



Directorate for Cultural Heritage

[Riksantikvaren.no](https://riksantikvaren.no/) / [Topics](#) / [International activities](#) / [EEA and Norway Grants](#) / [Why participate in bilateral cooperation?](#)

TOPICS

The Stave Churches

The Ruin Conservation Project

Archaeological monuments

Urban Development

International activities

International Project News

EEA and Norway Grants

The EEA Grants and Cultural heritage

Why participate in bilateral cooperation?

How to find a partner?

Advice on partnering

European cooperation

Conventions

Climate Change and Cultural Heritage

Cultural environments

Polar heritage

Indigenous groups, national minorities and cultural remains

Norwegian World Heritage

Cultural heritage protection strategy up to 2020

Why participate in bilateral cooperation

Through the EEA Grants, the cultural heritage sector has a unique opportunity to gain new expertise and know-how through bilateral cooperation



Photo: Ingrid Aas

European organisations cite a wide range of benefits from participating in EEA bilateral projects. Common to them all is that EEA bilateral projects are an opportunity to view one's own organisation from the outside and see how things are done in other countries. This broadens their horizons and promotes innovation.

But the core to successful EEA bilateral projects is their cultural heritage content. It is often assumed that the expertise for bilateral projects funded by the EEA Grants comes from the Norwegian partners. However, this should not be the case. All partner countries in the EEA Grants have skilled environments that offer expertise, know-how and experience that others can learn from. And most entities have something to learn from each other, so it is a question of identifying areas of cooperation of mutual benefit to both parties.

What are the opportunities?

All activities funded by the EEA Grants must directly or indirectly fulfil the objective of reducing social and economic disparities in Europe. Aside from that, there are few restrictions on what the EEA Grants can be used to finance. The cultural heritage projects tend to be centred around the following themes:

- Management, preservation and conservation of cultural heritage
- Intangible cultural heritage
- Revitalisation of cultural heritage
- Documenting cultural heritage and making it accessible to the public
- Dissemination and exhibitions
- Capacity-building for cultural heritage entities
- Public outreach and educational activities





Photo: Differ Media

The other main objective of the EEA Grants is to strengthen bilateral relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the partner countries. Norwegian expert environments can participate as partners in projects in all countries that receive EEA Grants (Beneficiary States). The main activity, such as a restoration project, must, as a rule, be carried out in the Beneficiary State, but otherwise there are no formal restrictions on which activities can be carried out in Norway.

Focus on social and economic development

In line with the current developments in the cultural heritage sector generally, social and economic development is the main focus under the EEA Grants. The programmes are centred around people and possibilities; cultural heritage gives people possibilities, and our task is to promote and realise those possibilities. In achieving this, we will be making a crucial contribution to achieving the objective of social and economic disparities in Europe.

Directorate for Cultural Heritage

Dronningens gate 13, Postboks 1483 Vika, 0116 Oslo

Phone: 22 94 04 00, Fax: 22 94 04 04

Email: postmottak@ra.no