Opening remarks by the Donor Programme Partner
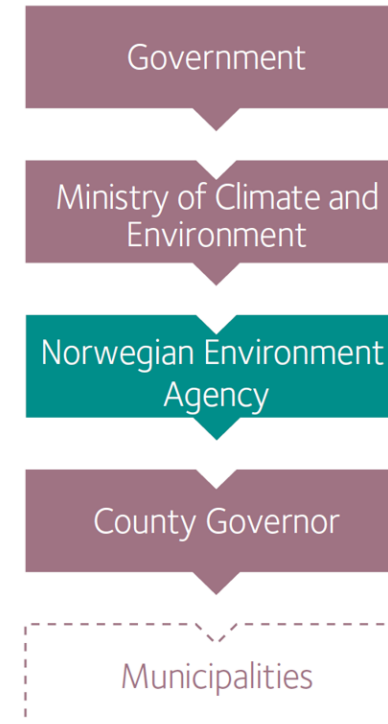
Info day and Matchmaking seminar, 8-9 May 2019, Sofia

Trygve Hallingstad
Norwegian Environment Agency
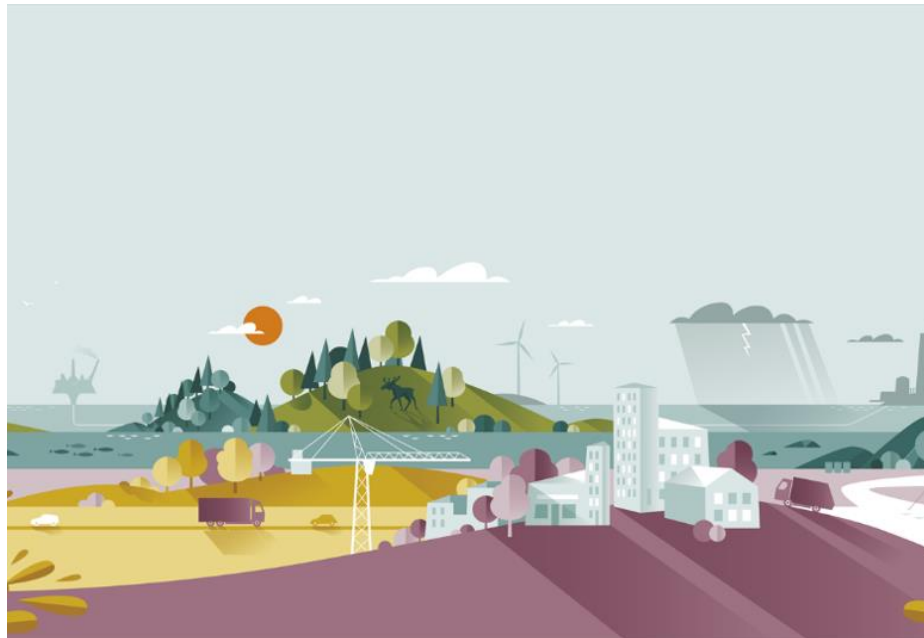
This is us

- Agency under the Ministry of Climate and Environment
- Established 2013
- About 700 employees – mainly in Trondheim and Oslo

Government

Ministry of Climate and Environment

Norwegian Environment Agency

County Governor

Municipalities

Priority areas and our functions

Climate   Biodiversity   Pollution   Outdoor life

- Collate and communicate environmental information
- Exercise regulatory authority
- Supervise and guide regional and local government levels
- Give professional and technical advice
- Participate in international environmental activities

Why is cooperation with Bulgaria important for us?

- Protecting and improving our common environment
- Establishing long-term bilateral relations
- Gaining common knowledge and sharing experiences
- Building relations for joint international cooperation
- Motivating our employees;
  - Networking between partners
  - Mutual knowledge of environmental challenges and solutions
  - Cultural exchange
  - Cooperation with Bulgaria makes us a more attractive employer!

Many years of fruitful cooperation and experience sharing (as an adviser - Donor Programme Partner - to the Ministry of Environment and Water)

- EEA Grants 2009-14;
  - BG02 – Integrated marine and inland water management
  - BG03 – Biodiversity and ecosystem services

- 3 pre-defined projects with Norwegian partners
- 37 open calls projects, 14 Norwegian partners

Programme 'Environment Protection and Climate Change - a joint approach

- Valuation of ecosystem services
- Integrated marine management – *marine litter*
- Circular economy – municipal resource management
- Local emissions reduction and adaptation to climate change

= high political priorities in Bulgaria and in Norway
= common regulative framework through EU membership / EEA Agreement

- A solid basis for achieving mutual benefits and experience sharing

Oslo, June 2012

Burgas, May 2016

Bergen, Nov. 2015

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants

Compl. event, Oct 2016, Sofia

Summing-up conf, Nov 2018, Trondheim

Final conf, Nov 2016, Sofia

NORWEGIAN
ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY

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