

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Poland

PL-Applied Research Research

2019

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The PL-Applied Research Programme was formally established on the basis of the Programme Agreement signed between the Financial Mechanism Committee and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Polish Ministry of Investment and Economic Development (National Focal Point) on 7 June 2019. The National Centre for Research and Development signed a Programme implementation agreement with the National Focal Point on 19 August 2019 r., which gave the Programme Operator a legal title to implement the Programme, under the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021.

The Programme Operator followed the time schedule established for the Programme for 2019. On 23rd September the Programme Operator launched 2 calls for proposals: the POLNOR 2019 Call and POLNOR CCS (Carbon Capture and Storage) 2019 Call, both for bilateral Polish-Norwegian research projects. Additionally the invitation for candidates to the IdeaLab workshop 'Cities for the future: services and solutions' was published on 4th November. The IdeaLab is an interactive and intensive 5-day workshop involving approx. 30 participants from a range of disciplines and backgrounds and a team of external experts (mentors and the director) and stakeholders that is organised in order to drive new approaches to address research challenges on a specific topic.

To ensure the wide promotion of the calls, the Programme Operator undertook several activities including: establishment of the Programme website, info-days (2) in Warsaw and Oslo (1) as well as press advertisements. The most important information was also posted at the 'News' section on the main website of the NCBR, on the NCBR Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn profiles and NCBR Newsletter.

Implementation of the Programme was executed in close cooperation with the Donor Program Partner – the Research Council of Norway and under supervision of the National Focal Point. Any arising issues related to the Programme implementation were discussed with the relevant partner thoroughly.

Additionally, the PO established a fruitful collaboration with the Program Operator of the PL-Basic Research Programme – the National Science Centre in Cracow.

The main outcome of programme implementation in 2019 was the launch of the two aforementioned calls for proposals in which the PO received 74 applications in the POLNOR call and 17 applications in the POLNOR CCS call. In addition 123 potential participants answered the invitation to the IdeaLab workshop.

The evaluation of project proposals submitted in the POLNOR and POLNOR CCS calls was not completed in this reporting period. The evaluation will be completed in II quarter of 2020. The process of signing of project contracts with the beneficiaries of the calls will start in III quarter of 2020. The project monitoring will commence in 2021.

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Results

Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme

In the reporting period a few events took place which contributed to the development of bilateral relations between Polish entities and the Donors.

- Establishment of the Programme Committee (PC) consisting of Polish and Norwegian representatives of the scientific community. In 2019 the PC met twice in order to discuss the POLNOR 2019, the POLNOR CCS 2019 and the IdeaLab calls.
- Organization of Programme info-days on 19 and 25 June 2019 in Warsaw. The PO provided general information about the Programme, POLNOR 2019, POLNOR CCS 2019 and IdeaLab calls. The events were attended by 198 participants from both research organisations as well as business/industry sectors.
- Organization of the Programme info-day on 12 September 2019 in Oslo on the RCN premises. The event was attended by 27 participants. The meeting was also available through live streaming.
- Organization of the Programme Opening Event at the Ms Mermaid - Conference Center on 23 September 2019 in Warsaw with the participation of representatives of the Norwegian Royal Embassy in Warsaw, the National Focal Point, Polish scientific community and other POs.

Apart from the above mentioned events, issues concerning the Programme implementation were discussed on day-to-day basis between the representatives of the PO and the DPP.

2. Implementation

Conformity with specific requirements

- *The National Focal Point shall ensure that pursuant to Article 1.5.2 of the Regulation that the Programme Operator shall ensure that any additional provisions to the implementation of the Programme shall be kept to a minimum, and to this end the Donor Programme Partner shall be closely involved in and effectively contribute to the development of the project contract template and other templates of document(s) relevant to the implementation of the programme, especially those affecting the relation of the project promoter and partner(s).*

The documentation prepared by the PO was consulted with the DPP and the NFP. All queries were always explained with the reference to PO procedures as well as Polish and EU legislation.

- *The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator closely cooperates during the implementation of the programme with the Programme Operator of the Basic Research Programme in Poland.*

The PO worked in close cooperation with the PO of the Basic Research Programme - National Science Centre in Cracow. Both POs exchanged their experiences and attended meetings of their Programme Committees and other events. The cooperation was very helpful and fruitful for both entities.

Cooperation with International Partner Organisations (IPOs)

In the reporting period the PO did not cooperate with International Partner Organisations (IPOs).

C. LEARNING

1. Monitoring

According to the time schedule of the Programme the process of signing of project contracts will start in III quarter of 2020. Therefore, the project monitoring will commence in 2021.

2. Evaluation

In the reporting period the PO did not carry out any evaluation.

3. Lessons learned

As the Programme is at its very early phase the PO did not identify any lessons to be learnt.

D. ANNEXES

1. Updated results (indicator achievements)

2. Communication

3. Overview of contracted projects

4. Risk management

5. Monitoring plan

6. Evaluation report

7. List of individual mobilities

Annex 1: Updated results (indicator achievements)

Objective: Enhanced research-based knowledge development								
Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish applied research								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of new products/technologies developed	Number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection	Number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted	Number	0	-	-	-	0	300	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of joint, peer-reviewed scientific publications in applied research submitted	Number	0	-	-	-	0	100	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								

<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of signed collaborative agreements between research organisations and companies involved in the programme	Number	0	-	-	-	0	45	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
Output 1.1: Support to technology transfer for applied research to R&D based SMEs provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of SMEs supported	Number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The indicator will be delivered after the project launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.2: Support to researchers conducting applied research provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of donor states' researchers supported	Number	0	-	-	-	0	100	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								

<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of Polish researchers supported	Number	0	-	-	-	0	400	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.3: Support to women researchers provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of female researchers going abroad for research	Number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
Number of female researchers supported in applied research projects	Number	0	-	-	-	0	250	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Output 1.4: Support to young researchers provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of grant projects lead by young researchers	Number	0	-	-	-	0	5	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.

Number of mentor-mentee relationships established for young researchers	Number	0	-	-	-	0	50	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
Output 1.5: Support to carbon capture and storage research (CCS)								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous reporting period	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of donor states' researchers supported for CCS Projects	Number	0	-	-	-	0	15	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of Polish researchers supported for CCS Projects	Number	0	-	-	-	0	55	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Number of CCS projects with support for a pre-commercial phase	Number	0	-	-	-	0	2	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of previous	Achievements until end of December 2019			Target	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Value		

			reporting period					
Level of trust between cooperating entities in Poland and donors states	Scale 1-7	TBD, Servey level	-	-	-	-	>=4.5	-
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Beneficiary State</i>								
<i>Bulgaria</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Croatia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cyprus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Czech Republic</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Estonia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Greece</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hungary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lativa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lithuania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Malta</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Poland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Portugal</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Romania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Slovakia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Level of satisfaction with the partnerships	Scale 1-7	TBD, Servey level	-	-	-	-	>=4.5	-

<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Beneficiary State</i>								
<i>Bulgaria</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Croatia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cyprus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Czech Republic</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Estonia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Greece</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hungary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lativa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lithuania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Malta</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Poland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Portugal</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Romania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Slovakia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Share of cooperating organisations who apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	>=50%	-
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Beneficiary State</i>								
<i>Bulgaria</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<i>Croatia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cyprus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Czech Republic</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Estonia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Greece</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hungary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lativa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lithuania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Malta</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Poland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Portugal</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Romania</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Slovakia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of joint applications for further funding	Number	0	-	-	-	0	5	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Bilateral Output 1: Cooperation between beneficiary and donor state entities supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline	Achievements until end of	Achievements until end of December 2019	Target	Comment		

			previous reporting period	Numerator	Denominator	Value		
Number of projects involving the cooperation of a donor project partner	Number	0	-	-	-	0	TBD, TBD	The indicator will be delivered after the projects launch.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-

Annex 2: Communication summary

a. Visibility of the Grants and the donors

The main communication activities done by the PO were info days organised in Warsaw and Oslo. 225 representatives of academia, companies and NGO's were present during the events. Additionally the press advertisements in the national range newspaper were published after the POLNOR and POLNOR CCS calls were open. The most important information was also posted at the 'News' section on the main website of the NCBR, on the NCBR Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn profiles and NCBR Newsletter.

b. Communication with the National Focal Point

All the information concerning the PO's activities was delivered directly to the programme coordinator in the NFP. News was then shared through the official media channels of the NFP.

c. Website and social media

The PO established the webpage dedicated to the Programme in Polish and English language versions with regular posting of information about the Programme. The webpage is placed under the main NCBR website:

<https://www.ncbr.gov.pl/norwaygrants/pl;>

<https://www.ncbr.gov.pl/en/norwaygrants/en.>

The most important information was also posted at the 'News' section on the main website of the NCBR, on the NCBR Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn profiles and NCBR Newsletter.

d. Best practice examples

The first best practices will be described after launching of projects.

e. Multimedia

The presentations and video records of the info days are available on the PO's website:

<https://www.ncbr.gov.pl/en/programmes/international-programmes/iii-edition-of-eea-and-norway-grants/conferencesinfo-days/presentations-from-the-meetings/>

Annex 3: Overview of contracted projects

Outcome	Projects	#	# of donor project partners	Amount contracted	% of outcome budget contracted
Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish applied research	Pre-defined	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Contracted through open calls	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Contracted through small grants scheme	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
	Total Outcome 1	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %
Programme	Total	0	0	€ 0	0.00 %

Annex 4: Risk management

Programmatic risks						
Risk description	Risk related to	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score	Response type	Risk N/A?
underspending of funds allocated to the projects	Both objectives	3	2	2.45	Mitigate	No
	Description of planned response	ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NFP in Poland, requesting for regular teleconferences to verify and unify all questionable areas associated with the proper Programme management, policy of financial flexibility in reference to project implementation				
	Description of actual response	as described above				
	Planned future response	continuation of actions described above				
different understanding of formal guidelines and criteria related to cooperation within the Programme	Both objectives	3	3	3.00	Mitigate	No
	Description of planned response	ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NFP in Poland, requesting for regular teleconferences to verify and unify all questionable areas associated with the proper Programme management, regular meetings of employees involved in Programme preparation, implementation and completion				
	Description of actual response	as described above				
	Planned future response	continuation of actions described above				
changes in Polish law and/or Donor States' law	Both objectives	2	3	2.45	Mitigate	No
	Description of planned response	day-by-day overview of law modification and estimating its influence on the Programme assumptions, ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NCP in Poland to find acceptable solutions of preventing the risk of incompatibility with The Programme requirements and to moderate the delays in ongoing projects				

	Description of actual response	as described above				
	Planned future response	continuation of actions described above				
Operational risks						
Risk description	Risk related to	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score	Response type	Risk N/A?
difficulties with initiating cooperation between partners from Poland and Donor States	Both objectives	1	4	2.00	Mitigate	No
	Description of planned response	the Communication Plan includes the international promotion of the Programme, creating a tool (browser, search engine) to help the applicants from Poland in searching potential partners or researchers interested in bilateral cooperation				
	Description of actual response	regular posting of information about the Programme on the PO's website, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn profile, info-days organisation, partner search database for EEA and Norway Grants on the DPP website.				
	Planned future response	Bilateral fund actions				
delays in call launch and project selection	Both objectives	3	4	3.46	Mitigate	No
	Description of planned response	involvement at an early stage of programming departments and teams of PO working on research programme;				
	Description of actual response	careful planning of activities in cooperation between all respective departments of the PO; prompt reaction for the delays				
	Planned future response	continuation of actions described above				
	Both objectives	3	4	3.46	Mitigate	No

failure to achieve goals and results of the projects	Description of planned response	ongoing supervision, in particular the assesment of annual reports (monitoring the status of achieving goals and results); agreement on the implementation and financing of a research project - encourage the possibillity of: 1) extension the duration of a project in case of justified delays; 2) adequate modification of research tasks after a positive recommendation of an independent expert in particularly justified cases (friendly scientific goals and objectives management and supervision)		
	Description of actual response	project implementation has not started yet.		
	Planned future response	as described above		
Overall risk of the programme				
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk score
OVERALL RISK OF THE PROGRAMME		2	4	2.83