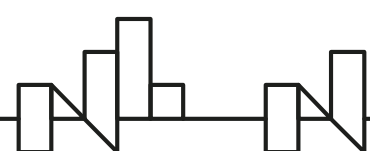


# 10 years partnerships: key achievements and perspectives



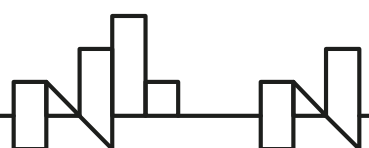
# Main Figures – at a glance

	EEA FM and Norwegian Programme 2007-2009	EEA FM and NFM 2009-2014	EEA FM and NFM 2014-2021
<b>Financial support</b>	<b>41,5 MEUR</b>	<b>126,6 MEUR</b>	<b>210,1 MEUR</b>
<b>Number of projects</b>	66 individual projects + 128 small projects under the NGO Fund and Scholarship Fund	770 projects (181 projects implemented in partnership with organisations from the DSs)	34 pre-defined projects; projects to be identified through more than 35 open calls and SGSs
<b>Absorption rate</b>	85%	85% - 90%	
<b>Period of implementation</b>	30.04.2011 (or 30.04.2012 for extended projects)	30.04.2016 (or 30.04.2017 for extended projects, exceptional extension by 31.12.2017 for 3 projects)	30.04.2024 (no possibility for extension)



# History of partnership

- Official relations between Bulgaria and the donors date back to 1906 with Norway, to 1937 with Liechtenstein and to 1963 with Iceland;
- Bulgaria joined the EEA Agreement in 2007;
- Memoranda of Understanding:
  - the first MoUs for the period 2007-2009 signed in October 2007;
  - the MoUs for the period 2009 – 2014 signed in June 2011,
  - the MoUs for the period 2014 – 2021 signed in December 2016, followed by stakeholder consultations, preparation of Concept Notes and Programme Agreements;
- ***Consistency of priorities; scaling of results, expanding of cooperation throughout the three programming periods.***





# Signing of MoUs

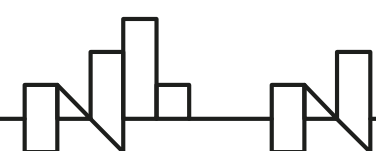




# Main achievements in the 2007-2009 period

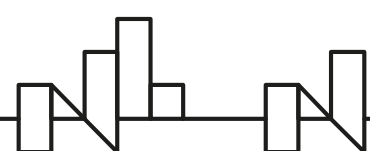
## Solidarities, opportunities, cooperation

- **Main priority areas:** protection of the environment and promotion of renewable energy, healthcare and childcare; human resources development; preservation of European cultural heritage; capacity building of local authorities; sustainable production, Schengen acquis, Civil Society;
- **Main results achieved:**
  - pilot projects;
  - innovative technologies;
  - transfer of knowledge in areas where the Donor States possess specific expertise,
- **Flagship projects:** Air quality monitoring; Establishment of information system to the national biodiversity monitoring system; Fire safety and alarm system for monitoring of the Pirin Mountain; Establishment of the first Museum of Contemporary Arts in Bulgaria; Reconstruction of the Ancient Stadium of Philipopolis; reconstruction of hospitals and kindergartens; Rehabilitation of the hospital for psychiatric health in Rousse; Creation of a model for prevention and integration of children at risk; Development of Geographical information systems, cadastre and information centres in selected municipalities;
- **Bulgaria ranked among the first countries in partnership projects.**





# Main achievements in the 2007-2009 period

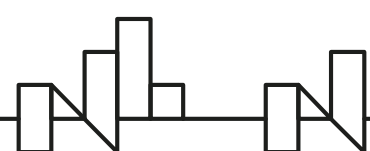




# 2009-2014 programming period

## Summary information

- **Fifteen programmes implemented in the following priority areas:** Environmental protection and management, Energy efficiency and renewable energy, Human and Social Development, Protecting cultural heritage, Scholarship, Justice and Home Affairs; Civil Society, Green Industry Innovation, Decent work and tripartite dialogue.
- **Programmes' Institutional and management framework:**
  - Twelve programmes managed by 10 Programme Operators – Bulgarian ministries and the Council of Ministers;
  - Two programmes managed by the Norwegian state company – Innovation Norway – Green Industry Innovation and Decent Work;
  - NGO Fund managed by a consortium led by Open Society Foundation
- **Key partners at programme level:** 7 Donor Programme Partners from Norway, 1 from Iceland and 1 from Liechtenstein;
- **Partnership projects** – 181 projects with institutions from Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein;
- **Council of Europe** – important role as a programme partner under five programmes in the field of Justice and Home Affairs and Children and Youth at Risk and project level partner.

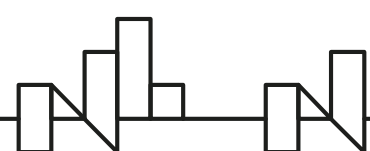




## Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - I

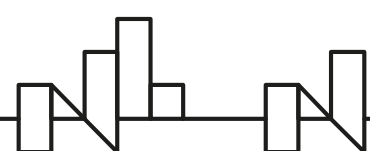
**Energy and Environment** – 130 buildings with reduced energy consumption and heating expenses; CO2 savings of 8212 t/per year; supply of new equipment for production of fuel for biomass for 9 SMEs; mapping of 100% of the ecosystems in the country out of NATURA 2000; trained volunteers to fill data in the National System for Biodiversity Monitoring; improved monitoring of marine waters and a tool for monitoring of oil spills; 130 prison inmates acquired new skills to produce solar panels and boilers in the green production facility located in the Sofia prison

**Human Resource Development/Health** – 4 youth centres in the cities of Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Vratza and Dobrich established and actively working (two of them received the Quality Label of the Council of Europe), 68 kindergartens reconstructed; 1600 home visits for pregnant women and children up to 3-years old with a focus on Roma communities, 135 scholarships for medical students from Roma origin, 9 centres for children with mental, genetic and oncohematological diseases renovated or newly created; over 400 high-tech medical devices for prenatal diagnosis and neonatal care delivered in 34 hospitals in all 28 regions. A National health registers for patients with diabetes and rare diseases, a Model of web-based Immunization Register, an information system for monitoring suicide attempts developed.





# Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - I

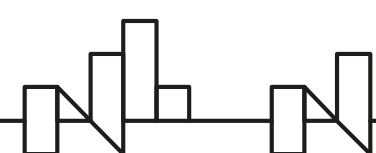




## Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - II

**Justice and Home Affairs** – 10 places of detention reconstructed in line with international standards, incl. opening of a Closed Type Hostel in Debelt with a capacity of 450 persons deprived of liberty; pilot electronic monitoring introduced; 14 magistrates and legal experts seconded to the ECHR; 10 000 people provided with free legal aid; 2 centres for victims of domestic and gender-based violence established and providing services; A Strategy for reducing domestic violence 2017-2020 developed and more than 500 officials trained; extension of the communication structure of the Mol at the Bulgarian-Greece Border; training and specialised technical equipment for combatting organised crime; police officers trained on human rights and to work in multi-cultural environment

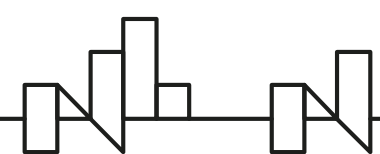
**Cultural Heritage** – 7 objects of cultural heritage conserved and restored (Perperikon, Veliko Turnovo, Kazanluk, Svilengrad, Pavlikeni and others); 11 digital centres established and digitalisation of over 50 000 objects; 40 new exhibitions of contemporary arts organised. A flagship bilateral project on the **exhibition “Legends in Gold: Thracian Treasures from Bulgaria”** presented in the period 1<sup>st</sup> September – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in the city of Bergen – the second largest town in Norway





# Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - II

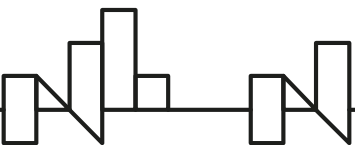
## Justice and Home Affairs





# Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - II

## CULTURAL HERITAGE



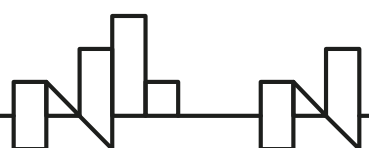


## Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - III

**Capacity Building and Institutional Cooperation** – a CBC Data Portal to collect statistical data on the regions and exchange of experience between the Norwegian Barents Secretariat and the MRDPW; Improved capacity of the Training Centre of the NAMRB and increased inter-municipal cooperation

**Scholarships** – 156 scholarships for students, teachers and science workers in Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein; 91 articles and reports as a result of scientific exchanges;

**Civil Society** – more than 1000 information events and more than 100 advocacy campaigns contributing to Roma inclusion, prevention of extremism, racism, homophobia, antisemitism; multicultural understanding, human rights protections and services for youths and children in need, incl. educational activities





# Main results achieved in the period 2009-2014 - III

NGO FUND, Institutional Cooperation

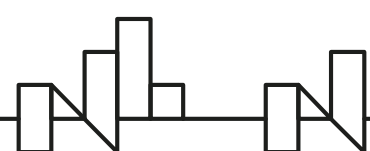




# Horizontal issues

## Overview – Roma Concern

- ✓ **Roma inclusion target (specific concern)** - 10% of the allocation to go towards improvement of the situation for the Roma population across programme areas;
- ✓ **9 out of 15 programmes** secured achievement of the target (NGO Fund, Children and Youth at Risk, Health, Culture, Scholarships and the programmes in the field of Justice and Home Affairs)
- ✓ **218 projects** were of relevance to vulnerable groups, incl. Roma. The amount for activities that contribute for improving the condition of the Roma population in Bulgaria is **27 779 697 Euro** or **21,94%** of the total allocation

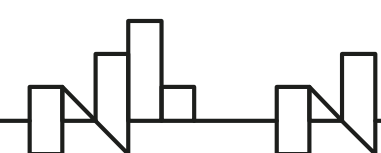




# Horizontal issues

## Overview Roma concern – activities contributing to achievement of the 10% target

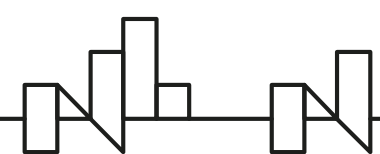
- ✓ Renovation and equipment of premises of a school in Fakulteta (kitchen, dining room and two new classrooms) for early pre-school training of 50 children;
- ✓ Improvement of the access to school for children aged 3 to 6 years old -2 500 children of Roma origin supported;
- ✓ Trainings for youth workers and Roma educational mediators;
- ✓ A Roma scholarship programme for medical and other health-care professions;
- ✓ Delivery of health services through a homecare approach to pregnant women and children up to 3 years old for groups at risk with a focus on Roma;
- ✓ Promotion of Roma culture and art – a Catalogue “History and Culture of the Roma population” issued. Workshops for Roma children held to promote the Bulgarian literary heritage;
- ✓ 10 short films that deal with the main types of gender based violence in the Roma community created and broadcasted in the regional TV;
- ✓ Development of skills and knowledge of police officers working in multi-ethnic environment;
- ✓ A pilot scheme for establishing a hotline for primary legal aid and two regional counseling centers;
- ✓ Inmates from Roma origin benefitting from the improved conditions and alternative measure, incl. trainings and programmes for resocialization





# Horizontal issues - Roma

Roma focus





# Bilateral Relations

## Summary

### ✓ **Extent of bilateral cooperation**

- 181 projects implemented in partnership with donor project partners under programmes.

✓ **Improved knowledge and mutual understanding, shared results** – bilateral initiatives implemented in all programme areas, incl. study visits, workshops and round tables, joint participation in international events seminars, joint scientific research publications; improved interaction between authorities and institutions, enhanced practices concerning vulnerable groups, etc.

✓ **Fund for Bilateral Relations at National Level** – 14 projects implemented

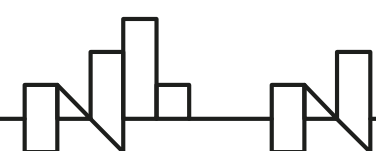




# Bilateral Fund at National Level

## Main results achieved

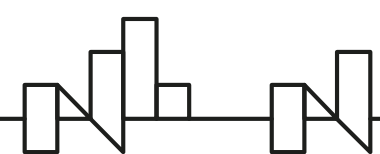
- Norwegian experience in the sphere of right of children analysed and applied. A book specially adapted for children produced about the rights of children. A separate Directorate of the right of child established as part of the administration of Bulgarian Ombudsman;
- Icelandic practices for drug prevention among the young people in Bulgaria analysed and applied;
- Partnership of teachers, researchers and educational experts from Bulgaria and Norway to improve the training of students in understanding and acceptance of EU values;
- Prevention of human trafficking and labour exploitation for youths at risk;
- Improvement of the treatment of drug users in Bulgarian prisons by assessing the existing situation and assisting the transfer of experience and best practices from the Norwegian penitentiary system;
- Raising students' awareness of the cultural differences and approaches to effectively overcoming social obstacles during educational mobility;
- Development of a comprehensive and innovative awareness raising and prevention approach towards health and social issues related to drug use;
- Joint initiative between the Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority and the Bulgarian Labour Inspectorate on combatting crime on the work place;





# Bilateral Fund at National Level

Main results achieved





# New programme period 2014-2021 - summary

	Programme	Programme Operator	Donor Programme Partners/IPOs	Budget in Euro, incl. national co-financing
1.	Local Development, Poverty Reduction and Enhanced Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups	Ministry of Education and Science	KS and Council of Europe	41 176 471
2.	Cultural Entrepreneurship, Heritage and Cooperation	Ministry of Culture	Arts Council Norway (ACN)	11 764 706
3.	Justice	Ministry of Justice	Norwegian MoJ, Norwegian Correctional Services (KDI), CoE	35 294 118
4.	Home Affairs	Ministry of Interior	Norwegian Police Directorate, Norwegian Migration Directorate (UDI), CoE	25 294 118
5.	Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security	Ministry of Energy	NVE, National Energy Authority	32 941 176
6.	Environment protection and Climate Change	Ministry of Environment and Water	Norwegian Environment Agency	15 294 118
7.	Business Development, Innovation and SMEs	Innovation Norway		28 500 00
8.	Decent Work	Innovation Norway		951 000
9.	Active Citizens Fund	Open Society Foundation and partners		15 500 000
10.	Fund for Bilateral Relations	Council of Ministers (NFP)		4 202 000

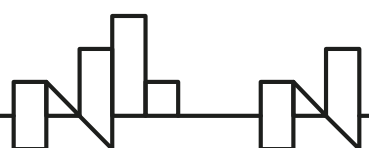




# New programme period 2014-2021 -Timeline

1. Signing of the MoUs – 09 December 2016
2. Stakeholders consultations – March – September 2017
3. Preparation and approval of Concept Notes – August – December 2017
4. Preparation of the Programme Agreement (Supplementary Information) – January – April 2018 –  
Appraisal of the pre-defined projects – June – November 2018
5. First open call launched – beginning of 2019 (May 2018 for Innovation Norway)
6. Management and Control Systems at national level approved and first payments to programmes May-June 2018
7. Bilateral Fund Agreement and TA Fund Agreement signed –September 2017. Work Plan for Bilateral Fund Approved

**Bulgaria was the third country that signed the MoU but the first Beneficiary Country with all PAs signed, the first country with approved Work Plan for the Bilateral Fund and Management and Control Systems, the first country with Active Citizenship Fund launched!**





# Thank you!

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