



# Business Development, Innovation and SMEs Programme highlights



# BASIC INFORMATION

Programme title	<i>Business Development, Innovation and SMEs</i>
Overall objective	<i>Increased value creation and sustainable growth</i>
Bilateral:	<i>Strengthen bilateral relations between Bulgaria and Norway by stimulating and developing long-term business cooperation</i>
Programme grant	<i>EUR 28,5 mio</i>
Area(s) of support	<i>➤ Innovative technologies, processes and services ➤ Sustainable business development ➤ Greening of existing businesses and processes ➤ Development and implementation of innovative products and services</i>
	<i>Special concern shall be given to user driven research and development</i>
Main target group	<i>Private business</i>





# SUGGESTED MEASURES

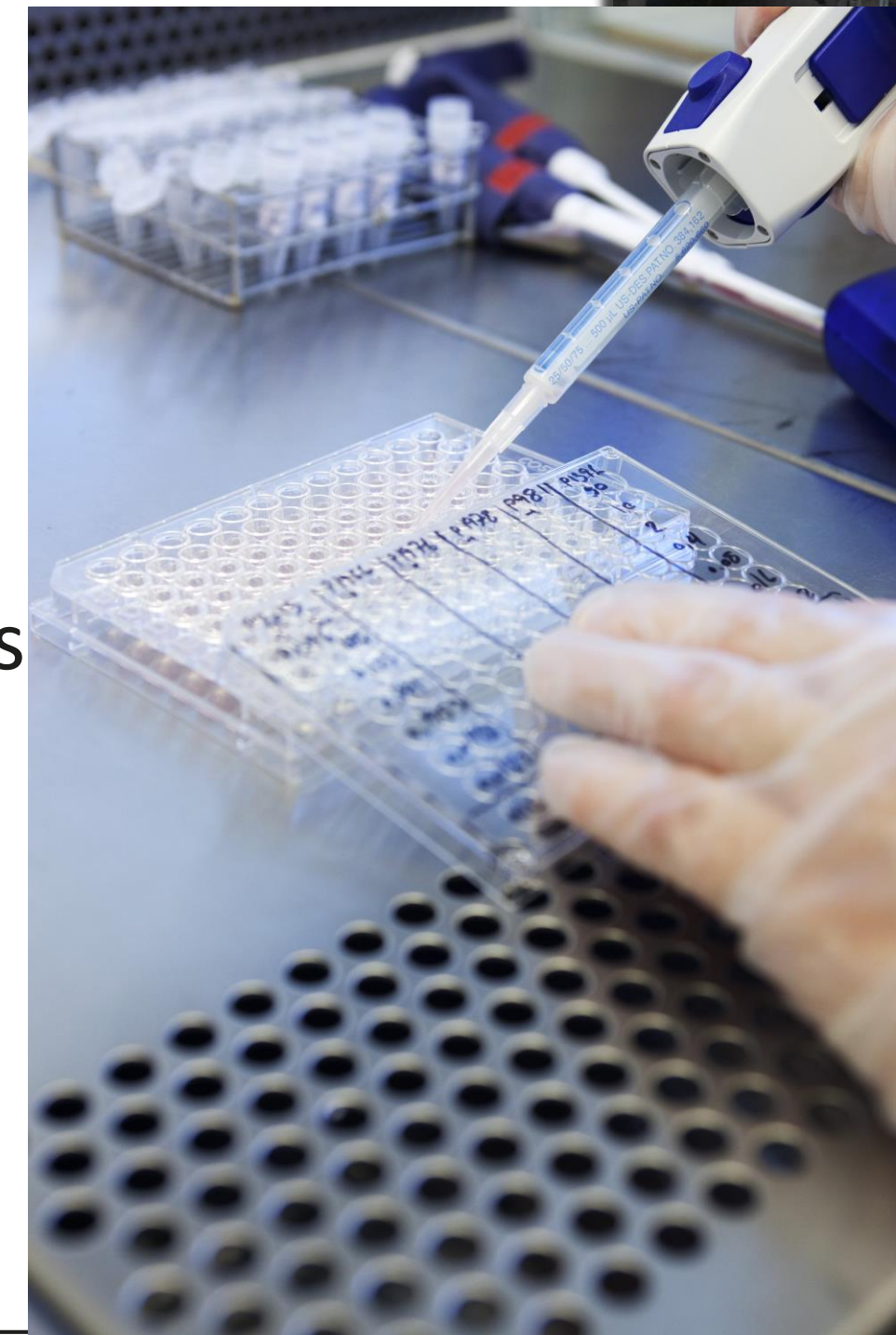
## □ Green Industry Innovation

- Same approach as the previous Green Industry Innovation Programme Bulgaria
- Focus on sustainable/green growth, circular economy and bio-economy.

## □ Welfare technology

- High business and high innovation potential
- Opportunity to develop practical tools with big social benefits

*For both components : development of ICT innovative solutions and products*





# PROGRAMME SPECIFIC

- ❑ Approximately 70 % of funding - to Green Industry Innovation
- ❑ 75% of the funding shall be allocated to SMEs (large private enterprises are not excluded)
- ❑ Bilateral partnerships, offering added value, are very much encouraged
- ❑ Open Calls and competition



# Programme implementation modalities



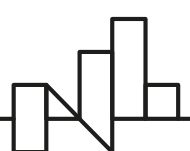
- **All 6 NUTS regions** in Bulgaria will be eligible for funding
- The grant rate and amount - in line with the provisions of the **applicable State Aid Regulations**
- Selection of projects - **open calls and competition** as follows:
  - ❖ **Individual Grant Scheme** (with two components, e.g. Green Industry Innovation and Welfare technology)
  - ❖ **Small Grant Schemes**
    - For SMEs;
    - For start-ups;
    - For soft measures;
    - Bilateral business cooperation development



# BILATERAL ACTIVITIES



- ❑ EUR 100,000 allocated to Fund for Bilateral Relations, mainly to support the establishment of partnerships
- ❑ Opportunities for business networking, exchange, sharing and transfer of knowledge, experience, etc.







# First Call for Project Proposals



## Focus Area : Green Industry Innovation

**Expected outcome:** *increased competitiveness for Bulgarian enterprises within the focus area*

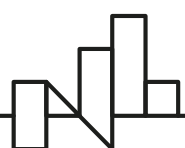
**Available amount** for financing of projects : ***EURO 17,855,000***

### **2 Grants Schemes:**

**Scheme for Individual Projects :** ***EUR 16,155,000***

**Small Grants Scheme for SMEs:** ***EUR 1,700,000***

**Deadline for submitting applications:** ***11 October 2018***



# Minimum and maximum grant



## Scheme for Individual Projects

Minimum amount of grant assistance applied for : EUR 200,000

Maximum amount of grant assistance applied for: EUR 1,000,000.

## Small Grants Scheme for SMEs

Minimum amount of grant assistance applied for : EUR 50,000

Maximum amount of grant assistance applied for: EUR 200,000.

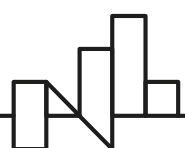




# Eligible activities

## Schemes for Individual Projects and Small Grants Scheme for SMEs

- ❖ Development, implementation and investment in innovative environmental friendly technologies
- ❖ Development of green products and services
- ❖ Development and implementation of “greener production processes”
- ❖ Training, awareness raising and verifications as a secondary activity related to the above activities



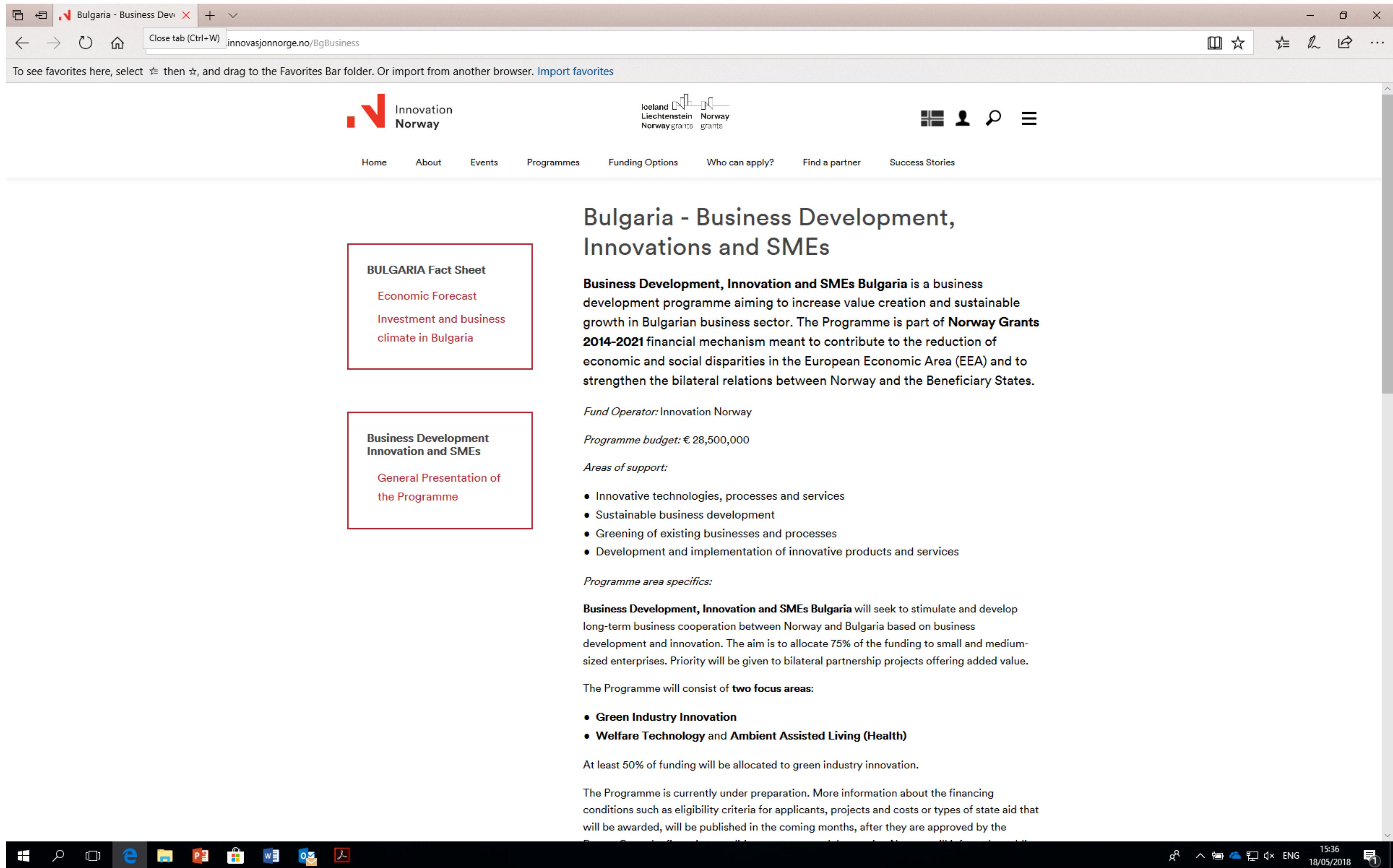


# TIMELINE

Activity	When
Launching of the Programme / First Call for proposals (Green Industry Innovation component)	22 May 2018
Deadline for submission of project applications	11 October 2018
Regional Information events	June 2018
Bilateral activities/Partner search (travel support)	from December 2017 to October 2018
First Call for proposals (Welfare Technology component)	tent. October 2018
First Call for proposals Small Grant Schemes (startups, bilateral activities)	Jan/Feb 2019









# THANK YOU!

