

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Poland

PL-Applied Research Applied Research

2023

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2023 all projects (81) selected under the ‘Applied Research’ Programme were under implementation, of which 6 had been completed by the end of the reporting period. At the same time 14 actions supporting Ukrainian researchers under the Bilateral Fund of the Programme were carried out.

Compared to the previous reporting period, funded projects continued reporting increasing results. The values of indicators achieved by projects exceeded the target values except for the number of registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection. However, this number is expected to further increase in the final phase of implementation of projects.

Being aware of the exceptional price growth and the unprecedented current economic situation, in February 2023 the PO offered the possibility to apply for additional funding for already approved POLNOR, POLNOR CCS and IdeaLab projects. 42 projects submitted the amendment requests for additional funding as they were affected by circumstances which could not have been foreseen at the moment of submitting project proposal and/or had the capacity to scale up results. By the end of the reporting period 40 requests for additional funding were assessed positively, one negatively and one decision on granting additional funding is pending.

Based on the positive experience from previous monitoring visits, in 2023 the PO continued such online meetings with selected projects. Moreover, in the reporting period the activities funded under scheme for Ukrainian researchers were also included in monitoring performed by the PO. As in previous year, in 2023 the PO also organised online monitoring meetings for each IdeaLab project. International experts who participated in the IdeaLab process from the very beginning gave their opinions on projects’ implementation and further recommendations. Apart from it, one Programme Committee meeting was organised dedicated to monitoring of the Programme and projects implementation as well as visiting projects’ sites.

In 2023 the results of the Programme mid-term evaluation were presented. Main conclusions show that the Programme’s results are expected to be achieved, first and foremost enhanced performance of Polish applied research and strengthened collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities through fostering mutual exchange of knowledge and experience as well as strongly pro-business-oriented projects with potential to implement results.

In November 2023 the PO in collaboration with Donor Programme Partner (DPP) – the Research Council of Norway (RCN) organized in Warsaw the international conference “EEA & Norway Grants contributions to EU Missions on Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation and Climate-neutral and smart cities”. The main goals of the event were to inform the beneficiaries of the EEA and Norway Grants projects about the possibilities in Missions and Horizon calls and raise awareness about these projects among the policymakers.

In the reporting period the implementation of the Programme took place in close cooperation with the DPP and under supervision of the National Focal Point (NFP). This cooperation is crucial in terms of the identified risks mitigation. The overall risk of the Programme has not been changed although there were some changes in individual risks identified for the

Programme. There was also close collaboration between the PO and the Programme Operator of the Basic Research Programme in Poland, both on working on a day-to-day basis and during international workshops for the POs, Programmes' meetings and events.

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Programme progress and results

Objectives

The PO aimed at achieving the Objective "Enhanced research-based knowledge development" and Outcome 1: "Enhanced performance of Polish applied research" through funding projects selected in calls for proposals: POLNOR 2019 Call, POLNOR CCS 2019 Call, the IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals and Small Grant Scheme 2020 Call. Moreover, the PO has announced and completed 5 monthly rounds under the Scheme: Support for Ukrainian researchers under Bilateral Fund of 'Applied Research' Programme.

The Programme Applied Research is contributing to the objectives of the grants by strengthening bilateral cooperation between Polish and Norwegian science. Calls POLNOR 2019, POLNOR CCS 2019 and the IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals are implemented by 50 consortia including Polish and Norwegian entities. The project teams prepare project results together (e.g. joint applications for further funding, joint peer-review publications, new products and technologies). The implementation of the projects contribute to reducing social and economic disparities between Polish and European Science, through support to Polish researchers, including young female researchers (also described in the latter part of this report). The added value of the programme is including non-governmental organisations in research projects funded in the IdeaLab call and supporting Ukrainians researchers, that were unable to continue their academic carrier due to the Russian Federation aggression towards Ukraine.

Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish applied research

At the end of the reporting period, there were 81 project contracts signed in the Programme. Out of these, 6 projects have been completed during the reporting period and 75 continued implementations. Until the end of the reporting period, there were 48 projects that have extended project duration and 19 projects in the process of modification. Out of projects with active project contracts (meaning either the modifications process has been finalised or there were no changes), 35 are planned to be finished by the last possible date of the cost eligibility i.e. 30.04.2024. This number will increase as there are still projects in the process of extension of project duration. To summarise, at the end of reporting period there were 29 projects with approved requests for project extension. Such high rate of extensions (35%) is caused by continued global situation, what was confirmed through surveys and evaluation performed by the PO. The COVID-19 pandemic was identified as the most significant factor impacting project implementation. Other identified reasons were related to the war in Ukraine, internal capacities of project implementers, high inflation rate, prolonged purchase procedures or recruitment issues. Taking into account the above conclusions, PO has remained in constant communication with project implementers to quickly respond to any arising issues with project implementation.

During the reporting period beneficiaries faced challenges relating to exceptional price increases and the unprecedented economic situation. At the same time, significant depreciation of the Polish zloty (PLN) against the euro (EUR) over the preceding years generated exchange rate surplus in the Programme. With this in mind the PO informed in February 2023 about the possibility of increasing funding for already approved POLNOR, POLNOR CCS and IdeaLab projects while not exceeding the limits in euro for the Programme outcomes. The aim of awarding additional funding to projects was to mitigate risks faced by projects and resulted from multiple crises of war in Ukraine, COVID pandemic and inflation. These risks were beyond the control of the beneficiaries and were unforeseeable when the project proposals were submitted. Moreover, to maximise absorption of Programme allocation additional funds were granted to scale up results. The additional funding was intended to complete planned/additional activities under the deteriorated circumstances within the eligibility period. As a results, there were 42 submitted requests for additional funding, of which 40 for the amount of 17,1 M PLN were assessed positively by external experts, 1 rejected and 1 request was in the process due to the procedure of financial verification.

Under the Bilateral Fund of 'Applied Research' Programme 5 monthly rounds of Scheme: Support for Ukrainian researchers were announced and completed by the PO in June - November 2022. As a result, 15 Actions aiming at supporting Ukrainian scientists were accepted. In 2023 one Action was terminated and funds were returned to the PO as the research work could not be performed due to the war in Ukraine. All in all during the reporting period 14 Ukrainian scientists received support and carried out research activities complementary to the active projects funded under the POLNOR 2019 Call, POLNOR CCS 2019 Call, and IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals calls. 9 actions of support for Ukrainian researchers completed in 2023, within 4 contractors submitted Final report, 3 were accepted, one is under corrective actions.

As projects from the POLNOR 2019 Call, POLNOR CCS 2019 Call, SGS and IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals calls are nearing the end of their implementation, indicators and outputs produced continue to rise. What is important to note, with the number of projects extending their duration until the end of eligibility date, values will most probably increase further after reaching project results.

One of the most significant indicators contributing to Outcome 1 is indicator *Peer reviewed scientific publications submitted* with 471 publications reported. This constitutes as 91% increase comparing with previous value reported (246) and go beyond planned target value (315). Likewise, for indicator *Joint peer reviewed scientific publications submitted* overachievement of target value (105) is reported with 127 publications submitted (122% increase).

Within this indicator, it is worth to note results of project PL-Applied Research-0008 (NOR/POLNOR/CellMat4ever/0063/2019-00) that reported cumulatively 23 publications submitted, with 7 of them being joint, which is an increase from 6 and 1 respectively from last reporting period. The project is implemented in consortium with a private company which is an important aspect for further development of business-academia relations.

As for indicator *Number of new products/technologies developed*, it has also overachieved planned target (53) with reported value of 80. For this indicator a project PL-Applied Research-0022 (NOR/POLNORCCS/NEGATIVE-CO2-PP/0009/2019-00) is a good example of successfully implemented one, with cumulative result of 6.

For indicator *Number of registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection* the reported achievement value is 32, achieving 43% of its target value. It is expected that this indicator will be reported towards the end of the project implementation when project results are achieved.

As for the indicators for output 1.2 (*Support to researchers conducting applied research provided*) values increased for both – researchers from donor states and from Poland. Both of these indicators also achieved the target values – from donor states 265 (against target value of 105) and from Poland 1005 (target value 420). Similar to previous report, highest number of researchers from the donor state supported within the project was reported in the IdeaLab project PL-Applied Research-0077, NOR/IdeaLab/USAGE/0004/2020-00 (15 researchers).

Indicator *Number of female researchers going abroad for research* also increased significantly, with achieved value of 74 (against target value of 53). The highest increase in female researchers sent abroad was recorded in project PL-Applied Research-0039 (NOR/POLNORCCS/MOLCAR/0017/2020-00) with increase of 5 in comparison to previous reporting period.

For the indicator *Number of mentor-mentee relationships established for young researchers*, there was an increase in achieved value from 175 to 201. The highest increase was reported in project PL-Applied Research-0076 (NOR/IdeaLab/SmartFood/0005/2020-00) with cumulative 9 (increase from 2 in previous reporting period).

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

Until the end of the reporting period, cumulatively 50 projects involving the cooperation of a donor project partner (Norway) have been implementing the projects, including 38 projects in POLNOR 2019 Call and 6 projects in POLNOR CCS Call, and 6 projects in the IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals - Bilateral Output 1: "Cooperation between the beneficiaries and donor state entities supported". The target value of the indicator (53) will not be achieved: using the allocation and the allocated reserve, based on the opinion of external experts and the decision of the Programme Committee, 50 projects with the participation of partners from donor countries were selected for funding.

Additionally in 2023, 14 Ukrainian scientists carried out research activities funded under bilateral fund which were complementary to joint Polish-Norwegian research projects funded under the POLNOR 2019 Call, POLNOR CCS 2019 Call, and IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals calls.

In 2023, the 23 consortia from the 50 projects submitted a total number of 46 joint applications for further funding with Norwegian partner(s). Although, in 2022 the indicator 'Number of joint applications for further funding' for 'Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme' was already overachieved 5-

times (30 applications in 2022), the value of the indicator grew in 2023. The vast majority of projects proposals (27) for further funding were submitted to the calls of EU source of financing, that is a very positive result in terms of motivation and preparation of projects to participate in Horizon Europe Calls.

The interesting example is a project NOR/IdeaLab/Co-Adapt/0002/2020-00, PL-Applied Research-0075. The consortium consisting of Warsaw University of Life Sciences-SGGW (Poland) and Western Norway Research Institute (Vestlandsforskning) (Norway) together with Spanish and Swedish partners successfully applied for funding in 2022 in the call announced by the Horizon Europe Partnership Driving Urban Transitions. In 2023 the funding of approx. 1.3 M EUR was granted to the project titled "Fulfilling the Transformative Potential of Nature-Based Solutions: From Fragmentation to Integration", acronym IntegrateNbS.

The another interesting case is a project NOR/POLNOR/CoBotAGV/0027/2019-00, PL-Applied Research-0007 as in 2023 project consortium submitted 2 project applications for further funding to the EU source calls. The project in total submitted 4 project joint applications for further funding, all to Horizon Europe Calls. Unfortunately, two project proposals submitted to HE in previous years had been rejected, that is probably the reason why the consortium is consequently trying to find a way to finance the further cooperation, that had been established before the previous edition of Norway grants. The two project proposals were submitted by Silesian University of Technology (Poland), Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (Norway) and partners from Italy and Spain. One proposal was submitted in HE WIDERA and the other for HE Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. The results of evaluation are expected in 2024.

According to the mid-term evaluation report of the programme 'Applied Research': "Almost all project teams (92%) plan to apply jointly to further international calls for proposals. 74% of beneficiaries see participation in the Programme as the opportunity to expand their international networks with the view to making further attempts at applying for funding for international research projects.". The evaluation findings show that the value of the indicator may even grow in the next reporting period.

As regards the cooperation between the PO and the DPP (RCN), representatives of both entities remain in touch on a daily basis, e.g. during working and formal regular online meetings. The representatives on DPP (RCN) and FMO were involved in preparing the conference „EEA & Norway Grants contributions to EU Missions on Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation and Climate-neutral and smart cities" that took place on 21-22.11.2023 in Warsaw and had a presentation during the conference and hosted the networking session.

The representatives of the PO participated in the PO's workshop organised by the DPP on 6-7 September 2023, in Reykjavík dedicated to discussing the Guideline for Research Programmes for the purpose of the next edition of EEA and Norway grants, preparing for the final programme report, finalising the Financial Mechanism and planned international conferences in the programme.

In the reporting period, the PO organised a face-to-face meeting of the Programme Committee (PC) in Gdańsk consisting of Polish and Norwegian experts. It was the biggest PC meeting hosted by the PO within this Programme.

C. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Monitorings carried out

Based on the monitoring plan, the PO organised online monitoring meetings with selected projects from POLNOR, POLNOR CCS, SGS, and IdeaLab Call for Full Proposals. The year 2023 saw 8 online monitoring visits which were included in the monitoring plan. In addition, 2 ad hoc online monitoring meetings with POLNOR and IdeaLab projects were organized in line with the recommendation by the experts who reviewed the annual project reports/recommendations after scientific control. Moreover, the PO organised 2 online monitoring meetings with Ukrainian researchers who carried out scientific activities under bilateral fund. Conclusions of all online monitoring meetings were noted in writing and feedback was communicated to Project Promoters. Apart from project specific recommendations the common feedback to the beneficiaries given by the PO included: conducting information and promotional activities e.g. uploading materials to Media Library, providing reference to the source of funding and making best effort towards meeting planned indicators and results. The PO reminded the beneficiaries about the final date of costs eligibility as well as rules of introducing changes in projects. The meetings were very fruitful and productive and benefited both sides.

In response to inherent risk of IdeaLab projects, in May 2023 the PO organised six online monitoring meetings dedicated to these projects. The aim of the meetings was to help solve problems in the project implementation, answer to the experts' remarks on the annual project reports and find recommendations for the further project implementation. The participants were: Principal Investigators, representatives of Project Partners and international experts involved in the IdeaLab process, the PO. Within seven days from the meeting experts prepared written recommendations for each project. As a result two projects were assessed by experts as problematic:

1. NOR/IdeaLab/GREENHEAT/0006/2020-00 – the project that achieved significant progress in the last year, however it was affected by the external circumstances (e.g. extreme price changes in energy sector, changes in the support programmes of green transition),
2. NOR/IdeaLab/Co-Adapt/0002/2020-00 – the project is facing significant delays due to the problems with subcontracting (public procurement issues).

During the reported period, a meeting of the Programme Committee took place in Gdańsk on September 27-28, 2023, during which selected project sites were visited. The Programme Committee members and observers as well as PO representatives visited the Project Promoters of the following projects:

1. Project NOR/POLNOR/ELANORE/0001/2019, titled "Improvement of the EU tyre labelling system for noise and rolling resistance" (ELANORE),

2. Project NOR/SGS/HumMilkPres/0009/2020-00, titled “Storage of human milk in unfrozen state under high pressure-subzero temperature conditions - new method of preservation” (HumMilkPres),

3. Project NOR/POLNOR/MPSS/0037/2019-00, titled “Marine port surveillance and observation system using mobile unmanned research units” (MPSS),

The visited projects showcased current progress, researcher workspaces and working prototypes. Presentations were made on the working method, achievements and prospects of the projects.

One of the major issues discussed at the Programme Committee meeting was the necessity to send a message to the project Promoters about the importance of scientific publications, in particular joint, peer-reviewed ones, and the requested best efforts to achieve the expected results. The PO sent the message to all project Promoters once the content was approved by the Programme Committee.

Moreover, in total 9 POLNOR, POLNOR CCS, IdeaLab and SGS projects were indicated for financial and scientific control in the monitoring plan for 2023. All controls envisaged in this plan took place in 2023. As of 31 December 2023, in case of financial controls: in 1 project some irregularities were reported, in 7 projects there were no irregularities and in 1 project the preparation of findings was in progress. As for scientific controls: no remarks were given for 3 projects, in case of 3 projects recommendation were given, and the preparation of findings was in progress in remaining controls. During the reporting period the assessment of periodic reports for 2022 was processed for all 81 projects. The scientific reports were reviewed by external experts and the financial reports were assessed internally by the PO financial officers.

2. Evaluations carried out

In 2023 the PO presented the results of mid-term Programme evaluation. The main objective of the study was to assess progress in the implementation of the Programme. The specific objectives of the study included:

- 1) assessment of the possibility of achieving the intended results of the Programme,
- 2) assessment of the activity of Programme participants in the transition from basic to applied research and further possibilities of practical use of the results of projects implemented under the Programme,
- 3) assessment of the adequacy of the Programme implementation and management system.

The study covered the following calls: POLNOR, POLNOR CCS, IdeaLab and SGS. The number of submitted applications was 434 and the number of financed projects was 81. The study used a wide range of research methods, such as analyses, interviews and workshops.

During the study, respondents assessed that the eligibility rules in the Programme were well adapted to their needs, both in terms of thematic areas and the project selection procedure.

Respondents drew attention to extension of the expected duration of projects due to external factors, e.g. the COVID-19 pandemic and internal barriers such as insufficient administrative support from participating research institutions. Cultural differences did not significantly affect the implementation of the projects. Negotiations regarding the provisions of the consortium agreement regarding intellectual property rights also took place in a friendly or neutral atmosphere.

The thematic areas were interesting to the applicants, with two exceptions: "Health and social care" and "Social and economic development". The most interesting subject fields were energy, transport and climate. The PO emphasized the need to strengthen promotion among scientists from the least popular industries in order to increase their presence in future editions.

The vast majority of beneficiaries stated that the risk of not meeting the objectives set out in the contracts was low. The most questionable indicator is the number of patent applications (survey carried out at the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023).

The study shows that the financial participation of some companies in projects is negligible - in 29% of projects it did not exceed 10%. Despite low financial involvement, companies willingly participated in projects whose main goal was industrial research and generating new knowledge.

At the time of the evaluation, none of the projects had been completed. 65% of respondents indicated that the project would require continuation and almost all of them intended to continue the projects. Only 23% of projects will have results ready for implementation. The most frequently mentioned commercialization risk was the lack of financial resources necessary to continue the project.

The Programme also focused on the participation of women scientists in the R&D sector. The SGS call was a response to the problems women faced, such as low self-esteem regarding their own scientific achievements. A total of 337 applications were submitted and 31 projects were funded.

The Programme was also a great development opportunity for young scientists, thanks to the opportunity to finance applied research and establish new contacts with foreign partners.

The analysis of the 2nd and 3rd editions of the Programme shows that many participants of the previous edition took part in the current one. Despite institutional durability, the continuity of project teams in the third edition was poorly visible.

There were also several recommendations that would improve the functioning of the Programme, such as:

- Implementation of mechanisms, by the Programme Operator, that will minimize the risk of perfunctory participation of companies in projects resulting from their low financial involvement.

- Introduction of additional activities, by the Programme Operator, that have a positive impact on the participation of enterprises in the Programme and the feasibility of commercializing research results of the projects.
- Reflecting the specificity of individual calls in the method of assessing project proposals.
- Implementation of the division of responsibility for the research part and the formal and legal part of R&D projects in science sector units.
- Organization of training for people employed in administrative units of research organisations, so they can become familiar with the EEA and Norway grants and support scientists in preparing contracts and implementing projects.
- Expanding the number of people involved in the Programme and improving the Programme Operator system for applicants.
- Increasing the allocation of funds in the SGS call, increasing the average project value and adding eligibility requirements for female applicants to increase the maturity of the intervention targeted at female scientists.

D. ANNEXES

- 1. Results achieved**
- 2. Communication summary**
- 3. Project summary and call details**
- 4. Risk management**
- 5. Monitoring plan**
- 6. Evaluation report**
- 7. Agreement conditions**

Annex 1: Results achieved

Objective: Enhanced research-based knowledge development								
Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish applied research								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of new products/technologies developed	Cumulative number	0	32 (APR 2022)	-	-	80	53	-
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	32	-	-	80	-	-
Number of registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection	Cumulative number	0	8 (APR 2022)	-	-	32	53	-
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	8	-	-	32	-	-
Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted	Cumulative number	0	246 (APR 2022)	-	-	471	315	Not specified means other than open access.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	17	-	-	24	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	229	-	-	447	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	77	-	-	163	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	9	-	-	18	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	61	-	-	119	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	99	-	-	171	-	-
Number of joint, peer-reviewed scientific publications in applied research submitted	Cumulative number	0	57 (APR 2022)	-	-	127	105	Not specified means other than open access.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-

<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	54	-	-	124	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	57	-	-	103	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	24	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	15	-	-	37	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	5	-	-	8	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	12	-	-	34	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	25	-	-	48	-	-
Number of signed collaborative agreements between research organisations and companies involved in the programme	Cumulative number	0	40 (IFR 2023)	-	-	40	45	Participation of companies in consortia: obligatory in POLNOR projects and nonobligatory in POLNOR CCS and IdeaLab projects.
Output 1.1: Support to technology transfer for applied research to R&D based SMEs provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of SMEs supported	Cumulative number	0	37 (IFR 2023)	-	-	37	50	No. of different SMEs receiving funding.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	37	-	-	37	-	-
Output 1.2: Support to researchers conducting applied research provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value		Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment

			Previous achievement value	Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of donor states' researchers supported	Cumulative number	0	225 (IFR 2023)	-	-	265	105	Based on information from Project Promoters from POLNOR and IdeaLab Calls.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	19	-	-	22	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	206	-	-	243	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	103	-	-	125	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	122	-	-	134	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	6	-	-
Number of Polish researchers supported	Cumulative number	0	955 (IFR 2023)	-	-	1,005	420	Based on information from Project Promoters from POLNOR, IdeaLab and SGS Calls.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	81	-	-	87	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	874	-	-	918	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	443	-	-	458	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	512	-	-	542	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	5	-	-
Output 1.3: Support to women researchers provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of female researchers going abroad for research	Cumulative number	0	39 (APR 2022)	-	-	74	53	-

Number of female researchers supported in applied research projects	Cumulative number	0	363 (APR 2022)	-	-	629	263	Female Polish and donor states' researchers supported in POLNOR, POLNOR CCS, IdeaLab and SGS Calls.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	44	-	-	63	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	319	-	-	566	-	-
Output 1.4: Support to young researchers provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of grant projects lead by young researchers	Cumulative number	0	30 (IFR 2023)	-	-	30	6	-
Number of mentor-mentee relationships established for young researchers	Cumulative number	0	175 (APR 2022)	-	-	201	53	-
Output 1.5: Support to carbon capture and storage research (CCS)								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of donor states' researchers supported for CCS Projects	Cumulative number	0	49 (IFR 2023)	-	-	43	15	Value of the indicator is lower due to technical mistakes - typing errors that occurred in preparation of previous reports.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-

<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	49	-	-	43	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	13	-	-	8	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	36	-	-	35	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Number of Polish researchers supported for CCS Projects	Cumulative number	0	132 (IFR 2023)	-	-	146	55	-
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	132	-	-	146	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	37	-	-	38	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	95	-	-	108	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Number of CCS projects with support for a pre-commercial phase	Cumulative number	0	1 (APR 2022)	-	-	1	2	The achievement reported is lower than the target showing the anticipated little interest in pre-commercial phase in CCS projects.
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Level of trust between cooperating entities in Poland and donors states	Scale 1-7	6.70	-	-	-	-	4.5, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	-

Level of satisfaction with the partnerships	Scale 1-7	6.54	-	-	-	-	4.5, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	-
Share of cooperating organisations who apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	50, Target is minimum 50 %	-
Number of joint applications for further funding	Cumulative number	0	30 (APR 2022)	-	-	46	6	"Type of scientific publication" does not concern "joint applications for further funding" indicator.
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	30	-	-	46	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	30	-	-	46	-	-
Bilateral Output 1: Cooperation between beneficiary and donor state entities supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2023			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of projects involving the cooperation of a donor project partner	Cumulative number	0	50 (IFR 2023)	-	-	50	53	No. resulting from peer-review

								assessment and the decisions of the Programme Committee
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Annex 2: Communication summary

1. Best projects

1.

NOR/POLNOR/ELANORE/0001/2019

PL-Applied Research-0014

Rolling resistance of tyres is one of the controlling factors for energy consumption, especially in low and medium speed range. Both electric, hybrid and conventional cars are affected by the rolling resistance. Hybrid and electric vehicles are designed in such a way that they may recover substantial part of energy that is lost in conventional vehicles during deceleration, but they are as prone to energy losses due to rolling resistance as conventional vehicles. The current project is a continuation of the LEO project implemented in the previous edition of the Norway Grants. This shows that there is still essential margin for improvements of road pavements and tires in respect to tire/road noise and tire rolling resistance. One of the key factors leading to lower fuel consumption and less annoying traffic noise is proper way of tyre (and pavement) evaluation. Customers, as well as policy makers must have reliable information about tyre/road noise and rolling resistance of tyres. Proper way of evaluation is also crucial for tyre factories as they must have test methods that are representative for traffic conditions. In principle such system of tyres evaluation already exists, as the European Tyre Labelling Regulation introduced labelling requirements with regard to the display of information on the fuel efficiency, wet grip and external rolling noise of tyres. The idea of labelling was to allow end-users to make more informed choices when purchasing tyres. Unfortunately after 10 years of experience with the tyre labelling it is common opinion that the methods used to establish labelling parameters are not very representative for real live conditions. Aim of the project ELANORE is to validate to what extent the present labelling system is efficient for reducing environmental impacts of road traffic and propose better solutions.

2.

NOR/POLNOR/PrevEco/0021/2019-00

PL-Applied Research-0020

Antimicrobial resistance is one of the major medical problems that needs urgent actions. The importance of this problem is reflected in the global initiative One Health launched by WHO. OneHealth initiative is based on the idea that the problem of spreading antimicrobial resistance can be solved only by global simultaneous actions towards “healthy people, healthy environments and healthy animals”. Only such orchestrated and multidirectional actions might save us from going back to time before penicillin was discovered. The aim of this project is to develop a new strategy to prevent and treat bacterial infections with natural, safe and efficient antimicrobials. This innovative strategy will be based on bacteriolytic enzymes and bacteriocins - biodegradable compounds of defined specificity and high efficiency. The researchers want to reach the goals by isolating and characterizing new bacteriocins and bacteriolytic enzymes against the most common mastitis bacteria. Formulations based on the new antimicrobials will be tested first in vitro and then in animal models and field trials. In the end of the project the researchers will scale up the production of the compounds and prepared commercialization strategy. The researchers have chosen mastitis as the first disease to demonstrate the efficacy of the proposed approach which, if proved effective, can be implemented in prevention and treatment of other bacterial diseases in animals, but also in humans. The proposed non-antibiotic protection of livestock from bacterial infections will not only improve welfare of animals and minimize losses in production, but at the same time will lead to reduction of antibiotic usage and by that development of resistance among pathogenic bacteria.

2. Visibility of the Grants and the Donors

2.a. Communication activities

The PO organized the international conference “EEA & Norway Grants contributions to EU Missions on Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation and Climate-neutral and smart cities” on 21-22 November 2023 in Warsaw. 182 participants took part in the conference. The conference goals were:

- Inform the beneficiaries of the EEA and Norway Grants projects about the possibilities in Missions and Horizon calls, so that they can prepare for and successfully join Mission-projects;
- Make people working with the Missions at the EU Commission (DG RTD), Mission Boards, TRAMI-network participants in other MS aware of the EEA and Norway Grants projects that are relevant for the mission;
- Share experience with preparing for and implementing Missions between Poland and Norway in the main part of the conference. Make the experience and lessons learned in other countries accessible by organizing the TRAMI MLE back to back;

- Create a platform for matchmaking/networking across different types of partners/stakeholders.

Presentations from the conference are available on the Programme webpage: <https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr-en/conference-eea--norway-grants-contributions-to-eu-missions>.

The most important information for scientific community and general public was posted on the NCBR's Facebook (16 posts), Twitter/X (17 posts) and LinkedIn profile (16 posts).

Additionally, 1 article was published on the main website of the NCBR: <https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/small-grant-scheme-z-mysla-o-kobietach-liderkach>.

The PO regularly posts information about the Programme on the webpage dedicated to the Programme in Polish and English language versions. The webpage is placed under the main NCBR website:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/iii-edycja-funduszy-norweskich-i-eog>

<https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr-en/iii-edition-of-eea-and-norway-grants>

The most frequently published information concerns the implementation of projects (project database, implementation guide, annual/final reporting, possible changes, media library, update of information and promotion in projects, payment application form and guidelines on public procurement).

The main website of the NCBR and webpage dedicated to the Programme comply with responsive web design and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines for the visually impaired.

2.b. Project stories

Project stories were posted on the NCBR's Facebook (11 posts), Twitter/X (10 posts) and LinkedIn profile (11 posts).

3. Media coverage

<https://www.miasta.pl/aktualnosci/konferencja-na-temat-synergii-miedzy-programem-horyzont-europa-a-programami-w-ramach-funduszy-norweskich-i-eog>

<https://www.facebook.com/norgesforskningsrad/posts/pfbid024kb2QufptfgpoakytAtRDolZsLve4QCizibSt7DFDkGQEvTpXZ6EyGcjCq64khKI>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7133767323017994240/?actorCompanyId=6387006>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7133051829617143809/?actorCompanyId=6387006>

<https://rzeczopolsko.pl/polsko-norweskie-innowacje/>

In 2023, five PIs (Urszula Narkiewicz - NOR/POLNORCCS/PhotoRed/0007/2019-00; Anna Gajewska-Midziałek - NOR/SGS/GalvaNiB/0168/2020-00; Katharina Boguslawski - NOR/SGS/ENDLESS-Mol/0091/2020-00; Edyta Malinowska-Pańczyk - NOR/SGS/HumMilkPres/0009/2020-00; Magdalena Bieda-Niemiec - NOR/SGS/BioAbsMat/0096/2020-00) were awarded the Scientist of the Future award:

<https://naukowiecprzyszlosci.pl/laureaci-2023/>

https://photorred.zut.edu.pl/?id=photorredzuteduplaktualnoci&no_cache=1

4. Website and social media

Link to programme website	Total number of page views in the reporting year
https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/iii-edycj...	1464

	Link or account handle	Number of posts published in the reporting year	Number of followers
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/NCBiR/	16	33170
X (formerly Twitter)	https://twitter.com/NCBR_pl	17	12671
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/company/ncbr	16	43939

5. Visuals

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38827/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38825/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38824/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38822/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38821/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38819/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D16&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38817/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D17&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38811/Conference:%20EEA%20%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D17&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38807/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D17&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38801/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D18&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38813/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D17&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38810/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D17&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38797/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D18&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38792/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D19&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38785/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D19&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38788/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D19&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38787/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D19&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38782/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D19&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38779/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D20&breadcrumbType=menu>

<https://ealibrary.org/asset/38781/Conference:%20EEA%20&%20Norway%20Grants%20contributions%20to%20EU%20Missions%20on%20Adaptation%20to%20climate%20change%20including%20societal%20transformation%20and%20Climate-neutral%20and%20smart%20cities?returnTo=%2F%3FsDateBetween%3D1704236400000!1704927599999%26page%3D20&breadcrumbType=menu>

Annex 3: Project summary and call details

1. Project summary

	Number	Total Grant	Amount budgeted to dpps (estimate)
Total number of projects contracted	81	€ 77,607,374	€ 25,818,526
Number of pre-defined projects contracted	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner	50	€ 71,872,149	€ 25,818,526
Number of projects with a donor project partner Norway	50	€ 71,872,149	€ 25,818,526
Number of projects with a donor project partner Iceland	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner Liechtenstein	0	€ 0	€ 0

2. Call details

Call title	Outcome(s)	Call amount	Submission deadline	Number of applications received	Grant amount applied for	Grant demand %	Number of applications approved for funding	Grant amount awarded	Number of projects contracted	Amount contracted
Call for collaborative research projects in carbon capture and storage (CCS) in the Polish applied research programme 'POLNOR CCS'	Outcome 1	€ 11,764,706	12/12/2019	17	€ 35,740,143	303.79 %	6	€ 11,764,706	6	€ 11,764,706
Cities for the future: services and solutions	Outcome 1	€ 9,064,734	08/06/2020	6	€ 11,121,428	122.69 %	6	€ 9,064,734	6	€ 10,396,505
PL-Research: Call for collaborative research projects	Outcome 1	€ 49,745,454	12/12/2019	74	€ 96,087,632	193.16 %	38	€ 49,745,454	38	€ 49,710,938

in the Polish applied research programme ('POLNOR')										
Small Grant Scheme 2020	Outcome 1	€ 5,737,307	11/12/2020	337	€ 55,657,496	970.10 %	31	€ 5,735,225	31	€ 5,735,225

Annex 4: Risk management

Risk description	Likelihood (1-4)	Consequence (1-4)	Risk score	Planned response in 2024
underspending of funds allocated to the projects	3 medium high	2 medium low	2.45	Ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NFP in Poland. Policy of financial flexibility in reference to project implementation, amendments to project contracts, ongoing analysis of use of funds in projects. Possible reallocation of unspent funds to bilateral fund after submission of final reports from the projects.
different understanding of formal guidelines and criteria related to cooperation within the Programme	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Regular meetings of employees involved in Programme preparation, implementation and completion. Assistance to Project promoters in closing projects. Ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NFP in Poland, requesting for regular teleconferences to verify and unify all problematic issues associated with the proper Programme management and closure.
changes in Polish law and/or Donor States' law	1 low	2 medium low	1.41	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 to prevent the risk of incompatibility with the Programme requirements and to moderate the delays in ongoing projects.
underachievement of indicators agreed in the results framework in Annex I of the Programme Agreement	2 medium low	1 low	1.41	Assistance to Project promoters in final stage of projects implementation and closing of projects, monitoring tools, incl. online meetings.
the IdeaLab projects not finished before 30 April 2024	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Dedicated assistance to Project promoters in final stage of projects implementation and closing of projects. Monitoring of the projects by the PO, ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO and NFP in Poland.

failure to achieve goals and results of the projects	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Meetings and contacts with Project promoters regarding challenges during a final stage of projects implementation. Contacts with DPP to solve misunderstandings. Ongoing monitoring, incl. online meetings (monitoring the status of goals/results). Amendments to project contracts (extension of project duration; reallocation of costs; modification of research tasks approved by external experts). Assistance to Project promoters in closing projects.
insufficient amount of PLN surplus to be allocated to the projects due to adverse exchange rate fluctuations	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Ongoing analysis of use of funds in projects, and amount of PLN surplus, monitoring the extent to which payment forecasts prepared under the program are being met. Ongoing consultations with NFP in Poland.
Overall risk of not absorbing most financing and achieving most targets (1-4):			2.00	

Annex 5: Monitoring plan

Please note this Annex is uploaded separately and is not visible in this document. Please download and print separately if needed.

Annex 6: Evaluation report

Please note this Annex is uploaded separately and is not visible in this document. Please download and print separately if needed.

Annex 7: Agreement conditions

Description	Type	Tracking	Fulfilled	Date of fulfilment	Description of measures taken
<p>1. 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).</p>	General	Continuously tracking	N/A		<p>Donor Programme Partner (DPP) consulted the template for the final project report.</p> <p>There were no other new templates of documents prepared in the reporting period that would necessitate involvement of the Donor Programme Partner. All documents used were based on templates prepared previously.</p> <p>In the course of a implementation phase of POLNOR, POLNOR CCS and IdeaLab calls the PO and DPP acted together and supported each other when answering questions from donor project partners.</p> <p>The DPP was invited by the PO to comment and provided valuable feedback on Mid-term evaluation report of the 'Applied Research' Programme.</p>
<p>2. 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.</p>	General	Continuously tracking	N/A		<p>The PO worked in close cooperation with the PO of the 'Basic Research' Programme - National Science Centre (NCN) in Cracow.</p> <p>Both POs exchanged their experiences, attended meetings of their Programme Committees and other events:</p>

					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PO of the 'Basic Research' Programme attended the 'Applied Research' Programme Committee meeting in Gdańsk on 26-27 September 2023, 2. The PO of the 'Applied Research' Programme took part in 'Basic Research' Programme Committee meetings: online meeting on 29 June 2023 and meeting in Trondheim on 26-27 October 2023, 3. The PO of the 'Applied Research' participated in the conference organised by the 'Basic Research' PO titled "The promoting event for the Polish Programme "Basic Research", implemented under the EEA and Norway grants: Science and society - collaboration and challenges" in Cracow on 16 November 2023 4. The PO of the 'Basic Research' Programme attended the conference organised by 'Applied Research' PO titled „EEA & Norway Grants contributions to EU Missions on Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation and Climate-neutral and smart
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					<p>cities” in Warsaw on 21-22 November 2023,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The PO of the ‘Basic Research’ Programme was invited to comment and provided valuable feedback on Mid-term evaluation report of the ‘Applied Research’ Programme. 6. Both POs exchanged experience in designing and implementing the mechanism of increasing funding for projects due to exchange rate surplus. <p>Programme Operators of two Research Programmes in Poland participate together on regular basis in formal working meetings with RCN and discuss the current issues. The cooperation made it possible to enhance the profitability of the relations.</p>
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