



€100 million to NGOs 2009-14

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway continue their support to civil society in Central and Southern Europe, with NGO funds in all 15 beneficiary states.

Minorities, children and youth

Human rights Advocacy

Multicultural dialogue

Awareness raising

Mobilisation and civic participation

Networking and coalition building **Democracy**

Social services to vulnerable groups

Watchdog and monitoring activities

NGOs are encouraged to cooperate with counterparts in Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and to strengthen cross-border cooperation with NGOs from a neighbouring state outside of the EU and the EEA.

www.eeagrants.org • www.norwaygrants.org

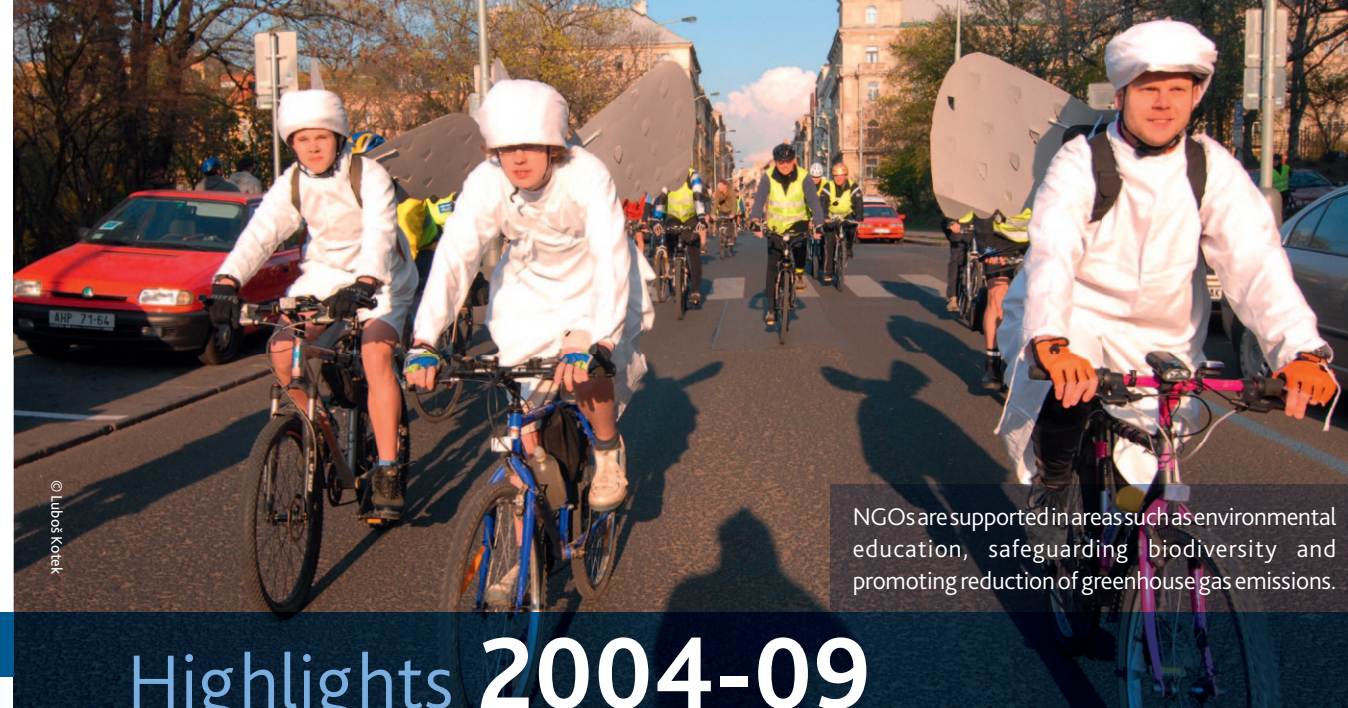


EEA GRANTS
NORWAY GRANTS

Strengthening
civil society in Europe



Innovative and important NGO support



NGOs are supported in areas such as environmental education, safeguarding biodiversity and promoting reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Highlights 2004-09

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway have placed support for civil society at the core of the EEA and Norway Grants.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) play a key role in promoting democracy, supporting social justice and encouraging a sustainable approach to societal development.

In the period 2004-09, specific NGO funds, amounting to €85 million in funding, were set up under the EEA and Norway Grants. More than 1900 projects by civil society organisations in the beneficiary states were supported. In addition, €100 million was given in direct support to projects run by NGOs.

For the funding period 2009-14, at least €100 million will go to new NGO funds. NGOs in all the beneficiary states can also apply for grants under other EEA and Norway Grants programme areas.

19 NGO funds were established in 12 countries. These funds awarded grants to 1900 civil society projects, of which many are in implementation until 2011.

Making an impact

An independent evaluation confirms that the NGO funds contributed significantly to the ongoing civil society development in Central and Southern Europe. The NGO funds demonstrated innovation, assisted in addressing inequalities and targeted needs of local communities. The funds have strengthened the capacity of NGOs to advocate, increase volunteering, and build coalitions.

Promoting democracy and human rights

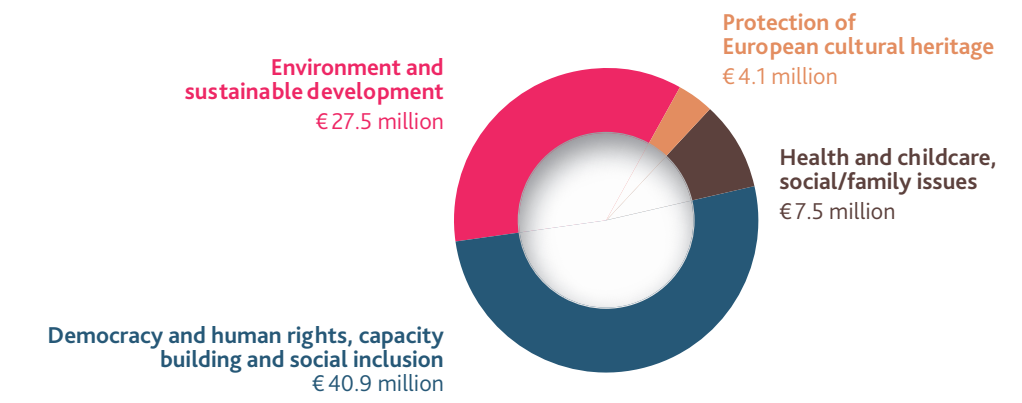
More than half of the supported NGO projects are in the areas of democracy building, protection of human rights and fighting social exclusion. Projects have

enabled NGOs to influence public policy and initiate public debate, maintain watchdog activities and increase participation of citizens in decision-making.

Capacity building for NGOs

The NGO funds reported strengthened capacity of civil society organisations in their countries, as in Estonia where NGOs improved skills in advocacy works. In all countries, and most notably in Slovakia and Latvia, many NGOs achieved the needed quality standards to take over social services on contracts, mainly from municipalities.

Distribution of grants 2004-09



Grants finance democracy initiatives by NGO, such as a project to stimulate political participation among young people in Romania.

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