Projects in the Republic of Belarus supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2007

Project partner	Project description	Grant in NOK	Contact details
The Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature/Friends of the Earth Norway	The school programme SPARE in Belarus, 2007 The aim of the educational project SPARE is to support the search for solutions to environmental and energy problems, and to support the development of civil society in Belarus by transforming global environmental issues into practical school activities. Altogether 120 Belarusian schools are taking part in the programme. The project was started in 2004 and has received financial support since 2005.	199 549	Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature PO Box 342 Sentrum NO-0101 Oslo, Norway Tel.: +47 23 10 96 10 Fax: +47 23 10 96 11 Email: naturvern@naturvern.no Web: www.naturvern.no Contact person: Yngvild Lorentzen, yl@naturvern.no
The Norwegian PEN	Delegation visit to Belarus, 2007 The aim of the project is to maintain relations with the Belarusian Association of Journalists and the Belarusian PEN. A delegation of Norwegian writers and publishers visited Belarus in the spring of 2007. They evaluated and produced a report on developments in relation to freedom of expression and human rights.	50 000	Norwegian PEN Wergelandsveien 29, NO-0167 Oslo, Norway Tel.: + 47 22 47 92 20 Fax: +47 22 47 92 01 Email: pen@norskpen.no Web: www.norskpen.no Contact person: Carl Morten Pedersen
The Council of Europe	Strategy for Belarus – Belarusian School of Political Studies The grant is being made to the Council of Europe's scholarship programme. The grant will finance a) the participation of 25 Belarusian students in two seminars at the Ukrainian School of Political Studies, and b) the participation of 10 Belarusian students in three seminars at the School of Political Studies in Moscow.	690 000	Council of Europe Avenue de l'Europe, 67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France Tel.: +33 (0) 3 88 41 20 00 Web: www.coe.int
The Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority	Supporting the development of local radiation protection competence in Belarus The aim is to develop local radiation protection competence in the parts of Belarus that were contaminated by the Chernobyl accident, especially in the Bragin and Stolin districts, by a) establishing one or more local radioactivity monitoring stations, b) developing the competence of local monitoring personnel, and c) transferring experience of the rehabilitation of contaminated areas in Norway to the Belarusian authorities and NGOs. The project is part of the CORE programme led by UNDP.	811 550	Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority PO Box 55, NO-1332 Østerås, Norway Tel.: +47 67 16 25 00 Fax: +47 67 14 74 07 Email: postmottak@nrpa.no Web: www.nrpa.no Contact person: Astrid Liland, astrid.liland@nrpa.no

The Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority	Support for health risk reduction in the Chechersk region, Belarus The goal is to improve local expertise in reducing health risks in the Chechersk region in Belarus, an area severely contaminated by the Chernobyl accident. This is to be achieved by a) improving medical examinations including radioactive radiation measurements of children b) improving radiological monitoring systems, and c) improving the local culture in relation to this issue, through information and other activities. The project is part of the UNDP's CORE programme.	717 922	Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority PO Box 55, NO-1332 Østerås, Norway Tel.: +47 67 16 25 00 Fax: +47 67 14 74 07 Email: postmottak@nrpa.no Web: www.nrpa.no Contact person: Astrid Liland, astrid.liland@nrpa.no
New Energy Performance AS - NEPAS	Project development in Belarusian industry and municipalities The study is to identify possibilities for and barriers to energy efficiency cooperation in Belarus. This will involve transferring skills and knowledge in the areas of energy and environmental technology for industry, and establishing systems for local and regional energy planning in cooperation with Belarusian partners.	300 000	NEPAS PO Box 137, NO-2027 Kjeller, Norway Tel.: +47 63 80 64 75 Fax: +47 63 81 29 05 Web: www.nepas.no Contact person: Thor Henning Gulbrandsen, gulbrandsen@nepas.no
The Norwegian Helsinki Committee (NHC)	Programme for educational development, democracy and human rights projects in Belarus, 2007		Norwegian Helsinki Committee Tordenskiolds gate 6B, NO-0160 Oslo, Norway Tel.: +47 22 47 92 02 Fax: +47 22 47 92 01 Web: www.nhc.no
The International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT)	Task Force for the Future of Belarus The aim is to attract greater attention to the situation in Belarus and to the need for changes in European Union policy towards the country, as the policy of isolating the Belarus regime has not brought the desired results. The high-level task force is to analyse the situation and suggest practical steps. A report with recommendations will be presented in 2008.	500 000	International Centre for Democratic Transition Árvácska u. 12. 1022 Budapest, Hungary Tel.: +36 (1) 438-0820 Fax: +36 (1) 438-0821 Email: info@icdt.hu Web: www.icdt.hu Contact person: Péter Kolossa, p.kolossa@icdt.hu
The European Humanities University in Vilnius (EHU)	Grants to 20 students at the European Humanities University The grant will finance scholarships for 20 Belarusian undergraduate students for the academic year 2007–2008, covering housing and living costs, tuition fees and EHU administration costs. It is intended that the scholarships will be continued for three further years, to enable the students to complete their degrees. The Nordic Council of Ministers administrates the funds from Norway and other European donors.	923 087	EHU Kraziu str. 25, LT-01108 Vilnius, Lithuania Tel.: +370 5 2639650 Fax: +370 5 2639651 Email: office@ehu.lt Web: www.ehu- international.org

EBRD –	Microfinance Bank of Belarus (MFBB)	(EUR)	EBRD
European Bank		250 000	One Exchange Square,
for	The goal is to establish a microfinance		London EC2A 2JN, United
Reconstruction	bank, in cooperation with other investors,		Kingdom
and	that specialises in providing financial		Tel.: +44 20 73 38 60 00
Development	services to micro and small enterprises		Fax: +44 20 73 38 61 00
	(MSE). The bank is to achieve commercial		Web: www.ebrd.com
	viability as soon as possible. After being		Contact person: Neil McKain,
	launched in Minsk, the MFBB will expand		mckainn@ebrd.com
	to at least two regions and six branches		
	within three years, and more than 50 loan		
	officers are to be trained. The estimated		
	gross portfolio value at the end of year		
	three is EUR 54 million. MFBB will be the		
	only specialised microfinance institution in		
	Belarus.		
Norwegian	Women Can Do It! – part 2	550 000	NPA
People's Aid	_		PO Box 8844 Youngstorget,
(NPA)	The aim of the project is to increase		NO-0028 Oslo, Norway
	women's participation and impact in the		Tel.: +47 22 03 77 00
	political and economical processes in the		Fax: +47 22 20 08 70
	Mogilev and Gomel provinces, e.g. through		Email: npaid@npaid.org
	training course holders and holding local		Web: www.npaid.org
	training courses and other events that focus		Contact person: Asgerd
	on women's rights and their abilities. The		Vetlejord
	project is a follow-up to "Women Can Do		
	It!", which was run in the Mogilev region.		