

## EEA & Norway Grants 2014-2021 Programme SMEs Growth Romania

**SMEs Growth Romania** is a business development programme aiming to increase value creation and sustainable growth in Romanian business sector. The Programme is part of **EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021** which are financing mechanisms meant to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area (EEA) and to the strengthening of bilateral relations between the Donor States (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) and the Beneficiary States.

**RO Innovation** will seek to stimulate and develop long-term business cooperation between the Donor States and Romania based on business development and innovation. Priority will be given to bilateral partnership projects offering added value.

**The Fund Operator** of the Programme is **Innovation Norway**, a state-owned company under the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries and the Norwegian County Municipalities.

**Programme Budget: EUR 45,000,000** (financing source: Norway Grants and EEA Grants)

**Eligible economic sectors:** with few limitations, all economic sectors are eligible for the Programme. The **limitations** are set by the following EU Regulations:

- ✓ **Commission Regulation (EU) No.651/2014** (Regional aid, Aid for research and development and innovation, Training aid, Aid for environmental protection);
- ✓ **Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013** (*de minimis* aid).

**Grant rate:** calculated according to EU regulations on a case-by-case basis; it may vary from 10% to 50 (70) % depending on the size of the enterprise, project activities and region in Romania where the project is implemented.

### Areas of support:

- ✓ Innovative technologies, processes and services
- ✓ Sustainable business development
- ✓ Greening of existing businesses and processes
- ✓ Development and implementation of innovative products and services

### Programme components:

- ✓ **Green Industry Innovation** - targets initiatives for innovative green technologies, development of innovative products and solutions, greener production processes, more efficient handling of resources and technological systems, material efficiency activities and wastemanagement.
- ✓ **ICT – Information and Communication Technology** - supports product/process/service development using ICT component, development of ICT products/process/services.
- ✓ **Blue Growth** - supports development of innovative technologies, processes, solutions, products or services based on blue resources from the Black Sea, inland waters and rivers and coastal areas.
- ✓ **Boost to Romanian business sector** - supports investment and soft measures for start-ups, business modelling, training in fields like Intellectual Property Rights, design, strategic business development etc.

TENTATIVELY PLANNED CALLS (as per January 2021)	Indicative budget (EUR)	Tentative opening month	Deadline for project/request submission	Grant level	Eligible applicants	Eligible partners
Fund for Bilateral Relations - Call for <b>Travel Support</b>	50,000	<b>June 2019</b>	Until depletion of the budget	Lump sum of <b>EUR 1,200</b> per entity	SMEs and large enterprises, with more than 75% private ownership, and NGOs performing economic activities, established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>  All types of entities, legally established in <b>Norway</b>	
EEA Grants - Individual Project Scheme - Call for project proposals for <b>Green Industry Innovation, Blue Growth and ICT</b>	15,083,334	<b>May 2018</b>	<b>1 November 2018</b>	<b>EUR 200,000 - EUR 2,000,000</b> Per awarded project	SMEs and large enterprises, with more than 75% private ownership, established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Romania
EEA Grants - Small Grants Scheme - Call for project proposals for <b>Green Industry Innovation, Blue Growth and ICT</b>	6,000,000	<b>May 2018</b>	<b>1 November 2018</b>	<b>EUR 50,000 – EUR 200,000</b> Per awarded project	SMEs and NGOs performing economic activities, established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Romania
Norway Grants - Individual Project Scheme - Call for project proposals for <b>Green Industry Innovation, Blue Growth and ICT</b>	18,466,666	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2020</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020</b>	<b>EUR 200,000 - EUR 2,000,000</b> Per awarded project	SMEs and large enterprises, with more than 75% private ownership, established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway or Romania

EEA Grants - Individual Project Scheme - Call for project proposals for <b>Green Industry Innovation, Blue Growth and ICT</b>	12,784,534	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>EUR 200,000 - EUR 2,000,000</b> Per awarded project	SMEs and large enterprises, with more than 75% private ownership, established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Romania
EEA Grants Scheme for start-ups (SGS – <b>Boost to Romanian business Sector</b> )	1,000,000	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>EUR 10,000 – EUR 200,000</b> Per project awarded	SMEs established as legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Romania
EEA Grants Scheme for soft measures (SGS - <b>Boost to Romanian business sector</b> )	1,000,000	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021</b>	<b>EUR 10,000 – EUR 200,000</b> Per awarded project	SMEs and NGOs established as a legal person in <b>Romania</b>	All types of entities, legally established in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Romania

Please note that this fact sheet has **only informative** purposes. Changes may occur in the following period as regards the calendar of the planned Calls for Project Proposals.

All funding conditions (including eligibility) will be available on our Programme website, when the Calls for proposals are officially opened. Please consult the web site on regular basis <https://www.innovasjon Norge.no/smesgrowthromania>

*Last update on 12.01.2021, Innovation Norway*