

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

FM14-21

Czech Republic

CZ-RESEARCH Research

2022

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, the CZ-RESEARCH programme (KAPPA Programme) was in the middle of the project implementation phase, in which all 25 supported projects were in implementation. None of the projects was concluded by the end of 2022.

The management activities focused mainly on the support of Project Promoters and project partners via preventive measures such as consultations, advice and general guidance on relevant topics such as project changes, monitoring and reporting, financial flows and publicity. The Donor Programme Partner (Research Council of Norway) was in close contact and helpful in terms of the concerns of Donor state partners.

The risk of the Programme remains low. The COVID-19 pandemic did not significantly impact the Programme in 2021. The year 2022 started with a provisional state budget, thus TA CR couldn't provide the funding to the beneficiaries in the terms stated in the Project Contract and the payments for beneficiaries were processed with a delay of 2 months. All the payments were sent out until 28 March 2022 (except for one project with an ongoing change procedure - the payment was sent after processing the requested change in June 2022). The delay did not cause any significant problems to the beneficiaries, apart from some minor delays in activities, as the majority of projects had savings of funding from the previous year due to the pandemic and reduced travel costs.

There are risks associated with the current economy and inflation development, however, as the projects do not include investments, the risks of the unpredictable significant rise of costs are rather low. The rising price of fuel and energy, and inflation in general, could negatively affect the project budget. Nevertheless, no project has identified it as a threat to the achievement of the results for now and in many cases the projects can mitigate this risk thanks to unspent savings of funding.

The Financial Mechanism Office (FMO) expressed in the letter to National Focal Points (NFP) in March 2022 the willingness of Donor States to mitigate the difficult situation of Ukrainian citizens by reallocations of available funds from the EEA and Norway Grants for this purpose and, simultaneously, TA CR encouraged the beneficiaries from all programmes funded by TA CR (including the KAPPA Programme) to consider expanding their project teams by including scientists and students from Ukraine. The KAPPA Programme reacted to these calls by approving a specific request for a change regarding the involvement of a Ukrainian researcher and a related increase of the budget in the amount of 500 000 CZK (ca 20 500 EUR) in 2022 within project No. TO01000295 (CZ_RESEARCH-0015) titled "Healthy berries in a changing climate: development of new biotechnological procedures for virus diagnostics, vector studies, elimination and safe preservation of strawberry and raspberry" funded by the EEA Grants. For this request, TA CR allocated a part of unspent funding from the EEA Grants (in total 55 079 EUR). The 15% co-financing has been covered for this change from the TA CR national allocation of 10 million CZK on the support of Ukrainian citizens. The Financial Mechanism Office, the National Focal Point and the Programme Committee have approved this change. Despite the PO effort to support involvement of other Ukrainian researchers via a call, as there are still other rests available from re-granting, the conditions of awarding additional grants set in the Guide for Research Programmes / the Regulation, which the FMO insists on, could not be met from capacity and time reasons thus the CZ_RESEARCH-0015 remained a special case.

B. PERFORMANCE

1. Programme progress and results

Objectives

The main objective of the CZ-RESEARCH Programme “Enhanced research-based knowledge development” is fulfilled through the KAPPA Programme administered by TA CR and its Call for Proposals, in which unique research projects were funded. Specifically, the Programme objective is attained through one outcome “Enhanced performance of Czech research and development internationally” in which a set of concrete indicators is monitored. The Programme supports capacity building in applied research, including supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), female researchers and early-stage researchers. Partnerships between academia and companies are supported to ensure the application of research results. Each of the projects contributes to enhancing research-based knowledge development in the area of applied research also through unique bilateral cooperation with the partners from Donor states, which are involved in each project (from Norway and Iceland), and thanks to the bilateral projects the partners cooperate on excellent research, knowledge transfer and sharing of research infrastructures internationally. Through these collaborations, the Programme is contributing to the goals and objectives of the EEA and Norway Grants.

Outcome 1: Enhanced performance of Czech research and development internationally

The one and only Call for Proposals within the Research Programme is closed, all the supported projects are contracted and are currently in the implementation phase.

Most of the targets of the results will be achieved at the end of the projects' implementation, in particular, the “number of new products/technologies developed” and the “number of jointly registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection”.

Results “number of research organisations supported”, “number of CCS projects with support for a pre-commercial phase”, “number of SMEs supported”, “number of large companies supported” and “number of partnership projects between SMEs and research organisations established” are static data that probably won't change any more, and are changed only in the case of project change. Some of these result targets were not achieved because in the project consortia, there are mainly research organisations instead of SMEs and because only 25 projects fit into the call allocation.

The target for the “number of joint, peer-reviewed, scientific publications submitted” has been already achieved and each year, the number will further rise. We can reasonably assume that the value will exceed the target before the end of the projects. The PO did not expect such an interest in open access from beneficiaries who do not have so much experience with it. Therefore, the PO has focused on knowledge transfer in open access and beneficiaries are reporting open access results even beyond what was originally planned.

The target for the “number of researchers supported” has been already achieved, there are more researchers and research organisations involved in the project's consortia than expected.

Project No. TO01000295 (CZ_RESEARCH-15) titled “Healthy berries in a changing climate: development of new biotechnological procedures for virus diagnostics, vector studies, elimination and safe preservation of strawberry and raspberry” achieved results in 2022:

- Functional sample, an applicable result, titled “A real-time PCR kit for the detection of selected raspberry viruses”, the kit was used in routine diagnostic practice, and it was also tested in an external laboratory to assess its practical value for potential customers/users.
- Methodology, an applicable result, titled “A real-time PCR detection of selected raspberry viruses in a biological material”, multiplexing was performed for the detection of selected

viruses, PCR conditions were optimized, and the validation of the final detection system was carried out, PCR performance characteristics were determined.

- Article in open access form result, which is achieved beyond the project plan and means an extensive review (203 citations) of known and potential invertebrate vectors of raspberry viruses, which was produced by a collaboration of workers from the Czech Republic and Norway, has been published in the open access journal Viruses.
- and other results beyond the planned result as surveys, reviews and reports.

Project No. TO01000202 (CZ_RESEARCH-0008) titled “Drinking Water Readiness for the Future” already achieved the results in 2022:

- Verified technology, an applicable result, titled “Optimization of drinking water treatment plant”, the main benefit of the implementation of flotation in the technological line of the water treatment plant Studená - Karhov is the reduction of the filter load and the increase of the quality of the supplied drinking water.
- in total 3 results of the type articles published in open access, so the project results have been presented to the professional community and the general public and have become widely known. The implementation of the project results will help to maintain or improve the drinking water quality.
- and other articles which are not published in open access form.

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

In total 12 projects are funded from the EEA Grants, and 13 from the Norway Grants. A donor project partner is involved in each project. Icelandic project partners are involved in 2 projects and Norwegian project partners in 23. The cooperation with the DPP is based on regular meetings and discussing any important matters ad hoc if necessary, including cooperation on significant events, such as Programme Committee meetings or participation in Programme Operators’ meetings or conferences. TA CR participated in a second meeting of research Programme Operators organised by the Research Council of Norway in Oslo in May 2022. The meeting was focused on sharing good practices and lessons learned and on brainstorming new ideas for bilateral cooperation. Thanks to that, TA CR had an opportunity to strengthen its relations with the other Programme Operators.

Two Programme Committee meetings took place in 2022. In an online meeting in March 2022 TA CR, besides other discussed topics, updated the Implementation Guide for beneficiaries upon approval of the version 3 by the Programme Committee. The update concerned the participation of the PC members in the final evaluation committee, which shall no longer be mandatory, and the modality of the final project evaluation, which will be only an individual evaluation for all the projects. The second meeting took place in person in September 2022 in Oslo. Representatives of TA CR, RCN, NFP, FMO and the Programme Committee on the occasion of the meeting also visited some Norwegian project partners.

An example of good practice related to bilateral cooperation is project No. TO01000243 (CZ_RESEARCH-0013) titled “Management of forest genetic resources under climate change” in which the Project Promoter is the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague. The project aims to increase productivity in Norway spruce and Scots pine in Norway and Douglas fir in the Czech Republic while enhancing the genetic diversity of new plantations. Each novel component of the research carried out within this project has its methodology compartment and a practical solution for the Czech, Norwegian and Swedish environment, accompanied by

publications. The collaboration between Czech and Norwegian partners is essential for exchanging information and knowledge and accessing all the necessary data, analyses and tools in order to achieve the project objectives. The composition of the consortium allows complex research with the use of modern technologies, tools and genomics and connects the scientists with great expertise in the field with the users of the results. The end users of the project results both in Czechia and Norway are directly involved in the project consortium. During the project implementation, the collaboration expanded to Sweden. The participants intend to collaborate on another related project and have already submitted a project proposal to the Horizon Europe Programme.

Project No. TO01000309 (CZ_RESEARCH-0017) titled “Low-temperature 3D Printing of Bio-Functionalized Ceramic Bone Implants with Adjustable Mechanical Properties” is another example of fruitful cooperation between partners. The CEITEC VUT cooperates apart from Charles university with two Icelandic partners. The donor project partners cooperate on the analysis and preparation of material for polymer-phosphate bone cement that is subsequently processed and tested by the Project Promoter to be used in dentistry, traumatology, orthopaedics, neurosurgery, etc. The communication between partners in a consortium takes place both online and in person, e.g. in 2021 the consortium meeting took place in Iceland, including site visits. In addition to working together to achieve the results of the project, the partners contribute to knowledge transfer and experience sharing via exchange of staff (or PhD students), e.g. students from the Czech Republic had an internship at IceTec and were involved in research. The project will also include a summer school at CEITEC VUT every year, which will allow students to participate in research.

C. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Monitorings carried out

Regular monitoring of projects is duly provided through checks of submitted interim reports on an annual basis (deadline by 30 January). Besides, necessary project amendments are negotiated, assessed and approved ad hoc, whenever necessary (6 modifications in projects proceeded during 2022).

The newly established role of the KAPPA consultant was evaluated with a conclusion that the role is beneficial in order to maintain closer cooperation with beneficiaries beyond the regular administrative matters and will be preserved, only with a change in the frequency of planned consultations.

In 2022, the PO carried out 10 monitoring visits and 8 financial controls on spot (public administration control). One more monitoring visit was carried out compared to the plan, due to the nearing completion of the project TO01000057 (CZ_RESEARCH-0005), its duration was eventually prolonged to 06/2023.

No general issues were identified, and the monitoring visits are very helpful in establishing more personal relations between TA CR and the projects.

In 2023, one last monitoring visit and 12 public administration controls will take place.

2. Evaluations carried out

No programme evaluations were carried out in 2022.

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 Czech research and development internationally								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of new products/technologies developed	Cumulative number	0	4 (APR 2021)	-	-	11	40	Projects are in implementation; the target of the result is expected to be raised each year and finally achieved at the end of the project's implementation. The target was established to a planned 40 projects, but there are only 25 projects.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	4	-	-	6	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	5	-	-
<i>CCS</i>								
<i>CCS</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	4	-	-	10	-	-
Number of jointly registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	0	20	Projects are in implementation; the target of the result is expected to be raised each year and finally achieved at the end of the project's implementation. The target was established to a planned 40 projects, but there are only 25 projects, probably the target will not be met.

<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>CCS</i>								
<i>CCS</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Applicant type</i>								
<i>Research organisation</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Company (incl. SME)</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Number of joint, peer-reviewed, scientific publications submitted	Cumulative number	0	18 (APR 2021)	-	-	33	20	The target is already achieved and the number will rise each year. We did not expect such an interest in open access from beneficiaries who do not have so much experience with it. Beneficiaries are reporting (in the interim project reports) open access results even beyond what was originally planned.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	5	-	-	11	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	13	-	-	22	-	-
<i>CCS</i>								
<i>CCS</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	18	-	-	33	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>								
<i>Norway</i>	-	-	18	-	-	32	-	-
<i>Iceland</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Liechtenstein</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>Research discipline</i>								

<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	18	-	-	33	-	-
<i>Type of scientific publication</i>								
<i>Gold open access</i>	-	-	13	-	-	30	-	-
<i>Pending open access</i>	-	-	0	-	-	2	-	-
<i>Other</i>	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	5	-	-	0	-	-
Output 1.1: Production of new research facilitated								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of research organisations supported	Cumulative number	0	45 (IFR 2022)	-	-	45	40	Added partner of project No. TO01000309 Tækniðsetur ehf. instead of Innovation Center Iceland (plus 1 research organisation in total). Project No. TO01000329 (CCS) added the Czech Technical University in Prague, but it is already in other projects, so it did not increase the total number of research organisations involved, only the number of research organisations participating in CCS projects.
CCS								
<i>CCS</i>	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	37	-	-	37	-	-
State type								
<i>Beneficiary State</i>	-	-	29	-	-	29	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>	-	-	16	-	-	16	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-

Number of CCS projects with support for a pre-commercial phase	Cumulative number	0	2 (APR 2021)	-	-	2	5	The target was not achieved due to a total of 2 projects are funded according to the total Programme allocation for CCS projects.
Number of researchers supported	Cumulative number	0	282 (IFR 2022)	-	-	283	240	New unique individuals were added who were not involved in 2021 (FTE <0.08) but are already participating in projects in 2022 (FTE >= 0.08). The disaggregation differs from the 7th IFR because the mid-year IFR was based on planned FTE for 2022, however, 33 individuals had their FTE revised in the 2022 Project Interim Report, which changed the disaggregation (17 were added and 16 were lost).
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	142	-	-	148	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	140	-	-	135	-	-
<i>CCS</i>								
<i>CCS</i>	-	-	22	-	-	21	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	260	-	-	262	-	-
<i>Gender</i>								
<i>Female</i>	-	-	79	-	-	83	-	-
<i>Male</i>	-	-	203	-	-	200	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
<i>State type</i>								
<i>Beneficiary State</i>	-	-	208	-	-	208	-	-
<i>Donor State</i>	-	-	74	-	-	75	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-

<i>Type of graduate degree</i>								
<i>PhD</i>	-	-	22	-	-	25	-	-
<i>Postdoc</i>	-	-	23	-	-	25	-	-
<i>Not specified</i>	-	-	237	-	-	233	-	-
Output 1.2: Enterprises supported to develop innovative use of research results								
Indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline value	Previous achievement value	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment
				Numerator	Denominator	Achievement value		
Number of SMEs supported	Cumulative number	0	16 (IFR 2022)	-	-	16	40	The reported number is given by a unique ID number. However, no SME has appeared twice in the projects. The target was not achieved because in the consortia, there are mainly research organisations and because only 25 projects were funded.
<i>Financial Mechanism</i>								
<i>EEA Grants</i>	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	-
<i>Norway Grants</i>	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	-
Number of large companies supported	Cumulative number	0	4 (IFR 2022)	-	-	4	2	-
Number of partnership projects between SMEs and research organizations established	Cumulative number	0	16 (IFR 2022)	-	-	16	30	-
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 Beneficiary States and Donor States	Scale 1-7	TBD, Survey to be carried out by the FMO	-	-	-	-	4.50, ≥4.5 and an increase on the baseline	Monitoring of the fulfilment of this indicator is not to be ensured by the PO.
Level of satisfaction with the partnership	Scale 1-7	TBD, Survey to be carried out by the FMO	-	-	-	-	4.50, ≥4.5 and an increase on the baseline	Monitoring of the fulfilment of this indicator is not to be ensured by the PO.
Share of cooperating organisations that apply the knowledge acquired from bilateral partnership	Percentage	N/A	-	-	-	-	50.00 %	Monitoring of the fulfilment of this indicator is not to be ensured by the PO.
Number of joint applications for further funding	Cumulative number	0	0 (APR 2021)	-	-	0	5	Projects are in implementation, the target of the result is expected to be raised each year and finally achieved at the end of the projects implementation.
Donor State								
Norway	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Iceland	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Liechtenstein	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Funding source (applied for)								
International source (non-EU)	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
EU source	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
National source	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Bilateral Output 1: Knowledge transferred between Donor States entities and CZ entities								
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Previous achievement	Achievements until end of December 2022			Target value	Comment

	nt		value	Numerato r	Denominato r	Achieveme nt value		
Number of capacity building events between DS and CZ entities	Cumulative number	0	3 (IFR 2022)	-	-	7	80	Projects are in implementation; the target of the result is expected to be raised each year and finally achieved at the end of the project's implementation. The target was established to a planned 40 projects, but there are only 25 projects, probably the target will not be met.
CCS								
CCS	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Not specified	-	-	3	-	-	7	-	-
Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner	Cumulative number	0	25 (IFR 2022)	-	-	25	40	The target was not achieved due to a total of 25 projects are funded according to the total Programme allocation for grants. In each funded project, the CZ & Donor cooperation is mandatory.

Annex 2: Communication summary

1. Best projects

The project “Drinking WATER Readiness for the Future” (CZ_RESEARCH-0008) is focusing on increasing levels of Dissolved Organic Matter (DOM) which is a large challenge for Drinking Water Treatment Plants. This project is building on insights gained from a previous Nordic project (NOMiNOR) on the browning of water and its impact on water treatment. This project applies those insights to a case study in the Czech Republic and at the same time contextualises and enhances the knowledge of Czech and Norwegian researchers on the topic. Cooperation among basin authorities, drinking water producers and Czech and Norway research partners will be established.

The project “Application of traditional knowledge to halt biodiversity loss in woodlands” (CZ_RESEARCH-0001) aims to support the biodiversity of organisms associated with traditional forms of forest management (coppicing, pollarding, leaf litter removal) in Central and Northern Europe. An interdisciplinary approach including ecologists, historians, socio-economists and nature conservationists will ensure overcoming existing barriers that prevent the re-introduction of these forms of management into practice. The outputs will include ensuring long-term care of selected sites. The project is intensively focused on dissemination activities and the popularisation of results to the users. In 2021 a 2-day long workshop took place in the Bohemian karst with over 50 participants from various fields. Two more workshops are planned in 2023, 1 in Norway and 1 final workshop. The project organises educational events for various groups (government employees, non-profit organisations, and private farmers).

The project also supports activities in youth education, for example within the educational Patronates programme, the team members act as guides for volunteer scout troops and together they work on ensuring long-term care of biologically valuable localities. In September 2022 a field trip in Norway took place, where the project partners exchanged experiences with the introduction of traditional forest practices with the Norwegian partners. The project information and actualities are regularly presented at the <http://rotate.ibot.cas.cz/> web page.

2. Visibility of the Grants and the Donors

2.a. Communication activities

In May 2022, TA CR presented the Programme at the EARMA (European Association of Research Managers and Administrators) conference in Oslo. The conference was focused on the most relevant and interesting information in research management, administration and support. During the conference, TA CR participated in a discussion table about open access principles at the programme, project and policy level and also promoted the Programme through the poster titled “The Story of the KAPPA Programme”. These activities were also carried out in cooperation with the DPP and other Programme Operators, which helped to present the EEA and Norway Grants as a whole.

The KAPPA team attended the international, multi-genre music festival Colours of Ostrava. The National Focal Point in cooperation with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Prague organised the promotion of Czech programmes financed by the EEA and Norway Grants during this event. The purpose of this promotion is to reach out to the general public and to promote the activities of EEA and Norway Grants in a way that is easy to understand. Accompanying interactive activities such as a virtual reality and preparing lemonades with dry ice took place. The KAPPA team distributed promotional materials at the festival.

The TA CR team took part in two charity runs together with the Royal Embassy of Norway in Prague and the PO of the Programme Environment the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, where they promoted the EEA and Norway Grants and the bilateral cooperation together.

The Principal Investigator from the funded project NORDTRANS (Technology for automatic speech transcription in selected Nordic languages) presented the best practices at the conference organised by the National Focal Point called "Conference on the Progress in Implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014 - 2021 in the Czech Republic and Best Practice".

Most online activities on the Programme communication in 2022 were performed on Facebook, specifically with 16 published posts, followed by 7 on LinkedIn and 6 on Twitter. 5 posts were published on Instagram and 2 videos were published on YouTube. Altogether, the posts about the Programme and its projects received 416 likes.

The Programme was also promoted in 5 newsletters that are sent out regularly to TA CR subscribers.

2.b. Project stories

TA CR has created a dedicated webpage "[Supported Projects in the KAPPA Programme](#)" for each supported project.

5 projects were presented on TA CR social media, 2 in the form of a video: [DWARF](#) (CZ_RESEARCH-0008) and [i-FACES](#) (CZ_RESEARCH-0018).

3. Media coverage

In the issue no. [14/2022](#) of a printed magazine TA.Di, TA CR published a poster titled "The Story of the KAPPA Programme".

4. Website and social media

Link to programme website	Total number of page views in the reporting year
https://www.tacr.cz/en/kappa-programme/	3195

	Link or account handle	Number of posts published in the reporting year	Number of followers
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/tacr.cz/	16	2308
Twitter	https://twitter.com/TACR_cz	6	3226
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/tacr_official/	5	976
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/company/tacr/mycompany/?viewAsMember=true	7	2559
Other	https://www.youtube.com/@TechnologickaagenturaCRPraha/about	2	331

5. Visuals

Video about a unique Czech-Norwegian project funded by Norway Grants and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic under the KAPPA funding programme for applied research, experimental development and innovation:

<https://www.eealibrary.org/asset/24064/KAPPA%20Programme%3A%20Drinking%20Water%20Readiness%20for%20the%20Future>

Video about a unique Czech-Norwegian project i-Faces financed by the EEA Grants and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic under the KAPPA funding programme for applied research, experimental development and innovation:

<https://www.eealibrary.org/asset/24707/KAPPA%20Programme%3A%20Inherently%20Flexible%20Aerogels%20for%20energy%20ef%EF%AC%81Cient%20structurES>

A poster about the KAPPA Programme (CZ-RESEARCH) presented at the EARMA conference 2022:

<https://www.eealibrary.org/asset/24073/Story%20of%20the%20KAPPA%20Programme>

A discussion table of the Research Programme Operators at the EARMA conference in Oslo 2022 on Open Access Pilots - Changing Funders' OA Policies And Practice In Widening Countries - Experiences from implementation of Open Access policies in Poland and Czech Republic with EEA and Norway Grants: <https://www.eealibrary.org/asset/24066/EARMA%20conference%20-%20discussion%20table>

The researcher Line Nybakken from NMBU explains with a diagram when the tree grows the most and the least during the year (i.e. when the tree is under stress): <https://www.eealibrary.org/asset/24708/KAPPA%20Programme%3A%20Forests4Society%20-%20Forest%20functions%20in%20the%20past%20C%20present%20and%20future%20-%20what%20can%20society%20expect%20from%20forests%20under%20climate%20change%3F>

Annex 3: Overview of contracted projects

1. Project summary

	Number	Total Grant	Amount budgeted to dpps (estimate)
Total number of projects contracted	25	€ 32,488,024	€ 13,074,726
Number of pre-defined projects contracted	0	€ 0	€ 0
Number of projects with a donor project partner	25	€ 32,488,024	€ 13,074,726
Number of projects with a donor project partner Norway	23	€ 29,741,745	€ 11,934,394
Number of projects with a donor project partner Iceland	2	€ 2,746,279	€ 1,140,332
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
CZ-RESEARCH: Call for Proposals in Applied Research	Outcome 1	€ 32,523,529	27/02/2020	163	€ 204,617,993	629.14 %	25	€ 32,468,424	25	€ 32,488,024

Annex 4: Risk management

Risk description	Likelihood (1-4)	Consequence (1-4)	Risk score	Planned response in 2023
The insufficient potential of practical use of the research project results	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Focusing on the information from the project interim reports and keep organising consultations about actual topics and using standard databases.
Time risk – insufficient time-space for completion of demanding research tasks and indicators	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Keeping the scheduled timing of implementation of the Programme and of projects (implementation period, practical use of results); attention paid to these factors in the assessment of interim results and deliverables, close monitoring, and operative solution of any signs of problems during implementation, and planned consultations.
Fulfilment of indicator "Number of SMEs supported" and "Number of partnership projects between SMEs and research organizations established"	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Not relevant. No further responses to the risk shall be applied, all projects are already selected and contracted.
Insufficient communication between Czech promoters and donor state partners	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	Consultations with beneficiaries focused also on the communication between beneficiaries and project partners, and close cooperation with the DPP and NFP. The KAPPA consultant will invite also all project partners to the consultations directly.
Difficulties at donor state partners with administrative procedures applied within the Programme	2 medium low	2 medium low	2.00	Consultations with beneficiaries focused also on the communication between beneficiaries and project partners, and close cooperation with the DPP and NFP. The KAPPA consultant will invite also all project partners to the consultations directly.
Lack of personal capacity to administer and manage the Programme / projects	2 medium low	3 medium high	2.45	The PO management team is sufficiently staffed, and composed of skilled and experienced staff

				members. Proper motivation to reduce staff fluctuation. In the case of new employees, quality onboarding and motivation for work that has a global societal impact.
Financial problems at promoters/partners due to obligatory co-financing, especially in case of lower grant rates and due to higher inflation (granted to private subjects, e.g.)	2 medium low	2 medium low	2.00	Keeping the set procedures and financial plans. Consultations with beneficiaries focused also on any risks and potential financial issues, close monitoring and recommendation to use the unspent grant.
Lack of the available budget of the PO institution for the grant for beneficiaries	1 low	3 medium high	1.73	Monitoring activities in the Parliament, and submitting the TA CR budget to the Government of the Czech Republic within the set deadlines.
Overall risk of not absorbing most financing and achieving most targets (1-4):			2.00	

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 and any other document(s) relevant to the implementation of the programme, especially those affecting the relation of the project promoter and partner(s).	General	Continuously tracking	N/A		The Donor Programme Partner, the agency Research Council of Norway, is closely involved in all aspects of the implementation of the programme, especially the Project Contract matters (e.g. Project Contract at itself, webinar for beneficiaries, communication with donor project partners, eligibility check during the selection process and during the negotiating phase In the phase of projects implementation, the Donor Programme Partner contributes to smooth implementation in partnerships and to adequate administrative management relevant to Donor project partners practice.
2. Approximately 30% of the total eligible expenditure of the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms shall be allocated to support carbon capture and storage (CCS) projects.	General	One-time fulfilment	Yes	09/02/2021	Two contracted projects are focused on carbon capture and storage, in total 27% from the Norway Grants.