## Department of European Funds

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# Norway Grants 2009-2014

The new perspective of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism is aimed at reducing economic and social disparities within the European Economic Area and strengthening bilateral relations between Norway and Poland through the provision of financial assistance, i.a. in the area of internal affairs.

The basis for the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism in 2009-2014 in Poland is the <u>MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NORWEGIAN FINANCIAL MECHANISM 2009-2014</u> signed on 10 June 2011 by the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Polish.

Poland's allocation from the Norwegian fund amounts to EUR 578 million, including the cost of managing donors and the Polish partner.

Thematic area PL15 Schengen cooperation and combating cross-border crime and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups



The Ministry of Internal Affairs is the operator of the Programme entitled *Schengen cooperation and combating cross-border crime and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups.* The Operational Programme was approved by the National Focal Point and Donors on 12 February 2013. The amount of allocation under this programme totals EUR 10 million.

The Programme's Operator provides support for projects in the following priority measures:

development and improvement of structures, systems and technical equipment in order to streamline the implementation of the Schengen *acquis*;

increased capacity of staff in preventing and combating cross-border crime and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups;

enhanced cooperation between the authorities and relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, in providing assistance to victims of trafficking.

#### **Bilateral cooperation**

In the new perspective, great emphasis has been put on strengthening bilateral cooperation between Donor States and Beneficiary States. One of the tools used to enhance cooperation will be a partnership at the programme and project level within the framework of the so-called Bilateral Cooperation Fund.

### **Beneficiaries of support**

Institutions of the public sector, such as subdivisions of the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Finance (including the Police, the Border Guard and the Customs Service)

Non-governmental organizations and international organizations involved in issues relating to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of crime, public safety and prevention of trafficking in human beings and assisting victims of trafficking

#### **Calls for proposals**

The Programme Operator plans to organize one call for proposals in the third quarter of 2013. The period of expenditure eligibility under the selected projects will end on 30 April 2016.

## **Focal Point**

If you have any questions, please contact the Focal Point established within the Department for International Cooperation and European Funds of the Ministry of the Interior:

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