



Programming of the Asylum and Migration Fund

Policy and funding priorities

5 March 2020

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AMF Specific Objectives

- Strengthen and develop all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, including external dimension (**CEAS**)
- Support legal migration to the Member States including to contribute to the integration of third-country nationals (**Legal migration and integration**)
- Contribute to countering irregular migration and ensuring effectiveness for returns and readmission in third countries (**Return**)

Relevant provisions for programming

- Target groups
- Eligible actions (Annexes II and III)
- Involvement of Agencies
- Actions for higher co-financing (Annex IV)
- Operating support
- Actions in third countries
- Minimum percentages

AMF – CEAS

Policy and funding priorities

AMF – CEAS – Funding priorities (1/3)

The main policy priorities to be reached through funding aim at

- the **harmonization of the CEAS** at EU level and
- at a **uniform application** of the relevant Union *acquis*.

Achieving these objectives will require investments in

- improving the efficiency and effectiveness of **asylum procedures and reception conditions**, in particular catering for the needs of **vulnerable groups** (e.g. unaccompanied minors)

AMF – CEAS – Funding priorities (2/3)

- supporting **solidarity and responsibility sharing** between the Member States, e.g. through transfers of applicants and/or beneficiaries of international protection,
- enhancing **solidarity and cooperation with third countries** with the purpose of managing migration, including through resettlement and other legal avenues.

AMF – CEAS – Funding priorities (3/3)

- Activities pursued in the area of Asylum under AMIF remain relevant for the next programming period.
- Depending on the concrete needs, horizontal priorities should be further specified, e.g.
 - elements of the asylum procedure that need improving,
 - reception measures that need strengthening,
 - Improving services based on the status and needs of persons (legal assistance, translation and interpretation)

AMF – CEAS – Funding examples

- The current planning period includes examples where funding was channeled to the protection of unaccompanied minors.
- For example, a project aimed at
 - promoting volunteer guardianship for unaccompanied foreign minors,
 - ensuring the quantitative and qualitative monitoring of such guardianship,
 - setting up an inter-institutional support network for volunteer guardians.

Trafficking in human beings

- **Background:** Comprehensive EU legal and policy framework; horizontal coordination; EU policy priorities are set in the Communication (COM(2017)728)
- **Nature of the actions:** “Ensure the realisation of the rights of victims of trafficking in human beings, taking into account particularly vulnerable groups, such as women and girls trafficked for sexual exploitation, ensuring access to appropriate assistance, support and protection to victims and their early identification.”

Relevant objectives:

Specific objective 1 - to strengthen and develop all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension

Specific objective 2 - to support legal migration to the Member States including to contribute to the integration of third-country nationals

AMF – Legal migration and integration

Policy and funding priorities

AMF – Integration – Funding priorities

Valid to every MS to some extent, more or less important depending on the national/local situation:

- a) Developing an integration strategy (national/regional/local levels)
- b) Preparatory measures to labour market integration
- c) Orientation/welcome programmes (including language, civic orientation)
- d) Education (support for integration of children in schools, childcare, etc.)
- e) Access to basic services (health, housing) – orientation/information
- f) Coordination with relevant stakeholders, especially at local level (LRA, NGO)
- g) Perception by/interaction with host society/non discrimination
- h) Policies for specific target groups (for example UAM, refugees)
- i) Data gathering and monitoring/evaluation of integration policies

AMF – Legal Migration – Funding priorities

- a. Resettlement, **complementary pathways and private sponsorship schemes**: support **Member States** and civil society in by providing funding for capacity building, networking
- b. Improvement of administrative capacities for issuing residence permits (e.g. delays; use of electronic tools)
- c. Support administrative capacities in implementing the EU acquis
- d. Assistance in relation to change of status of third-country nationals
- e. Improvement of uptake of EU Long Term Residence permits
- f. Assistance in the context of applications for family reunification within the meaning of Council Directive 2003/86
- g. Information campaigns about EU migration schemes; availability of on-line information to third-country nationals, including in what regards language
- h. Development of mobility schemes from third countries to the EU, such as circular or temporary migration schemes, including training to enhance employability

AMF – Irregular migration and Return

Policy and funding priorities

AMF – Irregular migration and Return – Funding priorities

- Main policy priorities to reach through funding in the area of irregular migration and return are:
 - Implementation of the relevant Union acquis by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of return procedures and detention conditions in Member States, including through developing alternatives to detention and prioritising voluntary return and reintegration.
 - Strengthening cooperation with third countries on countering irregular migration and enabling sustainable return including through capacity building for readmission of their nationals.

AMF – Irregular migration and Return – Funding examples

- Funding should be focussed on:
 - Developing and implementing effective **alternatives to detention**.
 - **Reception / detention conditions**.
 - **Return procedures**; i.e. legal and linguistic assistance for appeal proceedings, ensuring that shorter deadlines to appeal against return-related decisions do not affect the right to an effective remedy.
 - **Assisted voluntary return** and **reintegration** assistance.
 - **Removal/Return operations** and **forced-return monitoring system**.

AMF – Irregular migration and Return – Funding examples (2)

- Funding should be focussed on:
 - Measures **addressing incentives for irregular migration**:
 - **Employers Sanctions Directive**;
 - **conducting information awareness-raising activities** aimed at preventing migrant smuggling, including **exchanges of best practices** with other EU Member States.
 - Member States are encouraged to take into account the **support that can be provided by the EBCGA under its mandate on return** (this includes returns by scheduled or non-scheduled flights organised and supported by EBCGA, as well as return experts that the EBCGA may provide).

Questions & Answers

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Thank you

For more questions after the event:

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