

EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021, Bulgaria

PA01 Business Development, Innovation and SMEs

Status November 2017

TIMELINE

Activity	When
Kick-off planning meeting	10 Feb 2017
Stakeholders meeting	9 March 2017
Consultations in Bulgaria	March/April 2017
Establishment of the Cooperation Committee	April 2017
Draft Concept Note discussion	Early May 2017
Concept Note submitted	By 9 June 2017
Launching of the programme	December 2017
Information events	January 2018

PA01- PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE AND SUGGESTED MEASURES

Increased value creation and sustainable growth

- Green Industry Innovation
- Welfare technology (ambient assisted living)
- ICT

PA 01 - SUGGESTED MEASURES

Green Industry Innovation – at least 50% of funds

- Business development from early stage innovation up to testing of new technologies and supporting their first presentation to the market
- New technologies, processes and services that improve the environment
- Development and implementation of greener production processes
- Promoting entrepreneurship (youth and/or women)

PA 01 - PROGRAMME AREA SPECIFICS

- Target: private businesses
- 75% of the funding shall be allocated to SMEs
- Priority shall be given to bilateral partnerships offering added value
- Possible focus areas: green industry innovation, ICT, welfare technology
- at least 50% of funding to green industry innovation

PA 01 – MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTATION

Individual Project Scheme

Small Grants Schemes:

- ✓ For start-ups
- ✓ For SMEs and entrepreneurs
- ✓ Soft measures, with a special focus on clusters, mentoring/coaching activities for start-ups , etc.

BILATERAL ACTIVITIES

- EUR 100,000 allocated for Fund for Bilateral Relations
- Travel support - when a call could be launched?
- Other bilateral activities - matchmaking events, sector-related events, etc.
- FO – eligible for financial form the Fund for Bilateral Relations on national level ??

PA 01 – TARGET GROUPS

Private enterprises – established as legal entities in Bulgaria

EU Regulation 651/2014 - enterprise = any entity engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of its legal form (including social enterprises constituted as NGOs)

Priority for SMEs (micro, small and medium – less than 250 employees, annual turnover not exceeding MEUR 50, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding MEUR 43)

Large enterprises not excluded

NGOs – not excluded

Research entities (public and private) – potential project partners

Relevant roles and opportunities for the clusters

1. Mobilize and prepare SMEs to use the opportunities for bilateral collaboration and funding through the Norway Grants scheme
2. Use the opportunities for funding through the Small Grants scheme for projects to develop business skills



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