EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028

PROGRAMME AGREEMENT

between

The Financial Mechanism Committee
established by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway

and

The National Management Unit,
hereinafter referred to as the "National Focal Point",

representing Portugal,
hereinafter referred to as the "Beneficiary State"

together hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"

for the financing of the Programme "Domestic and Gender-based Violence"
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 Financial Mechanism Committee (hereinafter referred to as the FMC) 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 EEA 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 EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028:

a) Protocol 38d to the EEA Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028;

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

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

d) any guidelines adopted by the FMC 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 EEA 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 FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC.

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 FMC.

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 FMC 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 FMC.

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 FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC 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 the Donor States, the partnership agreement

shall be in English and shall be based on a template provided by the FMC.

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.

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 EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 to the Programme in accordance with Article 9.8 of the Regulation.

Article 4.6
Irregularities, suspension and reimbursements

The FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC, 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 FMC 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 FMC, 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 FMC or the FMO any responsibility of any kind for the supervision, execution, completion, or operation of the Programme or its projects.

3. The FMC 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 FMC 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 FMC, its members or alternate members, nor the EFTA States, 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 Donors	For the National Focal Point
Signed in Lisbon on 02/07/2026	Signed in Lisbon on 02/07/2026
.....	.....
Ambassador of Norway to Portugal	Head of National Focal Point

Annex I to the Programme Agreement

Roles	
Programme Operator:	Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG)
Donor Programme Partner:	Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR) Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security (NMOJ)
IPO:	Council of Europe (CoE)
Other Programme Partner(s):	-

Indicator	Disaggregation	Unit of measurement	Data source	Baseline	Planned Target[1]
PA10 objective: Prevention and combatting of domestic and gender-based violence in line with international and European human rights standards.					
Outcome 1: Increased prevention and reduction of gender-based and domestic violence					
Number of trained children and young people demonstrating increased awareness and rejection of gender stereotypes and violent behaviours	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	300
Number of professionals reporting improved knowledge on gender equality and non-violence	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey	0	100
Output 1.1: Early prevention and behavioural change among children and youth (offline and online)					
Number of schools implementing gender-sensitive and violence-prevention programs		Cumulative number	Project reports records	0	30
Number of students with improved critical digital literacy skills	Gender	Cumulative number	Project reports records	0	300
Number of children and youth who participated in educational activities	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	300
Number of activities involving teachers, parents and caretakers to promote timely, non-violent intervention	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	50
Output 1.2: Awareness and knowledge on domestic and gender-based violence is increased					
Number of awareness raising activities on gender equality, gender-based violence and digital respect		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	30
Number of young people reached under the National Awareness campaign	Gender	Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	2,000

[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 studies completed		Cumulative number	Project reports records	0	10
PA10 objective: Prevention and combatting of domestic and gender-based violence in line with international and European human rights standards.					
Outcome 2: Protection, reintegration and support for gender-based and domestic violence victims is improved					
Number of victims reporting reduced barriers to integrated victim-centred services	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey	0	100
Number of migrant victims reporting reduced barriers to integrated victim-centred services	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey	0	50
Number of professionals that reported improved cooperation, procedures and mechanisms to respond to cases of gender-based and domestic violence.	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey	0	50
Number of training participants self-reporting improved knowledge/understanding after the training	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey	0	100
Output 2.1: Integrated and coordinated multidisciplinary services established or strengthened to provide victim-centred responses for domestic and sexual violence.					
Number of integrated “one-stop shop” models established		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	2
Number of domestic and gender-based violence victims assisted by on-call teams	Gender	Cumulative number	Project reports	0	50
Number of partnerships with migrant and Roma associations including intercultural mediators		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of communication materials developed		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of high-risk domestic violence cases that received coordinated multiagency management in line with the established RING protocol		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	20
Output 2.2: Professional capacity related to employees working with Domestic and gender-based violence victims is improved					
Number of training sessions conducted and implemented for magistrates and prosecutors		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	20
Number of magistrates that have completed a training course	Gender	Cumulative number	Survey, CEJ administrative data	0	70
Output 2.3: Knowledge generation and digital infrastructure related to domestic and gender-based violence are strengthened					
Number of research studies completed		Cumulative number	Studies produced	0	3
Number of digital platforms developed and operational for RNAVVD coordination and public access to resources		Cumulative number	Platforms	0	2
PA11 objective: Increased access to an independent, accountable, and efficient justice system of high quality in line with international and European human rights standards.					
Outcome 3: Access to justice is strengthened through multidisciplinary and interagency child-friendly services and professionally competent justice services for victims and witnesses of violence					
Number of children victims or witnesses of violence heard only once at the Barnahus centre	Gender	Cumulative number	Barnahus service records, DGPJ annual report	0	50

Number of training participants self-reporting improved know-how of how to prevent and respond to domestic and gender-based violence after the training	Gender	Cumulative number	Post-training evaluation surveys	0	50
Output 3.1: Multidisciplinary and interagency child-friendly services for child victims and witnesses of violence is introduced and strengthened					
Number of pilots Barnahus centres established and operational		Cumulative number	DGPJ project reports, monitoring data	0	1
Number of children who has been through the barnahus	Gender	Cumulative number	DGPJ project reports, monitoring data	0	75
Output 3.2: Specialised, evidence-based training programmes are delivered to justice sector professionals					
Number of training modules developed		Cumulative number	DGRSP Academy annual reports	0	10
Number of justice sector professionals trained through the Academy	Gender	Cumulative number	DGRSP Academy annual reports	0	2,000
PA15 objective: Strengthened institutional cooperation and increased quality of public services policies and regulations.					
Outcome 4: Strengthening Institutional Capacities to Promote Work-life balance and Gender Equality					
Number of supported education institutions with increased gender-balanced participation in students' study or career choices.		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of organisations applying work-life balance and gender equality measures		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of municipalities that have designed and dissemination gender-responsive work-life balance measure at local level.		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Output 4.1: Reduced gender-based segregation in study paths and career choices					
Number of initiatives addressing stereotypes in academic/professional choices		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of students reached through activities that challenge gender stereotypes in study paths and career choices	Gender	Cumulative number	Project reports	0	100
Output 4.2: Strengthened work-life balance measures in organizations					
Number of mentorship and sponsorship programs for women aiming for management roles.		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
Number of organisations with a new or improved policy on work-life balance		Cumulative number	Surveys	0	10
Output 4.3: Increased municipal implementation of gender-responsive measures					
Number of entities implementing gender equality activities		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10

Number of new or continued partnerships established with local organisations		Cumulative number	Project reports	0	10
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 effectiveness 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 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
Number of projects involving cooperation with a Donor project partner		Cumulative number	Copies of contracts concluded with Project Promoters, Partnership agreements between Project Promoters and project partner	0	10
Number of exchange programmes or study visits organised between bilateral partners		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	20

Conditions

General

1. The maximum level of funding for investment in infrastructure and equipment (hard measures) is set at 50% of the total eligible expenditure of the programme.

2. For predefined project 1 (under Section 3 of Annex Il to the Programme Agreement), the Programme Operator's responsibilities regarding the verification of expenditure described in Article 5.6 (f) of the Regulation, shall be externalised and be carried out by a legal entity independent of and unrelated to the Programme Operator.

Pre-eligibility

3. No costs shall be eligible under the pre-defined project 1) “SYNERGY - Network Participation and Coordination of the Working Group on Preventing Sexual Violence Among Young People” before the partners to the project have been agreed and confirmed and all requested information on the budget for the pre-defined project has been submitted by the Programme Operator and the FMC has confirmed the grant to the project as described in Annex II to this Programme Agreement.

4. No costs shall be eligible under the pre-defined project 2) “RING - Redes de Intervenção Global (Global Intervention Network)” before the partners to the project have been agreed and confirmed and all requested information on the budget has been submitted by the Programme Operator and the FMC has confirmed the grant to the project as described in Annex II to this Programme Agreement.

Pre-payment

Not applicable

Pre-completion

Not applicable

Post-completion

Not applicable

Eligibility of costs - period	**First date**	**Final date**
Eligibility of costs	08/07/2025	30/04/2032
Grant rate and co-financing		
Programme eligible expenditure (€)		€ 14,417,647.05
Programme grant rate (%)		85.00 %
Maximum amount of Programme grant - EEA Financial Mechanism (€)		€ 12,300,000.00
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Norwegian Financial Mechanism (€)		-
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Total (€)		€ 12,300,000.00

PA	Budget Heading	EEA Grants	Total grant	Programme grant rate	Programme co-financing	Programme eligible expenditure	Grant advance payment
PM	Programme management	€ 1,155,350.00	€ 1,155,350.00	85.00 %	€ 203,885.29	€ 1,359,235.29	€ 268,388.00[2]
PA10	Outcome 1 (EEA Grants)	€ 1,700,000.00	€ 1,700,000.00	85.00 %	€ 300,000.00	€ 2,000,000.00	€ 103,889.00
PA10	Outcome 2 (EEA Grants)	€ 5,185,000.00	€ 5,185,000.00	85.00 %	€ 915,000.00	€ 6,100,000.00	€ 879,042.00
PA11	Outcome 3 (EEA Grants)	€ 3,400,000.00	€ 3,400,000.00	85.00 %	€ 600,000.00	€ 4,000,000.00	€ 991,667.00
PA15	Outcome 4 (EEA Grants)	€ 559,650.00	€ 559,650.00	85.00 %	€ 98,761.76	€ 658,411.76	€ 0.00
BF	Bilateral funds at programme level	€ 300,000.00	€ 300,000.00	n/a[3]	n/a[4]	€ 300,000.00	€ 40,000.00
Total		**€ 12,300,000.00**	**€ 12,300,000.00**	**85.00 %**	**€ 2,117,647.05**	**€ 14,417,647.05**	**€ 2,282,986.00**

Retention of management costs	
Retention of management costs - Percentage of the management costs	10.00 %
Retention of management costs - Planned Euro value	€ 135,923.53

[2] In addition to the amount of € 268,388.00, an amount of € 88,125.00 for programme development activities has been disbursed in accordance with Article 9.1.1 of the Regulation prior to the signature of this Agreement.

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

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

Domestic and Gender-based Violence

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 FMC. 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., Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (PA10), Access to Justice (PA11), and Institutional Cooperation and Capacity Building (PA15), and will tackle systemic weaknesses and structural challenges through a combination of five calls for proposals and five pre-defined projects (PDPs).

The programme objective "Prevention and combatting of domestic and gender-based violence in line with international and European human rights standards" shall be achieved through projects contributing to Outcome 1: Increased prevention and reduction of gender-based and domestic violence. Outcome 1 will be implemented through one call for proposals and one PDP. Call 1 shall support the prevention of domestic and gender-based violence (DGBV) among children and youth (offline and online) and PDP 1 shall support the participation in and further development of the SYNERGY Network.

The programme objective "Prevention and combatting of domestic and gender-based violence in line with international and European human rights standards" shall also be achieved through projects contributing to Outcome 2 Protection, reintegration and support for gender-based and domestic violence victims is improved. Outcome 2 will be implemented through three calls for proposals and two PDPs. Call 2 shall support integrated support services for victims of domestic and sexual violence; Call 3 shall support accessible and inclusive DGBV support for women and girls in vulnerable situations, including migrants and Roma and Call 4 shall support knowledge production and digital platforms for coordination and quality in responses to and drivers behind DGBV. PDP 2 shall establish an integrated national model for high or extreme-risk domestic violence cases through multiagency coordination and PDP 3 shall strengthen the capacity of magistrates and public prosecutors to address DGBV effectively through specialised, gender-sensitive training.

The programme objective "Increased access to an independent, accountable, and efficient justice system of high quality in line with international and European human rights standards" shall be achieved through projects contributing to Outcome 3: Access to justice is strengthened through multidisciplinary and interagency child-friendly services and professionally competent justice services for victims and witnesses of violence. Outcome 3 will be implemented through two PDPs. PDP 4 shall support access to justice through the establishment and piloting of a child-friendly justice system based on the Barnahus model and PDP 5 shall strengthen professional competencies on DGBV within the justice system to better manage risk, prevent recidivism, and support victims.

The programme objective "Strengthened institutional cooperation and increased quality of public services policies and regulations" shall be achieved through projects contributing to Outcome 4: Strengthening institutional capacities to prevent and respond to gender-based and domestic violence

and promote gender equality. Outcome 4 will be implemented through one open call. Call 5 shall improve work-life balance, fairer career opportunities, and more equal sharing of care responsibilities.

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 and/or the project partner(s).

Modality	**Available amount (€)**	**Project grant rate (%)**	**Minimum and maximum project grant amount (€)**	**Indicative launch date and duration of call**
Outcome 1				
Call 1	€ 1,500,000	100%	€ 100,000 – € 250,000	Launch date: Q2 2027 Duration: 3 months
Outcome 2				
Call 2	€ 3,000,000	100%	€ 100,000 – € 250,000	Launch date: Q4 2026 Duration: 3 months
Call 3	€ 500,000	100%	€ 100,000 – € 250,000	Launch date: Q1 2027 Duration: 3 months
Call 4	€ 1,000,000	100%	€ 50,000 – € 250,000	Launch date: Q3 2027 Duration: 3 months
Outcome 4				
Call 5	€ 658.412	100%	€ 100,000 – € 150,000	Launch date: Q4 2027 Duration: 3 months

Call 1-4 specifics:

- Calls 1 - 4 shall support activities aligned with GREVIO recommendations and the Istanbul Convention standards.

Call 3 specifics:

- Call 3 shall prioritise activities implemented by or in partnership with civil society organisations and activities focusing on victims of human trafficking, through the award of additional points.
- Projects targeting displaced populations, that may include Ukrainian nationals, may be selected.

Call 5 specifics:

- Partnership with Donor State entities and/or International Partner Organisations is mandatory for all projects.

2.2 Eligible applicants and project partners:

Modality	Eligible applicants	Eligible partners
Call 1	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Portugal.	As per Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation
Call 2	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Portugal.	As per Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation
Call 3	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Portugal.	As per Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation
Call 4	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Portugal.	As per Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation.
Call 5	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Portugal.	As per Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation

2.3 Selection procedures:

The Programme Operator shall establish a Selection Committee for each call. Each Selection Committee shall be composed of at least four members possessing the relevant expertise. At least one member shall be external and independent of the Programme Operator, the Donor Programme Partners and the Council of Europe (IPO).

The Norwegian Directorate of Health, the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Council of Europe shall be a voting member of the Selection Committee for all the Calls in the programme.

3. Pre-defined projects

1) ""“SYNERGY - Network Participation and Coordination of the Working Group on Preventing Sexual Violence Among Young People”""

Project Promoter:	Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG)
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security (NMOJ)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 500,000
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 500,000
Estimated duration:	54 months

This project aims to contribute to more effective EEA Grants programmes in Portugal, strengthen bilateral and multilateral relations between EEA/EFTA and EU countries, and support national policymaking in line with the standards of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention), in close cooperation with the Council of Europe’s Pathways to End Violence Against Women initiative. By strengthening the capacity of network participants, the project seeks to capture synergies across participating countries and programmes, making a greater impact together. This approach also aligns with efforts to harmonise SYNERGY projects across participating countries. The thematic report is a standalone activity, co-developed by all participating countries in the working group, and is based on one study visit and approximately ten online meetings.

Main activities include:

1. Coordination of the SYNERGY Working Group on Prevention: Co-leading this thematic working group on prevention within the SYNERGY network, together with donor partners and the Council of Europe.
2. Development of a thematic SYNERGY report on the prevention of sexual violence among young people: Coordinate and facilitate cross-sectoral working methods to identify key challenges, priorities, and good practices. Independent experts will be responsible for drafting the recommendations for improving future efforts, based on the inputs and discussions of the SYNERGY Working Group participants. These will then be refined and validated through

consensus-building methods with the participants. The Council of Europe will provide guidance to ensure alignment with the Istanbul Convention, while KILDEN (Research Council of Norway) will provide documentation of the working group process, editorial support, quality assurance, and distribution. The following activities will take place for preparing and presenting the thematic report:

- Organisation of a study visit: Collection of insights and good practices and engagement with relevant institutions and practitioners.
- Organisation of online meetings (approx. 10): Facilitation of working group meetings to support the development of the thematic report through structured dialogue and exchange.
- Presentation and launch of the thematic report: The report will be presented to the wider SYNERGY Network in connection with an annual conference, further refined based on feedback, and formally launched at a subsequent SYNERGY conference, and distributed at the SYNERGY communication platforms.

3. International SYNERGY Conference in Portugal: Organisation of a high-level SYNERGY Conference in Portugal, co-organised with donor partners and the Council of Europe, to present results, launch thematic reports, and strengthen international dialogue and capacity-building among SYNERGY Network participants and other relevant stakeholders.
4. Participation in SYNERGY conferences and study visits: Annual participation in SYNERGY conferences and thematic study visits over six years, presentation of progress and recommendations.
5. Contribution to SYNERGY communication platforms: Preparation of articles, updates, and knowledge sharing content for SYNERGY's digital platforms.
6. Preparation of annual activity reports: Preparation of detailed yearly reports documenting implemented actions, progress and contributions within the SYNERGY Network framework.
7. Creation of digital content: Development of video materials and digital outreach strategies aligned with the SYNERGY communication strategy.
8. Participation in the SYNERGY Steering Committee: Participation in the SYNERGY Steering Committee, which guides coordination, strategic direction, and financing of the network and which meets at least twice a year. The project will contribute to the SYNERGY co-funding model, supporting sustainable financing through coordinated contributions from different EEA and Norway Grants funding sources.

2) "“RING - Redes de Intervenção Global (Global Intervention Network)”"

Project Promoter:	The Office of the Prosecutor General (PGR)
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 1,000,000
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 1,000,000
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to design and implement a national integrated model of urgent action to be activated in situations of high or extreme risk of revictimization, lethal outcomes and recidivism in domestic violence cases. Grounded in the revised Risk Assessment Instrument in Domestic Violence (RVD-R)

and GREVIO findings/ Community of Practice (CoP) recommendations, the model promotes coordinated, multidisciplinary and intersectoral intervention, ensuring timely and effective protective measures for victims. By involving all competent national and local entities, the project seeks to strengthen victim safety, improve integrated risk management, and enhance the effectiveness of domestic violence prevention and response policies.

The main activities shall include:

1. Project kick off: Organisation of an initial meeting to present the project, identify all entities involved and outline objectives and expected results.
2. Systematisation of international models and best practices: Analysis of recognised international models (MARAC and the Norwegian Model), mapping of existing Portuguese multi agency networks, and collection of best practices through study visits, workshops, interviews and focus groups, leading to a comprehensive analytical report.
3. Interim meeting: Presentation of the report and definition of the model and locations for pilot implementation.
4. Pilot implementation of the model: Implementation of pilot actions in 2-4 locations, including meetings, data collection, focus groups with stakeholder consultations, professional capacity building and clarification of operational procedures, followed by report preparation.
5. Final Meeting: Presentation of the report and the consolidated model.
6. Implementation of the networks: Meetings, capacity building activities and monitoring and evaluation of the model.
7. International Conference: Organisation of an international conference to present project conclusions and formally close the project.
8. Final Report: Preparation of a final report with proposals ensuring the sustainability of the model.

3) "Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)"

Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 600,000
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 600,000
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the technical, legal, and practical capacity of magistrates in Portugal to prevent, adjudicate and respond effectively and sensitively to cases of DGBV. It addresses the specific complexity of DGBV cases, including evidentiary difficulties, victim vulnerability, intersectionality, and the application of international human-rights standards, by delivering structured, victim-centred, and gender-sensitive training. The project promotes consistent and high-quality judicial responses, improved protection of victims, and stronger inter-institutional cooperation, in line with the Istanbul Convention and European standards.

The main activities shall include:

1. Training needs assessment: Conduct a targeted assessment to identify training gaps and priority areas for magistrates dealing with DGBV, taking into account GREVIO findings/CoP recommendations.
2. Delivery of training sessions: Implement a structured series of in person and/or online seminars on real-life scenarios, judicial reasoning, and the application of protective and preventive measures.
3. Regional workshops: Deliver regional workshops in judicial districts to support practical application of issues addressed in the above-mentioned seminar peer exchange, problem-solving exercises, and reflection on concrete challenges faced by magistrates in their daily work.
4. Study visit to the European Court of Human Rights: Facilitate exposure to European human rights jurisprudence relevant to DGBV cases.
5. Training materials and evaluation: Produce and disseminate an e book with guidance materials and reference documents, covering legal frameworks, gender perspectives, victim protection, evidentiary challenges, risk assessment, and international best practices.

4) "“Equal Access to Justice through a Child-Friendly Judicial System”"

Project Promoter:	Ministry of Justice, Directorate General for Justice Policy
Donor project partner(s):	National Police Commissioner of Iceland
Other project partner(s):	National Commission for the promotion of Rights and Protection of Children and Youth The Council of Europe
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 1,000,000
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 1,000,000
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to promote equal access to justice through the establishment of a child-friendly justice system based on the Barnahus model, piloted in Portugal and prepared for sustainable national implementation. It addresses persistent barriers faced by child victims and witnesses of sexual abuse, including secondary victimisation, fragmented responses, and limited integration of digital-evidence capacities. By introducing a coordinated, multidisciplinary and child-centred approach aligned with international conventions and standards, the project seeks to reduce trauma, improve the quality of evidence, strengthen protection and recovery, and ensure compliance with Portugal’s international commitments.

The main activities shall include:

1. Design and Adaptation of the Barnahus Pilot Model: Develop a multidisciplinary and interagency Barnahus based pilot centre, adapting existing facilities and procedures to ensure rapid access to justice and care for child victims and witnesses of sexual abuse.
2. Multidisciplinary Professional Training: Deliver specialised training for professionals involved, based on national protocols and the IWA 49:2025 standard, including forensic interviewing safeguards and child centred practices.

3. Study visits: Organise study visits to Iceland, Latvia, and Slovenia to learn from established Barnahus experiences and best practices.
4. Child and family participation and awareness raising: Promote child and family participation in service co design and implement awareness raising campaigns to encourage reporting and build trust in justice and protection services.
5. Pilot evaluation and national roll out planning: Evaluate the pilot project and establish a national mechanism for equal access to justice based on Barnahus standards, covering sexual abuse, online exploitation, grooming, and related offences.

5) ""“Academy of Research and Training in Sentences and Judicial Measures.”"

Project Promoter:	Directorate General of Reintegration and Prison Services (DGRSP)
Donor project partner(s):	Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service (KDI) The University College of the Norwegian Correctional Service (KRUS)
Other project partner(s):	The Council of Europe
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 3,000,000
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 3,000,000
Estimated duration:	36 months

The project aims to strengthen the institutional capacity, training quality, and organisational resilience of the Prison and Probation Services (P&P) Training Department by modernising training structures, integrating scientific research into professional practice, and promoting staff well-being. Through cooperation with donor states and the Council of Europe, the project addresses gaps in evidence-based training, digitalisation, mental health support, and gender-sensitive interventions, particularly in relation to domestic violence, youth offending, and mental health. By investing in human capital development and organisational modernisation, the project seeks to enhance the quality, effectiveness, and human-rights compliance of public justice services.

The main activities are:

1. Cooperation with the Academy and knowledge exchange: Integration of scientific research, innovation, and knowledge management into training, including the establishment of research laboratories, studies on rehabilitation programmes, and multilateral exchanges with donor countries through study visits, seminars, and joint learning activities.
2. Research and evidence based training development: Research on the effectiveness of rehabilitation methodologies and training of facilitators in scientifically validated intervention programmes, with dissemination of findings and promotion of professional innovation.
3. Capacity-building and digital transition: Modernisation of training methodologies and curricula, ensuring compliance with national and international legal standards, and reinforcement of digital transition, sustainability, and e learning training offers.
4. Enhanced training on DGBV and Youth Violence: Development of specialised training for interventions with DGBV offenders, integrating gender and youth sensitive approaches and cooperation with relevant services and institutions.

5. Mental health and trauma informed training: Creation of training modules on mental health literacy, stress management, and early intervention, with particular focus on young offenders and staff working in specialised mental health units, and integration of trauma informed practices into prison and juvenile justice contexts.

6. Multilateral training and peer-learning: Implementation of joint training activities with correctional services from donor countries and other EEA Grants beneficiaries, including exchange of trainers, co development of curricula, shared case studies, and peer to peer learning laboratories.

7. Human resources development and staff well being: Promotion of staff motivation and satisfaction through annual staff surveys, improvement and refurbishment of facilities, creation of networking and relaxation areas, supervision and peer support programmes, management training, and decentralised training approaches.

8. Organisational modernisation and infrastructure improvement: Upgrading outdated training and accommodation infrastructure to meet accessibility, safety, and technological standards, improving training delivery, engagement, and institutional efficiency.

4. Bilateral relations

The Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security (NMoJ) and The Norwegian Directorate for Health will act as Donor Programme Partners (DPP) for all programme areas. The Cooperation Committee shall consist of representative(s) of the Programme Operator, the Donor Programme Partners and the Council of Europe (IPO).

Decisions on the use of the funds for bilateral relations in the programme shall be taken in consensus between the Programme Operator and the Donor Programme Partners.

5. Programme management and financial parameters

5.1 Special rules on eligibility of costs:

Programme management costs shall take the form of unit cost for direct staff costs in accordance with Article 8.6.2(a) of the Regulation and a flat rate of 15 % of eligible direct staff costs for indirect costs, in accordance with Article 8.5.1(b) of the Regulation. All other costs shall take the form of actually incurred costs.

5.2 Programme administrative structures:

To ensure effective gender equality mainstreaming across all national programme areas, the Programme Operator shall coordinate across programmes in Portugal, guiding, supporting and overseeing their implementation. Ex-ante and ex-post gender equality assessments shall be applied in each programme, including the use of gender indicators, sex-disaggregated data and other appropriate

analytical tools. The financial and human resources necessary for this mandate, including the costs related to CIG's monitoring and supervision activities, shall be covered by an additional allocation of € 50,000 to the budget for programme management.

6. Miscellaneous

Not applicable