

MINUTES 1ST ANNUAL MEETING

EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021

Prague, 21 November 2018, 14:00 p.m.

Ministry of Finance, Letenská 15, Room 116/B

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Institution	Name
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway	HOLM Pia Gjesme
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway	KLEVEN Birgit
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague	H.E. KVILE Robert
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague	ANDREASSEN Vegar
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague	ENGLUND Terje
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague	GANICKÁ Helena
Mission of Liechtenstein to the EU	LOREZ Helen
Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Iceland	H.E. IBSEN Thórir
Financial Mechanism Office	ÁRNASON Árni Páll
Financial Mechanism Office	TROŠT Jana
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CR	KOPECKÝ Robert
Ministry of Finance	DUPÁKOVÁ Lenka
Ministry of Finance - NFP	MATYÁŠOVÁ Zuzana
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA1	SOVOVÁ Šárka
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA1	DVOŘÁKOVÁ Radana
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA1	TESAŘ Tomáš
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA1	TOUŠOVÁ Monika
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA1	VANĚK Vlastimil
Ministry of Finance – NFP-CFA2	HRAZDIROVÁ Hana
Ministry of Finance - CA	VRÁNEK Petr
Ministry of Finance - CA	HARTMANNOVÁ Kristýna

Ministry of Finance - AA	BUREŠ Stanislav
Ministry of Finance - AA	PAVLÍK Jaroslav
Ministry of Finance - AA	PROKOP Michal
Centre for International Cooperation in Education	BOSNIČOVÁ Nina
Centre for International Cooperation in Education	PÁVKOVÁ Jana
State Environmental Fund	MARCIN Ivo
State Environmental Fund	FAJFR Tomáš
Technology Agency of the CR	KÜHNELOVÁ Markéta
Technology Agency of the CR	PACLÍKOVÁ Dominika
Ministry of Interior	RYŠLAVÝ Ivo
Ministry of Interior	KLEINOVÁ Lucia
Ministry of Interior	PALASOVÁ Klára
Open Society Fund	HOŘAVOVÁ Barbora
Ministry of Finance – PO-CFCU	KARASOVÁ Apolena
Ministry of Finance – PO-CFA1	ŠLITROVÁ Lenka
Ministry of Finance – PO-CFA2	IMRICH DUDKOVÁ Veronika

OPENING / ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Annual meeting was opened by the Head of the National Focal Point in the Czech Republic, **Ms Zuzana Matyášová**, who chaired the meeting. She explained that two Annual meetings will be held – the 1st Annual meeting of EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 followed by the 7th (last) Annual meeting of EEA and Norway Grants 2009-2014. She introduced the participants and passed word to the Deputy Minister of Finance, Ms Lenka Dupáková.

Ms Dupáková welcomed all participants of the Annual meetings and summed up that the EEA and Norway Grants 2009-2014 were successfully finished and helped to improve the situation in the Czech Republic as well as bilateral cooperation with Donor states. She added that in the new period of EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 the mutual cooperation can continue as all 9 programmes are already prepared now.

From the Donors' side the Annual meeting was started with an opening speech of the Assistant Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, **Ms Pia Gjesme Holm**, who thanked to the National Focal Point, Certifying Authority and Audit Authority for all their work under EEA and Norway Grants as well as for the preparation of this meeting and site-visits to be held the next day. She also expressed that she is very glad that the first Programme Agreement could be signed and appreciated the bilateral cooperation.

Short opening words were also presented by the Ambassador of Norway in Prague, **H.E. Mr Robert Kvile**, followed by introductory remarks of representative of Liechtenstein, **Ms Helen Lorez**, and concluded with the short speech of the Ambassador of Iceland for the Czech Republic, **H.E. Mr Thórir**

Ibsen. Ms Lorez especially highlighted the projects in culture and education area where Liechtenstein has its only DPP. Mr Ibsen focused on bilateral cooperation where Iceland can offer cooperation in many areas, especially gender equality, good governance, Smart Cities, green growth and cultural and educational exchanges.

Finally, the Agenda of the 1st Annual meeting of EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 was agreed by all the participants without any comments.

SIGNATURE OF PROGRAMME AGREEMENTS

Ms Matyášová introduced that the National Focal Point (NFP) was very glad to sign two Programme Agreements: for CZ-TA and for CZ-EDUCATION programme, so that the implementation of the first programme (except of the Bilateral Fund and Technical Assistance) can start in the Czech Republic.

Ms Pia Gjesme Holm expressed that the Donors are happy to sign the Programme Agreement that will prepare joint curricula and will provide mobility visits for over 230 students and 180 academic and administrative staff to increase their competences, furthermore 70 teachers will be trained in inclusive education methodology. She also stressed that CZ-EDUCATION is the only education programme in the EEA and Norway Grants with a mandatory requirement for Donor states partnership in 100 % of projects.

After that the Programme Agreement (PA) for CZ-EDUCATION was ceremonially signed by H.E. Mr Robert Kvile (based on the authorization for the signature from the Financial Mechanism Committee) and Ms Zuzana Matyášová.

The Technical Assistance Agreement for CZ-TA was already signed from the Donors' side, so only Ms Matyášová signed it from the Czech side.

SEPARATION OF FUNCTIONS BETWEEN NFP AND PO-MF

Ms Holm summed up that the separation of functions between the NFP and the Programme Operator (PO) within the Ministry of Finance is a very important issue both for the Donor states and the Czech Republic as the Ministry of Finance acts as the NFP and also as the PO for 5 out of 9 programmes. She described that according to the Regulation, the roles of the NFP and the PO should be sufficiently separated and this was reflected also in the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs). The Czech Republic submitted its plan for separation of functions with descriptions and guarantees (Management Structure Plan) and the Donors agreed with this proposal, however under certain conditions that were communicated by e-mail of 8 August 2018. She explained that the plan was extensively discussed within the Financial Mechanism Committee and finally the pragmatic approach was chosen in order not to over burden much the NFP and/or the PO, considering the negative consequences that changes in the organisational set-up could have on the present administrative structures within the Ministry of Finance. She added that the conditions given by the Donors have been reflected in the revised Management and Control System (MCS) at national level and some related conditions also need to be incorporated into the PAs.

Ms Matyášová noted that when starting negotiations the Czech Republic was aware of the Donors' concerns of the separation of functions (thus prepared the separation on the level of employees), but any special requirements have not been mentioned once during the MoUs negotiations, only after MoUs signature. She noted that the NFP/PO passed many audits in the past, but no one concluded with any findings related to the separation of functions and its negative consequences. She also explained the development during the negotiations: the original intention was that the Ministry of Finance – NFP should be the PO for only 2 programmes – Culture and Health. But during the

negotiations it came out that there are no relevant POs (for different reasons) for another 3 programmes – Justice, Good Governance and Human Rights, Roma Inclusion and Domestic and Gender-based Violence, so in the end the Ministry of Finance took the PO role also for these programmes.

Ms Matyášová concluded that the NFP is ready to accept the conditions given by the Donors, incl. external monitoring entity, but it is important that both the NFP and the Donors have the same understanding of these conditions. She passed the word to Ms Hana Hrazdiová, Acting Head of the Centre for Foreign Assistance – Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for detailed explanation.

Ms Hrazdiová started with the explanation that although the MCS at national level was preliminarily agreed by the Financial Mechanism Office (FMO), the conditions in the PAs related to the separation of functions are interconnected with it.

As concerns the general condition related to the external monitoring she thanked to the FMO legal team for the effort to find the acceptable compromise in the wording of the condition and inclusion of the reference to the MCS at national level:

*“The National Focal Point’s responsibilities regarding continuous structured risk assessment described in Article 5.3.3 of the Regulation, and the regular monitoring of the Programme described in Article 5.3.4 of the Regulation **shall be externalised and be carried out by a legal entity independent of and unrelated to the National Focal Point as further described in the description of management and control systems** in accordance with Article 5.7.1 of the Regulation. The National Focal Point shall inform the NMFA/FMC on the selection of the entity. The methodology followed by this entity shall be developed in cooperation with the National Focal Point. The methodology shall be submitted to the NMFA/FMC for review.”*

Ms Hrazdiová explained that even though this condition represents some administrative and financial load, the NFP can agree with the wording of the conditions as stated above, but asked the FMO for the approval of the related issues:

1. **The NFP bears the overall responsibility for monitoring and risk assessment** and therefore will carry out monitoring and risk assessment of all programmes not only externally **but also on its own** – this was agreed by the FMO.
2. The NFP will hire an **external independent entity to carry out on-the-spot monitoring visits of all programmes, with sample of projects (this could be different entity then requested in the condition)** – this was noted by the FMO as a possible option.
3. The NFP will hire (another) **external independent entity to ensure condition given by the Donors in line with the procedures described in the MCS:**
 - this external entity will develop a detailed methodology, in cooperation with the NFP, specifically focused on programme monitoring and risk management in order to guarantee objectivity, impartiality and equal treatment of individual POs, both external and internal, by NFP;
 - this external entity will do regular annual monitoring of the NFP activities and responsibilities and verification of compliance with the set methodology and conditions set out by Donors, in the Regulation, in the MoU and in PAs;
 - this external entity will supervise the NFP functions and activities within these areas.

Ms Jana Trošt, the country officer of the FMO, asked the NFP to send the description of the activities of both external monitoring entities to the FMO in detail. She also added that the developed methodology shall include the information who will do the sample on-the-spot monitoring (if also the external monitoring entity developing the methodology) and this will be assessed by the FMO later.

The description of the general condition was concluded by the statement that the NFP will still monitor all the programmes primarily by itself using the same approach to both internal and external programmes; the statement was agreed by the FMO.¹

In connection with the pre-payment condition in the PAs **Ms Hrazdirová** asked the FMO what is to be understood as fulfillment of the condition – in the text it is related to the submission of the PO MCS to the FMO. It was confirmed by **Mr Árni Páll Árnason**, the Deputy Director of the FMO, that it means “received by the FMO”. After this clarification the NFP is ready to accept the condition: *“Prior to disbursing the first payment to the programme, the National Focal Point shall submit to the NMFA/FMC the detailed description of the management and control systems of the Programme Operator in English in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 5.7 of the Regulation.”*

Ms Matyášová thanked for all these explanations and confirmations and expressed her opinion that now the finalization of the MCS at the national level as well as PAs will move much faster. Finally, she was concerned about the situation described in the e-mail of 8 August 2018 that: *“...the donors may at any time decide to revisit the functioning of the management and control system.”*

Ms Trošt explained that although the view of the FMO and the NFP to the conditions and understanding behind them is the same and the FMO does not want to change the established procedures in future, there must always be the possibility to review the procedure, in case they do not provide expected results or if there are audit findings related to the established system etc. For that reason functioning of the system will be monitored and reviewed by the FMO/Donors during the annual meetings.

DRAFT FIRST STRATEGIC REPORT

Ms Matyášová introduced that the First Strategic Report was submitted to the FMO on 18 September 2018. She added that the Strategic Report contains information about the status of programmes preparation, progress in bilateral cooperation and information about the establishment of the implementation framework in the Czech Republic. She noted that the printed versions of First Strategic Report are available at the Annual meeting.

She invited the Donors for their comments or recommendations to the First Strategic Report.

Ms Holm summed up that the First Strategic Report for the period 2014-2021 is well written, short, concise, and it reflects the current situation in the Czech Republic. But she noted that the NFP identified the Donors’ conditions on separation of functions as one of the main operational risks (chapter 5, p. 22). She recommended rephrasing the respective paragraph, because the Donors’ cannot agree that the conditions increase operational risks. She added that the reformulation shall be done in agreement with the FMO.

Ms Hrazdirová opposed that the respective paragraph was written from the point of view of the NFP as the NFP considers the conditions on separation of functions as potential risk and burden – as already discussed earlier under the respective point of the agenda. Finally it was agreed that the FMO will propose the rephrased paragraph and will send it to the NFP for consideration.

¹ Please note that following the Annual Meeting, the condition was finally clarified with the FMO by email of 27 November and 30 November 2018. The NFP considers merging of tasks related to external monitoring (on-the-spot checks) of all programmes including risk analysis and NFP supervision within one contract to make the tendering and contract implementation processes less complicated. This was agreed by the FMO.

Finally, the First Strategic Report for 2018 was conditionally approved by the Donors².

PROGRESS OF THE PROGRAMMES' PREPARATIONS

Ms Šárka Sovová, Head of the Centre for Foreign Assistance – Preparation and Coordination Unit, presented a progress in the preparation of programmes (attachment No. 1). She briefly summed up the timeline of the programmes' preparations and then presented a current status of each programme.

Ms Holm summed up that preparations of the PAs are going well despite some challenges. Promising is that the bilateral cooperation is already on-going within the programmes. She also briefly commented on individual programmes:

- for programmes Justice, Health, Culture and Environment the PAs could be ready by the end of this year;
- the progress on addressing minorities concerns and in particular Roma in the programmes Culture and Health is significant and will be closely monitored by the Donors;
- the Donors are looking forward to a site visit to Lety Memorial tomorrow (within Culture programme);
- the programme Human Rights, Roma Inclusion and Domestic and Gender-based Violence is a very ambitious programme and it is understandable that it takes a bit more time for both sides to finalise all the details;
- for Home Affairs programme there is a new PO (Ministry of Interior) that is a junior team but committed.

Within Research programme there is a new PO – TACR and the progress has been noted, although there have been some challenges on technical issues. Considering the experiences from the previous period (09-14), the Donors are still concerned about the complexity of national rules for this programme. Ms Holm asked the NFP about the measures prepared not to face similar challenges as with the former Research programme.

Ms Hrazdírová reacted that although there have been some problems with previous Research programme, the programme CZ09 was very successful. For future the NFP will much closer monitor also the technical issues within the programme and will check manuals of procedures prepared by the PO if the requirements there are not much burdening. She also added that the new PO is very experienced and is able and prepared to simplify the procedures.

Ms Trošt appreciated the plans of the NFP for Research programme but added that the FMO hoped for a new Czech law on research, although she understands that this is not in the responsibility of the NFP.

Ms Matyášová explained that the NFP cannot promise that the law on research will be changed but she added that there have been discussions for its change already for several years. This was confirmed by the PO.

As concerns the Good Governance programme there were noted challenges due to resignation of the Financial Analytical Office both as the project promoter and the project partner. Another challenge is with identification of the project partner for the pre-defined projects on purchasing and analyses of "big data".

² The final version of the First Strategic Report with the footnote with the Donor's statement was agreed between the NFP and the FMO on 29 November 2018.

Ms Sovová explained that after withdrawal of the Financial Analytical Office as the project promoter a new promising project promoter is in negotiations. As concerns the possibility to have OECD as a project partner for “big data” the project promoter would rather prefer the Norwegian partner instead for their better experience and more flexibility compared to OECD.

Within Health programme **Ms Holm** expressed her hope that the identification of the location for the Patience Hub will be solved soon.

Ms Sovová explained that the Minister of Health is already involved in the issue and he started the negotiations with the Prague local government, the negotiations were interrupted by the municipal elections in October 2018, but will start again soon.

Ms Holm also added some recommendations relevant for all programmes – she recommended to the NFP to assess the administrative capacity of the POs, for example, in Home Affairs programme. She also encouraged the NFP to monitor programmes also from the perspectives of risk and results. Finally she also advised the NFP to provide coordination and support to all the programmes where necessary.

Ms Matyášová promised that the NFP will closely monitor the development and the administrative capacity in all programmes. **Ms Hrazdírová** appreciated the new approach in elaboration of results framework under new programmes – it is now better and more realistically set-up. **Ms Sovová** added that the Ministry of Interior (Home Affairs programme) will increase its administrative capacity by hiring two new employees since December 2018 – it is promising that their capacity will improve.

Ms Holm also raised the issue of forecasts of likely payment applications that are regularly submitted to the FMO by the Certifying Authority (CA). She noted that in the past the forecasts were too optimistic and did not reflect the real needs. For that reason she asked the CA to more closely cooperate with the POs as well as with the NFP to provide more accurate and realistic forecasts to the FMO.

Mr Petr Vránek, Head of the EEA/Norwegian Financial Mechanisms Unit of the Certifying Authority, explained that the CA receives data for forecasts from the POs but the CA – in this stage of the preparation of programmes – have no other sources for assessment of the figures. He promised that during the implementation the forecasts can be more accurate.

Ms Trošt encouraged the CA to discuss the submitted numbers both with the POs and the NFP in order to know more what is behind the figures. **Mr Árnason** assured that the POs will not lose their money even if they are not included in the forecasts.

Ms Sovová added one more issue to be discussed under this point of agenda – the percentage of the advance payment to the projects. Ms Sovová explained that from the NFP’s point of view this shall be the responsibility of the PO to set up the relevant percentage of the advance payment. For most programmes it was agreed that the amount of advance payment shall be 60% of the grant, but this is not sufficient for some programmes (e.g. Culture for contemporary art or Human Rights for NGOs) where 70 % were set on the basis of previous experience and discussion with relevant stakeholders – but this was commented by the FMO. **Ms Hrazdírová** added that within Bilateral Fund (BF) at national level, advance payments are up to 100 %. It is considered as inconsistency and disadvantageous approach in the amount of advance payment that can be provided in the BF and in projects under programmes.

Ms Trošt reacted that when discussing the amount of advance payment the FMO takes into consideration the risk of non-usage of the advance, but she added that the FMO can be flexible in this matter if well explained. **Ms Matyášová** thanked for the flexibility and explained that from the NFPs and POs experience the 70 % advance payment is still safe.

JCBF AND BILATERAL RELATIONS

Mr Tomáš Tesař, Centre for Foreign Assistance – Preparation and Coordination Unit, had a presentation about the bilateral cooperation under EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 (attachment No. 2). He summed up the activities of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Funds (JCBF), progress under BF programme as well as bilateral relations under programmes.

Ms Holm appreciated that the bilateral cooperation successfully continues also within the new period. She also appreciated the work of the JCBF, especially their involvement in the evaluation and selection of the bilateral initiatives. She proposed to have more focused calls in future and to prepare more pre-defined initiatives, but urged to remember to remain some funds available also for the second half of the implementation period. She repeated that it is important to ensure that the use of the BF is less bureaucratic and more flexible than in previous period and that the funds are available to the POs as soon as these are needed within programmes.

Ms Matyášová assured that the procedures under the BF are much more simplified than in the previous period (this was the priority of JCBF when preparing the procedures), but she doubts the focus of open calls as the general call proved to be very successful. She also noted that after the closure of the first open call the JCBF will assess the experience and adjust the procedures accordingly.

Ms Matyášová followed with the information that the interest in bilateral initiatives is very high but is endangered by the lack of funds for payments. She noted that the problem was already communicated to the FMO with some suggestions and she appreciated the finalization of the MCS at national level.

Mr Árnason said that the FMO will look into possible solutions in order to avoid that formal legalistic requirements would delay the implementation and promised that the advance payment as included in the BF Agreement will be sent to the CA account without delay after the approval of the MCS at national level.

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICITY

Ms Radana Dvořáková, NFP publicity officer, briefly summarized the NFP's communication and publicity activities done in 2018 and planned for 2019³. She also showed a short video related to inclusive education of Roma children.

Ms Matyášová followed with the special thanks to the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague for their cooperation in publicity and communication.

Ms Holm appreciated that the NFP is very creative in publicity, she appraised especially the participation in the Colours of Ostrava festival and the organization of the Traveller's contest. She pointed out that these are both excellent ways to engage the public and increase awareness of the EEA and Norway Grants. She concluded that the Donors are looking forward to seeing more of these activities in the future. Furthermore, Ms Holm encouraged the NFP to increase its communication via social media and do not forget still to continue to promote the results achieved in 2009-2014 period.

³ Due to the amount of data the respective presentation is not attached to the Minutes

Mr Ibsen reminded to highlight the contribution of all three Donor states when communicated about EEA Grants, incl. the respective flags.

CLOSING REMARKS

As there was no other point raised under “Miscellaneous”, **Ms Matyášová** summed up the conclusions of the 1st Annual meeting of EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021:

- First Strategic Report was conditionally approved, the FMO will propose the rephrased paragraph (chapter 5, page 22) and will send it to the NFP for consideration;
- the NFP will explain to the FMO in writing the detail description of the activities of both proposed external monitoring entities;
- the NFP will describe in more details in the draft Annexes to the PA the reasons for higher advance payment in programmes (up to 70 %);
- the FMO shall react on the information about the lack of funds under the BF (sent by e-mail of Ms Hrazdiová on 19 November 2018).

Ms Holm thanked for the preparation of this 1st Annual meeting and stressed that the Donors rely on the NFP, CA and POs to do their maximum not to overburden implementation of the grants with too many rules. She repeated that the First Strategic Report was approved with the condition that a new wording will be agreed between the NFP and the FMO on risk issues and separation of functions. She also urged to prepare more realistic forecasts of likely payment applications in close cooperation between the CA, POs and the NFP. She noted that the FMO remains available for any help and advice needed during the finalisation of the PAs and with the start of their implementation.

Finally, she expressed a hope that at the time of Annual meeting next year, all the programmes will be well running.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation “Progress of the Programmes’ preparation”
2. Presentation “JCBF and Bilateral relations”

PROGRESS OF THE PROGRAMMES' PREPARATION

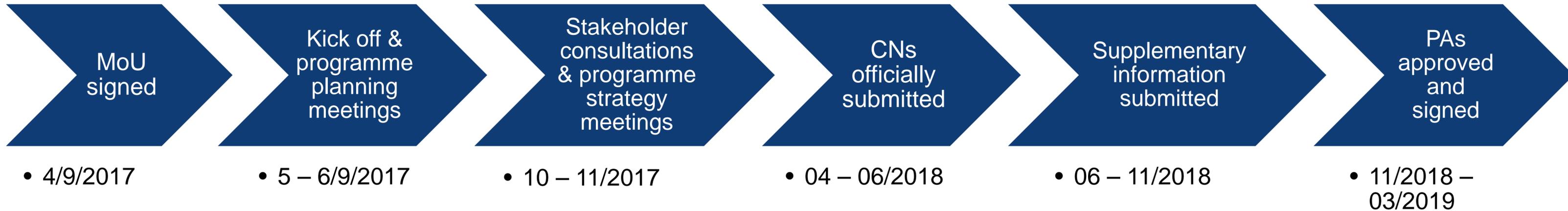
EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021
Czech Republic

Sarka Sovova
National Focal Point

1st Annual Meeting
Prague, 21 November 2018



Timeline: from the MoU to the PAs



CZ EDUCATION

- PA signed on 21 November 2018
- launch of the 1st call expected in December 2018

CZ JUSTICE, CZ CULTURE, CZ HEALTH

- PA conditions discussed
- minor issues on some PDPs to be clarified, PDPs to be completed
- PAs signature expected by the end of 2018
- 1st calls to be launched in Q2 – Q3 2019

CZ ENVIRONMENT

- draft annexes to PA circulated this week
- PA approval/signature expected by the end of 2018 (or beginning of 2019)
- 1st call to be launched in Q2 2019

CZ RESEARCH

- supplementary information discussed
- PA approval/signature expected in Q1 2019
- 1st call to be launched in the Q2 – Q3 2019

CZ HOME AFFAIRS

- **supplementary information consulted with the FMO**
- **PA approval/signature expected in Q1 2019**
- **1st call to be launched in the Q2 – Q3 2019**

CZ GOVERNANCE

- **supplementary information consulted with the FMO**
- **PDP promoter on AML (FAO) withdrew, new promoter (NOCA) consulted**
- **PA approval/signature expected in Q1 2019**
- **SGS call expected to be launched in Q4 2019**

CZ HUMAN RIGHTS/GENDER

- supplementary information consulted with the FMO
- detailed information on 3 out of 9 PDPs not submitted yet (planned by the end of November 2018)
- PA approval/signature expected in Q1 2019
- 1st call to be launched in the Q2 – Q3 2019

Programmes under the donors' responsibility:

CZ ACTIVE CITIZENS

- CN expected to be approved by the end of 2018
- PA approval/signature expected in Q1 2019
- 1st call to be launched in the Q2 3 2019

CZ SOCIAL DIALOGUE

- launch conference held on 24 October 2018
- call launched on 7 November 2018

Thank you for you attention!



JCBF AND BILATERAL RELATIONS

EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 Czech Republic

Tomas Tesar
National Focal Point

Prague, 21 November 2018

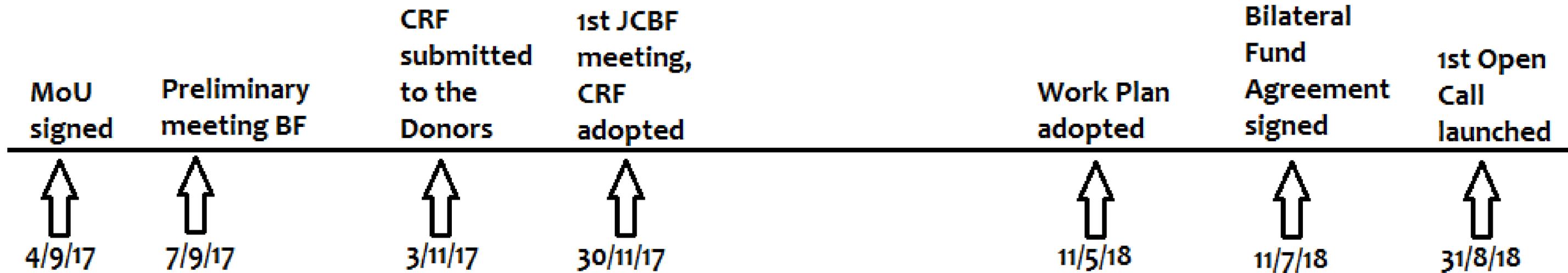


Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call

1st Open Call overview, PDIs

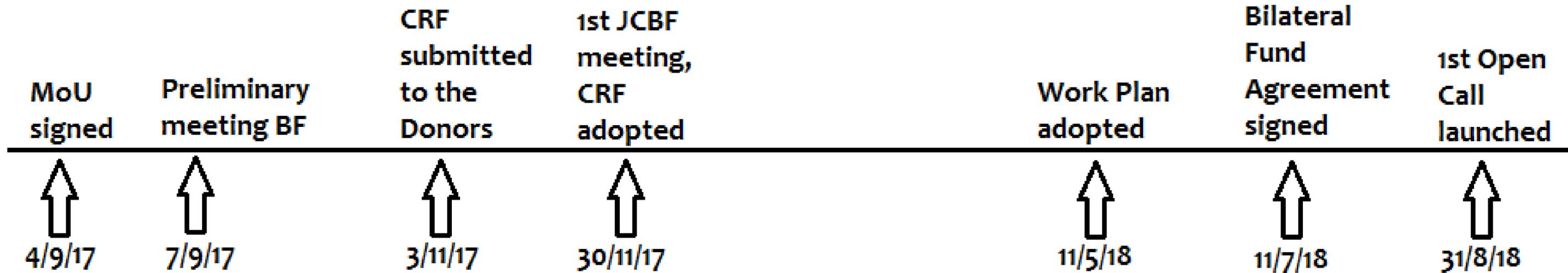
Bilateral relations under programmes

Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call



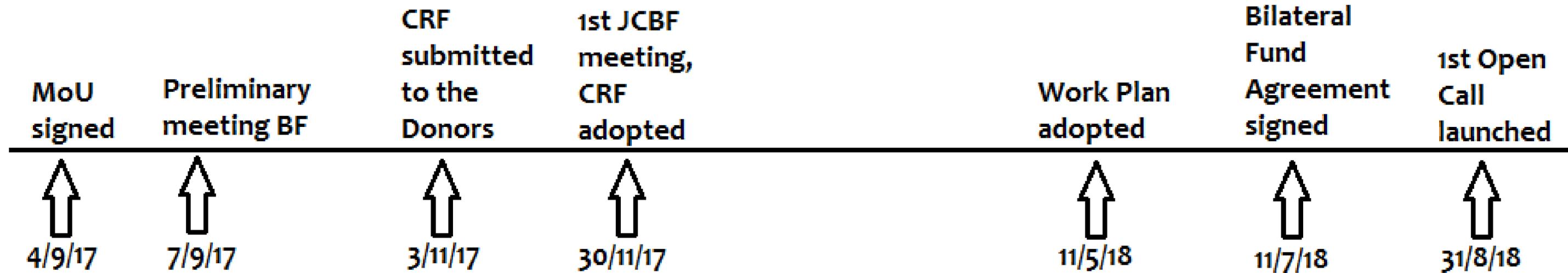
- discuss the **roles** of the **stakeholders** involved in the BF, its **processes** and practicalities; and
- to agree on the **next steps in JCBF establishment**

Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call



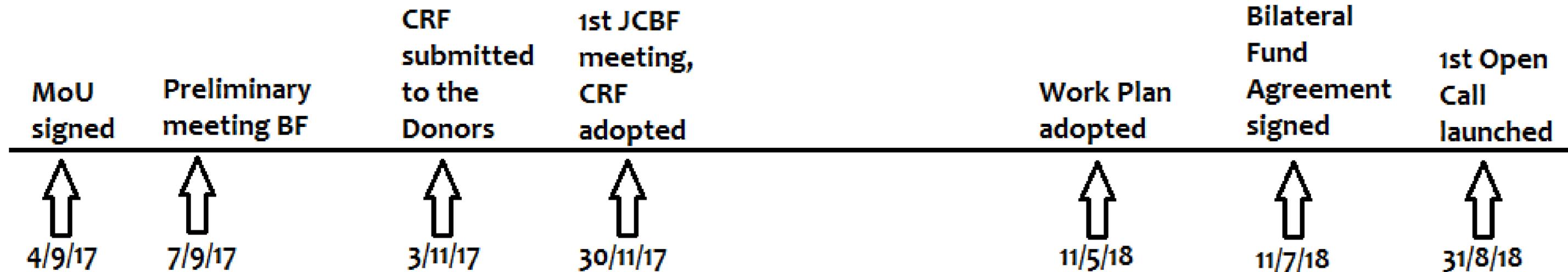
-  The **National Focal Point**
-  The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (represented by the **Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague**)
-  The Icelandic Ministry of Foreign Affairs (represented by the **Embassy of Iceland in Brussels**)
-  The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein**
-  The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic**

Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call

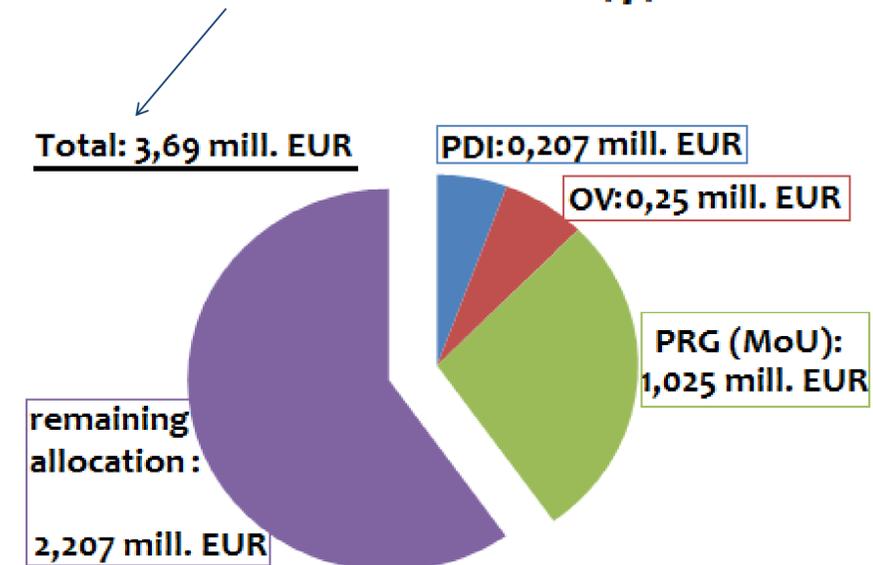


- **CRF** adopted
- **PDI** discussed and agreed:
study trip to Norway (MRC), CZ-LI school exchanges, activities of CZ-LI Commission of Historians
- 1st **Open Call** outline
- preparation of JCBF **Work Plan** consulted → developed based on joint inputs

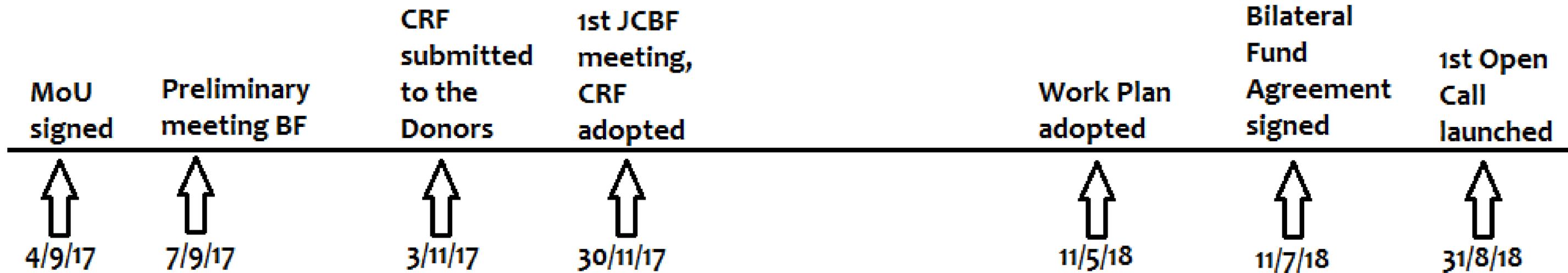
Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call



- **Modalities:**
 - ✓ Pre-defined initiatives (PDIs)
 - ✓ Open Calls (OV)
 - ✓ Activities of the POs on PRG level (MoU)
- **Implementation system and selection process**
- Major **PDIs** described



Timeline: from MoU to the Open Call



- opened for **one year** or until the allocation (**250,000 EUR**) is used;
- applications submitted continuously by **any** entity established as a legal person;
- **all** initiatives prepared and implemented in bilateral cooperation = active involvement;
- **any** initiatives leading to strengthening bilateral relations;
- **no** co-financing (100 % of eligible costs);
- advance payment (up to 100 %)

1st Open Call overview (31 August to 20 November 2018)

14 applications submitted:

- 7 approved (in total 80,000 EUR ~ 32 % of the allocation):
 - 5x CZ-NOR 
 - 1x CZ-IS 
 - 1x CZ-IS+NOR 
- 1 rejected
- 1 withdrawn (re-submitted)
- 5 under assessment (in total allocation ca 100,000 EUR)

 **x** lack of funds to ensure payments

PDI overview

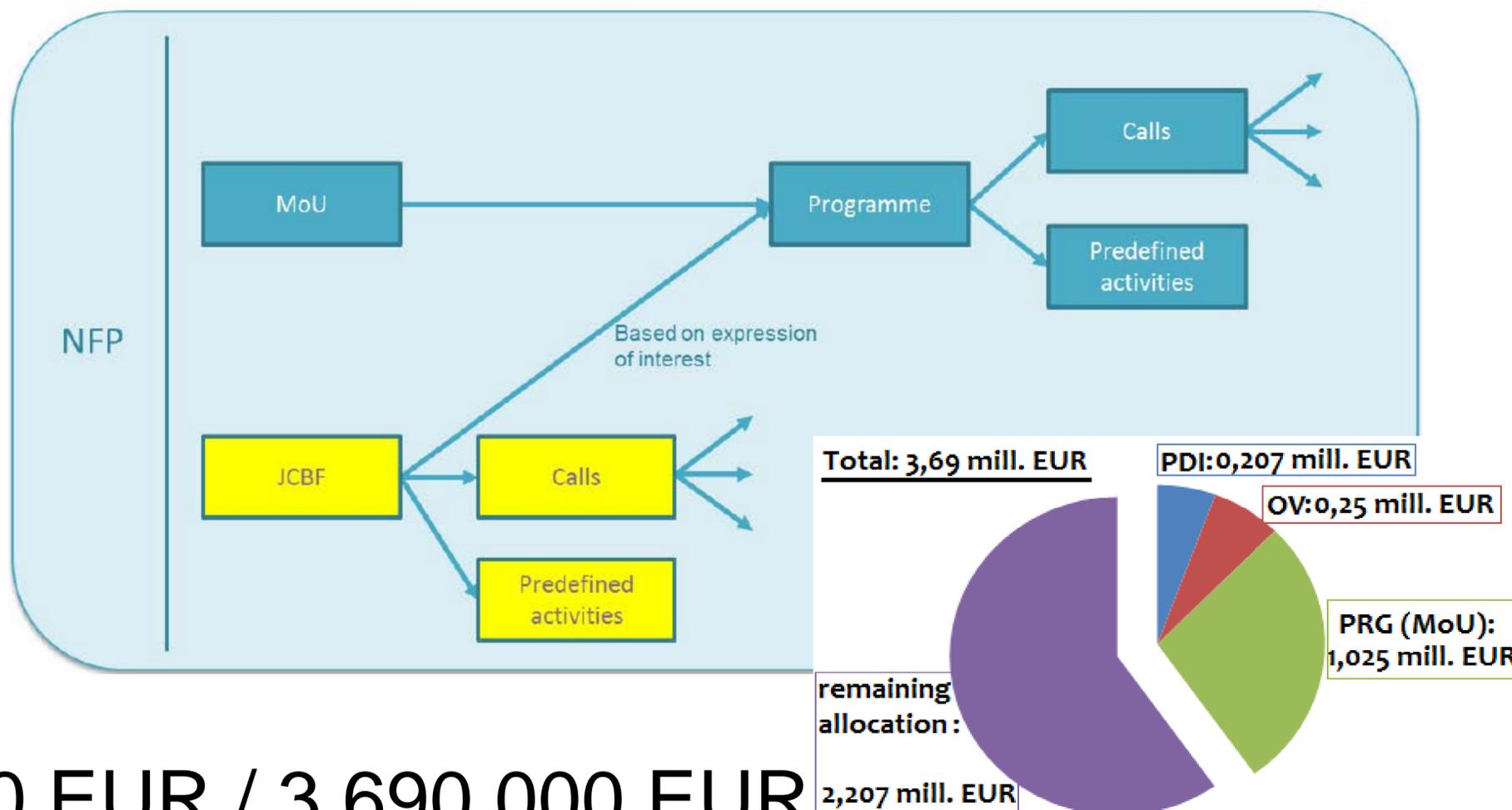
- 🇳🇴 June 2018: **Study trip to Norway**: How to present traumatic parts of national history' → to gain practical experiences and seek inspiration regarding the planned memorial in Lety.
- 🇧🇪 September and October 2018: Matyas Lerch Gymnasium in Brno and Vaduz gymnasium 'On the Traces of Princes of Liechtenstein in Southern Moravia, Lower Austria and Liechtenstein' within the **Czech–Liechtenstein school exchange** (annual exchanges between 2018 and 2024).
- 🇧🇪 Financial support of **Czech-Liechtenstein Commission of Historians** (in timeframe 2018-2024).

Approx. 28 400 EUR committed so far (out of 207 000 EUR allocated to the PDIs).

Bilateral relations under programmes

Bilateral Ambitions

- allocated through the MoU
- managed by the POs
- described in the CN
- agreed in the CC.



MoUs allocation: 1,025,000 EUR / 3,690,000 EUR

Implemented: PDP preparations, seminars, round tables with partners

Planned: match-making seminars, seed money calls, institutional coop.

Thank you for you attention!

