

Executive summary

The Green Industry Innovation Programme for Poland will contribute to the overall objective of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 which is to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area and to strengthen the bilateral relations between Norway and Poland. The Programme complies with the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, the Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 and the Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism between Norway and Poland.

The objective of the Programme area is to increase competitiveness of green enterprises, including greening of existing industries, green innovation and green entrepreneurship. The programme strategy is in line with national policies in Poland. The expected outcome of the Programme is realisation of business opportunities in greening the European economy.

The Green Industry Innovation Programme for Poland is a business development programme and the vision is: Good for Environment and good for business. All supported projects aim at improving the environmental performance of the successful Project Promoter/enterprise. No specific economic sector has priority.

Activities to be supported are development, implementation, investment and training related to environmentally friendly technologies, production processes, innovative green products and services, reduction and re-use of waste, initiatives related to energy efficiency and more use of renewable energy in business operations, as well as increased resource efficiency through system and process innovation in the business operations.

Enterprises within all sectors covered by the EU General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) on State Aid could be eligible for support from the programme.

The total amount available for financing of projects (re-granting) is EUR 17 783 000 as one Individual Project Grant Scheme. The target group for the Individual Project Scheme is private sector in Poland. Eligible applicants will be SME enterprises registered in Poland. Enterprises, research institutions and clusters, both in Poland and Norway will be eligible as project partners. Donor partnership projects will be encouraged and given extra points during project assessment.

A Travel Support Facility, with an estimated budget of EUR 75 000, will be provided as part of the Bilateral Fund on programme level. Only Norwegian and Polish entities are eligible applicants for the travel support, which amounts to EUR 1200 pr. entity.

The Green Industry Innovation Programme for Poland is operated by Innovation Norway, a public company owned by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries and the Norwegian County Municipalities. The Programme has been developed in consultation with the National Focal Point which is the Ministry of Regional Development (MRD). MRD will also be the Programme partner. The MRD has during the development of the Programme also consulted the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy, as well as the National Research and Development Centre. The main purpose of these consultations has been to avoid duplication of other programmes implemented in Poland.