Work Plan

FUND FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS

(In accordance with Article 2.6 of the Bilateral Fund Agreement and Article 4.9 of the Regulations on the implementation of the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2021-2028)

BF work plan Latvia 2021-2028

(Version 1.0 adopted on 22.04.2026 by Joint Committee on Bilateral Fund)

1. Objective and priorities

Enhanced cooperation and improved mutual knowledge and understanding between Donor and Beneficiary States.

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Strategic areas for initiatives identified by JCBF are as follows:

1. Resilience, research and innovation.
2. Rule of law and human rights.
3. Independent media, including, as defined in the EEA MoU, priority initiative of BCME "Resilient Media, Media Literate Society".
4. Education.
5. Culture.

Flexible implementation of BF is foreseen, therefore strategic areas may be altered or supplemented during the implementation period.

2. Implementation system

Allocation to initiatives is foreseen through pre-defined initiatives, which will cover strategic areas of support.

BF will be managed at strategic level by JCBF, which operates according to BF Agreement Art.2.3 "*Role and composition of JCBF*" signed between the Donors and NFP on 30 January 2026. JCBF members can propose initiatives at any time through proposal on strategic initiative.

NFP provides administrative check of initiative's proposal and shall submit an initiative for decision in JCBF.

3. Donor Shares and Donor Priorities

The initial Donor shares for BF under EEA MoU and NOR MoU as approved at the FMC level in total amounts to 91,9 % for Norway, 4,3 % for Iceland and 3,8% for Liechtenstein. This is represented in financial amounts as follows:

1. The Donor shares under the EEA Financial Mechanism:

Iceland – EUR 113,887;
Liechtenstein – EUR 100,000;
Norway – EUR 1,884,122.

2. The Donor share under the Norway Financial Mechanism is EUR 535,507.

4. Open calls

Title	JCBF approval date	Amount available	Applications received	Total grant applied for	Applications approved for funding	Total grant awarded

5. Predefined bilateral initiatives

Code	LV-BI001		
Title	Resilient Media, Media Literate Society		
Status	Under review by NFP		
Date of approval by JCBF	12/03/2026		
Grant awarded from Bilateral fund	€ 1,500,000		
Implementation period	01/07/2026 - 31/01/2030		
Promoter	Baltic Centre for Media Excellence (LV), info@baltic.media		
Type of Initiative	Workshop or seminar, Data collection, Study, Promotional material		
Share of Donor states		**Amount**	**Percent (%)**
	Norway	€ 1,500,000	100.00 %
Amount incurred			
Description:			
What issues or challenges does the initiative aim to address?	The initiative is necessary to strengthen the security of Latvia's information environment and society's resilience against increasing hybrid threats, disinformation and rapid digital transformations in the media sector. Media, as an essential element of the information environment, must be prepared for various security risks and threats. In the framework of strengthening the security of the national information space and societal resilience, it is also necessary to increase media literacy initiatives, particularly by working with groups such as teachers and students, seniors and minority communities.		
What does the initiative aim to do?	The following activities will be implemented in three mutually complementary areas of action: 1.Strengthening media resilience against hybrid threats, including individual training and mentoring for media editorial teams, as well as the development of strategic action and communication plans for crisis		

	situations. Training on FIMI trends and prevention will also be organised, together with public events. 2.Digital innovation and financial sustainability of media organisations will be promoted, including the development of media skills for working with digital platforms and artificial intelligence, the creation of new business models and mechanisms for audience engagement, the organisation of regular conferences and the media research. The research will focus on the currently most vulnerable media sector – regional and local media. 3. Activities aimed at increasing media literacy of wider audiences will be implemented. These include training cycles for students, teachers, seniors and minority groups, the organisation of public events within the framework of the annual UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week, participation in the Lampa Festival and the development of methodological materials for the education sector.
What bilateral benefits does the initiative aim to achieve?	The project foresees cooperation with representatives of Norwegian state institutions and NGOs in the fields of media resilience, digital development, and media literacy. This will ensure mutual exchange of expertise and experience. Joint activities between professionals from both countries will promote long-term professional contacts, knowledge transfer, and development of cooperation networks between institutions in both countries. This is particularly important for strengthening regional resilience amid increasing geopolitical threats in Northern Europe.
What is the expected role of the individual partners?	The selection of partners is closely linked to the activities of the project. Therefore, some of the leading Norwegian organisations in the fields of media literacy and media resilience were selected. Initial discussions about cooperation indicate that the organisations TENK and UTSYN also have strong interest in Latvia's experience in these areas, and the implementation of this project can serve as an important starting point for strengthening bilateral relations. Cooperation with TENK is planned in the development of the above-mentioned methodology for teachers and in organising training for media literacy facilitators according to the "train the trainer" approach. UTSYN experts will be involved in the implementation of activities aimed at strengthening media resilience, providing their expertise and experience. Within the framework of public events planned in the project, other Norwegian experts will also be involved as speakers and experts, including representatives of the Norwegian media regulator.
Main results:	

What issues or challenges did the initiative aim to address?	
What did the initiative do?	
What bilateral benefits did the initiative achieve, and for whom?	
What was the role of the individual partners?	

Title	**Small initiatives**
Grant awarded from Bilateral fund	
Amount incurred	

6. Activities carried out by the NFP

Title	Small initiatives
Grant awarded from Bilateral fund	
Amount incurred	

7. Summary

Please note that this budget follows the structure of the IFR template.

Title	Budget	Comments
Activities carried out by the NFP	€ 0	
Pre-defined activities (total budget for planned pre-defined activities at national level)	€ 1,500,000	Promoter-BCME
Funds still to be allocated	€ 1,133,516	
Total	**€ 2,633,516**	