account circumstances that the state established universities from 1 January 2009 had no more entitlement for full pre-financing from the state budget and had to finance projects from their own resources as well as difficult economical situation, the FP (on 15 December 2009) proposed to the FMO to consider possibility to assign additional advance payment (exceeding 10% border) for universities implementing projects under the Financial Mechanism. The exceptional advance payments for six projects (LV0044, LV0054, LV0063, LV0086, LV0088 and LV0089) were approved by the FMO on 3 February 2010.

Structural reform of hospitals made an influence only for several projects' partners. Amendments in the GAs related to changes of the projects' partners were made within two projects LV0025 and LV0029. Please see the table below:

Table 1 – Amendments in GAs due to the Structural Reform of Hospitals

Project No.	Description of amendments	Approval date
LV0029	Project partner - Valmiera Hospital was reorganised since 8 August 2007 and now its legal name is Vidzemes Hospital Ltd.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 18 September 2009
LV0025	Due to hospitals' system reform a profile of the project partner – Riga 1 st Hospital – was changed from wide profile hospital to outpatient clinic since 1 January 2010. Therefore since 29 January 2010 Riga 1 st Hospital terminated participation in the project.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 19 April 2010

Project partner - Valmiera Hospital – was reorganised since 8 August 2007 and new partner's legal name is Vidzemes Hospital Ltd.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 25 August 2009
Project partner – Clinical University Hospital “Gailezers” – since 1 August 2008 is incorporated into Riga Eastern Clinical University hospital, which now is a partner of the project.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 13 August 2010
Project partner - Liepaja City Central Hospital - since 1 April 2007 is incorporated in Liepaja Regional Hospita Ltd., which now is a partner of the project.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 13 August 2010
Project partner's - Ventspils Hospital - legal name was changed and now it is Ziemeļkurzeme Regional Hospital Ltd.	Modifications approved by the FMO on 13 August 2010

Mostly actions regarding reorganization of state institutions were done by the end of 2009. From 1 January 2010 the promoter of the project LV0045 – the State Agency "Latvian Fish Resources Agency" and the promoter of the project LV0047 – the National Diagnostic Centre of the Food and Veterinary Service – were reorganised and merged into one institution – State Research Institute “Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment” BIOR. The Ministry of Agriculture undertook implementation of the projects LV0045 and LV0047, but the above mentioned state institute was involved as a partner in both projects. Intermediary of the block grant LV0014 – the State Agency “Academic Programme Agency” – was liquidated and from 1 January 2010 the implementation of the block grant was undertaken by the SEDAs. Respective changes in the GAs were approved by the FMO.

Simplification of Management System

Within reporting period the work on simplification of the Financial Mechanism implementation system continued. Informative statement “*On Simplification of Management System of EEA Financial Mechanism and Norwegian Financial Mechanism*” was approved by the Government on 5 January 2010.

The simplification of the management system foresees following main measures:

- delegation of the approval of PIRs and PCRs to the CFCA on behalf of the FP, in order to reduce time period of evaluation and approval of PIRs and PCRs at the national level;
- merging of the Monitoring Committee and the Steering Committee in joint committee – the Monitoring and Steering Committee, in order to reduce number of institutions involved within management of the Financial Mechanism;
- speed up the flow of documentation and decision making process on project reports (PIRs, PCRs) thereby contributing to more effective and quicker acquisition of available funds from the Financial Mechanism (the necessary changes in legal acts which regulate management of the Financial Mechanisms is in process).

FP's proposal for amendments of the MofU regarding merging of the Monitoring Committee and the Steering Committee was sent to the FMO on 3 March 2010. The Rules of Cabinet of Ministers “*Monitoring and Steering committee of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism*” were approved by the Government on 29 June 2010.

Due to simplification of management system of the Financial Mechanism the corresponding amendments in the “*Law of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism*” were approved by the Parliament of Latvia (Saeima) on 6 May 2010 and (came into force on 2 June 2010). Elaboration of necessary amendments in corresponding secondary legislation – Rules of Cabinet of Ministers – is in process and necessary amendments are planned to be made till the end of 2010.

2. Progress made towards implementation of individual projects

In accordance with national legislative acts individual project (hereof - project) can be implemented (also the start date for eligibility of expenditures) only after signing the Cooperation Agreement between the project promoter, the CFCA and the IB.

During reporting period last Cooperation agreement was signed (LV0080) and one Declaration of Termination of the GA (LV0053) was signed on 12 January 2010, because the project promoter (Eko Osta Ltd.) refused to implement the project.

In total 66 individual projects (including TAF) are implemented within the Financial Mechanisms. From these projects 42 are financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, 21 - from the EEA Financial Mechanism and 3 projects (LV0007, LV0052, LV0095) are with split funding - 50 % from each of the Financial Mechanisms.

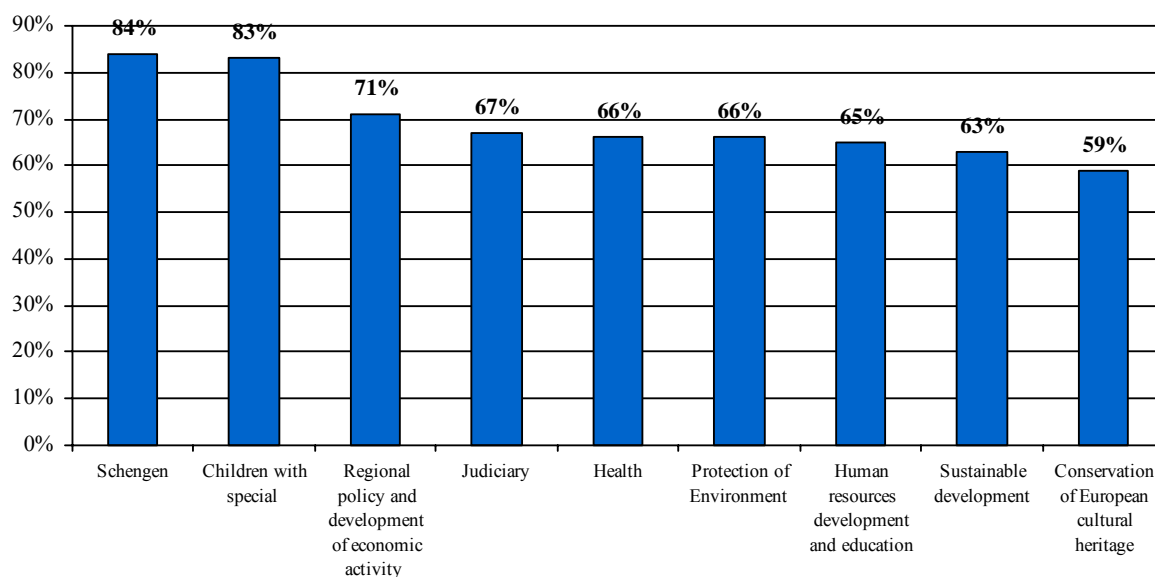
From 45 individual projects co-financed from the Financial Mechanism:

- 7 have been completed by 31 August 2010;
- 10 are planned to be completed during September-December of 2010;
- 27 are planned to be completed till 30 April 2011;
- TAF is prolonged till 30 April 2012.

It is planned that till 31 October 2011 last PIRs of projects will be submitted to the FMO for approval. Taking into account the experience gained so far last PCRs will be submitted to the FMO latest till the end of February 2012, thereby financial flow, i.e., disbursements are foreseen also in the first quarter of 2012.

Please find statistical data showing actual average progress of projects' estimated percentage complete certain field by the end of reporting period in the graph bellow:

*Graph 1 – Projects' estimated percentage complete within priorities till 31 August 2010**



** as stated by projects' promoters in latest PIRs received at national level. The best estimate, on the day of submission of the PIR, of the percentage of the project scope as defined in the indicators that have been completed*

The high result within *Schengen* priority could be explained by the implementation of five individual projects which were chosen within restricted call and approved by the FMO in the first half of 2008. Thus, the greater progress is related with the restricted open call and early start of implementation of projects. The results within *Children with special needs* priority are

very close to the *Schengen* priority due to the fact that three-sided agreements on implementation of individual projects within the *Children with special needs* priority were signed without delay and the projects can be started according to the planned schedule. The lowest percentage of individual projects' implementation progress is within *Conservation of European cultural heritage* priority in which it does not exceed 59%. The result is based on the fact that two individual projects were approved within the first open call for individual projects and four individual projects - within the second open call. The implementation of the last ones started only in the second and third quarter of 2009.

There are 3 projects in total for 1 296 234 EUR (4,01% from the total allocation) completed during the reporting period reaching the objectives set in the PIP and one PCR is already approved by the FMO:

- As a result of the project LV0022 "Strengthening the Judiciary in Latvia by Improving Capacity of the State Forensic Science Bureau of Latvia in Order to Comply with Best Practice and International Quality Standards" the capacity of the State Forensic Science Bureau is improved by implantation of quality assurance system and installation of new equipment in order to ensure fair legal proceedings in Latvia and its compliance with best practice and international quality standards. 5 forensic procedures for the quality manual were documented, 3 new forensic methods were elaborated and electronic access control system was implemented, this all contributed in reduction of number of pending cases and helped to improve protection of individual rights and strengthening of the courts' system in Latvia. During the implementation signed partnership agreement between the promoter and the Norwegian partner (National Criminal Investigation Service's Forensic Science Department of Norway) created the basis for successful mutual cooperation in the field of forensic investigation.

PCR template was received from the FMO on 23 September 2010 and 97,2% grant is used.

- The result of project LV0038 "Equipment of regional classrooms of Latvia State Police College" is the installation of 130 IT equipment units in the classrooms of five regional State Police College training centres. Installed IT equipment will be used for training of State Police College's personal in the field of Schengen and language training as well. As the regional State Police College training centres are placed in different regions of Latvia: in Daugavpils, Valmiera, Gulbene, Liepaja and Riga region; the courses provided in these classrooms will ensure the possibility to train the regional State Police staff more efficiently.

One of the aims of the newly equipped regional classrooms is distance education possibilities, which means that the regional State Police have more opportunities to participate in the training activities and to improve their professional skills.

PCR was sent to the FMO for approval on 8 October 2010 and 95,7% grant is used.

- Within the project LV0055 "Capacity building of planning and project development in Kurzeme Planning Region" administrative capacity was increased in regional spatial planning and project management in Kurzeme planning region and socioeconomic and human resources capacity disparities were reduced among municipalities of Kurzeme Region. Qualification of specialists of municipalities was increased in 14 training courses during which the following issues were presented: action policy elaboration and implementation, establishment of effective management (human resources, financial planning and IT systems) and the project cycle management (project implementation, elaboration of reports, PPP).

The developed 8 strategic documents for Kurzeme Planning Region and its local government municipalities and Action plan for Kurzeme Planning Region created the

basis for sustainable, competitive and balanced development of the whole Kurzeme region.

PCR was approved by the FMO on 28 September 2010 and 100% grant is used.

Partners from Latvia and donorstate were welcomed and encouraged to participate in projects, therefore certain number of partners during reporting period were actively continuing their participation in approved projects and some new partnerships were created. In total from 64 (excluding TAF) individual projects 26 (41%) have established fruitful bilateral partnerships. Please find the assessment of the effects on the bilateral relations with donorstate in the Appendix 1.

Description of the overall benefit of the Financial Mechanism's priority sector in question, including the impact on the respective target groups

The impact on direct target groups in each priority area from projects financed from both Financial Mechanisms (except the projects of Schengen, Regional and Judiciary priority which are funded only from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism) has been estimated in the Appendix 2.

The objective and expected results of projects are in compliance with certain national, regional and local strategic documents in each priority area, which can be seen in the Appendix 3.

[Please find below summary information about main results](#) achieved in each priority area by implementation of [projects](#) funded from both Financial Mechanisms, except the projects of Schengen, Regional and Judiciary priority, which are funded only from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism.

Schengen priority

The overall benefit within the priority is the implementation of the following procedures for strengthening Schengen *acquis* requirements:

1. Improvement and centralization of the State Punishment Register in accordance with international standards.
2. Implementation of procedures for Information and communications technologies (ICT) infrastructure in order to secure administration in accordance with international standards.
3. Strengthened capacity of the SIRENE bureau and optimized of bureau's operation.
4. Equipped regional classrooms of the National Police College with new technical equipment will help to provide qualitative training courses for the State Police personal, therefore increasing qualification of State Police officers.
5. Improved equipment of Latvian diplomatic and consular representations in order to ensure Schengen visa issuance using Schengen Information System, thus providing higher security within Schengen area.
6. Facilitating decrease of crime rate in Latvia and faster detection of crime offences.

The direct target group which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects is employees of state institutions involved in the implementation of the Schengen Treaty requirements.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annex B of the MoU:

Table 2 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
Strengthening police-cooperation in order to prepare for membership in	1. Classrooms of five regional State Police College training centres with 130 IT equipment units were equipped with

the Schengen information system	<p>the aim to increase the qualification of police officers in Schengen area issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. In order to enhance security and to facilitate the introduction of SIS II at Latvian diplomatic and consular representations, Latvian diplomatic and consular representations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was equipped with 205 technical equipment units 3. First pilot version of data warehouse solution was successfully developed and tested with the aim to provide Information systems' users of the Information Centre of the Ministry of the Interior with fast and efficient information processing and display of analytical tasks
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Children with special needs priority

The main result reached under the priority is already established infrastructure for children with special needs in Jelgava city and Dauguli special educational school. The positive impact will be reached as well by the implementation of new approaches of development of mentally disabled children and strengthening ties between families with disabled children through the education of social workers from municipalities, NGOs and parents. The attention of the society to the problems and needs of disabled children will be drawn during publicity activities planned within the projects.

The direct target groups which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects are children with special needs, families of children with special needs, teachers, social workers and NGOs, which work with children with special needs.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annexes B of the MoUs:

Table 3 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
1. Improved access and treatment of children with special needs in the health care system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multifunctional Support Center operational concepts was developed 2. Development of video material for information of society about the Multifunctional Support Center was completed 3. 1000 copies of booklet were issued about the activities of the Multifunctional Support Center 4. 599 m2 premises for multifunctional rehabilitation centre for children with special needs were renovated 5. Working Programme and Guidelines for Children Early Functional Evaluation was developed
2. Integration of children with special needs in the educational system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three kinds of pedagogical materials was prepared for children with special needs 2. Educational, health and children school life quality was improved, as the result 58 children with special needs could continue their educational process in newly renovated and equipped boarding school 3. 4 days non-formal educational activity for 40 children with special needs was held 4. 3 training seminars for 11 parents and 10 specialists were took place

Regional policy and development of economic activity priority

Important contribution has been provided to solve the problems that exist in Latvia in the area of regional development whereas in order to promote regional development also in future innovations in entrepreneurship and industry sectors, the usage of renewable energy, spatial planning, public services, development of human resources, promotion of public and private partnership, collaboration with donor state in research area and other significant areas for regional development shall be improved in Latvia.

The impact of projects implemented under the priority is positive on Latvian regional development. The main benefits are as follows:

1. Capacity of the planning regions and municipalities' employees and specialists has been improved (action policy elaboration and implementation, establishment of effective management, project cycle, spatial planning issues and software training, business development issues etc.).
2. Developed PPP schemes and financial-economic justifications will contribute to the development of better employment opportunities, development and maintenance of infrastructure, provision of public service and business in the cities and regions of Latvia.
3. Several planning documents have been elaborated regarding significant regional issues – development programmes of municipalities, public transport development programmes and strategies for planning regions of Latvia. Research regarding regional development issues has been carried out.
4. Several project applications and technical documentation have been elaborated.
5. Implementation of projects improves balanced and sustainable economical development in the regions, for example, development of business gardens, Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, spatial planning development.
6. In the result of cooperation among planning regions, municipalities and foreign partners new cooperation networks have been developed, experience has been taken over in areas of spatial planning, promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship at a regional level, establishment and maintenance of business gardens etc.
7. Investments in development of regions' infrastructure (water consumption, development of ports, premises of business gardens, centres) contribute to sustainability, competitiveness of regions in Latvia and tourism development.
8. Introduction of innovative spatial planning methods and improved infrastructure will improve the life environment of regions and tourists' flow.
9. Awareness of the society about spatial planning and business promotion activities like business incubators, business gardens, clusters, technology parks etc. will be raised within publicity activities planned in projects.

The main target groups which will be affected in result of the implementation of the individual projects are the following: researchers, schools and university personnel, pupils and students, policy makers, regional and local governments, private sector and citizens of municipalities.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annex B of the MoU:

Table 4 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
1. Local and regional development promotion programmes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 20 development documentation (programmes of municipalities, sectorial programmes, planning documents and action plans) was elaborated 2. Methodological material on spatial planning in Zemgale region was prepared 3. Administrative and institutional model for the integrated public transport system's service system and 4 reports

	presenting models for public utility systems in Kurzeme region were developed
2. Development of public-private partnership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Various public private partnership schemes for street renovation and maintenance in Jelgava city were assessed 2. PPP feasibility study about Daugavpils Fortress was elaborated 3. 3 PPP pilot projects' concepts in Zemgale region were elaborated
3. Support of sustainable economic development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 10 investment projects were identified and prepared 2. Unified database for industrial territories and database of traffic lights, signs, lightening, kerbs and pavement in Zemgale region was created 3. 86 (total target 114) direct water management system transmission points in Talsu county were established 4. 872,67 m² premises for Business Gardens in Zemgale region were renovated
4. Institutional strengthening of regional development bodies and institutions, involved in public-private partnership project implementation and promotion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 103 persons were trained on PPP method 2. 35 persons were trained on business development and networking
5. Strengthening research and assessment capacity on regional development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 7 joint studies about different regional development issues were carried out 2. Research about Zemgale borderland economical potential was carried out
6. Competence building on financial management and audit in the municipalities	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
7. Networking and sharing of experience on local development between regional development bodies	40 partner institution researchers were involved in methodological seminars and peer review activities related to regional development research
8. Networking between Latvian and Norwegian institutions and local governments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cooperation network between Zemgale Plannig Region and Spydeberg municipality (Norway) was developed 2. cooperation network between Kurzeme Planning Region and Ostfold County Council (Norway) was developed

Judiciary and Technical assistance in implementation of Acquis communautaire priority

In general the co-financing from the Financial Mechanism has helped to solve part of the problems that exist in Latvia in the prison and probation area. At the same time it should be concluded that there is an actual need for additional financing for improvement of prisons and probation system in Latvia. The Ministry of Justice has already developed further initiatives for improving prison and probation system so the system would correspond to human rights and best practice of other European Union Member States.

The main benefits as follows:

1. Prisons have been renovated, resocialization programmes for prisoners have been elaborated and resocialization programmes for prisoners and former prisoners have been implemented regularly.
2. Employees from various state institutions and legal professionals have been trained about issues of the prison and probation system.
3. Researches about problems, necessary improvements and amendments of national legal acts, have been carried out in criminal justice field.

4. Cooperation among state institutions, NGOs, municipalities, foreign partners, and legal practitioners have been facilitated and carried out through building up cooperation with mentioned institutions for solving various problems in the judiciary priority.
5. Capacity has been built up by equipping premises with the newest equipment for the detection of crime or for more effective implementation of resocialization of prisoners or former convicts.
6. Introduction of social rehabilitation measures focused to professional education, thus improving the reintegration of prisoners into labour market.
7. Introduction of new alternative to pre-trial detention – bail supervision – in two pilot sites will help in future to reduce overall number of incarcerated persons.

The main target groups which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects are convicts, prisoners and former convicts, employees of prisons and probation institutions, law-enforcement institutions (police, customs, border guards, prosecutor's office and courts), judges, practicing lawyers and employees of public administration institutions.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annex B of the MoU:

Table 5 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2001
1. Improved standard of prison buildings and training of personnel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 guidelines for prison standards were elaborated 2. 25 persons were trained for use of resocialization model in prisons 3. 3 training programmes were elaborated for prison officers and for probation officers
2. Educational programmes in prisons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resocialization model for inmates in Zemgale prisons was elaborated 1. Motivation programme was elaborated with an aim to motivate the prisoners to education activities and to change their motivation and thinking in order to take a step further to law-obedient life 2. Educational programme in wood and metal processing and also in welding and electricity were implemented in Jelgava prison
3. Improved health care and health information for prison inmates	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
4. Preventive action to reduce youth criminality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity building of juvenile justice specialists in Zemgale region on 5 aspects concerning elimination of youth criminality was performed 2. Juvenile justice co-operation mechanism in Zemgale region was developed in order to ensure regular and coordinated cooperation of institutions at municipal level dealing with the prevention of juvenile delinquency 3. 19 security cameras in 4 Latvian cities (Jēkabpils, Bauska, Aizkraukle and Dobeles) were installed
5. Competence building in the courts to enhance EU regulations	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
6. Combating and preventing organized crime	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 16 equipment for investigation of crime scene was purchased 2. 3 new research methods were implemented 3. 5 descriptions of new quality system procedures were implemented

7. Improved competence programmes and physical conditions for asylum seekers and illegal immigrants	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
8. Strengthening of the probation system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 30 various training activities were implemented 2. 3 risk instruments were adapted for assessing the delinquency of sex offenders 3. Sex-offender treatment and relapse prevention programme was adapted

Health priority

The financing received from the Financial Mechanisms under this priority has been sufficient for achievement of within the individual projects' planned objectives and results. The main benefit for the priority is the introduction of e-health solutions as this includes the possibility to improve the quality of hospital services, to reduce the number of paper work and to use more modern technologies in health care sector. Other benefits under the priority are as follows:

1. Accessibility to the cancer diagnostic services and quality of these services will be ensured, which is vitally important for early diagnostics and early treatment of cancer.
2. Construction of a new building for outpatient department providing new types of psychiatric care has a positive impact on development of health care.
3. Improvement of overall efficiency of blood-vessel surgery will be ensured by developing specific information system for blood-vessel surgery purposes.
4. Increased public awareness about health care services.

The direct target groups which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects are national and regional hospitals, employees of hospitals and clients of hospitals.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annexes B of the MoUs:

Table 6 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
1. Reduction of mortality and spread of communicable diseases	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4 (total target 9) microbiologists about usage of WHONET software (collection of microbiological data) were trained 2. 4 hospitals (total target 6) in Valmiera, Daugavpils, Ventspils and Liepaja city are using unified protocols for resistance testing of most important nosocomial infections
2. Reduction and prevention of lifestyle-related diseases	3 health prevention programmes were elaborated in Ilukste county
3. Improvement of mental health care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 multi-disciplinary teams in Daugavpils Psychoneurological Hospital were created 2. New Ambulatory Department building in Daugavpils Psychoneurological Hospital was constructed
4. Improvement of technical and professional capacity of health care institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Digital radiology system in Daugavpils Regional Hospital and digital image transition system in Riga Eastern Clinical University Hospital was introduced 4. Secure wireless network in 15 departments of Traumatology and Orthopedics Hospital was established 5. Mobile mammography unit to "Health Centre 4" was delivered and it is ready to work in whole country

Protection of the environment and Sustainable development priority

Five projects from seven projects within the priority “Protection of Environment” and five projects from six projects within the priority “Sustainable development” are still in the implementation process. But it is already clear that positive impact from both priorities will be reached within environmental field. The main benefits after projects’ completion for both priorities will be the following:

1. Improvement of the long-term maintaining of environment quality.
2. Introduction of the new testing possibilities regarding important environmental contaminants.
3. Facilitation of further possibilities for determination and evaluation of important environmental pollutants.
4. Increase of capacity of municipalities, environmental NGOs and owners of protected areas in the elaboration of nature protection plans.
5. Development of social dialogue between tourism and environment facilitating development of green tourism and reducing negative impact on environment.
6. Transfer of knowledge to broader target groups and thereby facilitating the development of aquaculture system in Latvia.
7. Sustainable development and usage of Natura 2000 territories by elaborating of nature protection plans municipalities receives tools for better management and development of territories of Natura 2000 territories.
8. Facilitation of communication and understanding between public institutions, NGOs, stakeholders, forest owners and other involved persons.
9. Strengthening of sustainable development of the nature park’s area.
10. Increase of the level of understanding of the society about environmental issues, environment protection and sustainable development.
11. Decrease of the heating costs and reduction of maintenance costs within the municipality by installation of ground source heating systems and insulation of buildings.

The direct target groups which will be impacted in the result of implementation of projects are public institutions and NGO performing in environment sector, municipalities and private companies.

Please find below information about current projects’ results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annexes B of the MoUs:

Table 7 – Projects’ results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
Protection of the environment priority	
1. Integrated pollution prevention and control	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation of environmental pollution from fish factories regarding polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) as well as freshwater fish contamination with dioxins was performed, as the result 50 analysis on PAH in 5 fish processing factories were taken 2. Assessment of the PAH content in surrounding environment of fish factories was done, as the result 1 report of PAH content was produced 3. 26 fish processing enterprises were informed via seminars and buckets about PAH concentrations in surrounding environment
2. Encouraging the use of renewable energy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 18 m2 solar panels for heating water were installed in Environmental Education and Information Centre of North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve 2. 675 m2 area of Environmental Education and Information Centre of North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve was heated by ground source heat pumps

3. Improved monitoring systems of pollution, especially from agricultural activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Method for making dioxin analysis in Latvia was established 2. 4 experts from fish processing enterprises were trained in dioxin analysis
4. Development of electric and electronic equipment waste management systems	<p>Results will be achieved in the next reporting period:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure for collection and storage of electric and electronic waste will be created, as the result 1 storage place (shed), 1 supply line and 1 sorting line will be purchased for increase of the scope of recyclable WEEE waste 2. Education campaign in 20 schools will be carried out to inform about WEEE and protection of environment by collecting and sorting WEEE waste
Sustainable development priority	
1. Competence building in the field of sustainable development and possible establishment of the Sustainable Development Institute	<p>Results will be achieved in the next reporting period:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5 tourism development plans will be developed to contribute in the products and services that are well demanded in the market 2. Guideline document for management of Natura 2000 territories based on principles of sustainable development will be prepared 3. 6 elaborated nature protection plans will be developed to improve national park management capacity, public knowledge and existing infrastructure 4. national accounting system will be developed for the forest sector based in monetary values that allow integration of environmental concerns
2. Encouraging organic agriculture	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
3. Increased natural resources management and efficient use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local management of inland waters' fish resources and aquaculture by establishment of information system was improved 2. 10 academic education modules were developed in the field of aquaculture

Human recourse development and education priority

The overall benefits of priority will be reached by the following activities:

1. Improvement of education, training and lifelong education system:
 - the highest impact is in university education area.
 - in the general education area one new multimedia studying software for natural science studies is under development;
 - in the lifelong learning area.
1. Organisation of trainings for improvement of professional skills of employees of central and local government institutions, management and employees of enterprises in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship, environmental protection and health.
2. Improvement of professional skills of teachers of vocational schools and teachers of adult vocational further education.
3. Introduction of non-formal methods for environmental education for pupils and academic personal.
4. Supporting education programmes in multi-media field and environmental protection.
5. Improvement of quality of general, vocational distance and university education, thus helping to increase the possibilities for the Latvian higher education export.
6. Awareness of the society on the issues of environment and sustainable development, creativity and innovation will be raised.

The direct target groups which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects are students and academic personnel of higher educational establishments, pupil of high schools, employees of state and municipality institutions, teachers of high schools, vocational schools and teachers of adult vocational further education and management and employees of enterprises.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annexes B of the MoUs:

Table 8 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
1. Improvement of education, training and lifelong education systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 330,8 m2 premises of Liepaja University for new media art education were renovated 2. Methodological resource room in Riga Teacher Training and Educational Management Academy was established for the research in creativity 3. Environmental Modelling centre in Riga was established 4. 6 (total target 8) study courses/ training modules for employees of state and municipality institution were developed 5. 12 (total target 14) study materials' packages in environmental science for university level study programmes was developed
2. Strengthening of civil society and society integration in accordance with the priorities set out in the national programme for civil society development, including language training	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
3. Support to education programmes in multi-media field and environmental protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E-platform for lifelong education programmes realization was improved 2. 6 (total target 8) multimedia educational materials in environmental science were developed

Conservation of European heritage priority

All approved six individual projects are still in the implementation process, but it is already clear that positive impact from the priority will be reached within preservation of cultural heritage field.

The Financial Mechanisms' grants are very important for the culture, especially for the preservation of Latvian cultural heritage and sustainable and efficient functioning of historical cultural objects for needs of the society. With co-financing of Financial Mechanisms historical town centers are preserved, historical wooden buildings are restored, valuable art works are purchased, renowned and digitalized, as well as services offered by museums are diversified and improved. All of above mentioned cultural heritage objects are with high social-economic and tourism potential.

The positive impact on the society of Latvia and its quality of life will be reached by the promotion of understanding and interest in Latvian cultural heritage, especially in art and architecture. The number of local visitors and foreign tourists could rise due to restoration and modernization of the infrastructure of museums. The new opportunities to diversify exhibitions and services as well as to make them more accessible and attractive to regional residents, disabled people and youth will increase a positive impact on all society of Latvia. Thanks to the improved and modernized museums' infrastructure and the purchased, restored

and digitalized art works the cultural heritage will become available to a larger part of the society.

The direct target groups which will be affected in the result of implementation of projects are museums and their employees, restorers and craftsmen.

Please find below information about current projects' results achieved within sub-priority of respective priority defined in the Annexes B of the MoUs:

Table 9 – Projects' results by sub-priorities of respective priority

Sub-priority	Results till 31 August 2010
1. Training craftsmen in restoration	5 (from 10) craftsmen were trained
2. Restoration of historic centres of Latvian towns	Results will be achieved in the next reporting period: 1. Guidelines for restoration and maintenance of Daugavpils Fortress will be developed 2. Development and regeneration plan for Valmiera old town will be drawn up 3. Historic centres of Daugavpils, Kuldiga and Valmiera will be partially restored
3. Establishment of an Art-Nouveau centre in Riga	No projects were approved under this sub-priority
4. Documentation and preservation of Soviet period non-conformist heritage	1. 1057 (total target 1108) art works were restored and 2439 (total target 4910) art works were digitalised 2. 3 (total target 5) restorers specialised in contemporary art were trained 3. 83 artworks were added to collection of non-conformist art
5. Restoration of wooden architecture	1. 1 (total target 5) Kuldiga County Museum was restored 2. Wooden architecture restoration centre in Kuldiga was created

3. Progress made towards implementation of programmes and block grants

In Latvia there are 9 programmes/block grants in total financed from both Financial Mechanisms: 3 are financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, 3 - from the EEA Financial Mechanism, and 3 are with split funding - 50% from each of the Financial Mechanisms. From 6 programmes/block grants co-financed from the Financial Mechanism, one has been completed in the end of 2007 (SMF), one will be completed in the last quarter of 2010 (STEF), and 4 in April 2011.

It is planned that till 31 October 2011 last PIRs will be submitted to the FMO for approval. Taking into account the experience gained so far last PCR's will be submitted to the FMO latest till the end of February 2012, thereby financial flow, i.e., disbursements are foreseen also in the first quarter of 2012.

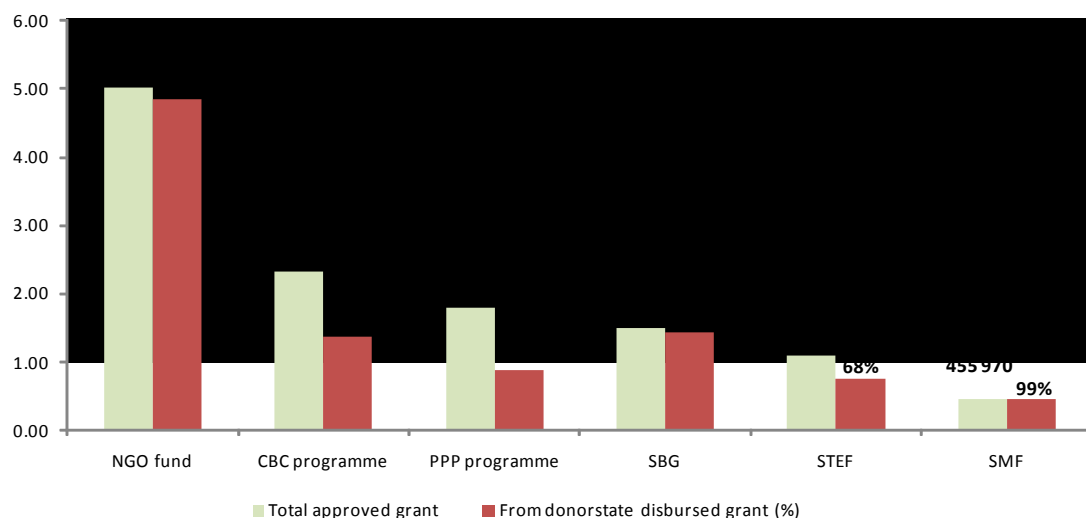
There were only several OCs for subprojects left to be announced and completed during the reporting period, which were within the SBG. Therefore main attention of Intermediaries was focused on signing of implementation contracts with approved promoters of subprojects, controlling implementation of subprojects by verifying progress reports, amendment requests, as well as publicity activities. Please find statistical data regarding OCs for subprojects in the Appendix 4 as well as main publicity activities in the Appendix 5.

Partners from Latvia and donorstate were welcomed and encouraged to participate in projects, therefore certain number of partners during reporting period were actively continuing their participation in approved programmes and block grants and some new partnerships joined during this period. In total from 133 subprojects implemented during reporting period 29 (22%) have established direct or indirect bilateral partnerships. Please find the assessment of the effects on the bilateral relations with donorstate in the Appendix 1.

Information about objectives of particular programme/block grant compliance with the national strategic documents as well as target groups, benefiting from respective programme/block grant, can be seen in the Appendix 6.

The graph below shows available grant of programmes and block grants approved by the donorstate versus from donorstate disbursed grant amount in percents. Disbursements are more than 50% in all programmes/block grants except PPP programme where 49% of grant has been disbursed by donorstate.

Graph 2 – Within programmes/block grants available grant versus disbursed grant, million EUR



Seed Money Facility (SMF)

The SMF is the first block grant which is completed in Latvia. The PCR has been successfully approved in March 2010. 99.4% of the available grant was used.

Summarising all results it can be concluded that the SMF was implemented successfully. 141 proposals (45 from NGOs, 43 - private companies, 38 - local governments, 15 - state institutions) were received within the single OC and 33 subprojects were approved (4 in the priority "Protection of the Environment"; 3 – "Sustainable development"; 3 – "Conservation of European cultural heritage"; 5 – "Health"; 4 – "Children with special needs"; 7 – "Human resources development and education"; 3 – "Judiciary"; 4 – "Regional policy and development of economic activity").

All supported subprojects were successfully implemented. Nine were implemented in cooperation with various organizations from Norway. The cooperation included involving guest lecturers or experts (from universities, state institutions and cooperation) and organizing numerous experience exchange activities. No partnership was established with partners from Liechtenstein and Iceland.

31 out of 33 promoters, submitted applications for grant in the 2nd OC for individual projects. 10 of them were approved and received a grant from the EEA Financial Mechanism: LV0070, LV0079, LV0094 and from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism: LV0076, LV0077 LV0068, LV0080, LV0083 LV0086, LV0087.

NGO Fund

During the reporting period 25 subprojects were supported within the final, 4th, OC in following sub-measures:

- within the *NGO activity support measure* 7 subprojects from 75 submitted;
- within the *NGO capacity strengthening measure* 6 subprojects from 95 submitted;
- within the *NGO project measure* 12 subprojects from 176 submitted.

On 31 August 2010 in total implementation of 48 subprojects are completed within the *NGO capacity strengthening measure*, 23 within the *NGO project measure* and 18 within the *NGO activity support measure*.

On 28 April 2010 the SIF in collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy and the association "Civic Alliance - Latvia" organised the seminar "NGO Fund in Latvia" which was held in Riga. The objective of the seminar was to obtain a retrospective view on results and achievements under the NGO Fund before the next planning period. Report on seminar's course, participants and results are published in the SIF's webpage (<http://lsif.lv/en/funded-projects/eea-and-norwegian-financial-mechanism>). NGOs admit that multiyear projects of the capacity development for the organizations extremely welcome to strengthen capacity of the civil society groups. As well as the research "Opinion of applicants and beneficiaries about the management of the Financial Mechanisms' NGO fund" carried out in the November 2009 is published in the SIF's webpage.

Following results are achieved:

- strengthened professionalism of human resources acting in NGOs – performed trainings of NGOs' staff, developed strategies, increased number of the NGOs' members, etc.;
- improved material and technical basis of NGOs – created new home pages, carried out repair works, purchased equipment, etc.;
- promoted cooperation of NGOs – exchanged experience within NGOs in Latvia and other countries, created new NGOs, participation in international arrangements, etc.;
- improved quality of services provided by NGOs for the target groups – provided trainings, organized different arrangements – conferences, forums, information days, etc.;

- provided uninterrupted and active operation of NGOs in different fields (for example – protection of environment, protection of society's health, gender equality, promotion of democracy, advocacy and integration of different social groups);
- promoted society's participation in NGOs through publications, TV broadcasts and different activities organized by the NGOs;
- provided participation of NGOs in policy-making processes in Latvian municipalities, state administration and at EU level;
- implemented NGO projects in different fields.

Scholarship Block Grant (SBG)

Due to reorganization of state institutions the APA (the Intermediary) has been liquidated and starting from January 2010 its functions, including implementation of the SBG, were taken over by the SEDA.

In September 2009 the 7th OC in all three sub-measures was announced. In the result 32 subprojects (from 85 submitted) in Students' mobility, 20 subprojects (from 41 submitted) in Education Staff mobility and 5 subprojects (from 5 submitted) in Teacher Assistants' mobility were approved.

Due to the liquidation of the APA the last, 8th, OC in Education Staff mobility was postponed and launched on 30 March 2010 (planned in December 2009). In the last open call 109 applications were received from which 27 were approved.

Within all OC 371 applications were approved:

- 156 in Students' mobility (versus 117 planned in the PIP);
- 207 in Education Staff mobility (versus 100 planned in the PIP);
- 8 in Teacher Assistants' mobility (versus 17 planned in the PIP).

Following results are achieved – improved quality of education, established cooperation between Latvian and donorstate higher educational institutions, provided opportunity for students from Latvia to study in donorstate, for teachers, lectures and management staff to attend courses, lectures and to exchange experience in donorstate.

Short Term Expert Fund (STEF)

Within the STEF all 27 subprojects were completed during the 1st quarter of 2010.

Because one of subproject's promoters from the 2nd OC refused to implement the subproject as well as because within several subprojects savings were established, the Intermediary proposed to transfer savings to new fund's activity "Educational and informational activities for the society", which was approved by the FMO in May 2010. New activity includes practical educational seminars on specific themes and thematic TV broadcasts about results and best practices gained within subprojects. Savings were too small for announcement of new OC and there would be no time left for implementation of subprojects from additional OC.

Following results are achieved:

- carried out different researches (both feasibility studies for identifying the situation, and analysis of good practices);
- exchange experience visits – participants from Latvia (from municipalities and state institutions) visited related institutions in EEA countries;
- provided trainings, seminars and working groups for municipalities and state institutions, as well as, informational arrangements for wider society groups.

Promotion of Development of Public and Private Partnership in Latvia (PPP Programme)

During the reporting period the maximal implementation period of subprojects was prolonged from 10 till 18 months, because some subprojects faced difficulties in the procurement process

which made significant delays on the implementation schedule. One promoter resigned from a grant and therefore funding was granted to reserve subproject, which started only in October 2009.

In total 13 subprojects were approved: 5 implemented by the ministries and 8 by the local and regional municipalities. Implementation of 8 subprojects is completed and final reports are submitted to the Intermediary for evaluation, from which 1 is approved.

Following results are achieved:

- developed financial and economical substantiations for public and private partnership projects;
- developed procurement documentation for public and private partnership project;
- trained staff of ministries and local and regional municipalities to develop financial and economical substantiations and procurement documentation for public and private partnership projects.

Cross-border Cooperation Programme (CBC Programme)

During the reporting period the Intermediary supported last subproject within the CBC Programme. In total 10 subprojects were supported instead of 48 planned, because applicants' activity was lower than planned and only 35 applications were submitted (the main reason is – limited co-financing possibilities). Taking into account that almost in all applications requested grant was near the maximum only 10 promoters were supported.

Implementation of 1 subproject is completed and the final report is approved by the Intermediary. Implementation of 9 subprojects are still in process. There are delays in some subprojects' activities, due to difficulties with purchases – some procurement results has been appealed, but in some cases announcement of tenders is delayed. Nonetheless the Intermediary asserted that all subprojects will be completed in December 2010.

Following results are achieved:

- trained staff of NGOs and Latgale planning region;
- improved material and technical base of NGOs, municipalities and involved organizations – created new home pages, developed the concept of development of management system, purchased equipment, etc.;
- promoted cross-border cooperation between Latvian and neighbourhood countries' NGOs, municipal institutions, etc.;
- provided services for target groups – training courses, seminars, creative, classes, symposiums, summer camps, questionnaires, developed educational programmes and technical documentations, etc.

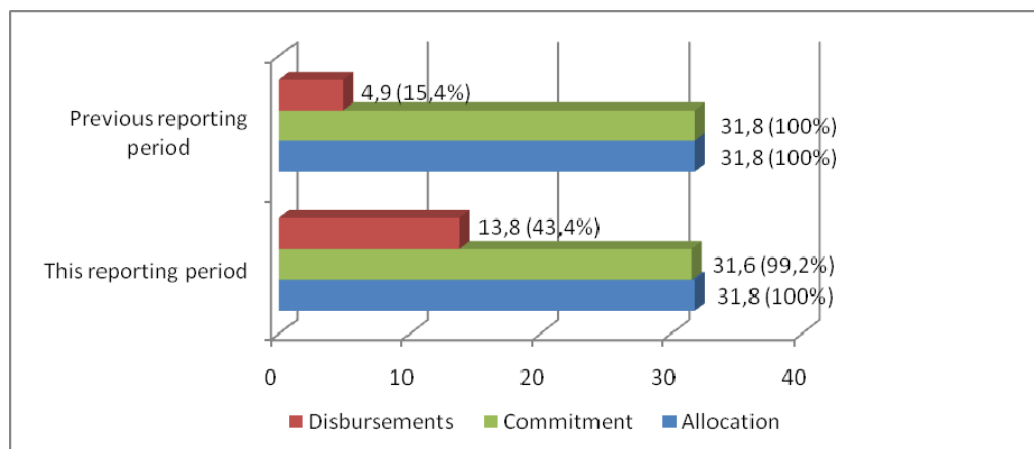
4. Commitments made and disbursements effected by the FMO

The cumulative commitment ceilings for Latvia constitute 31 834 215 euro. Calculation of commitment ceilings is made taking into account the donorstate's management costs (5%) stated in the MoU and costs for appraisal, monitoring and ex-post evaluation (1,5%) (taking into account the FMO's decision to reduce this percentage from 3% to 2% and afterwards to 1,5% expressed in the letter dated 31 August 2007 and 15 April 2009).

By the end of commitment deadline 30 April 2009 actual commitments of funds and individual projects was 31 834 092 euro, whereas by the end of the reporting period commitments have decreased to 31 591 998 euro due to financial correction in the project LV0033 and withdrawal of the project LV0053 (project promoter's refusal to implement the project sent to the FMO on 11.12.2009 and the declaration of termination of Grant Agreement signed on 12.01.2010). Comparing actual commitments made with cumulative commitments it can be concluded that actual commitments almost correspond to cumulative commitment ceilings 99.2%.

Disbursements effected from the date when the MoU was signed till the end of the reporting period are 13 801 841 euro or approximately 43,4 % from the commitment, which shows 28% disbursement progress in comparison to the situation described in the last Annual report. Please see the comparison of commitment ceiling, committed amounts and disbursements effected in the graph below:

Graph 3 - Commitment ceiling, committed amounts and disbursements by 31.08.2010, million EUR



5. Summary of cross-cutting issues

By assessing the impact of projects, programmes and block grants (financed from both Financial Mechanisms) on the cross-cutting issues, it can be concluded, that:

1. Sustainable development – environmental aspects - are ensured in following way:

- Any residual or extracted material from the construction is reused, recycled, treated and/or deposited in an environmentally sound manner;
- Established association for managing of the nature park “Daugavas loki” ensures cooperation on local and regional level in the development of nature park;
- Performed evaluation of environmental pollution from fish factories regarding polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) helps to prevent negative impact on environment from fish processing;
- Established benzo(a)pyrene origination reasons in fish production technological processing and recommendations given to fish production factories about diminishing benzo(a)pyrene level in fish production technological processing improve the control system for content of the benzo(a)pyrene in Latvian fish products and provide the national authorities with an exhaustive information about compliance of fish production with the requirements of EU legislation;
- Installed solar panels for heating water and ground source heat pumps ensure reduction of CO² emissions and implementation of new environment-friendly technologies;
- Established Environmental Modeling centre provide an opportunity for students as well as state and municipal specialists to gain knowledge about environmental pollution spread at various surroundings and to perform practical as well as research work using pollution modelling computer programmes.

2. Sustainable development - economical aspects - are ensured in the following way:

- Developed planning and sectoral documents for municipalities of Kurzeme region, elaborated regional impact projects and increased qualification of specialists of the municipalities within the seminars and experience exchange visits facilitate the development of sustainable, competitive and balanced economic environment in Kurzeme region;
- Balanced and sustainable development of Zemgale region is ensured through the elaborated innovative instruments regarding spatial and development planning of region and elaborated tools for facilitation of development of business activities;
- Assessed various PPP schemes for street renovation and maintenance in Jelgava provide a contribution to the improvement of infrastructure in one of largest cities of Latvia;
- Developed e-health oriented information systems in Daugavpils Regional Hospital facilitates interlinking of Daugavpils Regional Hospital with other Latvian hospitals as well as provides an opportunity for patients from Daugavpils city and all Latgale region to receive highly qualified medical consultations from Latvian experts;
- Mobile mammography unit delivered to “Health Centre 4” in Riga improves early cancer diagnostics;
- Elaborated 3 new health prevention programmes (cardiovascular; for prevention of health from diseases emerging from wrong diet or lifestyle; reproductive) increase awareness of inhabitants of Latgale region in health prevention issues and facilitate improvements in health condition of inhabitants;
- Contribution to human resource development is made through cooperation and transfer of knowledge between Norway and Latvia;

- Developed 6 training modules using MBA-PhD level concepts introduce innovative teaching methods and create preconditions for raising of Latvian inhabitants' education level.

3. Sustainable development – social aspects – are ensured in the following way:

- Reconstructed Multidimensional Support Centre for Children with Special Needs in Jelgava city provides possibilities to receive social, educational and medical services for children with special needs;
- Trained local craftsmen in restoration of wooden buildings facilitate the preservation of wooden architecture, which has an effect on the development of social culture environment;
- Established complex program for the rehabilitation of former convicts provide an opportunity for them to leave the risk group of social exclusion and to integrate into the society;
- Presented information regarding environment-friendly touring routs and interesting site in Natura 2000 territories facilitates the environment-friendly tourism.

4. Gender equality is ensured in following way:

- Exclusion of any kind of negative discrimination towards any gender at individual projects', programmes', block grants' and sub-projects' level;
- The publicity measures is targeted at both sexes without any restrictions;
- Structure of project management team is based on qualifications and competences of respective person;
- Projects implementation is targeted to improve the quality of life for both genders (for example, improved quality of medical services is accessible for all groups of population in respect of age and gender).

5. Good governance will be ensured in following way:

- Purchase of goods and services is done according to the national procurement legislation;
- Provision of transparency in the management of funds;
- Reduction of the corruption risk within the project through the site visits and monitoring by national authorities and the FMO;
- The implementation of the approved individual projects', programmes' and blocks grants' according to the GAs and tree-sided Cooperation Agreements.

6. Summary of audits and irregularities

Within reporting period according to the national normative acts in the management of the Financial Mechanisms following types of controls and audits were carried out:

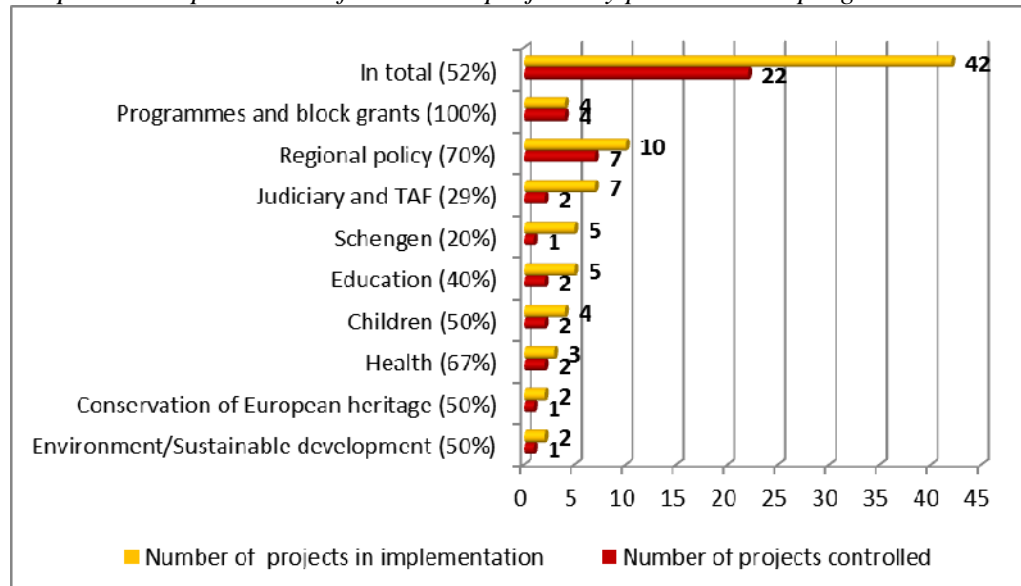
- on spot checks and site visits carried out by the CFCA, Intermediaries and IBs;
- system audits of the Financial Mechanisms management and control carried out by the Internal Audit Structures of institutions involved within the management of the Financial Mechanisms;
- control of programmes, block grants, individual projects and subprojects financed by the Financial Mechanisms carried out by the Internal Audit Department of the MoF.

Please find a list of audits, controls and external monitoring visits carried out within reporting period in the Appendix 7.

On spot checks

The graph below shows that during reporting period in total 22 (52%) from 42 (including TAF) individual projects, programs and block grants co-financed by the Financial Mechanism were controlled.

Graph 4 - On spot checks of individual projects by priorities and programmes/block grants



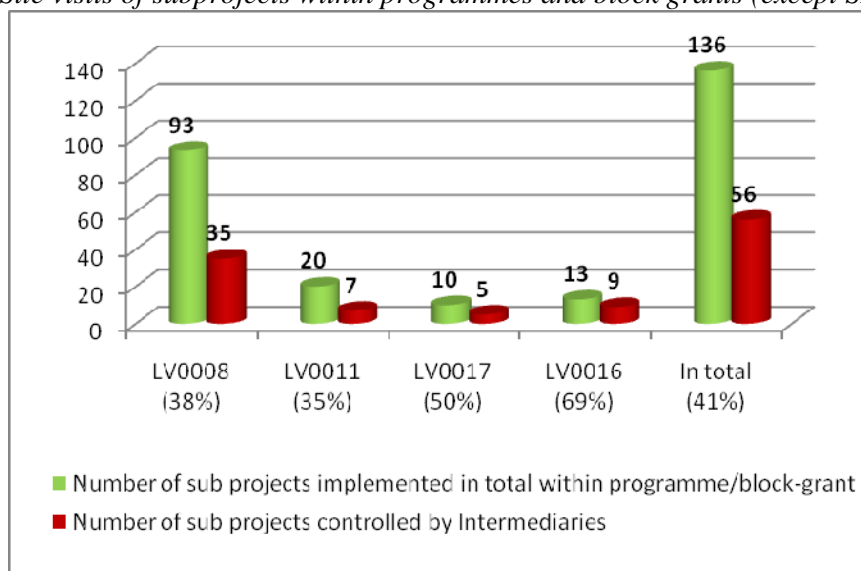
In general in the reports of all on spot checks no significant deficiencies were identified. Mainly, identified deficiencies were related to improvement of institutions' internal normative acts according to requirements, in order to improve good governance, noncompliance with project's activities implementation deadlines, need for improvement of publicity measures and accounting' system as well as reassessment of risks according to current situation and ensurance of project's sustainability. Recommendations on prevention of deficiencies are implemented or are in process of implementation by Intermediaries and project promoters.

Site visits

Site visits of sub projects were carried out by Intermediaries within all funds, programmes and block grants except SBG considering that applicants of subprojects of SBG are students (individuals).

The graph below shows that in total 56 (41%) of 136 subprojects implemented during reporting period within programmes and block grants were checked by Intermediaries.

Graph 5 – Site visits of subprojects within programmes and block grants (except SBG)



System audits

Within reporting period 1 project control was performed by an IB, 6 system audits were carried out by Intermediaries and 1 system audit was performed by a project promoter. Identified deficiencies mostly are related to improvement of institution's internal normative acts, storage of documents according to requirements, justification of external service costs and ensurance of publicity, as well as to organization of on spot checks of subprojects, review of subprojects' reports and financial requests. Recommendations proposed for prevention of deficiencies identified in all system audits have been implemented or are in progress. They are monitored by the IBs or Intermediaries respectively.

External monitoring visits

Besides audits and controls at national level 10 external monitoring visits (4 block grants and 5 individual projects, LV0069 even twice) were carried out by the FMO's contracted monitoring agents. Recommendations indicated by them are noted by the IBs, Intermediaries and project promoters. The FP has provided the FMO with requested information regarding fulfillment of recommendations and suggested follow-up measures mentioned in the monitoring reports. The FP, IBs and Intermediaries continue to monitor implementation process of recommendations in order to ensure successful implementation of projects.

Irregularities detected

During reporting period two irregularities were identified: within one subproject of SBG and individual project LV0033. Both irregularities were properly reported to the FMO and appropriate measures regarding irregularities were taken by the FP. The Intermediary of the SBG has ensured that final beneficiary, who had no rights on funding, has repaid financing in full amount 2580 euro (including 2193 euro grant), which is 0.15% from planed total eligible costs of the SBG (co-financing from both financial mechanisms, 50% each). Regarding individual project LV0033 financial correction (25%) has been applied by the donor states decision made according to the *European Commission's Guidelines for Determining financial corrections to be made to expenditure co-financed by the Structural Funds or the Cohesion Fund for non-compliance with the rules on public procurement*. In the result individual

project's LV0033 total eligible costs were reduced by 104 120 euro (grant 88 502 euro), which is 18.76% from initially planned total eligible project's LV0033 costs.

7. The work plan for the next reporting period

Latvian action plan including publicity and information activities for the next reporting period is presented in the table below:

Table 10 – The work plan

Scope	Task	Quarter			
		Sept-Dec 2010	I 2011	II 2011	III 2011
Implementation of individual projects	Completion of 18 projects	X			
	Completion of 10 projects		X		
	Completion of 29 projects (Apr`11)			X	
Implementation of programmes /block grants	Completion of subprojects	X	X*		
	Completion of programmes/block grants (Apr`11)	X**		X	
Optimization of the implementation system	Elaboration of the amendments of the Cabinet of Ministers Rules about implementation system of FMs and about the payment procedures and approval by the Cabinet of Ministers	X	X		
	Approval of the extension of the TAF LV0007 till 30 April 2012	X			
Publicity	Press releases (about progress of projects' implementation, completion and achieved results)				
	- Judiciary			X	
	- Regional policy and development of economical activities			X	
	- Health	X			
	- Conservation of European heritage	X	X	X	
	- SBG			X	
	- NGO Fund			X	
	- STEF (information campaign - information and education activities about concrete achieved results within subprojects)	X			
	Seminars				
	- NGO Fund (about results of implemented subprojects and proper reporting for final beneficiaries)		X	X	
	- Health (on progress and results achieved)	X			
	Web pages (about progress of projects' implementation, achieved results, stories of success; publication of relevant normative acts and methodology)				
	- Judiciary www.tm.gov.lv	X	X	X	X
	- Schengen www.iem.gov.lv	X	X	X	X
	- Conservation of European heritage www.km.gov.lv	X	X	X	X
	- Health www.vm.gov.lv			X	
	- Regional policy and development of economic activity www.rapl.gov.lv	X	X	X	X

	– Children with special needs www.lm.gov.lv		X	X	
	– Human recourse development and education www.izm.gov.lv	X	X	X	X
	– SBG www.viaa.gov.lv	X	X	X	X
	– PPP Programme www.liaa.gov.lv		X		
	– NGO Fund www.lsif.lv	X	X	X	X
	– STEF www.vraa.gov.lv	X			
	Conferences				
	- PPP Programme (closing conference about achieved results with participation of subprojects' promoters)		X		
	- STEF (closing conference about achieved results)	X			
	- SBG (final/closing conference)			X	
	Printed materials				
	– STEF (a brochure about results of implemented subprojects)	X			

* LV0016 - till 31 March 2011

**LV0014 - till 31 December 2010

Conclusions

- The FP considers that during the reporting period substantial progress in the implementation of the Financial Mechanism in Latvia has been achieved. All main actions of the FP and other institutions responsible for the implementation of the Financial Mechanism in Latvia in the reporting period were concentrated on monitoring of implementation of programmes, block grants and individual projects: review of PIRs/PCRs, requests for amendments of GAs and monitoring/audit reports.
- During reporting period last OCs within the SBG were launched and successfully closed. All other OCs within programmes/block grants were completed already in the previous reporting period.
- Partners from Latvia and Norway were welcomed and encouraged to participate in implementation of individual projects or subprojects. As the result 41% of individual projects' promoters and 22% of subprojects' promoters had established fruitful bilateral partnerships. This can also be explained by Latvia's geographic location and the historical and economic ties build over the years between Latvia and Norway.
- By the end of reporting period 43.4% (49.3% till 30 September 2010) from available funding has been disbursed to Latvia by donorstate.
- Nearly all programmes and block grants will be implemented till the final date of eligibility – 30 April 2010, except the STEF with the completion date December 2010, and the SMF, which has been completed already in November 2008.
- There are still 56 individual projects financed from the grant assistance from both Financial Mechanisms, which have to be implemented during the period September 2010 - April 2011, as only 9 individual projects from both Financial Mechanisms are completed by 31 August 2010 (13 projects will be completed till 31 October 2010). The TAF project was agreed to be prolonged till 30 April 2012. The greatest part of individual projects was prolonged because of following reasons:
 - delays in organization of procurement procedures, appeals against procurement results which caused delays in conclusion of procurement contracts;
 - savings gained from optimization of expenses and from decrease of prices in the market were used for better achievement of targets and indicators of the projects, therefore also requiring more time for implementation;
 - difficulties with possibilities to receive a loan in order to secure necessary pre-financing of project's activities caused by economic crises in the country.

Assessment of the effects on the bilateral relations with donorstate

Individual projects

Description of cooperation
Conservation of European culture heritage
<p>• Kuldiga Town Council with the Norwegian Crafts Development (NHU) (LV0033)</p> <p>The partnership with NHU has been established and performed as planned in the project application. Within the project contacts have been established with a Restoration centre in Drobak town (Frogn Kommune) and Frogn Kommune in Norway. The partner was involved in implementation of the project activity „Training of the local craftsmen in wooden restoration” based on a partnership agreement. The experts from partner organization elaborated an examination report on condition of two wooden houses in old town of Kuldiga, managed two training sessions about wooden restoration in Kuldiga for 4 local craftsmen and a teacher from a vocational school, organized and managed experience exchange visit for Kuldiga craftsmen to Drobak town, participated (one of the Norwegian experts) in the closing conference in December 2009 at Kuldiga district museum with presentation on training process. Thus cooperation within the project has been finished. It was evaluated as good and useful.</p> <p>• Jelgava City Council (Adolfs Alunans Memorial Museum) and Theatre Museum of Oslo, Ibsen Museum in Oslo, the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History and Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology (LV0091)</p> <p>The cooperation was envisaged within the project activity “Exchange of experience and publicity activities”. Participants of the project visited Ibsen Museum, Oslo City Museum, Norway Open Air Museum, Norway Occupation Museum and the Nobel Peace Prize Centre. There was no previous cooperation with visited museums.</p> <p>Jelgava city council continues to look for two foreign experts from some of visited museums. International experts will be involved in elaboration of programme on diversification of museums’ services and exhibition. It is planned to sign agreements with involved experts, when they will be found. The Project management group sent invitations to Oslo City Museum and Norwegian Folk Museum using contacts obtained at experience exchange visit as well as studying fields of activity of other museums in Norway. Unfortunately until August 2010 nobody gave a positive answer for future cooperation. The Project management group continues to look for experts to realize activity „Adoption of A. Alunans Memorial Museum to modern museum type”.</p>
Health
<p>• Pauls Stradiņš Clinical University Hospital with Norwegian Institute of Public Health (LV0025)</p> <p>The partnership was mentioned in the project application form and the partnership statement was signed. The partner’s main activities are participation in conference and exchange of experience visits for Latvian regional hospitals’ staff to Norway. The workshop for participants of project and conference were held in November 2009. Two representatives from partner’s side participated in these project activities as lecturers.</p> <p>The experience exchange visit was realized in June 2010. Seven representatives from Latvian regional hospitals visited Norwegian Institute of Public Health and three hospitals in Norway. During the visit useful practical knowledge and new contacts were acquired. It is planned that the further communication with representatives from Norwegian Public Health Institute will be held if necessary after project implementation.</p> <p>• Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopedic with Hospital Organiser AS (LV0026)</p> <p>The partner is acting both on grounds of partnership agreement and supply agreement as well. The partner is obliged to deliver Internal logistic system, Operation planning system, Cost control system, Medicine analysing system, Management information system, Secure communication and digital signature, Measure points for KPI (key performance index) as well as for implementation, testing, evaluation of systems.</p> <p>Partner’s representatives participated in the Steering group meetings about the project’s progress and further actions. Partner has already delivered specifications for Medicine analysing system, Operation planning system, Cost control system functional description and implementation guide, and has made input in Logistic system specification as well as has presented some of programmes. The development and testing of programmes is ongoing.</p> <p>• Riga Eastern Hospital and Norwegian Centre for Integrated Care and Telemedicine (LV0029)</p>

Initially the partnership was planned with the Exponor Tromsø. Based on the fact that in May 2009 it could not confirm participation in the project, the changes were made and a new partner was involved - Norwegian Centre for Integrated Care and Telemedicine. Approved by the FMO in September 2009.

Partnership agreement was signed in January 2010. In accordance with the agreement the partner is involved in the project and shall perform following main activities: hosting of the experience exchange trip to Norway, provision of counselling and expertise on the digital radiology image transmission system and cooperation network procedures, taking part in the training of radiologists and radiologist assistants on the issues related to the digital radiology image transmission system.

The exchange of experience trip to Norway for the trainees from the hospital took place in February 2010. The partner has provided his counselling and expertise during the elaboration of the digital image transmission system procedures. It is planned that the partner expert will participate in the training of radiologists and radiologist assistants what will take place in October 2010.

Implementing Schengen

- State Police of Latvia and **Norwegian National Police Directorate (LV0037)**

In previous reporting period two visits were organised. Norwegian expert from the Translation Section of the International and Operational Communications Department of the National Criminal Investigation Service of the National Police Directorate provided consultations on development of the interactive electronic translation vocabulary for the State Police of Latvia. Also two study visits to the SIRENE Norway bureau were made by the SIRENE bureau of Latvia.

Strengthening the judiciary

- Latvian Prison Administration and **Country Governor of Hordaland (LV0020)**

Partnership is based on a partnership statement. The partner was involved in the activity "Preparation actions for implementation of the re-socialisation model". Main activities were exchange of experience on re-socialization system in Norway and knowledge transfer from Norway on re-socialisation in practice. The study trip to Norway was held in the previous reporting period. All partnership tasks are done according to plan, however cooperation with the Country Governor of Hordaland in project has not yet expired - partner will participate in the project's final conference.

- State Forensic Science Bureau of Latvia (SFSB) and **National Criminal Investigation Service's Forensic Science Department of Norway (NCIS) (LV0022)**

Memorandum of Understanding between the promoter and the partner was signed in March 2009. Main activities were exchange of experience in fingerprint analysis, gun-shot residues investigation, handwriting examination (3 Norwegian forensic scientists visited the SFSB and participated in workshops with presentations).

Activities: in December 2009 round table briefing/seminar "The Impact of International Financial Support in Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building of Forensic Laboratories in the Baltic's" was held with following presentation of the results of the project. In the briefing/workshop counterpart organization from Norway was presented.

Implementation of the project was finished in July 2010. The final PIR is in approval process at national level. Common goals and vision about the development of forensic science and cooperation between specialists in Baltic Sea region and Nordic Region allow to assess the cooperation within the framework of the project as good and sustainable. The cooperation with partner continues in the European Network of Forensic Science Institutions and in different expert working groups as well.

- State Probation Service of Latvia and **National Mediation Service of Norway (LV0024)**

The cooperation agreement was signed in February 2007. In accordance with the project the partner participates in following activities:

- "Drafting and adoption of training programmes and training plans" includes two visits of experts from the partner institution with the aim to plan cooperation between the promoter and the partner on realization of project's activities, for example, organization of trainings, organization of study visits, planning and development of training programmes. Experts analyzed existing system of the mediation for elaboration of system for selection volunteers, consultations of manual for training of mediators and manual for mediators.
- "Training of prison workers and probation workers" includes the seminar "Use of Restorative Justice method in prison", the summer school "New methods on Restorative justice" conducted by experts from the partner institution and the study visit to Norway in order to improve knowledge and experience on mediation. Seminar

“Meeting of Latvian and Norwegian Volunteers” took place in cooperation with the partner. 11 participants from Norway and 11 participants from Latvia took part. The main topics of the meeting were mediation and restorative justice. In the beginning of June the Seminar “Motivational Interviewing” took place with participating lecturers from Norway. As the result 8 probation employees and 8 prison officers from Latvia are qualified about the method.

• Zemgale Planning Region and **Norwegian Crime Prevention Council (LV0080)**

Partnership agreement was signed in May 2008. It was planned that partner takes part in the activity “Elaboration and piloting of a juvenile justice co-operation mechanism in Zemgale region”. 3 specialists from the partner institution came to Latvia to share their experience on preventive work with juveniles and inter-institutional cooperation model (SLT) in Norway, which will be used for development of inter-institutional cooperation model in local governments of Zemgale region.

Two experts visited Zemgale in March 2010 to share their experience and to provide information about crime prevention on local level in particularly - coordination of local, crime preventive efforts and community policing. Specialists from Zemgale region have presented the existing situation in municipalities in crime prevention field as well as have elaborated draft for cooperation mechanisms, which was presented to Norwegian experts. After discussions experts have prepared and presented their view on elaborated draft and suggested necessary improvements. Therefore, gained information will be used in preparation of cooperation mechanism in Zemgale region. Also useful contacts were made between experts from Norway and Zemgale for further cooperation after implementation of project.

In the final stage of the project it is foreseen that Norwegian experts will participate in final conference and give their input in evaluation of project's results.

Promotion of sustainable development

• Latvian Fish Resources Agency and **AKVAFORSK (LV0045)**

In June 2008 the partner changed his name to Nofima – Akvaforsk Fiskeriforskning AS. Starting from 01.01.2010 the Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia undertook the project promoters' liabilities.

Partnership agreement with the partner has been signed in January 2009. Main activities were exchange of experience in aquaculture approach into fish and crayfish resource management, elaboration of training programmes and materials. Delivering training in aquaculture and consultations in small lake management system development and co-operation. Information system exchange and expertise. Overall project management and transfer of the best practice.

In November 2009 exchange of experience trip of aquaculture farmers, lecturers and experts to Sweden (to crayfish farm) and to Norway (to aquaculture enterprises and Nofima Marin) took place. The scope of the exchange of experience in Norway was as follows: the organization of aquaculture education in partner organization; the experience in cultivation of crayfish, aquaculture technology, water treatment technology, cultivation of rainbow trout, fish processing and fish products marketing.

In February 2010 the conclusion meeting was held in Riga. The partner experts had finalised draft recommendations on sustainable management of small lakes and had reported about that at the meeting.

The project was finished in March 2010. The final PIR is in approval process at national level.

The involvement of partner in the project made a positive contribution to the project and the established partnership will be continued.

Protection of environment

• National Diagnostic Centre (NDC) of Food and Veterinary Service and **National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research (LV0047)**

Starting from 01.01.2010 the Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia undertook the project promoters' liabilities.

Partnership agreement with the partner has been signed in December 2008. Latvian experts visited Norway for exchange of experience with experts from partner's institution and Norwegian experts visited to Latvia in order to make sure that a new dioxin analyzing method is established efficiently and all findings made by Latvian experts are accordingly qualitative.

Two trainings (one in Norway and one in Riga) on dioxin analyzing method were – trip of the NDC experts to Norway in January 2009 and trip of partner experts to Latvia in February 2009.

The project was finished in March 2010. The pre-final PIR is in approval process at national level.

The contribution of the partner in the project implementation is highly evaluated. The bilateral work continues in the field of comparative safety testing of food.

• Limbazi District Council and **Municipality of Radoy (LV0062)**

Partnership agreement has been signed in February 2007. Main activities were exchange of experience regarding set up of earth heating system, distribution of information and encouragement of local authorities to use renewable energy resources.

The partner has participated in realization of following activities: establishment of education centre and organisation of seminars (partner representatives have participated in two informative seminars and one experience exchange seminar); management and publicity activities (partner representatives have participated in project opening seminar).

- **Riga City Council and ENOVA and Oslo City Council (LV0097)**

Project foresees establishment of contacts, preparation and carrying out two study visits - one to Norway and one from Norway and other EEA countries to Latvia to create a network which will serve for exchange of experience and development of bilateral and multilateral (using existing partnerships on Latvian and Norwegian side) projects for protection of environment and promotion of energy efficiency. It is foreseen that such a network can communicate by using IT and even prepare a publication addressing stakeholders in Latvia and Norway.

The project started in August 2009. The cooperation with Norwegian public enterprise ENOVA SF (supported organization from Norway) was established by e-mails in March 2009, when it confirmed the intention to help Riga to establish cooperation amongst experts, municipal and governmental institutions in the framework of the project.

Riga City Council and project partner - Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF) in cooperation with ENOVA are working on organisation of study visit to Norway hosted by ENOVA. Planned activities: to visit the Norwegian institutions in order to define common interests, to identify expertise and best practises for the joint publication and future cooperation also within other projects.

In order to create a network with public, municipal and private organizations in Norway, which would serve for the exchange of experience in the field of renewable energy sources and promotion of energy efficiency measures, long-term relations were established with a new institution – **Oslo City Council**. In June 2010 the meeting with partner's representative and Riga City Council in Oslo was held. During the meeting study visit program to Norway and Riga and requirements for official cooperation were discussed. An official cooperation letter to Oslo Mayor was sent.

Regional policy

- **Kurzeme Planning Region and Ostfold County (LV0055)**

Although initially in the process of project's application preparation the partner involvement of Region of Buskerud, Telemark and Vestfold (BTV region) was planned no partnership was established. According to the signed GA the project does not have partners from Norway within the project. The promoter was informed that BTV region does not operate as planning region. Several Norwegian municipalities were contacted and positive answer was received from Ostfold County. In previous reporting period visit to Ostfold County was organised, where 23 participants from Latvia (representatives from the promoter and involved partners) took part. The Innovation Network of Norway provided meetings with representatives from Norway.

Project was finished by December 2009. Cooperation network has been created and e-mailing list has been formed, so that Innovation Circle Network representatives can send e-mails about ongoing projects and activities to the municipalities of Kurzeme (one of 5 regions of Latvia), and any interested part could participate in the events organized by Norwegian partner, as well as Norwegian municipalities may participate in events organized in Latvia. Partners were also invited to participate in the project closing conference in December 2009, but due to the fact, that they could not participate, all conference materials were translated and sent to them, as well as Kurzeme Planning Region Action plan was sent to the Norwegian partner to inform them on current and planned projects in Kurzeme.

The PCR was sent to the FMO for approval on 11.08.2010.

Conclusion: the bilateral relations with Norway (Ostfold County) is evaluated as very good, because the experience exchange trip of representatives of local municipalities involved in the project was well organized and valuable contacts were established. Local municipalities continue to receive information about conferences and trainings taking place both in Latvia and Norway organized by Innovation Circle Network and Norwegian municipalities (members of the ICN). All municipalities involved in the activity evaluated that all meetings organized there by ICN where very professional and a lot of valuable experience and knowledge (spatial planning, project implementation, organizing work of municipalities, PPP projects) was gained for improving work within their municipalities.

- **Zemgale Planning Region and Municipality of Spydeberg (LV0056)**

Partnership agreement was signed in November 2008. The partner involvement was foreseen in the activities

“Capacity building measures (training)” and “Project final conference” about spatial planning issues; business development issues; development of cooperation networks; participating in the final conference.

Training on spatial planning actualities was organized. Final conference was in June 2010 with participation of 2 experts from Spydeberg. The training was done on some hot planning issues in Spydeberg, Østfold region and Oslo, also Koknese (Latvia) county was visited and spatial planning issues discussed. Following topics were presented by the Spydeberg experts in the final conference: “Regional development = product development” and “Attractive urban centres are vital for economic growth, also in rural regions”.

The project was finished in July 2010. The final PIR is in approval process at national level.

The cooperation with Spydeberg municipality is evaluated as very good – experience in spatial planning and promotion of entrepreneurship have been taken over and proposals for further ideas of cooperation were made and possibilities for the next projects were searched

• Cesis District Council and **County Council of Ostfold , and Norwegian company Expology (LV0059)**

Partnership agreement has been signed in January 2009. Activities where partner is involved: building of international network; kick-off conference with partner’s participation organised in Latvia; meetings and discussions during the project implementation in Latvia; establishment of the international network for exchanging knowledge and experience on how to promote innovation and entrepreneurship at a regional level (seminar was organised with the partner’s participation in December 2009); 3 study tours planned in 2010 in Latvia, Norway and Denmark to learn about different innovation systems and good local practices for promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship at a regional level; 2 youth exchange visits in 2010 to bring young entrepreneurs from different countries together and to learn from each other’s experiences.

Seminar was organised with the partner’s participation in December 2009 about creation of international network for exchanging knowledge and experience on how to promote innovation and entrepreneurship at a regional level. The project management team was on study tour to Norway in June 2010. During the study tour meeting with the representatives of Ostfold County Council took place. Partners agreed to involve the vocational schools of Ostfold County in the business idea competition “Idea Competition” and to transfer experience and knowledge of the Ostfold Science Center for development of the science center in Cesis. During the study-visit the project management team visited the science centers in Bergen, Sarpsborg and Oslo and established contacts with the Norwegian company Expology as well. In August 2010 the Expology experts came to Cesis and facilitated the seminar about development of Cesis science center concept.

• Zemgale Planning Region and **Sivatech AS (LV0077)**

Partnership Agreement was signed in October 2009. Main activities were foreseen: to organize in Latvia 3 days long workshop sharing knowledge and experience in the field of *Business garden establishment and management* for local municipalities of Zemgale borderland territory; partner institutions participation in the final project’s conference.

The workshops led by the Norwegian partner were held in Latvia in May 2010. Two representatives from Sivatech AS visited renovated business garden premises and shared Norwegian experience about establishment and maintenance of business gardens.

• Kuldiga Town Council and **Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) (LV0078)**

It is foreseen that experts from NIBR will be involved in implementation of the activity "Building of Regional, Local and International Network". The exchange of experience visits to Latvia and for Latvian experts to Norway is foreseen. Riga Technical University as another partner of the project has cooperation with NIBR.

Project partner Riga Technical University cooperates and exchanges information with NIBR in order to organize a study visit and to prepare programme for the study visit to be held in 2010.

Riga Technical University keeps contacts with an expert from NIBR for organization of a study visit and prepares programme for the study visit to be held in several Norwegian municipalities in autumn 2010, preparation works ongoing.

In the framework of the project an international scientific conference is planned in September 2010 in Riga.

Programmes and block grants

Title/Description of bilateral relations
SBG (LV0014)
<u>Indirect partnerships:</u>
All three mobilities (student, education staff and teacher assistant mobility) take place in the donorstate. Within

<p>the <i>Student mobility programme</i> cooperation between home and donorstates' universities is necessary, therefore following cooperation agreements between universities were signed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Riga Technical University with Norwegian University of Science and Technology and Ostfold University; 2. University of Latvia with Norwegian University of Science and Technology and University of Bergen; 3. University of Agriculture with Norwegian University of Life Sciences; 4. Vidzeme University College with Buskerud University College. 5. Latvian Academy of Culture with Norwegian University of Science and Technology and University of Tromsø. <p>Activities include: studies, exchange of experience, conferences, teaching practice, taking part in professional courses, etc.</p>
NGO fund (LV0008)
<p><u>Direct partnerships:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The society "Oleru muiza" with the society "Friends of Land Museum" realized the sub-project "To understand a wooden house". <p>Activity: informative seminar – partnership activities successfully completed.</p> <p><u>Indirect partnerships:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The society "Centre for Education Initiatives" with the lecturer Gunvor Sønnesyn - director of the Institute of Applied Pedagogy – partnership activities successfully completed; 2. The society Rehabilitation Center „Mes esam līdzas" (<i>We are beside you</i>) with the NGO ULOBA center - partnership activities successfully completed; 3. The society "The House of Fairy Tales UNDINE" with Dokka Delta Wetland center – partnership activities successfully completed. 4. The society „LATVIANS ABROAD – Museum and Research Center" with the director of Norwegian Emigrant Museum – partnership activities successfully completed; 5. The society "Zalais Virziens" (<i>Green Direction</i>) with Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development and Technology Ceter "Energi Garden", Statoil Hidro – partnership activities successfully completed; 6. The Children and Youth Union „Liepajas Jaunie Vanagi" (<i>Liepaja New Hawks</i>) with IFM-SEI – partnership activities are ongoing; 7. The society "Liepajas Neredzigo biedriba" (<i>Liepaja Blind Association</i>) with Rogaland Blind Association – partnership activities successfully completed; 8. The association "Elementary Boarding School of Liepna and Pupils' Families Support Union" with the NGO from Iceland "Heimili og skool" – partnership activities successfully completed; 9. The society "Support for the development of Balvu community "SAVI" with Kristiansund Komunne Sentraladministrasjon, Voss kulturskule, Voss kommunne - partnership activities successfully completed; 10. The NGO "Social service agency- Family Crisis Center" with Lillehamer College - partnership activities successfully completed; <p>Activities: exchange of experience, guest lectures and experts' visits, creativity workshops etc.</p> <p>Note! The society "Farmers Parliament" with expert from Skjetlein Resource Center - partnership failed because the expert in charge did not expressed the interest to participate in the project activities (instead cooperation established with an expert from Innovation Centre for Bioenergy and Environmental Technology, Denmark).</p>
STEF (LV0011)
<p><u>Direct partnerships:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Latvian Prison Association with Ile prison 2. Zemgale Planning Region with Blefjell Sykehus (hospital) 3. Latgale Planning Region with North Trondelag University College 4. State Probation Service with Norwegian National Mediation Centre 5. Association of entrepreneurs of Mersrags region with Norwegian International Risk Assessment centre <p><u>Indirect partnerships:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Contemporary Art Museum visited Kunstnernes Hus, Henie Onstad Art Centre and Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art 2. European Regional Development establishment visited StatoilHydro, Utsira island and organisation Cambi. 3. Talsi city council visited cities – Kongsberg and Bergen <p>Activities: Expert work, working visits, implementation of new methods, exchange of experience, transfer of best practices and development of methodology.</p> <p>All activities have been implemented successfully.</p>

Impact on direct target groups in priority areas

Direct target groups	Impact
Protection of the environment and Sustainable development priority	
Public institutions performing in environment sector	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased awareness of effective use of renewable energy sources. 2. Development of the dialogue between tourism and environment protection sectors through discussions, presentations, seminars, conferences. 3. Prepared renovation and construction proposals including renewable energy sources in the city. 4. Improved collaboration with public institutions to aware knowledge about the economic value of forests. It facilitates improvement the legal regulations towards forest owners and other players in forestry and timber sectors. 5. Collaboration with public institutions to develop methodology for reduction of the air pollution from exhaust fumes caused by tractor techniques and preparation of procurement documentation.
Municipalities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporated Tourism development plans into the municipality planning documents. 2. Obtained knowledge of the use of renewable resources and facilitated awareness on effective use of renewable energy sources for heat production. 3. Established long-term relations and developed contacts with other municipalities in donor state. 4. Gained knowledges and raised capacity of municipalities will help in future to manage protected areas more effectively.
NGOs performing in the environment and rural tourism sector	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtained knowledge of the use and effectiveness of renewable resources and awareness of true economic value of forests. 2. Encouraged NGO's members to participate in development of tourism products. 3. Increased knowledge on development of tourism products and services. 4. Received equipment for further training of aquaculture farmers. 5. Increased capacity of local NGO's performing in tourism sector. 6. Raised possibility to participate in management of the nature protected area.
Private companies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtained knowledge of the use and effectiveness of renewable resources improved knowledge of environmental-friendly production and technologies. 2. Increased knowledge on development of tourism products and services. 3. Raised knowledge level about nature protection of private companies. 4. Raised understanding about possibilities to participate in management of the nature protected areas and coordination of business according to main area protection and sustainable development principles.
Conservation of European heritage priority	
Museums and their employees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved quality and accessibility of museums' collections. 2. Modernized collection storage possibilities. 3. Developed and modernized museums' infrastructure.
Restorers and craftsmen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trained and qualified specialists which will be able to carry out restoration of significant historical wooden buildings and will continue training prospective craftsmen after the completion of the projects. 2. Established restoration center where information on wooden architecture and its restoration will be provided.
Health	
Hospitals and employees of hospitals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased knowledge of employees in infection control and usage of Whonet program for microbiological data entry. 2. Introduced new software and modern technologies in hospitals which allow reduced work of paper documentation. 3. Implemented new information system which will provide following benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - saved time on each patient's health care and all the daily treatments therefore improving the overall efficiency of health care inside the hospital. - information about patients in a single database improving the availability of all the necessary information about patients and their health statuses. - information stored electronically will have lower integrity risks, as well as higher security.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improved early cancer diagnostics and increased accessibility of the diagnostic services. Modernized diagnostic radiology infrastructure in hospitals. Provided positive, productive and client-oriented quality of the services. Developed specific information system for blood-vessel surgery purposes.
Clients of hospitals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> More operative and adequate treatment for patients with nosocomial infections. Reduced risk of hospital infections, as patients' awareness of importance of daily hygiene and possibilities of infections is increased. Improved quality of hospital services as the clients of hospital will be able to receive improved health care services mainly due to the faster attendance time and information availability. Improved early cancer diagnostics and increased accessibility in diagnostic services. Improved health care services for national and regional hospitals.
Children with special needs	
Children with special needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of regional multifunctional support centres will ensure free of charge qualitative rehabilitation services and trainings. Improved life quality and life skills.
Families of children with special needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improved ties between children and their families as well as strengthened relations between parents of disabled children. Strengthened ties between Dauguli and Rud School. Involvement of parents in the exchange of experience visits and seminars about work with their children at home and other subjects. Prevented disabilities through education of parents and early intervention with the babies in the risk group.
Teachers and social workers who work with children with special needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared pedagogical materials for children with special needs. Trainings for social workers of municipalities.
NGOs which work with children with special needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Positive effect on educational, healthcare and life quality of children with mental disabilities in Valmiera region as well as in Jelgavas and Ventspils cities. NGO participated in methodology elaboration work as well as provided the link between other project partners and local NGO sector.
Human resource development and education priority	
Students of higher educational establishments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> New opportunities in education by establishment of study in 3 new study programmes: New Art Media master and doctoral programme, Creative Psychology master programme (3 programmes are under development). Improved quality of educational materials. Developed new study courses, introducing new study methods and materials in the field of environmental modelling, entrepreneurship and innovation, environmental protection and health. Improved study and research environment, e-learning environment, by giving opportunity to use modern technologies in the study process. Increased academic skills through participation in international workshops and seminars.
Academic personnel of higher educational establishments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increased level of knowledge and academic skills within universities of Latvia as new study materials are disseminated and trainings and workshops, international exchange experience provided in the field of New art media, Creative Psychology, Environmental education and modelling, environmental protection and health, entrepreneurship and innovation. Improved ICT skills for a qualitative study process. Improved study and research environment.
Teachers of high schools, vocational schools and teachers of adult vocational further education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to use new multimedia studying software for natural science studies. Improved the ICT skills for a qualitative study process. Increased level of professional skills in 3 vocational education programmes and in using e-technologies in the study process (trainings provided). Equipped premises and technological base for providing e-learning opportunities in the vocational education process.

Pupils of high schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developed new multimedia studying software for natural science studies (under development). 2. Developed new tool of non-formal environmental studies (under development).
Employees of central and local government institutions	Increased level of knowledge and professional skills in the field of executive training and environmental modelling (training seminars, workshops and twinning activities have been held).
Management and employees of enterprises	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased level of knowledge and professional skills in the field of executive training (training seminars, workshops and twinning activities have been held). 2. Developed cooperation network between education establishments and enterprises in the field of New Media Art, vocational education, innovation and entrepreneurship.
Schengen	
Employees of state institutions involved in the implementation of Schengen Treaty requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved data availability, security, protection and control of the centralized state Punishment Register. 2. Improved ICT infrastructure management. 3. Introduced data warehouse solution to perform different kind of criminal statistics data analysis and processing and illustration of accumulated information. 4. Improved knowledge of the State Police and SIRENE bureau's employees about Schengen acquis and Schengen information system. 5. Developed interactive electronic dictionary for the State Police. 6. Equipped Latvian diplomatic and consular representations and the central office with technical equipment - network filters, UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) units, firewalls, the specialised portable laptop computers, satellite telephones and electronic key depositories that ensure security, efficiency and stability of information processing.
Judiciary	
Convicts, prisoners and former convicts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Former convicts have been resocialized and trained, therefore facilitating their integration back to the society. 2. Improvement of the premises where convicts, prison inmates and former convicts reside or are trained.
Employees of prisons and probation institutions	Trained employees about various subjects and matters in order to increase their capacity in working with convicts, prisoners and former convicts.
Law-enforcement institutions – police, customs, border guards, prosecutor's office, courts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved contacts, exchanged information and established networking with other EU Member State's institutions in <i>Acquis communautaire</i> field. 2. Improved practical knowledge about the issues on forensic science. 3. Secured data exchange among countries. 4. Experts can ensure high quality and objective investigation in cross border cases.
Judges, practicing lawyers, employees of public administration institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved knowledge of representatives of ministries, representatives of parliament, students and academic personnel on the new Treaty amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community (EU competence, decision making process etc.) and national decision make process at practical level. 2. Obtained knowledge during the seminars/conferences will improve the quality of decisions delivered by the courts or within their daily work. 3. Building of networking and of contacts between the legal professionals will facilitate easier co-operation in the future. 4. Implemented qualitative tools for employees of state institutions working with detection of crime will ensure more qualitative deliveries of resocialization programmes.
Regional policy and development of economic activity priority	
Researchers, schools and university personnel, pupils and students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved researchers' capacity and study materials (methods, tools, skills) through methodological seminars and carrying out research action jointly. 2. Developed feasibility study for Education and Business Development Centre to establish PPP scheme. 3. Strengthened capacity of Riga Technical University Spatial Planning and Regional Development centre – expert knowledge and experience, technical equipment for the centre. 4. Increased interest of young people to study natural and engineering sciences and

	<p>to create new and innovative products by themselves.</p> <p>5. Trained secondary school pupils in elaboration of business plans and improved entrepreneurial skills of secondary school pupils during study visits to real enterprises and play of business simulation game.</p>
Policy makers	<p>1. Increased understanding of regional university role and existing/potential contributions to improved regional development through dialogue.</p> <p>2. Approved the Methodological Guidelines for the territorial development planning of Zemgale Planning Region.</p> <p>3. Elaborated planning model that will be used further for adopting decisions.</p>
Regional and local governments (territory planners, specialists of municipal development planning)	<p>1. Increased knowledge on practical issues concerning the PPP development, development of cooperation networks.</p> <p>2. Developed unique training programme called "Innovation School" which will be targeted towards employees of regional and local government and aimed to increase competitiveness of public administration.</p> <p>3. Elaborated strategic plan for implementation of administrative and institutional model for the integrated public transport service system in Kurzeme region.</p> <p>4. Elaborated new models of public utilities systems for implementation in newly established districts after regional reform.</p> <p>5. Established recommendations and action plan for coastal municipalities for the development of public private partnership models.</p>
Private sector, new entrepreneurs, local companies	<p>1. Raised interest of the investor from private sector to sign the PPP agreement of streets maintenance in Jelgava city and to participate in the development of the Science Centre.</p> <p>2. Involvement of local companies in reconstruction work and in mentoring services.</p> <p>3. Established network between private and public sector.</p> <p>4. Improved mutual understanding of cooperation opportunities and challenges between business sector and universities.</p> <p>5. Establishment of the Idea portal – a place where potential and young entrepreneurs and other businesses can post their business or social ideas over internet and via various social networks find necessary support for implementation of their ideas.</p> <p>6. Trainings for local entrepreneurs on management of enterprise and elaboration of business plan.</p> <p>7. Raised competitiveness of the companies in local and foreign markets through the mentoring services.</p>
Citizens of municipalities	<p>1. Improved social and economic aspects of community life due to more effective cooperation between regional universities and other regional development stakeholders.</p> <p>2. Improved understanding on spatial planning and business promotion activities through discussion forums.</p> <p>3. Reconstructed Daugavpils Fortress will be used for public, cultural, tourism, economical uses.</p> <p>4. Established Science Centre will be open to all groups of citizens from municipalities in Vidzeme and other regions of Latvia.</p> <p>5. Implemented computerised water management and control system within Talsi municipality.</p> <p>6. Citizens have opportunities to start their own business using premises of business gardens.</p>

**Individual projects' compliance with national, regional or local
strategic documents in priority areas**

National, regional or local strategic document	Respective objective/task	Respective projects	
<i>Protection of the environment and Sustainable development priority</i>		Environ ment	Sustain able
Latvia's National Development Plan 2007-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educated and creative citizen - Technological distinction and elasticity of companies - Development of science and research 	LV0049 LV0051 LV0073 LV0075 LV0047 LV0062 LV0097	LV0052 LV0070 LV0071 LV0072 LV0081 LV0045
Environmental Policy Strategy 2009-2015 (approved by the Government on July 2009)	Provide the public with opportunity to live in a clean and well-arranged environment through sustainable development, preservation of environmental quality and biological diversity, sustainable use of natural resources and to increase use of local renewable resources and effective use of energy resources	LV0049 LV0051 LV0075 LV0062 LV0097 LV0047	LV0052 LV0081 LV0045 LV0070 LV0062
National Programme for Biological Diversity	Study tendencies of species dissemination in human created biotopes and keep up with dynamics of these processes		LV0052 LV0070 LV0072
Sustainable Development of Latvia until 2030 (approved by the Parliament on June 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure integration of environment issues and develop broad application of environment policy mechanisms in other field policies - Develop accountability of the society for natural resources and continuously increase effectiveness of the use of resources - Ensure sufficient measures for preservation of biological diversity and protection of ecosystems - Ensure use of renewable energy resources and development of technologies and services of ecosystems outline the transition to "green" economy. 	LV0051 LV0075 LV0047 LV0062 LV0097 LV0073 LV0049	LV0052 LV0070 LV0072 LV0081 LV0045 LV0071
Climate Change Reduction Programme 2005-2010	Ensure measures for reduction and restriction of greenhouse effect gas emissions and for promotion of carbon dioxide attraction	LV0049 LV0051 LV0075 LV0062 LV0097	LV0071 LV0045
Latvian Rural Development National Strategy Plan for 2007-2013	Improvement of quality of life in rural areas and promotion of diversification of economic activities by improving the competitiveness of agricultural and forestry sector with promotion of knowledge and improvement of human potential	LV0047	LV0081
<i>Conservation of European heritage priority</i>			
Latvia's National Development Plan 2007-2013	Improve preservation, protection, study and availability of cultural heritage in Latvia paying special attention to society education on the role of cultural heritage in sustainable development of the country	LV0033 LV0091 LV0034 LV0092 LV0093 LV0094	
National Culture Policy Guidelines 2006–2015 "National Country"	Strengthen national identity and unity of civil society in Latvia based on national culture values and facilitate balanced development of culture processes and availability of culture in the whole	LV0033 LV0091 LV0034 LV0092 LV0093 LV0094	

	territory of Latvia	
National Programme “Culture” (2000-2010)	Ensure preservation, study and inclusion of national heritage in today’s culture circulation, as well as facilitate establishment of culture centres out of Riga. Oriented towards ensuring wholesome culture environment in all Latvia	LV0033 LV0091 LV0034 LV0092 LV0093 LV0094
Kurzeme Region Development Strategy (till 2013)	Increase availability of culture and facilitate development of tourist attraction infrastructure (renovation and arrangement of old towns, cultural heritage objects, establishment of new tourist attraction objects etc.)	LV0033
Kurzeme Planning Region Territory Planning 2006 –2026	Ensure preservation of cultural heritage and development of contemporary culture environment	LV0033
Zemgale Planning Region Development Programme for 2008–2014	Establishment of qualitative life environment, including preservation and development of cultural heritage and creative environment	LV0091
Zemgale Planning Region Territory Planning 2006 –2026	Ensure sustainable maintenance of environment, natural resources and cultural heritage and creation of new cultural values	LV0091
Vidzeme Planning Region Development Programme for 2007–2013	Develop culture infrastructure and services, renovate and arrange culture environment and preserve historic traditions in culture	LV0094
Vidzeme Planning Region Territory Planning 2007 –2027	Ensure preservation and renovation of cultural monuments	LV0094
Latgale Planning Region Territory Planning 2006 –2026	Preservation, protection and development of natural and cultural heritage considering it as valuable future development potential	LV0093
Health		
Action Plan for Implementation of Hospital and Stationary Health Care Service Provider Development Programme 2005-2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve quality of provided health care services - Ensure availability of rational health care service to patients 	LV0027 LV0029 LV0079 LV0084
Hospital and Stationary Health Care Service Provider Development Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure further development of integrated health care system optimizing the number of service providers and their location - Improve quality of provided health care service, cost efficiency and rational availability to patients 	LV0025 LV0026 LV0027 LV0028 LV0029 LV0079 LV0084
Guidelines “Improving Mental Health of Citizens 2009–2014”	Define development of the mental health sector and public actions aimed at improving public mental health in Latvia	LV0084
Action Programme for Implementation of the Public Health Strategy 2004–2010	Establish operative, computerized mental health service information system for effective organization and planning of psychiatric help	LV0084
Action Programme for Implementation of the Public Health Strategy 2004–2010	Ensure measures for reducing the spreading of antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases, including nosocomial diseases	LV0025
Programme “Development of Human Resources in the Field of Health Care 2006–2015”	Ensure human resources and their development in the health care sector in long term	LV0029
Latvia’s E-health Strategy	Ensure introduction of national e-health standards	LV0028 LV0027 LV0026 LV0025
Children with special needs		
Concept „Equal Opportunities for Everyone” (2003-2010) which is actual within year 2010 and will be replaced with “UNO convention for person with disabilities right implementation	Provide the disabled with education opportunities that corresponds their capabilities	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031

guidelines 2013-2019".		
Concept "Equal Rights for All"	Integrate all persons with disability to in the society (including labour market)	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031
New guidelines „Children Friendly Latvia" approved in June, 2010	Ensure equal opportunities for disabled children and children with special needs to have wholesome life in the society, more specifically, to ensure medical, rehabilitation and social services for the disabled children and children with special needs	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031
Operation Program „Human Resources and Employment" on Infrastructure (2007-2013) - promotion of social inclusion	Integrate children with special needs in the all-round education system	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031
"Latvia - Appropriate Country for Children"	Decrease and avoid the reasons for disability, to ensure as early as possible discovery of disability, medical and social care and rehabilitation for children with special needs	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031
Society Integration Program	Integrate people with disabilities into the society and ensure accessible public infrastructure	LV0030 LV0065 LV0095 LV0031
Zemgale Planning Region Development Programme 2008-2014, „Educated, Creative and Competitive Individual"	Facilitate development of the educational institution infrastructure and facilities	LV0030
Ventspils City Development Programme 2007-2013	Ensure adequate services for disabled persons and integration of respective persons into the society	LV0095
Human resource development and education priority		
Latvia's National Development Plan 2007-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure qualitative and available pre-school and elementary education, as well as mandatory secondary and competitive higher education - Improve offer of higher education to the job market developing inter-disciplinary and inter-university study programmes - Modernize education infrastructure - Achieve qualitative acquisition of general knowledge and skills, including in natural science, environment science and mathematics 	LV0040 LV0042 LV0043 LV0044 LV0063 LV0086 LV0087 LV0088 LV0089
Long-term Policy Guidelines "State Culture Policy Guideline 2006 – 2015"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and use full potential of culture for lifelong education of society facilitating development of the knowledge society based on human values - Improve cooperation between culture and economy for promotion of cultural diversity in Latvia and sustainable development of creative economy (strategic goal) 	LV0063 LV0086 LV0088 LV0089
Action plan 2007 – 2009 for implementation of the education system computerization programme "Information and Communication Technologies for Education Quality"	Facilitate educated and creative personality increasing knowledge and skills of students in application of information and communication technologies	LV0040 LV0042 LV0043 LV0044 LV0063 LV0086 LV0087 LV0088 LV0089
Education Development Guidelines 2007 – 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broaden the further education offer of universities, their branches and adult educational establishments related to regional development fields - Improve competitiveness of higher education and ensure preparation of high qualification specialists (masters, doctors) according to current requirements 	LV0040 LV0042 LV0043 LV0044 LV0063 LV0086 LV0087 LV0088 LV0089
Schengen		
Strategic development document	Facilitate accession of Latvia to the Schengen area	LV0039

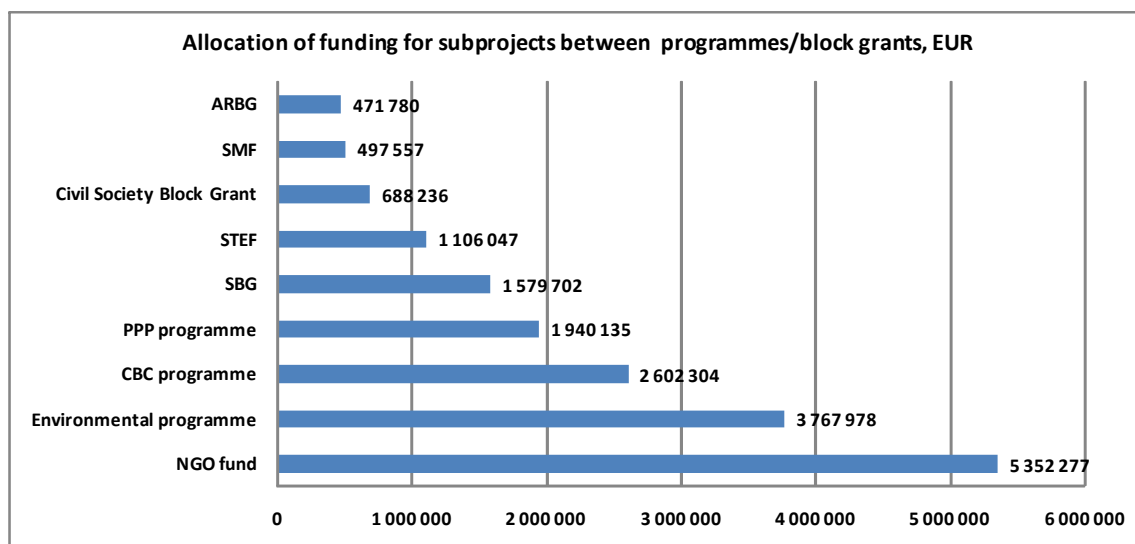
“Latvia’s Foreign Policy Guidelines 2006 – 2010”		
Strategic planning document “Performance Strategy of the Ministry of Interior 2007–2009”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance and management of information systems - Organize and implement cooperation of the State Police with national offices of Europol, Interpol and Sirene in related areas 	LV0035 LV0036 LV0037 LV0038
Latvian National Development plan 2007-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to promote more efficient co-operation between different structures, including cooperation with international institutions dealing with combating crime; - to improve the material and technical base of law enforcement institutions and to modernise IT and communication technologies; - to build the capacity of law enforcement institutions and to establish relations with society. 	LV0035 LV0036 LV0037 LV0038
Action Plan for Compliance with the Schengen <i>acquis</i> Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove border control on internal borders; - Cooperate with police services of Schengen countries to avoid and investigate criminal offences; - Ensure establishment of similar database for all divisions of contractual parties using hardware unit; - Ensure maintenance, update and performance of the database system; - Ensure personal data protection related to automatic processing of personal data transferred in the result of application of the Convention 	LV0035 LV0036 LV0037 LV0038 LV0039
Judiciary		
Prison Development Concept	Facilitate solutions to residence condition problems of all categories of prisoners (incl. solution to problems related to provision of rooms, buildings and work of prisons)	LV0020 LV0019 LV0067 LV0069
Education Policy Guidelines for Convicts 2006–2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Achieve integration of prisoner education in the national education system - Ensure education rights of convicts - Facilitate integration of former convicts in the society 	LV0020 LV0024
Performance Strategy of the Ministry of Justice 2007–2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced number of criminal offences - Protected victim and restored justice - Convict punished in a fair, fast and effective manner and re-socialized - to organize training of judges, prosecutors and other persons involved in the criminal process and human rights 	LV0020 LV0024 LV0022 LV0021 LV0019 LV0067 LV0069 LV0068 LV0009
Re-socialisation Concept of Former Convicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decrease recurrence of criminal offences among former prisoners 	LV0020 LV0024 LV0021 LV0019 LV0067 LV0068
Policy Guidelines for Sentence Enforcement and Detention of Minors for 2007–2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure minor care in prisons according to child’s needs and binding international standards - Ensure corresponding re-socialization of minor convicts (correction of social behaviour and social rehabilitation) done by properly trained specialists - Ensure involvement of all minor convict care institutions according to their competences, involving also the non-governmental sector - Decrease threat to the society caused by among minors 	LV0019 LV0067
-Informative report “Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure active and continuous involvement in the 	LV0009

Principles, Goals, Priorities and Actions in 2007 – 2013 Related to Latvia's Membership in the European Union” -The 2010 work plan of the Ministry of Justice -Concept of Criminal punishment policy	EU decision preparation and making processes - improve legal regulation concerning confiscation of property acquired from crime - in the concept problems regarding confiscation of property has been described and the necessity to improve the application of the punishment	
Zemgale Development Strategy 2003–2010	Ensure pre-conditions for educated society creation processes and open possibilities to citizens of Zemgale for successful competition in the global job market	LV0020 LV0080
<i>Regional policy and development of economic activity priority</i>		
Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (approved by Parliament in June, 2010)	- Provide a foundation for Latvia's territorial and spatial development planning, namely, a vision for further development of our cities, rural areas road network and traffic flows - Determine the priority business in Latvia - Provide municipal officials with a map indicating all boundaries regarding their territories and instructions regarding financing fine ways of making the economy sustainable and sustainability competitive	LV0054 LV0055 LV0056 LV0057 LV0058 LV0059 LV0076 LV0077 LV0078 LV0083
Latvia's National Development Plan 2007-2013 (NDP)	- Prepare work force according to the job market demand - Support training of employees to improve their qualification or ensure re-qualification within enterprises or employers' organizations - Establishment of new competitive enterprises - Development of science and research - Develop cooperation between the public, non-governmental and private sectors - Improve polycentric development creating new possibilities for regions	LV0054 LV0055 LV0056 LV0057 LV0058 LV0059 LV0076 LV0077 LV0078 LV0083
Regional Policy Guidelines	- Bringing the level of development of Latvia and its regions to the level of European countries - Ensure development and implementation of regional development planning documents	LV0054 LV0055 LV0076 LV0077 LV0078 LV0083
Kurzeme Region Development Strategy 2004–2013	- Invest in human resources and develop innovation culture - Develop a polycentric and balanced spatial structure of the region which is composed from an economically developed municipalities - Improve competitiveness of the Kurzeme ports - Improve approachability and competitiveness of the region by concentrating investments in transport infrastructure improvement	LV0055 LV0076 LV0078 LV0083
Zemgale Planning Region Development Programme for 2008 – 2014	- Increase living standards in Zemgale region by improving attractiveness of the region - Facilitate balanced development of Zemgale region facilitating availability of infrastructure and services - Facilitate availability of public transport services and transport infrastructure	LV0056 LV0058 LV0077
Entrepreneurship Development Programme in Zemgale 2006 – 2011	- Ensure qualitative infrastructure for entrepreneurship development - Increase competitiveness of regional enterprises and their production and services - Strengthen business activities and facilitate PPP project development	LV0056 LV0058 LV0077

Latgale Towns Development Strategy	Facilitate renewal of city environment (improvement of spatial/physical quality of city environment)	LV0057
Liepaja City Social- economic Development Programme 2008 - 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of planning documentation - Provide inhabitants with qualitative life conditions, arranged infrastructure, unpolluted environment, as well as safe and comfortable traffic - Provide qualitative and environmental sound water supply and sewerage - Provide development of port - new and upgraded infrastructure which will provide the attraction of new investors etc. 	LV0055 LV0076 LV0083
Ventspils City Development Programme 2007 – 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of planning documentation - Provide Ventspils port position development and diversification of activities - Convenient and quick approachability of the city - Provide qualitative water management services 	LV0055 LV0076 LV0083
Jelgava Integrated Development Programme 2007 - 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide the town with modern and sustainable living environment - Improve road and street pavement quality 	LV0058
Cesis Town Development Programme 2008 – 2014	Create the city environment favourable to entrepreneurship	LV0059
Daugavpils City Development Programme 2008 – 2014	To create in the Military Hospital building modern multifunctional business, public services, cultural and recreational services using PPP scheme	LV0057
Kuldiga Town Development Programme 2008 - 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local government is responsible for the development of environment favourable to growth of quality of life and innovation activities of the inhabitants - Development of attractive public open space - Provision of infrastructure and public facilities which is appropriate for inhabitants and development of economics 	LV0076 LV0078
Saldus Municipality Development Programme 2009 – 2015	Encourage energy-efficient and environmentally friendly technology implementation in public facilities	LV0076
Talsu Integrated Development Programme 2008 - 2014	Development of communal infrastructure	LV0076

Statistical data regarding OCs for subprojects

In total within the all programmes and block grants 18 006 016 euro were available for subprojects (including national co-financing 15%). Allocation of funding for subprojects between programmes and block grants is shown in the graph below:

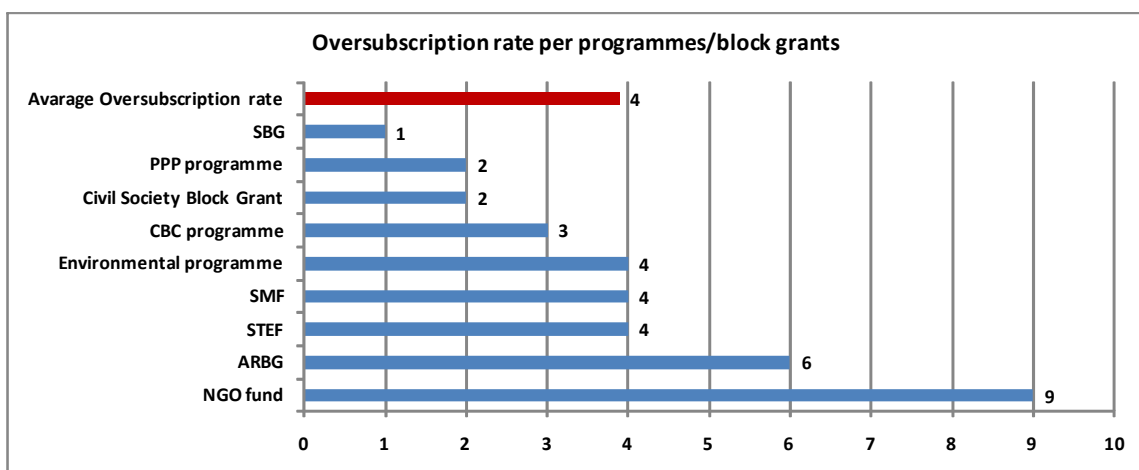


From all programmes and block grants the highest amount of funding was available for the NGO Fund's and the Environmental Programme's subprojects, but for the ARBG and the SMF the lowest. End-beneficiaries could receive funding through OCs announced by Intermediaries, number of OCs for each programme and block grant was stated in GAs – funding within the SBG was made available in 8 OCs, for the NGO Fund in 4 OCs, for the Environmental Programme, the ARBG and the STEF in 2 OCs and for the PPP Programme, the CBC Programme and the Civil Society Block Grant in 1 OC.

During programmes' and block grants' implementation process there were several transfers of the available funding for subprojects made:

- on 5 May 2009 donorstate approved the additional funding for the NGO Fund's (86 595 euro) and the ARBG's (86 781 euro) subprojects;
- on 25 June 2009 donorstate approved Intermediary's request to transfer 135 362 euro from the management costs to subprojects within the CBC Programme in order to assure effective use of the allocated funding;
- on 31 May 2010 donorstate approved the Intermediary's request to transfer savings gained within subprojects 55 276 euro to new activity "Educational and informational activities for the society" within the STEF.

Within all OCs the total requested amount of grant in average 4 times exceeded the available amount of funding. The NGO Fund had the highest average oversubscription rate – 9, while the lowest oversubscription rate had the SBG – 1. Please see oversubscription rates by the programmes and block grants in the graph below:

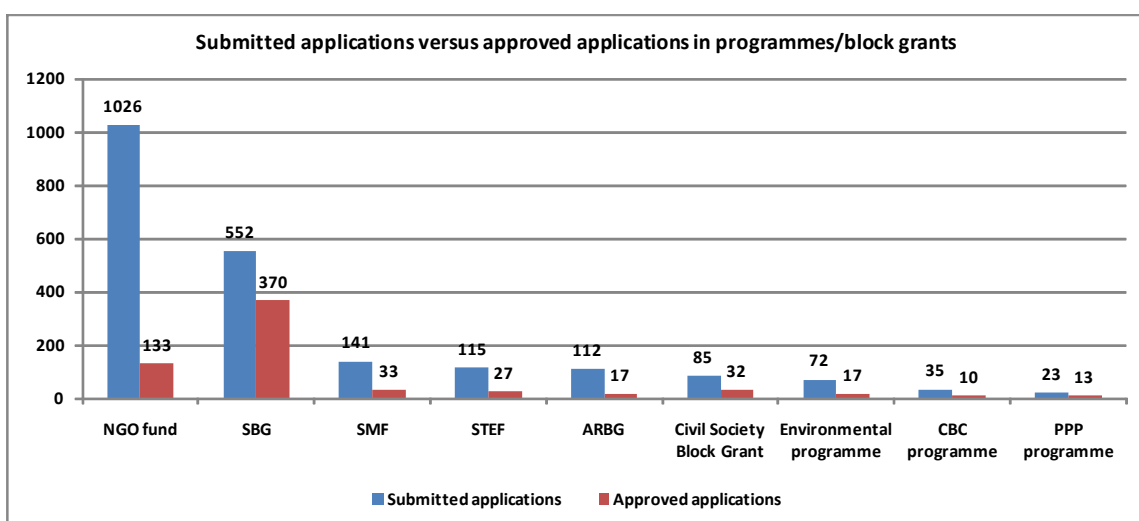


The NGO Fund beneficiaries were very active during all 4 OCs and especially in the last OC, when the oversubscription rate in *NGO activity support measure* achieved 12.8, *NGO capacity strengthening measure* – 14.3 and *NGO project measure* – 18.

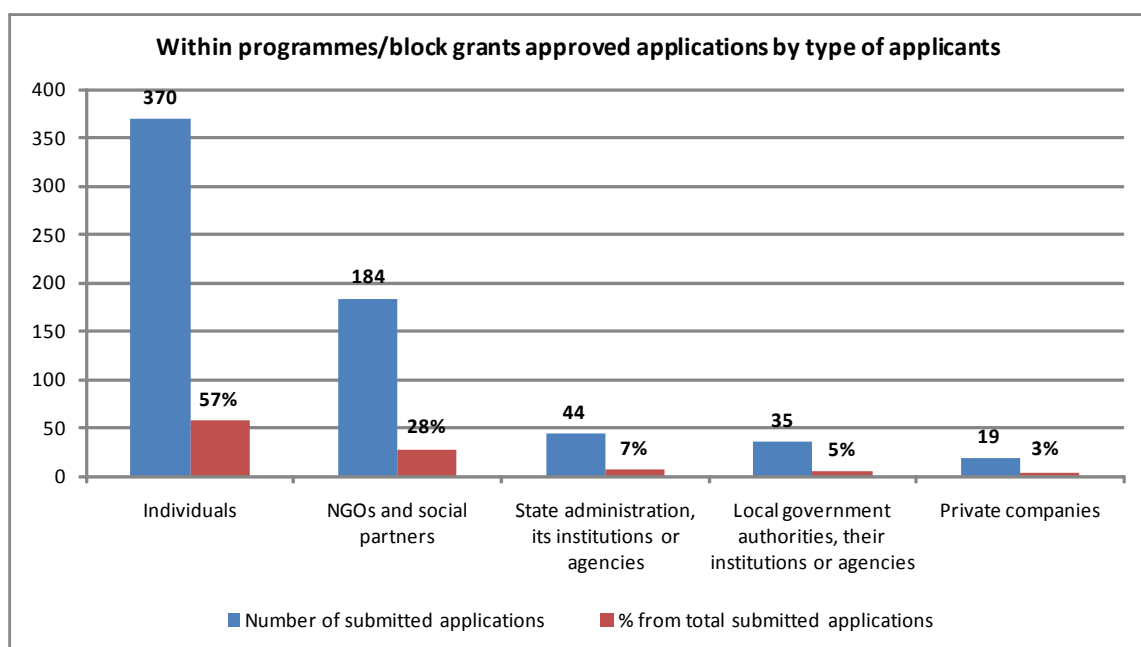
Whereas in the SBG attractiveness of beneficiaries was the lowest and therefore the oversubscription rate on average was 1. In the first OCs submitted applications were very few, so the oversubscription rate we could see only in the last OCs – 7th and 8th which were announced in September 2009 and March 2010. But it shall be noted that the interest rose with each OC, because the Intermediary adjusted requirements for applicants and adequate publicity events were held. Only in the Teacher Assistants' mobility there was no over subscription at all.

Summarizing data about submitted and approved applications it can be concluded that the highest amount of applications were submitted and approved in the NGO Fund's announced four OCs and in the SBG announced eight OCs. Whereas the lowest number of subprojects was submitted and approved within the PPP Programme and the CBC Programme, because just one OC was announced for each programme.

Taking into account that in some programmes/block grants number of submitted subprojects was so high, it created additional burden to management costs as evaluation costs of all submitted applications were higher than initially expected. The number of submitted and approved applications under programmes/block grants is shown in the graph below:



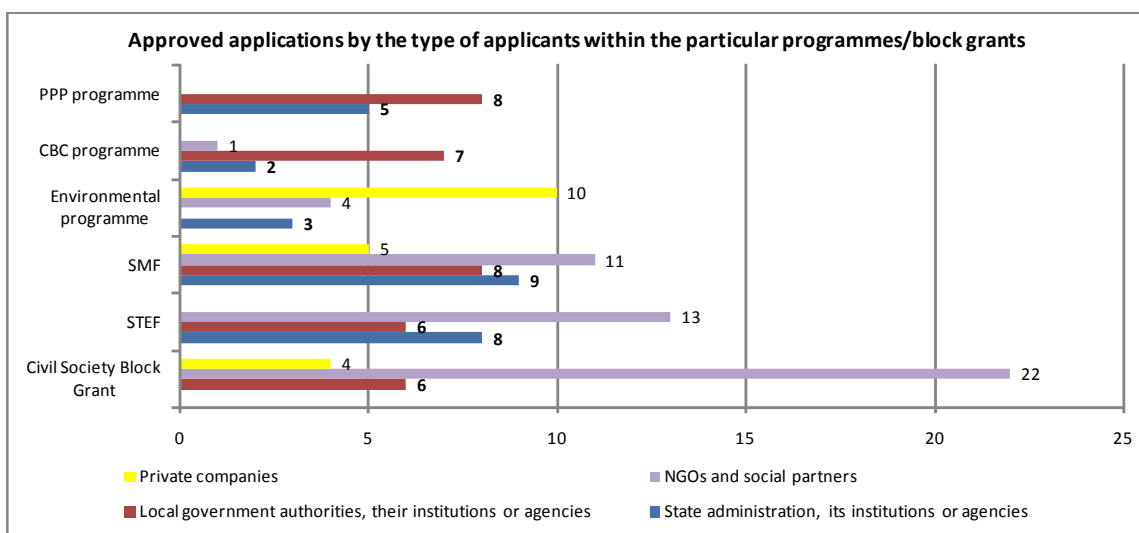
By summarizing the data about applicants it can be concluded that more than a half of approved applications (57%) were submitted by individuals. All 370 applications were approved within the SBG. In the SBG maximum available amount of subproject grants was less than for other programmes and block grants, therefore so much applications were approved. NGOs and social partners were represented with 184 applications or 28% of all approved applications. 44 or 7% applications approved were submitted by the state administration, its institutions or agencies and 35 or 5% by local government authorities, its institutions or agencies. Fewer applications were submitted by the private companies 19 or 3%, because private companies could submit applications only in the Civil Society Block Grant, the SMF and the Environmental Programme. Data on approved applications by the type of applicants are showed in the graph below:



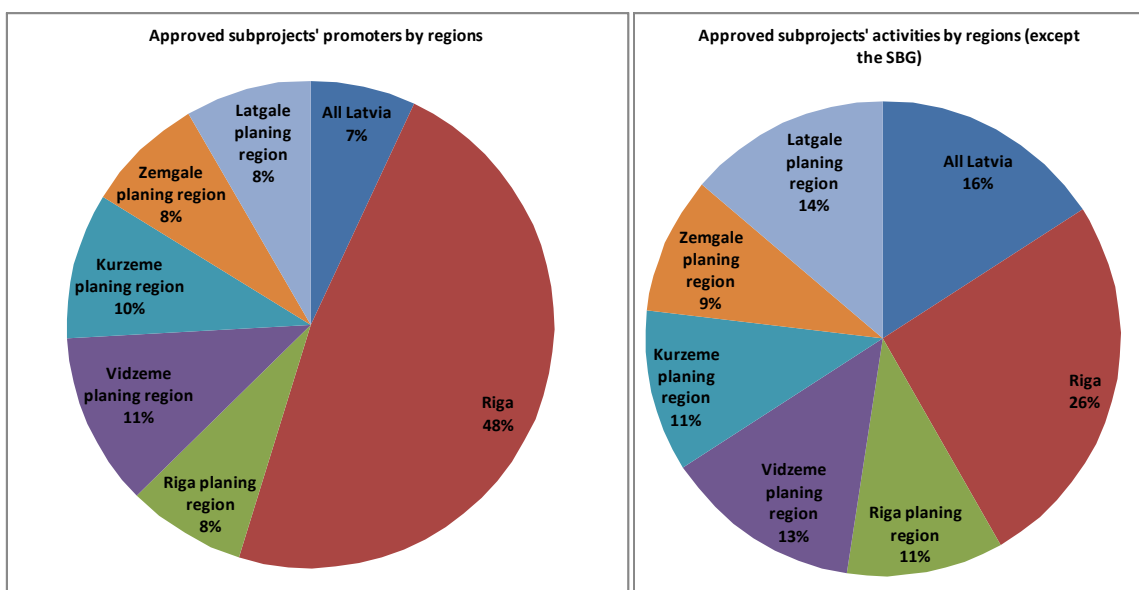
The next graph shows distribution of approved applications by the type of applicants in particular programmes and block grants. In the chart information about the NGO Fund, the ARBG and the SBG is not included, because in these only specific types of applicants were allowed to submit applications:

- in the NGO Fund – NGOs and social partners;
- in the ARBG – officially recognised higher educational establishments and research institutions;
- in the SBG – students and teachers.

Within the PPP Programme applications could be submitted only by central government institutions (ministries) and municipalities (regional and local). Under the CBC Programme applications could be submitted by national, regional/local public authorities, legal bodies equivalent to public bodies, as well as NGOs, but in the result only 1 NGO's application was approved. Within the Environmental Programme and the SMF applications could be submitted by all four applicant groups showed in the chart below. In the Environmental Programme most applications were approved from the private companies, while there were applications approved from the local government authorities. It is obvious that within the Civil Society Block Grant most of approved applications were submitted by NGOs. Also within the STEF most approved applications were submitted by NGOs.

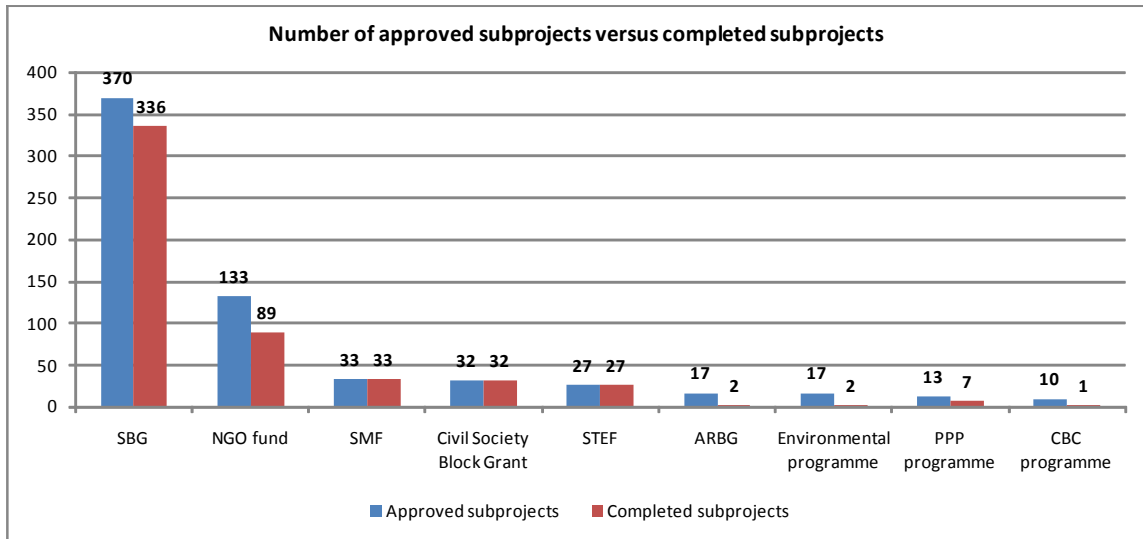


The next graph shows distribution of applicants by Latvian regions. The diagram on the left side includes information about applicants' distribution by regions under all programmes and block grants. The diagram on the right side shows information about regions where the subprojects' activities are implemented, excluding the results of the SBG because all subprojects' activities (scholarships, trainings) took place in donorstate. Taking into account that most of higher educational institutions are situated in Riga, within the SBG it is clear that 240 (from 370) project promoters' are located in the capital city.



The diagram on the right side shows that despite the fact that in Riga most of subprojects are being implemented, in general distribution of subprojects by regions is relatively equal.

The next graph shows number of approved subprojects versus completed subprojects till the end of reporting period.



In 3 block grants (the STEF, the Civil Society Block grant and the SMF) all subprojects are completed. The SIF is still reweaving submitted final reports of subprojects of the Civil Society Block Grant from which 8 final reports are approved. Within the NGO Fund from 89 completed subprojects 83 final reports are approved, within the PPP Programme from 7 completed subprojects one final report is approved, within the ARBG from 2 completed subprojects 1 final report is approved.

Information and publicity activities

About individual projects

Type of activities	Short description of publicity activities within the priority
<i>Press releases</i>	<p>Press releases spread out to mass media:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) within priority “Technical assistance relating to implementation of <i>acquis communautaire</i>” and “Judiciary” about approval of individual projects and signing of cooperation agreements as well as about implementation progress of individual projects’ activities; 2) within priority “Conservation of European heritage” about approved individual projects of the 2nd OC; 3) within priority “Conservation of European heritage” about individual projects’ implementation progress.
<i>Web sites</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within priority “Schengen” on www.iem.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanism and the activities of supported individual projects; • Within priority “Regional policy and development of economical activities” on www.raplm.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanism and about concluded contracts of supported individual projects in the 2nd OC, and about completed projects LV0055, LV0056 and their main results; • Within priority “Health” on www.vnm.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanisms and progress report of projects in implementation; • Within priority “Children with special needs” on www.lm.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanism and about progress of individual projects’ implementation; • Within priority “Conservation of European heritage” on www.km.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanism and regarding projects’ implementation. Also the layout of the web site was improved; • Within priority „Sustainable development”/”Protection of the Environment” on www.vidm.gov.lv - general information about the Financial Mechanism and about /project LV0045 closing conference/ the International Rural Tourism Workshop in the project LV0052. • Within priority “Human resource development and education” on www.izm.gov.lv – general information about the Financial Mechanism and the supported individual projects and block grants.
<i>Seminars</i>	<p>Within priority “Human resource development and education” informative seminar organized by the Ministry of Education and Science the for the project promoters about the conditions of the implementation of the individual projects (Dec 2009).</p>

About programmes and block grants

Time	Type of activities	Short description of activities
Sep - Dec 2009	<i>Press releases</i>	<p><i>Press release spread to mass media about:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>approved results of the 4th OC for proposals within the NGO fund sub-measures “NGO Activity Support Measure”, “NGO Capacity Strengthening Measure”, “NGO Project Measure”</i>
	<i>Seminars</i>	<p><i>Consultation day organised by the APA for students, education staff and teacher assistants about the SBG (8.09.2009).</i></p> <p><i>Informative seminars organized by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The MoRDLG for the sub-projects’ promoters about recent actualities in national Public Procurement Procedures e-procurement within the CBC programme (4.11.2009);</i> • <i>The SIF about observation of conditions set in contracts, public procurement procedures, reporting and networking for beneficiaries of the NGO fund</i>
	<i>Web page</i>	<p><i>Information published on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.lsif.lv <i>about approved results of 4th OC for proposals on block grant’s NGO fund sub-measure “NGO Activity Support Measure”, “NGO Capacity Strengthening Measure”, “NGO Project Measure”</i>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.apa.lv about SBG (description of the block grant, eligible activities, eligible final beneficiaries, application forms, FAQs, allocated financing etc.); • www.rapl.m.gov.lv about subsequent actualities within the CBC programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the last (10th) signed subproject`s contact; – informative seminar “Actualities in national Public Procurement Procedures e-procurement”; – participation in Open Days 2009. • www.vraa.gov.lv about some implemented subprojects within the STEF;
	Other	<p>Participation with the presentation about the CBC programme in Latvia within the Open Days of the European Week of Regions and Cities held on 6.10.2009 in Brussels, Belgium.</p> <p>Information about the STEF about some implemented subprojects included in the SRDA's Newsletter.</p>
I quarter of 2010	Seminars	<p>Consultation days organised by the SEDA for education staff about the Education staff mobility of the SBG (20.01.2010, 17.02.2010 and 9.03.2010).</p> <p>Informative seminar organized by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SIF for beneficiaries about the Public procurement procedures applied for project implementation within the NGO fund (29.01.2010)
	Web page	<p>Information published on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.lsif.lv about funded subprojects updated within the NGO fund; • www.viaa.gov.lv about updates in the SBG; • www.twitter.com about finalizing implementation of all subprojects in February 2010 and www.vraa.gov.lv about preparation of final reports within the STEF.
	Other	Information and photos prepared about some subprojects within the programmes and block grants and sent to FMO for preparation of common information material.
II quarter of 2010	Press releases	Press release spread to mass media about the Seminar “NGO Fund in Latvia” held on 28 April 2010.
	Seminars	<p>Consultation days organised by the SEDA for education staff about the Education staff mobility of the SBG (6.04.2010, 13.04.2010, 20.04.2010 and 27.04.2010).</p> <p>Informative seminars organized by the SIF for beneficiaries about the “NGO Fund in Latvia” (28.04.2010).</p>
	Web page	<p>Information published on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.lsif.lv about the seminar “NGO Fund in Latvia” held on 28 April 2010 and information about funded sub projects updated; • www.viaa.gov.lv about updates in the SBG. <p>NGO Fund Project Search developed and available at www.lsif.lv. Information about all supported projects, and the results of already completed projects available on internet.</p>
	Printed materials	Booklets about the seminar “NGO Fund in Latvia” (held on 28 April 2010) prepared and disseminated.
Jul-Aug 2010	Web page	<p>Report on Seminar “NGO Fund in Latvia” published on www.lsif.lv in Latvian and English languages (http://www.lsif.lv/node/1017).</p> <p>The list of approved subprojects published on www.viaa.gov.lv within the last open call in Education staff mobility of the SBG.</p>

Programmes' and block grants' compliance with national, regional or local strategic documents and main target groups

Strategic document	Respective objective/task of strategic document	Target groups
NGO Fund		
State Programme “Society Integration in Latvia”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Facilitate civil participation – participation of individuals in social and national life supporting establishment and performance of NGOs and stimulating involvement of individuals in the NGO work.- Strengthen links between individuals and social groups and between individuals/social groups and state.	Local, regional and national NGOs organizations
Guidelines for Civil Society Strengthening Policy 2005–2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Increase in the number of persons in Latvia who build the social capital through formal and informal cooperation in favour of their or public goals.- Increased effectiveness of participatory of citizens, informal groups and public organization in policy processes at municipal, state administration and European Union level.- Develop environment for sustainable purposeful work of NGOs.	
Scholarship Block Grant (SBG)		
National Development Plan 2007–2013	Facilitate development of educated and creative person.	Students of universities in Latvia, prospective/new pedagogic students and academic and administrative personnel of higher educational institutions, as well as administrative personnel in state and municipal institutions in the field of education.
Performance strategy of the Ministry of Education and Science 2007–2009	Ensure qualitative and available education.	
Education Development Guidelines 2007–2013	Promote education possibilities throughout the whole life.	
Planned Measures for Necessary Reforms in Higher Education and Science 2010-2012	Improve strategical development, quality and international competitiveness of higher education and science.	
Short Term Expert Fund (STEF)		
National Development Plan 2007-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cooperation between state, municipalities, NGOs and social partners including building capacity of non-governmental sector and other institutions and organizations, establishment of cooperation networks.- Development of human resources creating pre-conditions to improve competitiveness of regions and state in general.	Specialists and entrepreneurs in municipalities, society of regional towns and rural areas. Subprojects cover specific target groups, for instance, persons for

		hearing disorder, environment protection specialists, tourists, insolvency administrators etc.
Promotion of Development of Public and Private Partnership in Latvia (PPP Programme)		
Ogre District Development Programme 2005–2012; Riga Planning Region Development Programme 2005–2011; Transport Development Guidelines of the Republic of Latvia 2007–2013; National Development Plan 2007–2013	Reduce traffic intensity, increase traffic safety and decrease the number of traffic accidents.	Local governments and state institutions and private sector as potential future public service provider under public and private partnership.
Riga Region Innovative Development Program; Riga Planning Region Development Programme 2005–2011; Ogre District Employment Strategy 2005–2011.	Increase number of companies in industry sector of production electronics and electric engineering, to improve access to new technologies.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Latvian Common Social Integration Memorandum; Performance Strategy of the Ministry of Welfare 2007–2009 Riga City social services and social assistance system development strategy for the period 2008 to 2013.	Improve quality of continuous social care and social rehabilitation services and availability of social services to persons with serious mental disorder.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Limbazi District Development Programme; National Culture Policy Guidelines 2006–2015	Facilitate development of local human resources and culture environment.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Limbazi District Development Programme; Tukums City Development Programme 2005–2012; National Sports Development Programme 2006–2012	Create conditions for formation of healthy, physically and mentally developed person.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Riga Long-Term Development Strategy till 2025; Kurzeme Planning Region Strategy; Olaine City Development Programme Convicts Education Policy Development Guidelines 2006–2010; Prison Infrastructure Development Concept	Use more efficiently national resources for execution of detention punishment, improve prison capacity and public safety, create safe environment for employees of prisons, as well as create conditions for complete realization of prisoner re-socialization.	

National Development Plan 2007–2013; Riga Region Planning Strategy 2000-2020; Riga District Adazi Municipality territory plan	Increase services availability and quality of state and local authorities and reduce bureaucratic and administrative barriers.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Latgale Development Plan; Rezekne District Development Programme; Project of nature protection Plan for National park of Razna	Promote biodiversity and protected areas preservation and reasonable use, and promote the involvement of the protected areas the economic cycle, attracting funding for management.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Riga long-term Development Strategy until 2025; Riga Technical University Development Program 2008-2015; Riga Stradins University Development Strategy 2008-2015	Offer students of University an adequate sports infrastructure, improve hostels’ services quality and access to a larger number of students.	
National Development Plan 2007–2013; Riga City Development Plan 2006-2018	Reduce the number of children in line, who are waiting for places in pre-school education, ensure a better quality of educational services in appropriate premises.	
Cross-border Cooperation Programme (CBC Programme)		
National Development Plan 2007-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Educated and creative person.- Technological distinction and flexibility of enterprises.- Education of science and research.	Latvian and neighbourhood countries (Byelorussia, Estonia, Russia, Lithuania) public, regional and municipal institutions and their employees, scientific and research organizations, NGOs and entrepreneurs, environment specialists, children and youth, and society of regions.
Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy till 2030	Cooperation and a strategic principle of sustainability model: sustainability model requires integrated solution of economic, environment and social issues, therefore both vertical and horizontal cooperation mechanisms become of special importance.	

**List of audits, controls and external monitoring visits
for September 2009–August 2010**

The Auditor/Monitoring agent	Time of audit	Project Nr./Title of audit
On spot checks		
MoRDLG	Nov 2009	LV0059
	Nov 2009	LV0054
	Dec 2009 – Aug 2010	LV0017
	Mar 2010	LV0077
	Mar 2010	LV0078
	Mar 2010	LV0016
	Apr 2010	LV0076
Ministry of Justice	Jul 2010	LV0083
	Sept 2009	LV0022
	Nov–Dec 2009	LV0020
	Jan 2010	LV0009
	Apr 2010	LV0080
	Aug 2010	LV0068
	Aug 2010	LV0067
Ministry of Interior	Aug–Sept 2010	LV0021
	Sept 2009–Feb 2010	LV0038
Ministry of Health	Jun 2010	LV0026
Ministry of Welfare	July 2010	LV0095
Ministry of Education and Science	May 2010	LV0086
	May 2010	LV0063
CFCA	Sept 2009	LV0007
	Sept 2009	LV0056
	Sept 2009	LV0033
	Oct 2009	LV0045
	Nov 2009	LV0047
	Dec 2009	LV0025
	Dec 2009	LV0054
System audits		
SIF	Sept 2009 – Aug 2010	LV0008 (three audits)
MoRDLG	Oct 2009 – Jun 2010	LV0017
IDAL	Febr – Mar 2010	LV0016
SRDA	Sept 2009 – Aug 2010	LV0011
State Police of Ministry of Interior	Sept 2009–May 2010	LV0037
Control by the internal audit structure of the MoF		
MoF	May–Jun 2010	LV0090
FMO external monitoring visits		
MWH SA/NV in consortium with PITIJA, svetovanje d.o.o.	Sept 2009 and Jun 2010	LV0069
Integration GmbH	Nov–Dec 2009	LV0006
Integration GmbH	Nov–Dec 2009	LV0008
Baltic Project Consulting	Mar 2010	LV0057
Baltic Project Consulting	Mar 2010	LV0058
Rambøll Norge AS	May 2010	LV0017
Rambøll Norge AS	May 2010	LV0059
IMBAS GmbH	Jun 2010	LV0016
MWH SA/NV in consortium with PITIJA, svetovanje d.o.o.	Jun 2010	LV0077