The objectives of the Info Day are (1) to provide Member States and regional and local level actors with comprehensive information on all aspects of EU financial support, (2) to offer a forum allowing for sharing of good practice and networking and (3) to give guidance on how to optimize the use of the available EU funding.

The Info Day will bring together Member States in charge of managing EU funding, regional and local level authorities and stakeholders implementing the measures on the ground as well as different EU institutions, bodies and partners in the integration work.

In 2015 and 2016 the EU received 2.5 million asylum applications. Over the last two years the EU provided in addition to the financial support under the National Programmes, 480 M€ in Emergency Assistance, in particular aimed at supporting reception and supporting applications.

A high number of these migrants will need to be properly integrated into our societies. To contribute to this objective 746 M€ are earmarked for integration under the National Programmes implementing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and 46.7 M€ in Union Actions. An additional 150 M€ are now available under the EU budget 2017. Significant amounts are allocated to Member States for the 2014-2020 programming period under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds).

Integration happens on the ground throughout Europe. Therefore, the regional and local level plays a key role throughout the process and it is of utmost importance that all stakeholders involved dispose of sufficient information how and under which conditions this funding can be made available to them.

It is with this objective that DG Migration and Home Affairs is organizing an Info Day on «EU funding for the integration of third-country nationals», in close cooperation with DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion, DG Regional and Urban Policy, and DG Agriculture and Rural Development.