

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Poland

PL-Basic Research Basic Research

2022

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, the activities of the Program Operator and the beneficiaries of funded projects resulted in significant progress in achieving the Programme's objectives. The projects financed under the GRIEG, IdeaLab, and POLS calls underwent the advanced phase of realisation. The strengthening of the Polish-Norwegian research collaboration was confirmed during the monitoring of the selected projects and by the establishment of a large collaboration of eleven partners under the predefined project CRIOS. Funding of twenty-two scholarships for Ukrainian students and researchers without PhD from the Bilateral Cooperation Fund allowed the excellent international visibility of the EEA & Norway Funds due to the intensive promotion of support to Ukraine by the National Science Centre as the Program Operator. The Polish-Norwegian collaborations implementing the GRIEG and IdeaLab projects significantly increased the numbers of the Programme's indicators, especially when it comes to supporting young researchers and employing members of research teams.

The Program Operator pays special attention to the risk of underspending funds allocated to projects due to exchange rate differences. The ongoing weakening of the Polish zloty against the euro, which has been caused by the current changes in the macroeconomic landscape (COVID-19, the armed conflict in Ukraine, rapid economic downturn, etc.), generates savings in the Basic Research Programme. These circumstances have also been noted by the Donors, who have notified about the possibility of allocating additional funds to already approved projects which have the potential for absorbing additional funds and scaling up results or whose costs have increased due to the exceptional price increases, even if such additional funding would not scale up results. The call for applications for increasing funding addressed to the beneficiaries of the GRIEG, POLS, and Idealab call was announced in November 2022 to mitigate this risk. The beneficiaries could apply for additional funds up to 10 % of their budget. As a result, about 70% of beneficiaries submitted their applications for the total amount of EUR 3, 235,000. The annexes signing are foreseen in 1 Q 2023.

Other risks presented for the programme could still emerge, and two of them are particularly jointed with COVID-19: 1) failure in achieving the planned goals and results of the programme as well as individual projects; 2) underspending funds due to the project implementation disturbances. The risks are ongoing analysed, and the response is worked out to mitigate them.

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Programme progress and results

Objectives

The main objective of the Basic Research Programme implemented by the National Science Centre (NCN) is to enhance research-based knowledge development to strengthen the Polish-Norwegian research cooperation, improve the quality of publications (especially in humanities), support the development of young researchers and build a positive perception of scientific research among the public at large. All activities implemented in 2022 within the programme contributed to this goal.

Three calls were conducted as planned:

- the GRIEG call for Polish-Norwegian research projects covering all areas of basic research, including polar research and social sciences,
- the IdeaLab call for ground-breaking, interdisciplinary research projects targeting challenges facing European societies today and in the future implemented in cooperation between teams from Poland and the Donor States,

- the SGS POLS call supports the incoming mobility of researchers from abroad who are residents and working outside Poland.

In the year 2022, the contracting phase was completed. Within the GRIEG call, 35 project contracts have been signed, including 7 projects from the waiting list. Under the IdeaLab call, 3 projects were awarded, but one of them was terminated due to negative verification of the annual report. Regarding the SGS POLS call, 37 project contracts have been signed - the last one in September 2022. Two beneficiaries have resigned due to the personal issues of the project promoters, so under the POLS call, 35 projects are in implementation.

Additionally, in order to use the resources available from the EEA Financial Mechanism, the concept of the polar pre-defined project CRIOS entitled "*Cryosphere Integrated Observatory Network on Svalbard*" was developed in cooperation with a Donor Programme Partner. The project contract was signed as planned in November 2022.

The CRIOS project shall create an opportunity to establish a research "supersite" for the whole of Svalbard, in which a synchronized ecosystem observation network will operate within the framework of the existing Svalbard Observing System (<https://sios-svalbard.org/ObservingSystem>). Planned developments will allow for continuous measurements in some of the longest environmental data series on Svalbard and create a venue for excellent Pan-Arctic cooperation in the future.

The research areas of particular interest, required by the MoU between Poland and Norway, are present in around 14 projects, including the pre-defined project in the area of polar research, whereas in social sciences, in about 23 projects.

Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish basic research

Time advancement of the programme implementation amounts to 65%, whereas the incurred rate is about 50%. This year, approximately EUR 18 million has been spent as planned.

The following expected results of the programme were achieved:

- support to researchers conducting basic research provided - 451 researchers from Poland and Norway were supported under the programme;
- support to young researchers provided - around 187 mentor-mentee relationships for young researchers were established.

The achieved indicators are 1.5 times higher than planned because the established partnerships are much larger than expected. The situation related to COVID-19 resulted in the modification of research plans and the enlarging of project teams to intensify the work. Also, encouraging principal investigators to involve young researchers in research tasks resulted in a higher-than-expected indicator value.

Regarding the Bilateral outcome - Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme - the 5 joint applications for further funding were prepared and submitted to the different funding agencies.

The main outcome of the programme - Enhanced performance of Polish basic research - has been achieved by 34% so far. 85 out of 250 peer-reviewed scientific publications were submitted, including 8 joint publications out of 60 planned. Those numbers refer to the project's annual reports for 2021, presenting results achieved in the first year of the project's implementation. Considering that publications presenting the results of the projects are created in the last phase of implementation and often after its completion, the Programme

Operator seems the achieved results as impressive in the initial phase of the project's realisation. Therefore we believe there is no risk that the indicator will not be achieved.

Also, the support for collaboration between science and society implemented is going well. Cooperation with public organizations is based mainly on disseminating the project's achievements. So far, 21 public organisations or NGOs have signed letters of intent describing the common activities within the projects.

Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme

The programme contributes to strengthening the bilateral cooperation between Poland and the Donor States on the level of the funding agencies and the research communities.

The Research Council of Norway – Donor Programme Partner was an active and supportive advisor due to the regular online consultations on the issues concerning Polish-Norwegian collaboration in GRIEG and IdeaLab projects and general topics, like the Open Science policy, sharing the experiences and good practices between all research programme operators, initiation of activities empowering capacity building of the researchers and research administration. Thanks to the initiative of RCN, the Programme Operator presented the main principles of the National Science Centre's Open Science policy during the EARMA conference in Oslo in May 2022.

All projects awarded in the main calls GRIEG and IdeaLab are realised in partnership with Norway's research organisations, institutes, university departments, NGOs, etc. There were 49 Norwegian partner institutions in 35 GRIEG and 3 IdeaLab projects. Also, the polar pre-defined project CRIOS is implemented in cooperation with 4 Norwegian research organisations.

Cooperation within the partnership is developing well, as evidenced by the achievement of the indicator on the Bilateral outcome - Enhanced collaboration between the beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme. The 5 joint applications for further funding were prepared and submitted to the different funding agencies.

In response to the Donors' letter informing about the possibility of using funds from the Bilateral Cooperation Fund to support initiatives mitigating the effects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine, the National Science Center has decided to allocate the unspent amount from the Bilateral Cooperation Fund for the special Scholarship Programme addressed to students and researchers from Ukraine without a PhD degree. The positive assessment of this initiative by Donors resulted in the launching of the special Scholarship Programme addressed to students and researchers from Ukraine without a PhD degree on July 26, 2022. The great interest in the program was confirmed by the receiving of 101 applications. The results were published on October 10, 2022. Twenty-two scholarships were awarded, which absorbed the program's total budget of EUR 250,537.

The scholarships will go to fifteen female and seven male entry-level researchers. Before the war, most studied or did their research in Kyiv and Kharkiv. They will be hosted by 16 Polish institutions.

Considering the great interest in the programme and the good scientific quality of the proposals on the reserve list, the NCN obtained JCBF's consent to grant an additional allocation to finance 18 scholarships from the waiting list. Signing agreements with beneficiaries and disbursement

of funds are planned for the first quarter of 2023. As a final result, about 40 students and young scientists from Ukraine will receive support under the scholarship programme.

This action will provide Ukrainian students and researchers without PhD to boost their careers and international experience. Mentoring more experienced scientists from Polish research institutions will enable achieving these goals. Using bilateral funds for this purpose will allow the excellent visibility of the EEA & Norway Funds in activities supporting Ukraine.

C. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Monitorings carried out

Ongoing monitoring of projects is carried out. Information on projects' financial and material progress and data on the use of resources, problems, planned changes, and transfers are obtained from several sources (annual reports, annual monitoring and controls, and expenditures declarations).

The implemented monitoring focused primarily on monitoring the results to identify the progress of their implementation. An essential part of the monitoring was also the identification of risks that could lead to a situation in which the assumed research project results will not be achieved until its completion (risk monitoring).

The monitoring and controls were carried out as planned and covered 15 projects. In connection with signing additional projects contracts in December 2022 to achieve a 10% sample, in project no PL-Basic Research-0066, an additional control was carried out, unforeseen in the plan. In total, 16 projects were controlled. Formal and financial verification was carried out on 72 annual and one final report. The information obtained shows that in 2022 the projects entered the main implementation stage, increased their spending, and achieved some intended results, such as preparing scientific publications, supporting researchers, including young scientists conducting basic research, or collaborating between science and society.

There was also a working meeting on the Basic Research Programme progress organised in Krakow in April. The representatives of FMO, RCN, NFP, and the Norwegian Embassy participated in the discussion on the programme issues. As a part of the meeting, the study visits to two projects implemented under the GRIEG and IdeaLab call took place.

A lot of annexes signed this year concerned the change of the project implementation date. Within the GRIEG call, about 90% of projects have been extended by several months, and they will be finished mainly in the first quarter of 2024. Also, under the IdeaLab call, the projects prolonged their implementation for a few months. Regarding the POLS call, most projects will be finished in the second part of 2023.

There were two irregularities identified during the PO's control carried out in the year 2022 within the GRIEG call -project no PL-Basic Research-0029 and SGS POLS call- project no PL-Basic Research-0036. The beneficiaries returned the ineligible cost of EUR 743.62 and EUR 4,013.26 and introduced the follow-up recommendations.

The monitoring plan for 2023 is prepared and attached as annex 5 to the APR.

2. Evaluations carried out

N/A

D. ANNEXES

- 1. Results achieved**
- 2. Communication summary**
- 3. Project summary and call details**
- 4. Risk management**
- 5. Monitoring plan**
- 6. Evaluation report**
- 7. Agreement conditions**

Annex 1: Results achieved

Objective: Enhanced research-based knowledge development								
Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Polish basic research								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	85	250	Publications are generally produced as planned. Most publications are developed at the end of their implementation in basic research projects.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	5	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	80	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	34	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	12	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	0	-	-	38	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
Number of joint, peer-reviewed scientific publications submitted in basic research	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	8	60	The smaller number of joint publications than planned is due to the limited possibility of cooperation during COVID-19. Currently, this cooperation is very intensive and many more joint

								publications are expected in the next period.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	2	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	6	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	0	-	-	8	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	3	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	2	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	0	-	-	3	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.1: Support to researchers conducting basic research provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of Polish researchers supported	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	334	230	The higher number of researchers involved in the projects results from the creation of large partnerships and the employment of a more significant number of scientists.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	33	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	301	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								

<i>Female</i>	-	-	0	-	-	121	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	0	-	-	213	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Number of researchers from donor states supported	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	117	88	The higher number of researchers involved in the projects results from the creation of large partnerships and the employment of a more significant number of scientists.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	12	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	105	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	0	-	-	52	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	0	-	-	65	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.2: Support to young researchers provided								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of mentor-mentee relationships established for young researchers	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	187	90	Including young researchers in projects teams was intensively promoted by the PO and as a result more than expected mentor-mentee relationships were established under the projects.

Output 1.3: Support for collaboration between science and society implemented								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of public organisations, NGOs or other public benefit organisations involved	Cumulative number	0	15 (IFR 2022)	-	-	21	48	4 public organisations/NGOs are partners in the implemented projects, and 17 public organisations/NGOs cooperate with projects based on the letter of intent.
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Level of trust between cooperating entities in Poland and donors states	Scale 1-7	6.79	-	-	-	-	4.5, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	to be achieved in the next periods of the programme implementation
Level of satisfaction with the partnership	Scale 1-7	6.45	-	-	-	-	4.5, Target is ≥4.5, and an increase on the baseline value	to be achieved in the next periods of the programme implementation

Share of cooperating organisations that apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	50, Target is minimum 50%	to be achieved in the next periods of the programme implementation
Number of joint applications for further funding	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	7	5	Based on the cooperation between the project partners 7 joint applications, including 5 with the Donnor State partners for further funding, were submitted to different funding agencies.
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	0	-	-	5	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	2	-	-
Bilateral Output 1: Cooperation between beneficiary and donor state entities supported								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner	Cumulative number	0	38 (IFR 2022)	-	-	39	35	The total number of signed partnership projects is 39: GRIEG Call - 35 projects (28 and 7 from the waiting list) IdeaLab Call - 3 projects and 1 pre-defined project CRIOS.

Annex 2: Communication summary

1. Best projects

Project no PL-0020 entitled "Transport via ocean currents of human pharmaceutical products and their impact on marine biota in the European Arctic" is implemented under the GRIEG call in partnership with two Polish and two Norwegian research organisations.

The PHARMARINE project contributes to EU policy by providing new experimental knowledge on unknown yet transport vectors and the fate of human drugs via ocean currents from continental Europe to polar regions in the European Arctic. Potential aqueous biopathways of pharmaceuticals are investigated at several locations along a northward transect going from the South (the Baltic Sea and the North Sea catchment areas) through the Norwegian Coastal Current and warm North Atlantic Current to the Spitsbergen fjords (Hornsund and Kongsfjorden) in the North. In addition, the potential of pharmaceuticals to accumulate in the benthic macroinvertebrates is unraveled to assess the Arctic fauna's contamination status. The PHARMARINE uses the available field, laboratory facilities, and expertise of Polish-Norwegian research teams of complementary competence to study important and environmentally relevant issues. The new data are produced and conceptual understanding of 1) potential transport pathways of pharmaceuticals with water masses from mid-latitude more contaminated areas to the European Arctic; 2) bioaccumulation and biomagnification processes of drugs in the Arctic; 3) biological impacts of pharmaceutical pollutants on sedentary benthic species. The resulting biological indicators of stress induced by the presence of drugs in the ambient environment can also provide a useful tool to forecast and assess environmental risk assessment in the European Arctic.

The project contributes to the objectives of the programme, such as supporting polar research, engaging young scientists, or promoting cooperation between science and society. The project is very popular among students and researchers at the early stage of their careers. As a result, many mentoring plans have been prepared. The achievements of the project are also intensively promoted through cooperation with public organizations and NGOs.

2. Visibility of the Grants and the Donors

2.a. Communication activities

Visibility of the Polish Basic Research Programme within the EEA and Norway Grants was ensured through the numerous information and promotional activities defined in Information and Communication Plan, reaching the target groups such as Polish and foreign researchers, research organisations from Poland, and the Donor States, public organisations, enterprises, NGOs.

The Number of views of the programme website (27 thous.) and news related to the programme showed a great interest in funding research projects under the EEA and Norway Grants.

To further increase the presence of information concerning the Polish Research Programme, around 16 press releases, and other press materials were prepared and sent out to national and local media, professional media (research area), PR contacts (over 500 at present), research departments of Polish higher education institutions, NGO's, cultural organizations and diplomatic circles.

As a part of promotional activities, the conference promoting the Basic Research Programme was organized on 6-7 October 2022 in Gdańsk. During the conference's first day, the research projects were presented in two sections: polar research and climate research.

The following projects were shown:

1. **CRIOS Cryosphere Integrated Observatory Network on Svalbard** <https://crios.pl/> - University of Silesia in Katowice;
2. **Sedimentary ancient DNA - a new proxy to investigate the impact of environmental change on past and present biodiversity in Nordic Seas** <http://www.iopan.gda.pl/projects/NEEDED/index.html> - Institute of Oceanology, Polish Academy of Sciences;
3. **Transport via ocean currents of human pharmaceutical products and their impact on marine biota in the European Arctic** <https://pharmarine.ug.edu.pl/> - University of Gdańsk;
4. **SVELTA - Svalbard Delta Systems Under Warming Climate** <https://svelta.webnode.cz/> - University of Wrocław;
5. **CHanging AntaRctic Marine Environments** <https://charme.amu.edu.pl/en/charme/> - Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań;
6. **FORecasting hydrological response, Carbon balance and Emissions from natural mires in arctic-to-temperate zone transect in abrupt climatic change** <https://iis.sggw.edu.pl/institute-of-environmental-engineering/about-the-institute/cathedral/departament-of-hydrology-meteorology-and-water-management/force/?lang=en/> - Warsaw University of Life Sciences;
7. **Benthic coastal buffers against climatic and eutrophication extremes** <https://ocean.ug.edu.pl/pages/pl/o-instytucie/zaklady/zeeom/buffer.php> - University of Gdańsk;
8. **Embodying Climate Change: Transdisciplinary Research on Urban Overheating** <http://www.emcliv.com/> - University of Warsaw.

The Programme Operator outlined activities to date and plans for the future. Beneficiaries consulted the issues concerning the implementation of their projects with the NCN representatives during the closing session. The second conference day was devoted to the study visits of the selected GRIEG and POLS projects realised at the Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Sopot and the University of Gdańsk. Around 50 participants attended the conference.

The conference report is available on the NCN website:

<https://ncn.gov.pl/en/aktualnosci/2022-10-17-wsparcie-dla-badan-klimatycznych-i-polarnych>

2.b. Project stories

The following projects were presented on the NCN website and in the NCN calendar 2023:

1. IdeaLab call- Project title: Embodying climate change; <https://www.ncn.gov.pl/en/przyklady-projektow/boni>
2. SGS POLS call-Project title : Microbial Dissolved Organic Matter utilisation at the near-sediment waters in the Baltic Sea Deeps; <https://ncn.gov.pl/en/przyklady-projektow/loginova>

3. Media coverage

1. The ECOPOND project:

<https://forumakademickie.pl/badania/co-zyje-w-stawach/>

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/aktualnosci/news%2C92198%2Cnaukowcy-z-polski-i-norwegii-badaja-czym-stawy-w-miescie-roznia-sie-od-tych>

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/en/news/news%2C92198%2Cscientists-investigate-differences-between-ponds-and-outside-cities.html>

2. The project “Understanding the Early Universe: interplay of theory and collider experiments”

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/aktualnosci/news,94539,polscy-i-norwescy-fizycy-odtwarzaja-wielki-wybuch-w-mikroskali.html>

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/en/news/news%2C94539%2Cpolish-and-norwegian-physicists-recreate-big-bang-microscopic-scale.html>

3. NCN director: we plan to support Ukrainian researchers

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/aktualnosci/news%2C92420%2Cdyrektor-ncn-planujemy-kolejny-program-wsparcia-ukrainskich-naukowcow.html>

4. Results of the call for scholarships for young researchers from Ukraine

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/aktualnosci/news%2C93993%2Crozstrzygnieto-konkurs-stypendialny-dla-poczatkujacych-naukowcow-z-ukrainy>

5. Meeting for researchers from Ukraine

<https://naukawpolsce.pl/aktualnosci/news%2C92921%2Ckrakow-narodowe-centrum-nauki-organizuje-spotkanie-dla-ukrainskich-naukowcow>

6. The project "Crosslinguistic influence in Multilingualism Phonology and Syntax": The dynamics of bilingualism

<https://uniwersyteckie.pl/nauka/prof-magdalena-wrembel-dynamika-wielojezycznosci>

4. Website and social media

Link to programme website	Total number of page views in the reporting year
https://ncn.gov.pl/en/eeanorwaygrants	27358

	Link or account handle	Number of posts published in the reporting year	Number of followers
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/NarodoweCentrumNauki	2	17029
Twitter	https://twitter.com/NCN_PL	5	37305
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/ncn_gov_pl/	1	1145
LinkedIn	https://pl.linkedin.com/company/national-science-centre-poland	3	7760
Other	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2bHSeriW4lty8j44k_CMAg	1	310

5. Visuals

The conference promoting the Polish Research Programme was recorded. There is a link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVVccth42lc>

Annex 3: Overview of contracted projects

1. Project summary

	Number	Total Grant	Amount budgeted to dpps (estimate)
Total number of projects contracted	76	€ 58,253,596	€ 18,861,682
Number of pre-defined projects contracted	1	€ 1,271,625	€ 328,625
Number of projects with a donor project partner	39	€ 51,876,435	€ 18,861,682
Number of projects with a donor project partner Norway	39	€ 51,876,435	€ 18,861,682
Number of projects with a donor project partner Iceland	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner Liechtenstein	0	€ 0	€ 0

2. Call details

Call title	Outcome(s)	Call amount	Submission deadline	Number of applications received	Grant amount applied for	Grant demand %	Number of applications approved for funding	Grant amount awarded	Number of projects contracted	Amount contracted
GRIEG call for research projects	Outcome 1	€ 46,175,733	28/10/2019	306	€ 386,378,636	836.76 %	35	€ 46,497,032	35	€ 46,497,030
IdeaLab call for ground-breaking, interdisciplinary research projects	Outcome 1	€ 4,434,011	19/08/2019	4	€ 5,011,690	113.03 %	3	€ 4,107,780	3	€ 4,107,780
POLS call for research projects led by incoming researchers of any nationality	Outcome 1	€ 7,000,000	16/06/2020	99	€ 16,888,655	241.27 %	39	€ 6,953,750	37	€ 6,377,161

Annex 4: Risk management

Risk description	Likelihood (1-4)	Consequence (1-4)	Risk score	Planned response in 2023
underspending of funds allocated to the projects	4 high	2 medium low	2.83	Regular teleconferences with RCN, FMO, and NFP in Poland; analysing the EUR/PLN exchange risk; ongoing analysis of project expenditures and early identification of savings; monitoring of the ongoing projects with particular attention to the IdeaLab projects, with recommendations to the beneficiaries concerning annual reporting.
different understanding of formal guidelines and criteria related to cooperation within the Programme	3 medium high	3 medium high	3.00	Ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO, and NFP in Poland, requesting for regular teleconferences to verify and unify all questionable areas associated with the proper Programme management, regular meetings of employees involved in Programme preparation, implementation, and completion
changes in Polish law and/or Donor States' law	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Day-by-day overview of law modification and estimating its influence on the Programme assumptions, ongoing consultations with RCN, FMO, and NCP in Poland to find acceptable solutions of preventing the risk of incompatibility with The Programme requirements and to moderate the delays in ongoing projects, observing the changing regulations that occur due to changes in the macroeconomic situation that can have an impact on the program implementations.
failure to achieve goals and results of the projects	4 high	4 high	4.00	Ongoing supervision, the assessment of annual reports ; encourage the possibility of:1) extension the duration of a project 2) adequate modification of research tasks after a positive recommendation of an independent expert in

				particularly justified cases; considering current changes in the macroeconomic landscape (COVID-19, the armed conflict in Ukraine, rapid economic downturn, etc) as a justified reason for delays in achieving the project results and other project implementation disturbances.
Overall risk of not absorbing most financing and achieving most targets (1-4):			3.00	

Annex 5: Monitoring plan

Please note this Annex is uploaded separately and is not visible in this document. Please download and print separately if needed.

Annex 6: Evaluation report

Not Available

Annex 7: Agreement conditions

Description	Type	Tracking	Fulfilled	Date of fulfilment	Description of measures taken
1. The National Focal Point shall ensure that pursuant to Article 1.5.2 of the Regulation that the Programme Operator shall ensure that any additional provisions to the implementation of the Programme shall be kept to a minimum, and to this end the Donor Programme Partner shall be closely involved in and effectively contribute to the development of the project contract template and other templates of document(s) relevant to the implementation of the programme, especially those affecting the relation of the project promoter and partner(s).	General	Continuously tracking	No		Programme Operator closely cooperated with the National Focal Point and the Research Council of Norway to ensure that any additional provisions to the Programmes' implementation would be kept to the minimum. The Donor Programme Partner, the Research Council of Norway, was very involved in developing the call documentation and consultation of the documents' template, including the project contract and partnership agreement template. RCN played an important role in defining the pre-defined project and supported preparing a scholarship program for students and young scientists from Ukraine under the Bilateral Cooperation Fund.
2. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator closely cooperates during the implementation of the programme with the Programme Operator of the Applied Research Programme in Poland.	General	Continuously tracking	No		In the reported period, the NCN collaborated closely on daily basis with the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) -the Programme Operator of the Applied Research Programme to ensure consistency of the Basic and Applied Research Programme. Within the cooperation, representatives of both agencies attended the Programme Committee meetings for the Applied and Basic Research Programmes.
3. The National Focal Point shall ensure that	General	One-time	Yes	04/10/2019	In accordance with paragraph 8 point 2 of

<p>the Programme Operator, before publishing the SGS 'POLS' presents to the Programme Committee a thorough assessment of the added value of this measure vis-à-vis similar national initiatives (offered by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA)) and other European initiatives, in order to establish whether there is a justifiable funding gap for the activities proposed by the SGS 'POLS'. Further provisions on the implementation of this condition are specified in section 8. Miscellaneous in Annex II of this agreement.</p>		<p>fulfilment</p>			<p>annex II to the Programme Agreement, before publishing the SGS POLS, the National Science Centre presented a thorough assessment of the added value of the SGS POLS to the Programme Committee. After reviewing the provided analysis, the Programme Committee decided to launch the SGS POLS call in March 2020. The SGS POLS call was successfully conducted, and results were announced in December 2020.</p>
--	--	-------------------	--	--	---