Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028

PROGRAMME AGREEMENT

between

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

and

The Department of Assistance Programmes, Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy,

hereinafter referred to as the "National Focal Point",

representing Poland,

hereinafter referred to as the "Beneficiary State"

together hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"

for the financing of the Programme "Home Affairs"

hereinafter referred to as the "Programme"

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Chapter 1
Scope, legal framework, and definitions

Article 1.1
Scope

This Programme Agreement between the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the NMFA) and the National Focal Point lays down the rights and obligations of the Parties regarding the implementation of the Programme and the financial contribution from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 to the Programme.

Article 1.2
Legal Framework

1. This Programme Agreement shall be read in conjunction with the following documents which, together with this Programme Agreement, constitute the legal framework of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028:

a) the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period May 2021–April 2028;

b) the Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulation");

c) the Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028, entered into between Norway and the Beneficiary State; and

d) any guidelines adopted by the NMFA in accordance with the Regulation.

2. In case of an inconsistency between this Programme Agreement and the Regulation, the Regulation shall prevail.

3. The legal framework is binding for the Parties. An act or omission by a Party to this Programme Agreement that is incompatible with the legal framework constitutes a breach of this Programme Agreement by that Party.

Article 1.3
Definitions

Terms used and institutions and documents referred to in this Programme Agreement shall be understood in accordance with the Regulation, in particular Article 1.6 thereof, and the legal framework referred to in Article 1.2 of this Programme Agreement.

Article 1.4
Annexes and hierarchy of documents

1. Annexes attached hereto form an integral part of this Programme Agreement. Any reference to this Programme Agreement includes a reference to its annexes unless otherwise stated or clear from the context.

2. The provisions of the annexes shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with this Programme Agreement. Should the meaning of any provision of the said annexes, so interpreted, remain inconsistent with this Programme Agreement, the provisions of the annexes shall prevail, provided that these provisions are compatible with the Regulation.

3. Commitments, statements and guarantees, explicit as well as implicit, made in the preparation of the programme are binding for the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in this Programme Agreement.

Chapter 2
The Programme

Article 2.1
Co-operation

1. The Parties shall take all appropriate and necessary measures to ensure fulfilment of the obligations and objectives arising out of this Programme Agreement.

2. The Parties agree to provide all information necessary for the good functioning of this Programme Agreement, including risk assessment and response analysis, and to apply the principles of implementation as set out in the Regulation.

3. The Parties shall promptly inform each other of any circumstances that interfere or threaten to interfere with the successful implementation of the Programme.

4. In executing this Programme Agreement the Parties declare to counteract corrupt practices. Further, they declare not to accept, either directly or indirectly, any kind of offer, gift, payments or benefits which would or could be construed as illegal or corrupt practice or giving rise to a conflict of interest. The Parties shall immediately inform each other of any indication of corruption or misuse of resources related to this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.2
Main responsibilities of the Parties

1. The National Focal Point is responsible and accountable for the overall management of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 in the Beneficiary State and for the full and correct

implementation of this Programme Agreement. In particular, the National Focal Point undertakes to:

a) comply with its obligations stipulated in the Regulation and this Programme Agreement;

b) ensure that the Certifying Authority, the Audit Authority and the Programme Operator properly perform the tasks assigned to them in the Regulation and this Programme Agreement;

c) take all necessary steps to ensure that the Programme Operator is fully committed and able to implement and manage the Programme, including ensuring the appropriate allocation of staff and other resources, throughout the programme period;

d) take the necessary measures to remedy irregularities in the implementation of the Programme and ensure that the Programme Operator takes appropriate measures to remedy irregularities in projects within the Programme, including measures to recover misspent funds; and

e) make all the necessary and appropriate arrangements in order to strengthen or change the way the Programme is managed.

2. The NMFA shall, subject to the rules stipulated in the legal framework referred to in Article 1.2 of this Programme Agreement, make available to the Beneficiary State a financial contribution (hereinafter referred to as "the programme grant") to be used exclusively to finance the eligible cost of the Programme.

Article 2.3
Objective(s) of the Programme

1. This Programme Agreement sets out the objective(s), outcome(s), outputs, indicators and targets for the Programme.

2. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator implements and completes the Programme in accordance with the objective(s), outcome(s), outputs, indicators and targets set for the Programme.

Article 2.4
Programme grant

1. The maximum amount of the programme grant, the programme grant rate, and the estimated eligible cost of the Programme shall be as specified in this Programme Agreement.

2. The programme budget annexed to this Programme Agreement shall:

a) contain a breakdown between the Programme's budget headings; and

b) indicate the agreed advance payment, if any.

3. The management cost of the Programme Operator shall not exceed the amount specified in this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.5
Special conditions and programme specific rules

1. This Programme Agreement shall list any conditions set by the NMFA with reference to Article 6.3.2 of the Regulation. The National Focal Point shall ensure compliance with these conditions and take the necessary steps to ensure their fulfilment.

2. The National Focal Point shall ensure compliance with any other programme specific rules laid down in this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.6
Reporting

The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator provides financial reports and a Final Programme Report in accordance with Chapter 9 and Article 6.8 of the Regulation as well as other reporting in accordance with guidelines adopted by the NMFA.

Article 2.7
Monitoring and audits

The monitoring and audits referred to in Chapter 10 and Chapter 11 of the Regulation shall not in any way relieve the National Focal Point or the Programme Operator of their obligations under the legal framework regarding monitoring of the Programme and/or its projects, financial control and audit.

Article 2.8
Modification of the Programme

1. Unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in this Programme Agreement, any modification of the Programme is subject to prior approval by the NMFA.

2. Budget reallocations to and from calls and pre-defined projects (both within the same outcome and between outcomes) are permitted without a modification of the Programme Agreement or prior approval by the NMFA for an amount of up to 10% of the total allocation for each planned call or pre-defined project.

3. Changes to the Programme which have been agreed in their entirety through a modification of the relevant Memorandum of Understanding do not require a modification of the Programme Agreement. In such cases, the Programme Agreement shall be updated by the NMFA.

4. Programme specific exceptions from paragraph 1, if any, are set in the annexes to this Programme Agreement.

5. Expenditures in breach of this Article are not eligible.

6. Should there be a doubt as to whether a modification of the Programme Agreement is required, the National Focal Point shall consult the NMFA before such modifications take effect.

7. Requests for modifications shall be submitted and assessed in accordance with Article 6.7 of the Regulation.

Article 2.9
Communication

1. All communication to the NMFA regarding this Programme Agreement shall take place in English and be directed to the Financial Mechanism Office (hereinafter referred to as the FMO), which represents the NMFA towards the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator in relation to the implementation of the Programme.

2. To the extent that original documents are not available in the English language, the documents shall be accompanied by full and accurate translations in English. The National Focal Point shall bear the responsibility for the accuracy of the translation that it provides and the possible consequences that might arise from any inaccurate translations.

Article 2.10
Contact information

1. The contact information of the Programme Operator is as specified in this Programme Agreement.

2. The contact information for the NMFA and the Financial Mechanism Office are:

Financial Mechanism Office Att: Managing Director EFTA House Avenue des Arts, 19H 1000 Brussels Telephone: +32 (0)2 286 1701 E-mail: fmo@efta.int

3. Changes of or corrections to the contact information referred to in this Article shall be given in writing without undue delay by the Parties to this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.11
Representations and warranties

1. This Programme Agreement and the awarding of the programme grant is based on information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point to the NMFA prior to the signing of this Programme Agreement.

2. The National Focal Point represents and warrants that the information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point, in connection with the implementation or conclusion of this Programme Agreement are authentic, accurate and complete.

Chapter 3
Projects

Article 3.1
Selection of projects and award of grants

1. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator selects projects in accordance with Chapter 7 of the Regulation and this Programme Agreement.

2. Eligibility of Project Promoters and project partners is stipulated in Article 7.2 of the Regulation and, in accordance with paragraph 4 thereof, subject only to the limitations stipulated in this Programme Agreement.

3. Pre-defined projects shall be outlined in this Programme Agreement.

4. The National Focal Point shall take proactive steps to ensure that the Programme Operator complies fully with Article 7.5.2 of the Regulation.

Article 3.2
Project contract

1. For each approved project a project contract shall be concluded between the Programme Operator and the Project Promoter.

2. In cases where a project contract cannot, due to provisions in the national legislation, be made between the Programme Operator and the Project Promoter, the Beneficiary State may instead issue a legislative or administrative act of similar effect and content.

3. The content and form or the project contract shall comply with Article 7.9 of the Regulation.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the obligations of the Project Promoter under the project contract are valid and enforceable under the applicable law of the Beneficiary State.

Article 3.3
Project partners and partnership agreements

1. A project may be implemented in a partnership between the Project Promoter and project partners as defined in point (y) of Article 1.6 of the Regulation. If a project is implemented in such a partnership, the Project Promoter shall sign a partnership agreement with the project partners with the content and in the form stipulated in Article 7.10 of the Regulation.

2. If one of the parties to the agreement is an entity from Norway, the partnership agreement shall be in English and shall be based on a template provided by the NMFA.

3. The eligibility of expenditures declared by a project partner is subject to the same rules as would apply if the expenditures were declared by the Project Promoter.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator verifies that the partnership agreement complies with this Article. A draft partnership agreement or letter of intent shall be submitted to the Programme Operator before the signing of the project contract.

Chapter 4
Finance

Article 4.1
Eligible expenditures

1. Without prejudice to Article 8.9 of the Regulation, eligible expenditures of this Programme are:

a) management costs of the Programme Operator in accordance with the detailed budget in the financial plan;

b) payments to projects within this Programme in accordance with the Regulation, this Programme Agreement and the project contract; and

c) payments to activities funded by the bilateral funds allocated to the programme.

2. Expenditures of Project Promoters and project partners are eligible provided that they are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8 of the Regulation and any further provisions contained in this Programme Agreement.

3. The first date of eligibility of expenditures in projects shall be set in the project contract in accordance with Article 8.14 of the Regulation. The first date of eligibility of any pre-defined project shall be no earlier than the date of entry into force of the Programme Agreement.

4. The maximum eligible costs of the categories referred to in paragraph 1 are set in this Programme Agreement. Programme specific rules on the eligibility of expenditure set in this Programme Agreement shall be complied with.

Article 4.2
Proof of expenditure

Costs incurred by Programme Operators, Project Promoters and project partners shall be supported by documentary evidence as required in Article 8.12 of the Regulation.

Article 4.3
Proof of conditions fulfilled for simplified cost options

Costs of the Programme Operators, Project Promoters and project partners that are covered by simplified cost options shall be supported by the proof of conditions fulfilled in accordance with Article 8.13 of the Regulation.

Article 4.4
Payments

1. Payments to the Programme shall be made when all relevant conditions for payments stipulated in this Programme Agreement and the Regulation have been fulfilled.

2. Payments to the Programme shall take the form of an advance payment, interim payments and payment of the final balance and shall be made in accordance with Articles 9.2, 9.3 and 9.5 of the Regulation.

3. Payments of the project grant to the Project Promoters may take the form of advance payments, interim payments and payments of the final balance. The level of advance payments and their off-set mechanism is set in this Programme Agreement.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that payments are transferred in accordance with Article 9.1.2 of the Regulation.

5. Chapter 9 of the Regulation shall apply to all aspects related to payments, including currency exchange rules and handling of interests on bank accounts.

Article 4.5
Transparency and availability of documents

The National Focal Point shall ensure an audit trail for financial contributions from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 to the Programme in accordance with Article 9.8 of the Regulation.

Article 4.6
Irregularities, suspension and reimbursements

The NMFA has the right to make use of the remedies provided in the Regulation, in particular Chapter 13 thereof. The National Focal Point has a duty to take all necessary measures to ensure that the provisions in Chapter 12 and 13 of the Regulation regarding irregularities, suspension of payments, financial corrections and reimbursement are complied with.

Chapter 5
Final provisions

Article 5.1
Dispute settlement

1. The Parties waive their rights to bring any dispute related to the Programme Agreement before any national or international court and agree to settle such a dispute in an amicable manner.

2. If a demand for reimbursement to the NMFA is not complied with by the Beneficiary State, or a dispute related to a demand for reimbursement arises that cannot be solved in accordance with paragraph 1, the Parties may bring the dispute before Oslo Tingrett.

Article 5.2
Termination

1. The NMFA may, after consultation with the National Focal Point, terminate this Programme Agreement if:

a) a general suspension decision according to Article 13.6 of the Regulation or a decision to suspend payments according to point (h) of Article 13.1.1 of the Regulation has not been lifted within 6 months of such a decision;

b) a suspension of payments according to Article 13.1 of the Regulation, other than under point (h) of Article 13.1.1, has not been lifted within one year of such a decision;

c) a request for reimbursement according to Article 13.2 of the Regulation has not been complied with within one year from such a decision;

d) the Programme Operator becomes bankrupt, is deemed to be insolvent, or declares that it does not have the financial capacity to continue with the implementation of the Programme; or

e) the Programme Operator has, in the opinion of the NMFA, been engaged in corruption, fraud or similar activities or has not taken the appropriate measures to detect or prevent such activities or, if they have occurred, nullify their effects.

2. This Programme Agreement can be terminated by mutual agreement between the Parties.

3. Termination does not affect the right of the Parties to make use of the dispute settlement mechanism referred to in Article 5.1 or the right of the NMFA to make use of the remedies provided in Chapter 13 of the Regulation.

Article 5.3
Waiver of responsibility

1. Any appraisal of the Programme undertaken before or after its approval by the NMFA, does not in any way diminish the responsibility of the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator to verify and confirm the correctness of the documents and information forming the basis of the Programme Agreement.

2. Nothing contained in the Programme Agreement shall be construed as imposing upon the NMFA or the FMO any responsibility of any kind for the supervision, execution, completion, or operation of the Programme or its projects.

3. The NMFA does not assume any risk or responsibility whatsoever for any damages, injuries, or other possible adverse effects caused by the Programme or its projects including, but not limited to inconsistencies in the planning of the Programme or its projects, other project(s) that might affect it or that it might affect, or public discontent. It is the full and sole responsibility of the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator to satisfactorily address such issues.

4. Neither the National Focal Point, the Programme Operator, entities involved in the implementation of projects, nor any other party shall have recourse to the NMFA for further financial support or assistance to the Programme in whatsoever form over and above what has been provided for in the Programme Agreement.

5. Neither the European Free Trade Association, its Secretariat, including the FMO, its officials or employees, nor the NMFA, its officials or employees, can be held liable for any damages or injuries of whatever nature sustained by the National Focal Point or the Beneficiary State, the Programme Operator, Project Promoters or any other third person, in connection, be it direct or indirect, with this Programme Agreement.

6. Nothing in this Programme Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of diplomatic immunities and privileges awarded to the European Free Trade Association, its assets, officials or employees.

Article 5.4
Entry into force and duration

1. This Programme Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature of the Parties.

2. This Programme Agreement shall remain in force until five years have elapsed after the date of the acceptance of the Final Programme Report.

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This programme agreement is drawn up in two originals in the English language.

For the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	For the National Focal Point
Signed in ..... on	Signed in ..... on .....
.....	.....

Annex I to the Programme Agreement

Roles	
Programme Operator:	Ministry of Interior and Administration
Donor Programme Partner:	National Police Directorate Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection
IPO:	-
Other Programme Partner(s):	-

Indicator	Disaggregation	Unit of measurement	Data source	Baseline	Planned Target[1]
PA09 objective: Improved disaster resilience.					
Outcome 1: Enhanced disaster preparedness and resilience capacity					
Number of disaster preparedness and resilience plans, strategies or frameworks developed or revised		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	4
Number of disaster preparedness and resilience plans, strategies or frameworks developed or revised to integrate gender perspectives		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1
Number of training participants self-reporting improved know-how after the training		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	600
Average engagement rate (%) of online advocacy/awareness campaigns		Percentage	Project promoter records	N/A	1.8 %
Output 1.1: Strengthened and better coordinated disaster prevention and response systems					
Number of units of specialised equipment procured and installed		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	170
Number of new or improved guidelines or standard operating procedures developed to integrate gender perspectives		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1
Number of inter-agency cooperation mechanisms on disaster preparedness and resilience established or functional		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	4
Output 1.2: Enhanced skills and competencies of crisis responders and security services for disaster prevention and preparedness					

[1] Planned targets included in the above table represent the level of ambition at the time of Programme Agreement conclusion or following major modifications of the Programme. These targets shall not be used to measure the level of success of the programme. Actual targets following project contracting shall be reported on annually in the Country Reports and the Final Programme Report.

Number of training courses/curriculums delivered		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	30
Number of public sector employees that have completed a training course	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1,000
Output 1.3: Increased public awareness of the importance of information integrity					
Number of advocacy/awareness-raising campaigns carried out		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1
Estimated number of people who engaged and took an action in support of the advocacy / awareness-raising campaigns		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	4,500
PA13 objective: Prevention and combatting of serious and organised crime in line with international and European human rights standards.					
Outcome 2: Improved investigative capacity, methods and tools to combat serious and organised crime					
Number of training participants self-reporting improved knowledge/understanding of methods and tools for investigation of serious and organised crime after the training		Cumulative number	PP records: post-training survey or interviews	0	600
Number of training participants self-reporting improved know-how of methods and tools for investigation of serious and organised crime after the trainings		Cumulative number	PP records: post-training survey or interviews	0	600
Output 2.1: Enhanced standards for evidence collection using policing digital and technological tools					
Number of new or improved guidelines or standard operating procedures developed		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	6
Number of entities applying updated standards for evidence collection in their investigation of serious and organised crime		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	3
Output 2.2: Strengthened inter-agency cooperation in investigating serious and organised crime					
Number of inter-agency cooperation mechanisms on serious and organised crime established or functional		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	3
Number of joint or multi-agency operations/investigations conducted targeting drug crims		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	3
Output 2.3: Improved skills and competences of Police officers in investigating serious and organised crime					
Number of training courses delivered		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	15
Number of public sector employees that have completed a training course on investigating serious and organised crime	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1,000
Number of units of specialised equipment procured and installed		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	100
PA14 objective: Well-functioning national systems for asylum, migration, and integration in line with international and European human rights standards.					

Outcome 3: Strengthened institutional capacity for effective, humane and integrated management of migration and asylum procedures					
Number of Border Guard units and voivodships offices with improved capacity to manage migration and asylum cases		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	7
Number of training participants self-reporting increased knowledge on integrated management of migration and asylum procedures		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	200
Output 3.1: Enhanced skills and competencies of professional staff in migration and asylum management					
Number of public sector employee that have completed a training course on asylum, migration, and return procedures	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	250
Number of training courses/workshops delivered, including gender impact assessment		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	4
Output 3.2: Improved quality and accessibility of services for migrants					
Number of children (<18) – migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees – provided with improved services		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	200
Number of adult (≥18) migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees provided with improved services	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	200
Number of training courses delivered to increase the quality of services for migrants		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	7
Number of training courses delivered on how to implement a gender sensitive approach when providing services to migrants		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	2
Output 3.3: Strengthened return and reintegration system (including streamlined procedures and support services)					
Number of return cases supported by the reintegration system	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	30
Number of return and/or reintegration procedures or modules digitalized and operational		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	1
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme					
Level of relevance of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of efficiency of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of effectiveness of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of added value of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of sustainability of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of involvement of the project partner in the project		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of trust between partners		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of overall satisfaction with the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4

Conditions

General

1. The maximum level of funding for investment in infrastructure and equipment (hard measures) is set at 60 % of the total eligible expenditure of the programme.

2. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator ensures that an ex ante control of public procurement procedures and documentation (Limited to public procurement procedures (review of tender documentation) pursuant to the national public procurement legislation) carried out for the pre-defined projects under section 3 of Annex II to the Programme Agreement, is carried out by a competent independent entity, other than the respective project promoter. The management and control system of the Programme Operator shall include the ex-ante control methodology.

3. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator ensures that Project Promoters:

- Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project in their ownership for a period of at least 5 years following the completion of the project and continue to use such buildings for the benefit of the overall objectives of the project for the same period;
- Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project properly insured against losses such as fire, theft and other normally insurable incidents both during project implementation and for at least 5 years following the completion of the project; and
- Set aside appropriate resources for the maintenance of any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project for at least 5 years following the completion of the project. The specific means for implementation of this obligation shall be specified in the project contract.

Pre-eligibility

Not applicable

Pre-payment

Not applicable

Pre-completion

Not applicable

Post-completion

Not applicable

Eligibility of costs - period	**First date**	**Final date**
Eligibility of costs	24/04/2025	30/04/2032
Grant rate and co-financing		
Programme eligible expenditure (€)		€ 83,002,941.18
Programme grant rate (%)		85.00 %
Maximum amount of Programme grant - EEA Financial Mechanism (€)		-
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Norwegian Financial Mechanism (€)		€ 70,650,000.00
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Total (€)		€ 70,650,000.00

PA	Budget Heading	Norway Grants	Total grant	Programme grant rate	Programme co-financing	Programme eligible expenditure	Grant advance payment
PM	Programme management	€ 4,632,625.00	€ 4,632,625.00	85.00 %	€ 817,522.06	€ 5,450,147.06	€ 926,525.00
PA09	Outcome 1 (Norway Grants)	€ 37,997,375.00	€ 37,997,375.00	85.00 %	€ 6,705,419.12	€ 44,702,794.12	€ 1,899,868.75
PA13	Outcome 2 (Norway Grants)	€ 18,445,000.00	€ 18,445,000.00	85.00 %	€ 3,255,000.00	€ 21,700,000.00	€ 922,250.00
PA14	Outcome 3 (Norway Grants)	€ 8,925,000.00	€ 8,925,000.00	85.00 %	€ 1,575,000.00	€ 10,500,000.00	€ 446,250.00
BF	Bilateral funds at programme level	€ 650,000.00	€ 650,000.00	n/a[2]	n/a[3]	€ 650,000.00	€ 130,000.00
Total		**€ 70,650,000.00**	**€ 70,650,000.00**	**85.00 %**	**€ 12,352,941.18**	**€ 83,002,941.18**	**€ 4,324,893.75**

Retention of management costs	
Retention of management costs - Percentage of the management costs	10.00 %
Retention of management costs - Planned Euro value	€ 545,014.71

[2] Grant amount of Bilateral fund at programme level is not relevant for the calculation of programme grant rate

[3] Grant amount of Bilateral fund at programme level is not relevant for the calculation of programme co-financing

Home Affairs

Operational rules (Annex II)

1. Programme summary

This Annex sets out the operational rules for the programme. The Programme Agreement is based on the MoUs, the Concept Note, and comments made by the NMFA. Commitments, statements and guarantees, explicit as well as implicit, made in the Concept Note, are binding for the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in the annexes to this Programme Agreement.

The programme will cover three programme areas, i.e., Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (PA09), Serious and Organised Crime (PA13) and Asylum, Migration and Integration (PA14) and will be implemented through 18 predefined projects (PDPs).

The programme will contribute to improving disaster resilience (objective, PA09) through eight predefined projects that will enhance disaster preparedness and resilience capacities (outcome 1). The projects will align with EU and national frameworks, including the Polish Civil Protection and Civil Defence Act.

Furthermore, the programme will contribute to preventing and combatting serious and organised crime in line with European and international human rights standards (objective, PA13), particularly in areas where threats are evolving rapidly: drug-related crime, cybercrime, and the use of drones in criminal activity. This will be done through six predefined projects which will improve investigative capacity, methods and tools (outcome 2).

The programme will also contribute to well-functioning national systems for asylum, migration and integration in line within international and European human rights standards (objective, PA14) through four predefined projects that will contribute to strengthened institutional capacity for effective, humane and integrated management of migration and asylum procedures (outcome 3).

Information Integrity is considered a cross-cutting priority and is treated as essential to national resilience and democratic stability. The Programme focuses on raising public awareness and competence, as well as creating a secure environment for data processing. This reflects the broader European concern about disinformation and hybrid threats. Information Integrity shall be addressed in all three programme areas.

2. Selection of projects

2.1 Calls and availability of funds (including number of calls, duration of calls, and estimated size):

The project grant rate shall in all cases be set at a level that complies with the State Aid rules in force and takes into account any and all other forms of public support granted to projects. Any remaining costs of the project shall be provided or obtained by the Project Promoter.

2.2 Eligible applicants and project partners:

N/A

2.3 Selection procedures:

N/A

3. Pre-defined projects

1) "Protecting critical infrastructure"

Project Promoter:	Regional Police Headquarters in Szczecin
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB) Norwegian Ocean Industry Authority
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 3,402,794.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 3,402,794.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the protection of critical infrastructure in the West Pomeranian Voivodeship and enhance national resilience to modern security threats. It responds to hybrid threats, cyberattacks, and natural hazards by improving the capabilities of the Polish Police and partner institutions.

The core objective is to build a long-term, international cooperation framework, with Norwegian partners, to improve risk assessment, crisis management, prevention, and operational readiness. The initiative will improve the competencies of security services and public administration and establish a lasting partnership with Norwegian institutions.

The project consists of three main pillars of activity:

1. **Capacity-building**, including specialized training, joint exercises, and expert workshops covering cybersecurity, terrorist-attack response, crisis management, CBRN threats, and modern detection techniques. The aim is to harmonize procedures, improve coordination among emergency services, and enhance preparedness for complex, ross-sector threats.

2. **Technological development**, including the use of artificial intelligence in video surveillance, automated threat detection, and data-driven prediction tools. The technological development focuses on creating integrated monitoring systems supported by Norwegian know-how. The aim is to improve situational awareness and response speed.

3. **International cooperation**, including study visits, joint forums, and mechanisms for information exchange on cross-border criminal activity, terrorism, and threats to strategic infrastructure. The project shall also support improved crisis communication, risk analysis, and the development of coherent national and international protection systems.

2) "Secure Poland's eastern border and the EU's external border"

Project Promoter:	Regional Police Headquarters in Lublin
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 8,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 8,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the security of the Polish state and to enhance the safety and resilience of its citizens by improving crisis management, disaster prevention and preparedness mechanisms, particularly along Poland's eastern border. The project will respond directly to increased military and non-military threats resulting from the war in Ukraine, hybrid risks, and intensified cross-border pressure.

The main objective is to reinforce the operational capacity, coordination, and preparedness of the Police and civil protection actors to effectively manage emergencies, mass evacuations, and crisis situations while maintaining public order, safeguarding critical infrastructure and protecting human life. The project has a cross-regional, cross-sectoral and international approach, ensuring alignment with national priorities, EU standards, and best practices in crisis and disaster management.

The project shall include the following activities:

1. **International and cross-sector cooperation** through, inter alia, joint conferences, study visits, and knowledge exchange with partners from Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Norway, and institutions from the civil protection system (e.g. response emergency services). A live scenario exercise simulating a mass evacuation shall be organised, which will test procedures, coordination, and response plans across services.

2. **Training and coordination activities** to improve police preparedness in technical and operational skills, multicultural awareness and stress resilience, to counter disinformation and xenophobia and to address challenges related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

3. **Modernisation of equipment and operational capacity** to provide police units with advanced tools and technologies to operate effectively in difficult terrain and adverse weather, improve mobility, support intersectoral communication, and enhance disaster management planning.

3) "Information Integrity"

Project Promoter:	Government Centre for Security
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)

Other project partner(s):	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD FR)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 1,800,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 1,800,000.00
Estimated duration:	24 months

The project aims to strengthen Poland's and Europe's resilience to disinformation by treating it as a full spectrum risk to public safety, crisis management, and democratic stability. The project responds to the lack of systemic tools, shared standards, and societal competencies needed to identify, prevent, and counter the threats resulting from disinformation such as undermined trust in institutions, disruptions in critical infrastructure and destabilisation of society.

The main objective of the project is to build a coherent, multi-level framework for countering disinformation by integrating institutional capacity building, public awareness, education, and strategic risk management, in line with national priorities and EU/EEA standards.

Key activities are structured around six complementary pillars:

1. **Targeted training programmes** will be delivered to public administration, crisis management centres, uniformed services, and critical infrastructure operators, focusing on identifying disinformation, responding to information incidents, and communicating effectively during crises.

2. **A nationwide public awareness campaign** will be organised providing accessible, multilingual materials—such as videos, infographics, and checklists—to help citizens recognize manipulation and false narratives.

3. **Educational tools** will be developed, including an "Information Resilience Card" and a pilot youth programme in secondary schools that uses peer-to-peer learning to strengthen media literacy.

4. **Expert conferences** will be organised to create a permanent platform for national and international exchange of knowledge, best practices, and policy recommendations.

5. **Analytical and strategic work** to assess the impact of disinformation on critical infrastructure and national security, develop a standardised risk management methodology, and integrate disinformation into the National Risk Management Plan, supported by long-term monitoring of hostile influence operations.

6. C**ommunication tools** will be developed, including a Polish–English crisis management glossary, in view of improving cross-border cooperation and clarity in crisis communication.

4) "Rescuers' mental resilience"

Project Promoter:	Headquarters of the State Fire Service

Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Civil Defence
Other project partner(s):	National Police Headquarters (PL) National Medical Institute of the Ministry of Interior and Administration, (PL) State Protection Service (PL) Independent Public Healthcare Facility, Specialist Hospital of the Ministry of Interior and Administration in Otwock Independent Public Healthcare Facility, Specialist Hospital of the Ministry of Interior and Administration in Kraków
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 6,800,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 6,800,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the psychological resilience, preparedness, and long-term mental health support for firefighters, their families, and psychologists within the State Fire Service (SFS) of Poland. Building on cooperation with Ukrainian and Norwegian civil protection institutions and insights from a previous bilateral pilot project, the initiative responds to growing psychological demands arising from high-risk operations, crisis exposure, and potential armed conflict scenarios. It will address critical gaps in the existing Psychological Support System (PSS), which lacks sufficient tools, specialized methods, and scalable structures to provide comprehensive assistance.

The core objective is to establish a modern, evidence-based, and scalable psychological support framework covering prevention, intervention, and post-crisis recovery. The project will integrate lessons-learned from the war in Ukraine and from Norway's structured peer-support model, ensuring stronger resilience in emergencies, sustained psychological stability during operations, and effective long-term recovery. The project will strengthen operational readiness and resilience across Polish uniformed services, enhance access to psychological help, reduce risks of PTSD and burnout, and establish a cross-sector platform for long-term cooperation with Norwegian, Ukrainian, and other international institutions.

The project consists of four main pillars of activity:

1. **Procurement of equipment/ tools to support mental resilience**:
    - professional biofeedback systems (full and mobile) for Polish uniformed services and Norwegian and Ukrainian Partners.
    - relaxation equipment (massage armchairs) and a recovery room for SFS district headquarters.
2. **Certified Training for Psychologists:** Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) training for Polish uniformed services and Norwegian partners, Tension and Trauma Releasing Exercises (TRE) for Polish uniformed services and Norwegian and Ukranian participants biofeedback – how to use the method for Polish uniformed services and Norwegian and Ukrainian partners, psychotraumatology studies for psychologists from the State Fire Service of Poland and other specialized courses to upgrade competencies and introduce globally recognized trauma-intervention methods.

3. **Mapping and International Knowledge Exchange:** Cooperation with academic institutions for advanced trauma education, knowledge exchanges (e.g. study visits, interviews, collection of data methods etc.), hosting a major international conference on psychological support in times of crisis and examination of the psychological impact of disinformation.
4. **Establishment of a Peer Support System for the State Fire Service of Poland**: Development of rules, training programs, and capacity-building for peer support leaders, providing a first line of psychological assistance while optimising psychologists' specialised workloads.

5) "Modern technologies in crisis management"

Project Promoter:	Headquarters of the State Fire Service
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
Other project partner(s):	Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PL) Headquarters of the Municipal State Fire Service of the Capital City of Warsaw
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 11,200,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 11,200,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project shall consist of the following three main pillars of activity:

1. UAV system developments

This pillar aims to enhance the safety, efficiency, and coordination of aerial operations in rescue and firefighting by implementing the following key activities:

- Establishment of a Drone Operations Centre within the State Fire Service, including a stationary centre based at the National Headquarters of the State Fire Service of Poland, and a mobile variant, housed in a specially equipped vehicle, to allow for the rapid deployment of UAV experts directly to the incident site and coordinating the activities of both manned and unmanned aerial platforms.
- Implementation of a unified management system based on proven European solutions for organizing joint manned and unmanned aircraft operations, increasing operational clarity and safety.
- Development of a geolocation and tracking system for UAVs and manned aircraft used by SFS and cooperating services.
- Procurement of specialised equipment for training and operational use, ensuring that UAV teams are equipped with modern, mission-ready technology.
- Training programs for UAV pilots from the SFS and other services under the Ministry of Interior and Administration (MIA), such as the Police and Border Guard, including joint training sessions between Poland and Norway.

2. Electromobility and battery energy storage systems (BESS)

This pillar aims to diagnose the specific risks and challenges associated with electromobility and low-emission energy production technologies, to train and equip emergency responders to manage incidents involving battery energy storage systems (BESS) as well as electric vehicles EVs (cars, motor scooters, e-bikes, scooters) and their charging infrastructure. The project's main activities shall include:

- Risks assessment and identification of challenges associated with these type of technologies, including exchange of experiences between Poland and Norway; increasing knowledge about batteries thermal runaway and symptoms recognition, understanding signs of battery off-gassing or failure, the difference in response between battery chemistries (e.g., lithium iron phosphate vs. NMC).
- Resource Allocation and Equipment Upgrades:
- Evaluation of equipment available on the market against the specific needs created by incidents involving new technologies (e.g. fire blankets, dedicated extinguish lance systems, DC detectors); research to adapt other fire extinguishing equipment not currently used for this type of operations (e.g. fire extinguish robot combined with ultra-high pressure and water mist technology); procurement of tested equipment that meets specific needs of incidents involving new technologies for emergency response teams (e.g., specialized extinguishing systems and agents for lithium-ion battery fires, personal protective equipment dedicated to high voltage systems, detectors); equipping emergency responders with tools that facilitate quick assessment and management of incidents related to electrification and renewables (e.g. app with EV scheme/diagram, thermal imaging cameras).
- Developing targeted training initiatives for emergency personnel focusing on the unique risks associated with electric vehicles and renewable energy systems:

3. Real-time monitoring system

This pillar aims to diagnose the specific challenges related to chemical and radioactive threats faced by first responders when securing mass events. The main activities shall include:

- Risks assessment and challenges associated with this kind of emergencies,
- Creation of a real-time monitoring system based on hand-held detection equipment available on the market (e.g. ion mobility spectrometers, radionuclide identification spectrometers) and data output transfer through radio station to operation centre to supervision and analysis of measurement results.
- Implementation of a real-time monitoring system into the operational awareness system (mobile drone operations center).
- Training, including targeted training initiatives for emergency personnel dedicated to use real-time monitoring systems;
- Development of a set of good practices in the conduct of security at mass events involving use of real-time monitoring system.

6) "Health Preparedness – Enhancing Crisis Management Capacity in Polish National Healthcare Services"

Project Promoter:	National Medical Institute of the Ministry of Interior and Administration,
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 9,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 9,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	30 months

The project seeks to significantly enhance the preparedness and crisis-response capabilities of the Polish healthcare system—particularly hospitals under the Ministry of Interior and Administration (MIA)—in addressing Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies. The initiative addresses critical gaps in standardized medical protocols, inter-agency coordination, real-time data management, and the availability of advanced training environments.

Its main objective is to establish unified procedures, strengthen collaboration across healthcare and uniformed services, and introduce state-of-the-art immersive training to enhance operational readiness during complex emergencies. The project is implemented by the National Medical Institute under MIA in partnership with Norwegian Directorate of Health. Key participants will be also: Warsaw Medical University Simulation Centre, Polish Ministry of Health, uniformed services, and selected pilot hospitals.

Key project activities shall include:

1. **Development and Standardization of CBRN Procedures** –Establishing guidelines and standardised protocols for patient admission, early care, internal transport, hospital preparedness, and inter-hospital evacuation during CBRN incidents.
2. **Creation of a Hospital Command Centre (HCC)** – (a) Establishing an integrated IT platform for real-time monitoring of hospital capacity and (b) Defining data standards to ensure information integrity and transparency.
3. **Establishing Inter-Agency Collaboration** – Facilitating cooperation and coordination between Ministry of Interior and Administration (MIA) Emergency Departments, State Fire Service, and Police through joint workshops and collaborative training exercises.
4. **Implementation of Immersive Training Facilities** – (a) Establishing a CAVE-based medical simulation room equipped with immersive technologies to train personnel in realistic CBRN scenarios and (b) Conducting comprehensive cross-sector training sessions in simulated environments for scenarios such as mass casualty events, terrorist attacks, evacuations, and complex rescue operations.
5. **Training and Skill Development** – (a) Organising structured CBRN training programmes for Emergency Department staff and (b) Performing regular simulation exercises to refine operational readiness and improve procedural compliance.

7) "CBRNE resilience"

Project Promoter:	State Protection Service
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)

Other project partner(s):	Police Academy (PL)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 1,500,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 1,500,000.00
Estimated duration:	25 months

The main objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience of Poland's state security system against threats arising from the use of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) agents. This will be achieved by optimising cooperation procedures between key services under the Ministry of Interior and Administration—namely the State Protection Service (SOP), Police, Border Guard and State Fire Service—in close coordination with the Polish Armed Forces. The project focuses on protecting the most important persons in the state and the facilities serving them, both in Poland and abroad, thereby ensuring continuity of state authority in peacetime and during extraordinary crisis situations.

The project aims to result in improved competences, standardised procedures, enhanced use of modern technologies and better information sharing among participating services, leading to more effective, coordinated and timely responses to CBRNE threats and increased public security.

Key project activities shall include:

1. **Provision of training equipment** – development of technical specifications and procurement of modern CBRNE training equipment, including detectors, decontamination kits and personal protective clothing.
2. **Specialised training and competence development** – scenario-based, inter-agency training and exercises conducted in real operational environments to test and update response procedures, ensure the safety of protected persons and officers, and strengthen cooperation. Training will also address the analysis of information on threads and countering disinformation.
3. **Functionality testing of equipment** – practical testing of tools and technologies used to counteract the effects of CBRNE agents.
4. **Development of standards manual for handling CBRNE agents** – preparation of a comprehensive document defining roles, responsibilities, communication channels and cooperation mechanisms during CBRNE interventions.
5. **Summary conference** – organisation of a conference on contemporary security challenges related to hybrid and CBRNE threats, presenting lessons learned from project exercises, models of inter-service cooperation and approaches to managing disinformation during CBRNE incidents.

8) "Public Warning and Alarm System – Technical Standard and Prototypes for Information Integrity (Alarm-PL)"

Project Promoter:	Headquarters of the State Fire Service
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)
Other project partner(s):	Institute of Fundamental Technological Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IPPT-PAN PL)

Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 3,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 3,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The SYSTEM ALARM project aims to modernise and unify public warning and alarm systems by creating an open, vendor neutral standard that ensures reliable, fast and trustworthy alerts to citizens.

The core objective of SYSTEM ALARM is to establish one open and interoperable way to design, connect, test and audit sirens and controllers. The project will deliver publicly available standards, documentation and reference designs that any municipality or manufacturer can adopt without lock-in. This approach aims to reduce unit costs by up to 80%, enable end-to-end alert delivery within 90 seconds, and ensure that every test and alert is verifiable and transparent.

Project activities shall include the following and are divided into seven work packages:

1. WP1 – **Standard & documentation**. Development of the SYSTEM ALARM standard, test checklists, and procurement templates, including an information integrity baseline (signing, logs, routine tests) and publication in an open repository.
2. WP2 – **MAX siren**. Building and testing of a modern high-power siren: weather-ready, remotely managed, with clear test modes, secure boot, signed updates and audit logs.
3. WP3 – **mini/micro-siren**. Building and testing of a small, affordable siren for lampposts or building walls; optionally solar-powered; simple to install and replace; including tamper-evident logging and key management.
4. WP4 – **SC retrofit controller**. Transforming old motor sirens into safe and smart devices (start/stop/brake, local safety, remote tests, clear logs) with signed commands and verifiable event trails.
5. WP5 – **Readiness & pilot**. Performing lab checks and short field pilots, measure “command-to-sound” time and coverage and validate the integrity of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) (signature verification, log completeness). Issuing a simple “Ready to Connect” note per device type.
6. WP6 – **Open IP & publication**. Transferring economic copyrights to the State Treasury and publish them under open licences so any qualified manufacturer can supply.
7. WP7 – **Management, evaluation, communication**. Reporting on progress and publication of integrity metrics and lessons learned to invite for reuse across Europe. A basic pillar of the project is the proactive release of know-how and complete documentation for all interested stakeholders. Deliverables are published in open formats and under open licences, including open-document formats (e.g., OpenDocument/ODF) and open-hardware artefacts (schematics, PCB layouts, bill of materials, mechanical drawings), to enable reuse, scrutiny and vendor-neutral implementations.

9) "Northern Shield - International cooperation against Organised Crime"

Project Promoter:	National Police Headquarters
Donor project partner(s):	National Criminal Investigation Service (KRIPOS)

Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 5,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 5,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the fight against cross border organised crime, in particular in connection to the traffic of synthetic drugs. The project responds to the increasing role of organised criminal networks exploiting cross border logistics routes, including Nordic ports and land corridors, for the purpose of synthetic drugs trafficking.

The project is structured around two complementary pillars: crime forensics and operational cooperation.

The **crime forensics** pillar focuses on enhancing detection, safety and dismantling capabilities related to synthetic drug production and handling. Key activities shall include:

1. Specialised training for law enforcement officers and forensic experts in dismantling synthetic drug labs and chemical risk management.
2. Procurement of advanced forensic, protection and detection and chemical analysis equipment.
3. Improving preparedness for safely entering and dismantling illicit laboratories.
4. Construction of a unique, purpose-built training facility dedicated exclusively to realistic, scenario-based training on dismantling synthetic drug laboratories, in line with UNODC guidelines (core deliverable).
5. Establishment of common standards for chemical hazard management, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and early warning for emerging substances.

The **operational cooperation** pillar strengthens cross border action against organised crime and drug trafficking, with particular emphasis on Polish–Norwegian cooperation embedded in the EU EMPACT Synthetic Drugs/NPS framework. Activities shall include:

1. Joint intelligence production, information exchange via SIENA and Europol.
2. Coordinated investigations, and operational actions such as surveillance, controlled deliveries and asset seizures.
3. Developing joint Polish and Norwegian operational platforms, including the use of Joint Investigation Teams (JITs), Operational Task Forces (OTFs), and coordinated intelligence exchange through SIENA and Europol.

10) "CyberAICop– Information integrity – combatting cybercrime"

Project Promoter:	National Police Headquarters
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 4,500,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 4,500,000.00

Estimated duration: 36 months

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of Polish law enforcement to combat cybercrime by combining advanced training with the development and deployment of operational, AI driven tools. Cybercrime is an increasingly serious threat to internal security, driven by global criminal networks, rapid technological innovation, and the growing use of cryptocurrencies and digital infrastructures. Traditional investigative methods are no longer sufficient to process the vast volumes of digital evidence generated by cybercrime cases, digital forensics and Internet of Things (IoT).

The project's main objective is to enhance professional competencies and operational effectiveness of police officers and civil police employees by integrating artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) directly into everyday investigative workflows. CyberAIcop goes beyond theoretical training and focuses on building scalable, secure and legally compliant analytical capabilities that can be used in real investigations.

The project is structured around three closely integrated modules:

1. **Module I – Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** shall focus on developing core AI/ML infrastructure for law enforcement. This includes classifiers, predictors and anomaly detection models trained on aggregated cybercrime data, supported by federated learning to protect sensitive information. A central testing environment and scalable ML services accessible across police units will be established.
2. **Module II – Cryptocurrency Investigations** shall strengthen the ability to trace and analyse illicit cryptocurrency flows linked to money laundering, drug trafficking and ransomware. Existing tools will be expanded to cover Bitcoin mixing protocols (e.g. JoinMarket, Wasabi), DeFi ecosystems and Ethereum privacy mixers such as TornadoCash. AI-based analytics, targeted training and international cooperation will improve cross border investigation capabilities.
3. **Module III – Digital Forensics** shall enhance practical forensic capacity through the purchase of modern hardware and software, and training of approximately 300 officers. AI supported tools will assist investigators in device triage, multimedia analysis and structured case handling, while ensuring that final assessments remain with human examiners.

11) "Digital crime forensics"

Project Promoter:	National Police Headquarters
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Police University College
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 2,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 2,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of Polish law enforcement to secure, preserve and examine digital evidence from mobile devices in an increasingly complex technological environment. It is a direct continuation of activities implemented under the Norway Grants 2014–2021 (PDP2) in the field of forensic IT, building on established good practices, specialist training and previously acquired equipment.

The main objective is to ensure the integrity, security and usability of digital evidence throughout the entire forensic process - from the moment of seizure to in-depth laboratory examination - while significantly improving access to data protected by advanced security measures. The project combines targeted investments in specialised equipment with advanced training for forensic experts and police officers nationwide. The main activities shall include:

1. **Acquisition of specialised isolation chambers** for forensic laboratories, enabling secure examination of digital evidence in fully shielded environments that guarantee data integrity and protection from external interference.
2. **Equipping field police units with portable mobile isolation kits**, including signal blocking solutions and external power supplies, allowing seized devices to be preserved in After First Unlock (AFU) mode while preventing remote access, wiping or data corruption.
3. **Purchase of high-performance forensic hardware and software** to support password and lock code analysis on mobile devices and digital data carriers, significantly reducing waiting times for access to secured evidence.
4. **Advanced training programmes** for forensic experts from the Central Forensic Laboratory of the Police and regional forensic laboratories, integrating and expanding knowledge gained under PDP2 and enabling more effective application of modern methods and tools in practice.

12) "Combating drug crimes - Four Paw's Drive"

Project Promoter:	Provincial Police Headquarters in Gdansk
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Police University College
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 1,300,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 1,300,000.00
Estimated duration:	24 months

The project aims to strengthen the prevention and combat of serious and organised crime in the Pomeranian Province by enhancing the operational effectiveness of police service dogs and their handlers. Due to the region’s geographic location, bordering the Baltic Sea, hosting major seaports and an international airport, and being close to the EU’s external borders, the Pomeranian Province faces increased risks related to drug trafficking, smuggling, organised crime and terrorism. These challenges require highly specialised skills, modern equipment and strong international cooperation.

The main objective of the project is to improve the competencies of police officers serving as dog handlers, the performance and welfare of service dogs, and the overall efficiency and safety of police operations involving canine units.

Key project activities shall include:

1. **Training, equipment modernisation and experience exchange**. A comprehensive training programme will be delivered for dog handlers and officers supervising cynological matters. This includes Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) and K9-TCCC courses, qualified first aid training, specialised first aid for service dogs, joint handler–dog operational training, mine and pyrotechnic reconnaissance and CBRNE awareness, UAV pilot training, English

language courses, and postgraduate studies in animal behaviour. Participants will receive certified qualifications, and Norwegian experts will be involved in selected activities.

2. **Purchase of specialised equipment**, such as a highly realistic service dog simulator, wound simulation kits, teaching aids, protective equipment for water operations, an unmanned aerial vehicle with thermal imaging, and specialised vehicles adapted for the safe transport of service dogs. These investments will improve training standards, reduce risks related to dog transport, and enhance operational readiness in areas such as drug detection, counter-terrorism, search and rescue, and locating missing persons.

13) "Drones in the Police (Drone rede)"

Project Promoter:	National Police Headquarters
Donor project partner(s):	Oslo Police District
Other project partner(s):	Poznan University of Technology (PUT PL) Regional Police Headquarters in Poznan (PL)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 8,000,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 8,000,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the operational capacity of the Polish Police in responding to the rapidly growing use of drones and counter drone technologies by both law enforcement and criminal groups. While police units already possess some drone related equipment, activities are fragmented, training is inconsistent, and there is no unified operational model or coordinated system for effective deployment.

The main objective of the project is to create a centralised and coherent model for drone and anti-drone management within the Police, adapted to existing personnel and technical resources. This includes the development of standardised tactical assumptions for the operational use of drones and counter-UAV solutions, as well as the establishment of a dedicated training and technical centre to support police units nationwide. The project also addresses the integration of artificial intelligence for data analysis, autonomous operations and decision support.

The project is addressed to Polish police officers. Other services, such as border guards, will be able to participate in the project as participants in workshops or training courses.

Key activities shall include:

1. **Specialised training** in the use of drones and anti-drone technologies, including operational tactics, threat response and safe deployment during police operations.
2. **Procurement of equipment and supplies**, such as drones, anti-drone systems, spare parts, and 3D printers to support maintenance and rapid adaptation of equipment.
3. **Development of AI-supported software solutions** by the Poznań University of Technology, including applications for data analysis, swarm drone operations and extension or modification of existing applications available on the market.

4. **Construction of training infrastructure** at the Kąkolewo airport on land administered by Regional Police Headquarters in Poznan (KWP Poznan), in the form of a hangar, training room, training workshops and social facilities.
5. **Bilateral cooperation** with the Oslo Police and the National Police Emergency Response Unit in the form of activities on the use of drones and anti-drone technology.
6. **Study visits** to countries with advanced experience in drone use and combatting drone use for criminal purposes.

The National Police Headquarters and Oslo Police District will jointly assess the level of ambition, thematic focus areas and technical requirements.

14) "Intergenerational Safety: Prevention of fraud against seniors and education of young people for a safe future"

Project Promoter:	Warsaw Metropolitan Police
Donor project partner(s):	West Police District
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 900,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 900,000.00
Estimated duration:	24 months

The project aims to prevent and reduce crimes committed by organised criminal groups against children and the elderly, with a strong focus on cybercrime offences. The main objective of the project is to strengthen prevention through education, awareness raising and capacity building, thereby increasing the safety of children and seniors in both digital and real-world environments and reducing the number of crimes committed against them.

Key activities are structured around four complementary pillars:

1. **Information campaign**
   The project will develop educational materials (leaflets, brochures, videos), an interactive website and an online educational platform promoting safe internet use, digital hygiene and fraud prevention. Dedicated outreach activities will target children, parents, teachers and seniors through schools, community centres and senior clubs.
2. **Workshops and training**
   A wide range of workshops will be organised on internet safety, cyberbullying, fraud prevention, digital skills (including online banking), and first aid. Innovative intergenerational formats will be applied, such as workshops for children led by seniors and workshops for seniors led by older children. Police prevention educators will receive certified training in cybersecurity and behavioural addiction prevention.
3. **Legal and psychological support**
   Conducting an information campaign on the rights of children and the elderly, provide access to free legal advice for victims of fraud and abuse, creating a website for psychological and legal support, and establish support groups for seniors affected by isolation or financial threats.

4. **Strengthening local cooperation**
   Strengthening cooperation between the Police, schools, social services, local authorities and NGOs. Organizing meetings and training for representatives of local institutions, including Municipal/City Offices, to jointly develop strategies to counteract threats to children and seniors. Collaboration with non-governmental organizations that are already working to improve digital security and strengthen digital hygiene (e.g. Institute of Digital Citizenship, NASK, National Centre for Addiction Prevention). Creating partnerships with local governments.

15) "Information integrity – digitalization and smart ways of working"

Project Promoter:	Polish Border Guard
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 2,500,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 2,500,000.00
Estimated duration:	30 months

The project aims to address the lack of an integrated and dedicated IT solution supporting the reintegration assistance process for foreigners returning to their countries of origin. The project shall introduce a unified, secure and automated solution that improves information integrity, coordination and overall effectiveness of return and reintegration policies.

The main objective of the project is to develop and implement a new “Reintegration” module within the existing Foreigners Service System (SOC), which operates as part of the Border Guard’s Central Information Systems. The new module shall be designed as a specialised IT tool supporting the Border Guard in comprehensive management of the reintegration process of foreigners after their return to their country of origin. Its main goal is to increase the effectiveness of the assistance provided through data centralisation, process automation, and improved cooperation with external entities implementing reintegration programs.

Key project activities shall include:

1. **Design, development and deployment of the “Reintegration” module**, which will centralise data and standardise procedures across Border Guard units. The module will allow for electronic registration and processing of reintegration assistance applications submitted both before departure and after return, support decision-making on granting or refusing assistance, record benefits provided, manage documentation and attachments, and monitor return dates. It will enable cooperation with external entities implementing reintegration programmes and provide analytical tools for generating statistics and reports to support policy planning and evaluation.
2. **Procurement of necessary IT infrastructure** (servers, storage, backup systems, workstations and multifunction devices), software licences and developer subscriptions.
3. **Training for system development and maintenance teams**. Strong emphasis is placed on information integrity and security through role-based access control, encryption of data and transmission, audit logs, and regular security testing.

16) "Modernization of the Polish Border Guard infrastructure"

Project Promoter:	Polish Border Guard
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 6,500,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 6,500,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to increase the effectiveness of the Polish Border Guard's operations in large urban agglomerations, with a particular focus on the city of Wrocław. The main objective of the project is to strengthen the Border Guard's administrative and investigative capacity in Wrocław by improving infrastructure and expanding operational capabilities.

The core activity of the project is the construction of a new Border Guard facility in Wrocław, which will serve as a modern headquarters for officers responsible for migration control, administrative proceedings and investigative tasks. The new facility shall include:

- rooms for handling foreigners and administrative proceedings,
- training rooms and educational facilities,
- space for operational and investigative teams combating illegal migration and organized crime,
- secure rooms for official activities and interviews,
- technical, archival, and ICT infrastructure meeting security standards,
- facilities supporting cooperation with other institutions.

The new building will allow the expansion of the Border Guard post, increase the number of officers operating in the city, and significantly improve service and working conditions. Training under PDP 17 is intended to include personnel that is envisaged to serve in the new facility.

17) "Strengthened capacities of the Border Guard in providing services to migrants"

Project Promoter:	Polish Border Guard
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 900,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 900,000.00
Estimated duration:	24 months

The project aims to strengthen the professional competencies and qualifications of Border Guard officers, civilian employees, and personnel of other institutions involved in return operations, in response to shifting migration dynamics. The project addresses these needs by improving skills related to migration management, preparation and implementation of return operations, and service delivery to foreigners, including vulnerable groups.

The project will improve communication with foreigners, streamline administrative proceedings, and raise the quality and accessibility of public services. It also contributes to harmonising practices

nationwide and improving cooperation between institutions involved in migration and return processes.

The project's core activities focus on training and capacity building and shall include:

1. Specialised courses, workshops and seminars for Border Guard officers and staff of cooperating entities, including voivodship offices. These will cover the preparation and conduct of return operations, international protection procedures, risk analysis, diplomatic protocol and administrative decision-making. A strong emphasis will be placed on human rights protection, anti-discrimination, and the identification and treatment of vulnerable groups such as minors and persons with traumatic experiences.
2. Language training: Courses at various levels will be offered in selected languages commonly spoken by foreigners crossing the EU's external borders, improving direct communication and reducing misunderstandings during procedures. In parallel, workshops will develop intercultural competence, conflict-resolution skills and effective communication with foreigners.

Training will be delivered primarily at the Border Guard Training Centre in Lubań and in Border Guard divisions across the country, supported by qualified trainers, external experts and modern training equipment. Existing specialised courses—such as those on vulnerable persons, minors in administrative proceedings, and human rights and equal treatment—will be continued and expanded.

18) "Protect minors, including unaccompanied asylum seekers, from abuse"

Project Promoter:	Office for Foreigners
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI)
Other project partner(s):	Empowering Children Foundation (PL)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 600,000.00
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 600,000.00
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to enhance child safety in centres for foreigners by preventing and reducing peer, domestic and institutional violence, while strengthening family awareness and child-protection standards. The project is a continuation of long-standing cooperation initiated in 2015 between the Office for Foreigners (OFF) and the Empowering Children Foundation and builds on the successful implementation of the updated Policy on the Protection of Children from Harm in facilities for foreigners.

The main objective is to create a safer, more supportive environment for children, including unaccompanied minors, living in centres for foreigners, and to reduce the risk of violence by parents, peers and staff. The project promotes a culture of vigilance, awareness and responsibility among staff, parents and children, ensuring that child protection is embedded in daily operations and aligned with the applicable rules in Poland.

Key project activities focus on capacity building, prevention and support and shall include:

1. Training sessions and individual consultations delivered to staff working in centres for foreigners, Office for Foreigners (OFF) staff and cooperating institutions.

2. Socio-therapeutic workshops for children and youth, designed to help them recognise dangerous situations, respond to violence and develop positive behavioural patterns. Parallel activities will support parents by increasing awareness of non-violent parenting methods and fostering peer support through regular group meetings and experience-sharing sessions.

3. International cooperation with Norway, involving study visits and expert meetings with the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI). These exchanges will focus on best practices in the reception of minors—particularly unaccompanied children—covering education, healthcare and residential care, and will involve OFF staff and other Polish institutions working with foreign minors.

4. Ancillary activities such as the production of informational materials, strengthening access to psychological and emotional support, and improving operational capacity of the Department of Social Assistance, including transport support for field activities.

4. Bilateral relations

The amount of bilateral funds allocated to the programme shall be equally divided between the programme areas “Disaster Prevention and Preparedness” and “Serious and organised crime”. Activities under the programme area "Asylum, migration, and integration" may also be funded where appropriate and following agreement between the PO and the Donor Programme Partners.

The Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning (DSB) shall be the Donor Programme Partner responsible for the programme area “Disaster prevention and preparedness”, while the National Police Directorate (POD). shall be the Donor Programme Partner responsible for the programme area “Serious and organised crime”.

The Cooperation Committee shall consist of representatives from the Programme Operator and representatives from the Donor Programme Partners. Representatives of the Financial Mechanism Office, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Focal Point shall be invited to participate as observers. In justified cases, third parties shall be invited to participate in Cooperation Committee meetings, without voting rights.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is engaged in the programme under the programme area “Disaster Prevention and Preparedness” through its involvement as a partner in the pre-defined project “Information Integrity” (PDP3). The OECD shall be invited to participate in the Cooperation Committee meeting as a third party whenever the pre-defined project “Information Integrity” is on the agenda or where considered appropriate by the Cooperation Committee members.

5. Programme management and financial parameters

5.1 Special rules on eligibility of costs:

- Programme management costs shall take the form of eligible expenditure actually incurred.
- Costs for the purchase of land or real estate shall not be eligible.
- "Infrastructure and equipment (hard measures)" shall be understood in line with the Financial Guidance issued by the FMO.

5.2 Programme administrative structures:

- Management of savings: When considering the transfer of savings from PDPs in the programme, priority shall first be given to reallocating funds to other PDPs within the same Programme Area and second to reallocating funds to PDPs within other Programme Areas in the Programme.
- The Programme Operator is the Ministry of the Interior and Administration (MIA). The European Projects Implementation Centre of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration (EPIC MIA) shall provide support in financial and legal tasks related to the Programme Operator's duties, in particular the independent verification of expenses and authorization of payments. All tasks will be detailed in the management and control system of the Programme Operator and carried out in a transparent manner.
- The programme Operator shall, prior to signing project contracts, assess the compliance of the project activities and all entities involved within the project with the common values listed in Article 1.3.1 of the Regulation and take corrective measures where necessary. An obligation on continued compliance with the values, including clear indications of the consequences for failure to do so, shall be included in the project contract. Throughout project implementation, projects shall report on compliance with the values, and the PO shall carry out substantive monitoring on this aspect. Where necessary, the PO shall take appropriate corrective measures to ensure compliance with the values.

6. Miscellaneous

A modification to this Programme Agreement shall be done either in a written form, by way of a qualified electronic signature, an advanced electronic signature, or acceptance by both Parties in the electronic platform used by the FMO.

The Programme Operator shall report on information integrity results under the relevant outcome sections of the programme chapter in the Country Report, drawing on evidence from the results framework and project examples.