



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 31.10.2014
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 31.10.2014

**on the adoption of the 2015 - 2016 Work Programme for the European Migration
Network serving as a financing decision for 2015**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Decision 2008/381/EC of 14 May 2008 establishing the European Migration Network¹, and in particular Article 6(4) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of The European Parliament and of The Council of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund², and in particular of Article 22 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of 25 October 2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union³ ('Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 84 thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁴ ('Rules of Application'), and in particular Article 94 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 84 of the Financial Regulation and Article 94 of the Rules of Application, the commitment of expenditure from the Union budget shall be preceded by a financing decision setting out the essential elements of the action involving expenditure and adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution.
- (2) In accordance with Article 128 of the Financial Regulation, grants shall be subject to a work programme, to be published prior to its implementation.
- (3) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment pursuant to Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of the Rules of Application.
- (4) It is appropriate to define the term "substantial change" referred to in Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application for the application of this Decision.
- (5) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.

¹ OJ L 131, 21.05.2008, p. 7.

² OJ L 150, 20.05.2014, p, 168.

³ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1.

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p.1.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The 2015-2016 Work Programme for the European Migration Network, as set out in Annex I, is adopted. It constitutes a financing decision for 2015 within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

The list of National Contact Points is set out in Annex II.

Article 2

The maximum contribution authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the work programme in Annex I is set at EUR 13 400 000 and shall be financed from line 18 03 01 02 of the General Budget of the European Union for 2015.

These appropriations shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Within the maximum indicative budget of all the actions set out in Annex I, changes not exceeding 20 % of the maximum Union contribution are not considered to be substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the annual work programme.

The authorising officer by delegation may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Article 4

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in Annex II, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

Done at Brussels, 31.10.2014

For the Commission
Cecilia MALMSTRÖM
Member of the Commission

ANNEX I

European Migration Network

Work Programme 2015-16

1. Introduction: Priorities of Action

The European Migration Network (EMN) established by Council Decision 2008/381/EC as amended by Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, is an EU co-funded network whose purpose is to provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum for the institutions of the European Union (EU) as well as its Member States, plus Norway, in order to inform policymaking as well as the wider public and facilitate practical cooperation. It is made up of the European Commission & National Contact Points (EMN NCPs).

In the past five years, policies have been developed to promote a more open and secure Europe. A Common European Asylum System has been agreed, improving standards for those in need of protection. Channels for legal migration have been reinforced; there are now clearer conditions for entry and stay and a common set of rights for migrants exists. The common visa policy has undergone major modifications and now simplifies the entry of bona fide travellers to the European Union. Visa requirements for several third countries have been abolished. Finally, a framework for the EU's external migration and asylum policies has been put in place, allowing the EU to engage in a comprehensive manner with countries in its neighbourhood and beyond.

The achievements are noteworthy but the work is not finished. Much remains to be done to ensure full implementation and enforcement of existing instruments. The main objective for the EMN Work Programme 2015-2016 is therefore to produce relevant information in a more flexible and timely way to meet the needs of policymakers, practitioners and the wider public by:

- Identifying information/knowledge needs of policy relevance at national and EU levels;
- Providing up-to-date, objective, reliable, relevant and comparable information, in response to identified needs while **ensuring complementarity with other Member States and EU institution initiatives**;
- Increasing the EMN's responsiveness to the needs of policymakers and other target groups, addressing both immediate and longer-term requirements; and
- Share good practice and contribute to the development of practical cooperation in legal migration to overcome identified challenges and barriers;

To achieve these objectives, the following specific priorities for 2015-2016 shall be:

- **Respond to information needs of EU and national policymakers**, through the **timely provision of relevant information in an appropriate, concise format**;
- Encourage **greater use of the EMN as a platform for raising awareness about migration and asylum issues and sharing knowledge of policy developments** across the EU;

- Further develop **networking and support the practical cooperation at the national and European level**, recognising the cross-cutting nature of migration and asylum with other policy areas;
- **Improve comparability** (where deemed relevant and possible) of statistics and other information at EU-level, including continued cooperation with Eurostat and the on-going development of the **EMN Glossary and Thesaurus**;
- Collect information and facilitate practical cooperation with Member States on specific **aspects of economic migration, return and re-integration issues**;
- **Increase further the visibility** of the EMN through targeted communication and prompt dissemination of its outputs in appropriate formats;

The EMN, in the implementation of these priorities, shall take further steps to enhance cooperation with, and avoid duplicating the work of, existing EU instruments or structures whose purpose is to collect and exchange information in the areas of migration and asylum and to demonstrate added value in comparison with them, in particular through the quality of its outputs and their EU-wide coverage, with a strong focus on analysis and the public availability of its outputs.

2. Activities to be implemented by the EMN

2.1 Ad-Hoc Queries, Reports, Studies and other Outputs¹

The outputs of the EMN will be targeted at policymakers and practitioners at EU and national levels, as well as the wider public. To improve the relevance of the EMN to policymaking, emphasis shall continue to be placed on improving the format and flexibility of information provided, building on the experience of the EMN Work Programme 2014. This will include responding fast and effectively to short-term needs, improving the timeliness of the activities undertaken and working with EU and national policymakers at an early stage of planning to ensure outputs are drafted in a format which is policy relevant and readily accessible. The EMN shall also maintain a longer-term, strategic perspective for example, by updating EMN Studies. In order to promote comparability, the multilingual **EMN Glossary and Thesaurus** shall be maintained and terms will be shared with relevant EU level institutions as well as national experts.

The EMN shall thus research, compile and analyse information in one of the following ways, the choice depending on the topic addressed and needs of the target audience:

- Making **more use** of the **information** contained in **ad-hoc queries, studies and reports** and extracting or mining information on a specific theme, as well as from other relevant entities (e.g. Eurofound, GDISC, ICMPD, IGC, ILO, IOM, MPC, OECD, UN), and avoiding duplication of data collection.
- Launching **Ad-Hoc Queries** to gather information of topical relevance, and making the results readily available;
- **Annual Policy Reports** serves to provide an overall insight into the most significant political and legislative (including EU) developments, as well as public debates in the area of migration and asylum informing EU and national policymakers. The National Policy Reports also serve national needs.

¹ Definitions of the various products are provided in Appendix 1.

- **Studies**, consisting of National Reports prepared according to common specifications plus a concise, succinct Synthesis Report, to address either short-term policy needs or a topic of longer-term relevance;
- Maintaining succinct **EMN Country Factsheets**, presenting up-to-date information on policy developments in migration and international protection in (Member) States, including latest statistics, based on the EMN Annual Policy Report, and updated on an annual basis;
- **EMN Informs** specifically targeted for policymakers in order to inform them in a concise manner of the main outcomes of a particular EMN activity, for example, an EMN Study or Report, and including from mining of information already held by the EMN;
- A regular **EMN Bulletin**, highlighting recent EU and national developments and latest statistics.

2.1.1 Ad-Hoc Queries²

Ad-Hoc Queries are a very effective means to quickly gather comparative information in order to meet current needs and are an important activity. Queries shall be launched, responded to and subsequent compilations disseminated in accordance with the *Vade-mecum for EMN Ad-Hoc Queries*. Ad-Hoc Queries may also be used to obtain specific (updated) information, including statistics, on a particular topic or aspect of a previous EMN study in order to support a topical policy initiative.

As part of the mining of information, emphasis shall continue to be placed in 2015-2016 on making more use of the extensive information obtained via Ad-Hoc Queries. In this respect, the Commission and its Service Provider will review previous **compilations** in order to extract information already obtained in relation to a study topic or on a particular topical theme.

Where deemed necessary and relevant, cooperation and coordination will take place with other EU and international entities in the launching of Ad-Hoc Queries (which can only be done by an EMN NCP or the European Commission) and in the compilation, preparation of summaries, analysis, storage and retrieval of replies to ensure the most appropriate mechanism is used to obtain a response to the Ad-Hoc Query, and to avoid duplication of effort. Information shared across (Member) States will fully respect data protection commitments.

The EMN will aim to develop concise, succinct **summaries** of EMN Ad-Hoc Queries on issues considered of particular topical policy relevance according to the following guidelines: a) for all Ad-Hoc Queries launched by the Commission or which the Commission considers of particular policy relevance; and b) when an EMN NCP(s) specifically requests this to the Commission. The summaries shall be provided to the EMN NCPs for verification before distribution outside of the EMN, including those that may be used for wider dissemination. In some cases, where relevant and useful to policymakers, summaries will be developed as EMN Informs by the EMN Service Provider.

Additionally, an EMN NCP shall be encouraged to provide, at the same time as sending a compilation, an **overview** of the main outcomes of the Ad-Hoc Query they have launched, for the benefit of other EMN members and/or the entity initially requesting the information only (where not provided under the circumstances set out above).

2.1.2 Annual Policy Reporting

² See Appendix 1 for the various outputs referred to resulting from the Ad-Hoc Query process.

EMN Annual Policy Reports serve to provide an overall insight into the most significant political and legislative (including EU) developments, as well as public debates, in the area of migration and asylum. A synthesis of Annual Policy Report National Reports 2014 & 2015 (Part 1) and a Statistical Annex of key asylum and migration statistics shall be completed in early 2015 and 2016 respectively in order to serve as a timely contribution to the Commission's 6th and 7th Annual Report on Immigration and Asylum (2014 & 2015). Coherence of the EMN's report with EASO's annual report shall be ensured, in order to avoid duplication.

The Annual Policy Report National Report (Part 2) will focus on national developments in Member States and will be submitted in the 1st quarter of 2015 and 2016 respectively based on an EMN internal evaluation of the 2014 experience. A series of EMN Informs focusing on key policy themes such as Legal Migration and Irregular Migration, shall be produced as succinct summaries of the most significant developments in 2014 & 2015 respectively, based on the information gathered in Parts 1 and 2 of the National Reports.

Monitoring the effectiveness of EU legislation and policies should be made an integral part of the EU policy cycle. The EMN would contribute to this monitoring progress in accordance with its mandate and following guidance by the EMN Steering Board year on year of the implementation of the migration and asylum agenda of Home Affairs. Contributions by the EMN to the monitoring process would be limited to providing objective and factual information. The EMN will work to adjust the annual policy reporting with a view to facilitate impact analysis of EU policies and contribute to monitoring by relevant parties.

2.1.3 EMN Country Factsheets

Based on information gathered during the Annual Policy Reporting process, succinct **EMN Country Factsheets** will be updated in 2015 and 2016 by the EMN Service Provider. The Factsheets, one per (Member) State, will present up-to-date information on policy developments in migration and international protection in (Member) States, including latest relevant, and to the extent possible, comparable Eurostat statistics, supplemented by national statistics, presented in tables and diagrams.

2.1.4 EMN Studies

EMN shall initiate four studies in 2015 and a further four in 2016 respectively. Based on future Home Affairs agendas, thematic priorities for 2015 and 2016 should be based on the strategic guidelines on the future of Home Affairs decided by the European Council in June 2014 in order to:

- i. Maximise the benefits of mobility and of legal migration and integration;
- ii. Develop a credible approach on irregular migration, return and smuggling;
- iii. Enhance the implementation of a Common European Asylum and Visa System.
- iv. Strengthen the synergies between asylum and migration and other policy areas including the external dimension.

Based on these thematic priorities, **the European Commission and the EMN NCPs will propose study topics**. Supported by the EMN Service Provider, the European Commission draws up a list of proposals for 2015 and 2016 respectively where each study proposal is carefully scrutinised taking into account relevant policy priorities. EMN NCPs are then asked to vote on this list to indicate their preferred choices thereby giving their endorsement. Thereafter the recommended choices are submitted to the annual EMN Steering Board meeting for approval, in the autumn of the year prior to the commencement of the reference period for the Studies.

To enable the EMN to better respond to identified information needs in light of topical policy developments during 2015-2016, the Steering Board may decide, by written procedure, on an alternative topic for a study. Alternatively, the Steering Board may agree on updating or extending a previous EMN study instead, in order to provide updated information of topical relevance to policymakers, where a need is clearly identified.

Studies from 2014 and 2015 respectively shall be completed as required, and an update, if necessary, of the National Reports for the Study on Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the EU Member States, may be done in order to maintain an up-to-date reference. This may also include updating the short, three-page *Organograms of Asylum and Migration Policies* produced on the basis of a National Report in each Member State and Norway.

2.1.5 EMN Informs

EMN Informs provide succinct key findings and messages to policymakers on a specific topic based on the results of information gathered and analysed by the EMN, for example, from EMN Annual Policy Reports, Studies and Ad-Hoc Queries. Up to 12 EMN Informs will be developed in 2015 and 2016 respectively by the EMN Service Provider.

2.1.6 EMN Glossary and Thesaurus

The EMN Glossary improves comparability by enabling a common understanding and use of terms based on agreed definitions of concepts relating to asylum and migration. The Glossary draws on a variety of sources, primarily those given in the EU asylum and immigration acquis, and makes these available in the majority of official (Member) State languages. A new version of the EMN Glossary (Version 4) will be developed by May 2016. However, new Glossary terms will be added to the on-line EMN Glossary as needed throughout the period as required. Work on the EMN Thesaurus will continue as required. Translations into further EU / non-EU languages should be encouraged when the need is proven. Cooperation with IATE and other entities developing glossary information on migration and asylum would be strengthened.

2.1.7 EMN Bulletin

The EMN Bulletin provides regular, topical information required by and of relevance to (senior) EU and national policymakers, highlighting recent EU and National developments, outputs and activities of the EMN. Relevant information extracted from the EMN's existing knowledge plus (latest) published statistics, primarily from Eurostat, shall continue to be produced as an EMN Bulletin. Up to four editions in 2015 and 2016 respectively shall be produced and circulated publically also to a wide audience.

2.1.8 EMN Status Report 2014 & 2015

The EMN Steering Board shall provide a succinct status report to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions concerning the on-going activities of the EMN. The 2014 & 2015 report shall outline the key findings of the studies completed in 2014 & 2015 and the main impacts of the EMN, in particular, in informing policymaking at national and EU levels.

2.1.9 Return Expert Group

The EMN Return Expert Group (REG) will encompass return and re-integration issues. The EMN Ad-Hoc Query tool will continue to collect information on how Member States and Norway deal with specific aspects of return and reintegration in the countries of origin. The EMN's Service Provider shall, under the management of the Commission, support the on-going implementation by

preparing REG-related issues and administrative follow-up. Where deemed relevant, the EMN NCP meetings would also be used to involve and ensure the participation of expertise in the return field.

Discussion at EMN REG meetings will align with REG aims to do the following:

- i. Share good practice in the field of return and reintegration to increase coherence in the implementation of return programmes and reintegration projects.
- ii. Exchange information about the initiatives taken towards the countries of origin or transit to ensure a sustainable return of the irregular migrants (i.e. reintegration measures, re-documentation).
- iii. Support the development of practical solutions to overcome challenges and barriers to return and reintegration.
- iv. Draw on stakeholders' expertise on relevant issues related to return and reintegration of irregular migrants.
- v. Contributing to the availability and collection of statistics on return and reintegration.

For each aspect of return, agreed through consultation with EMN members, the EMN REG should provide a clear overview of the situation across EMN Member States. This overview should serve as a basis to exchange best practices. Meetings should provide for the opportunity to discuss current and future programs and to identify synergies. This will support better coordination of the actions of Member States on return and reintegration in and towards third countries.

A dedicated action program will be established for the calendar years 2015-2016 based on consultation with the members of the EMN about their needs (e.g. in respect of aspects of return countries or regions of particular interest). The REG expertise would meet regularly on average four to five times per year in conjunction with the EMN NCP meetings.

The resources to finance this activity would be taken into account within the available EMN budget for 2015-2016 (once adopted) and onwards. In practice, the Member States would be able to integrate this new activity under their national EMN grant requests. Each Member State is free to decide how much it wants to invest in this cooperation.

2.1.10 Economic Migration

Labour migration places a unique challenge on policy makers in that it requires a horizontal approach involving several related policy domains. One of the key objectives of labour migration policies is to help meet those labour market needs which cannot be satisfied through tapping domestic labour supply in a reasonable time-frame, without adversely affecting the domestic labour market. The success of labour migration policies is contingent upon a wide range of factors, all of which have to be considered by policy makers. A structured and coherent exchange of information would provide the means to explore policy options for ensuring that labour migration actually responds to EU economic needs, without interfering with the Member States' competences (such as determining volumes of admission for work purposes). To date such an exchange is only on an ad hoc or bilateral basis, taking place in the framework of the myriad projects and studies in the field.

To further improve the exchange of information on labour migration policies the EMN's activities in this field should be strengthened. Where possible, it would therefore be useful to align the activities of the EMN to the European Semester.

The EMN's Service Provider shall, under the management of the Commission, support the on-going implementation by preparing economic migration related issues. The EMN NCP meetings would be further used to involve and ensure the participation of stakeholders' expertise in the economic migration field. The EMN Ad-Hoc Query tool would collect information on specific aspects of economic migration.

The main topics to be discussed would be:

- i. Share good practice on economic migration to increase the quality and coverage of programs to maximize the potential of skilled migrant workers;
- ii. Examine and compare approaches to attracting migrant talent and their successful social and economic integration;
- iii. Highlight challenges and barriers to economic migrants;
- iv. Identify practical solutions to overcome challenges and barriers.
- v. Draw on stakeholders' expertise on relevant issues related to economic migration and labour shortages including from social partners (business' representatives and trade unions).
- vi. Contribute to the availability and collection of statistics on economic migration.

If deemed useful, the EMN Steering Board may decide to set up within the EMN structure a dedicated Economic Migration Expert Group (EMG) to encompass economic migration issues which could meet in conjunction with existing EMN NCP meetings. Each Member State would in that case be free to decide how much it wants to invest in this cooperation.

2.2 Other Policy Support Actions

2.2.1 EU Immigration Portal

The EMN shall continue to provide national level updates as required to some of the content of the EU Immigration Portal, specifically the 'country information sheet' and the document entitled 'What do I need before leaving?'

2.2.2 Co-operation with Commission appointed contractors/collaborators

Where deemed relevant and justifiable, the EMN may co-operate with and support the work of external contractors or Service Providers acting on behalf of the Commission or EU Agencies for a specific project.

2.3 Networking

Effective networking is an essential component required for the functioning of the EMN, and the EMN will expand its networking activities in 2015 & 2016 to further establish its role within the architecture of existing European organisations and institutions with a complementary scope. The aim is to continue to make the EMN better known to stakeholders and to encourage complementarity in activities and outputs, avoiding also any duplication.

2.3.1 Networking amongst EMN NCPs

To facilitate the implementation of this Work Programme and in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of Decision 2008/381/EC, the exchange of information amongst EMN NCPs shall be undertaken

through specific meetings and via a re-developed Information Exchange System. The EMN will encourage more debate between EMN NCPs during meetings which would become more content oriented as a new focus. EMN NCPs will be encouraged to organise 'cluster meetings' to facilitate discussions amongst clusters of EMN NCPs on a particular topic or issue. In advance of each EMN NCP meeting, those EMN NCPs in receipt of an EMN grant shall submit a Work Progress Report, according to a standard format, detailing their progress and impacts in the preceding period, and highlighting any changes, problems or issues.

2.3.2 Networking at the national level

In accordance with Article 5(5d) of Decision 2008/381/EC, national networks with an appropriate balance of members representing all relevant stakeholders, including national policymakers, shall be developed and maintained. National network members may contribute, even on an ad-hoc basis, to relevant activities in order to extend the scope of information sources available to the EMN. National networks will be encouraged to play an important role in information dissemination, including a greater emphasis on communicating to the wider public and national media, and involving a wider range of entities relevant in migration and international protection debates. This would require the role of the EMN NCPs to be enhanced further so that they are each able to act as a national hub for information gathering and analysis, and dissemination. Efforts will be made to provide greater operational support for this activity in 2015 and 2016.

2.3.3 Networking with relevant EU and non-EU entities

Priority will be given in 2015-2016 to develop consistency and co-ordination with relevant EU instruments and structures in the area of migration and asylum, as well as with other relevant international organisations. This include in particular continued working with the European Parliament who is an active member of the EMN as well as Eurostat and EU agencies, such as FRA, Frontex, EASO, Europol and the National Contact Points on Integration who may attend Steering Board and EMN NCP meetings by invitation. All these entities may provide specific inputs into EMN Reports, Studies and other EMN outputs, for example, joining the advisory group for a particular study. Norway, through a dedicated working arrangement, shall continue to be an active participant in the EMN.

It shall be the role of the EMN Steering Board to identify any other strategic co-operative relationships with other (non-EU) organisations (European or International), institutions and networks pursuing similar objectives. Where deemed relevant and appropriate, the EMN will strengthen links with other relevant EU and non-EU entities such as academia, civil society and think tanks.

2.4 EMN Communication and Dissemination

Effective targeting of the information produced by the EMN through its communication and dissemination activities is an essential element for the EMN to achieve its objectives, in particular informing policymakers. It is therefore important to focus on the timely publication and strategically advantageous distribution of the EMN's outputs at national, European, and international levels. This shall be on the basis of the EMN Communication and Dissemination Strategy and compliant also with the Commission's Visual Identity and EMN Design Guide, as well, for national products, that of an EMN NCP's legal entity. New measures will continue to be considered in 2015-2016 in relation to the provision of information to the wider public and where relevant translation of national legislation including efforts to capitalise on the potential of social media tools. EMN outputs should therefore only be provided to NCPs in a commonly agreed digital format with further distribution/printing of such material transferred to the individual EMN Member

State. At the national level, EMN NCPs may promote specific communication, dissemination and visibility strategies, based on national needs.

2.4.1 EMN and National Websites

The public EMN Website shall continue to be maintained in order to serve as an up-to-date point-of-reference for the wider public, whereby they can easily access EMN generated outputs. Other target audiences include EMN NCPs, EU agencies and other institutional referrers, and the wider public interested in finding up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information about migration and international protection in the EU and Norway. The EMN website will complement and be coherent with other relevant EU websites, such as the EU Immigration Portal, the European Website on Integration and the EU anti-trafficking website. Efforts will be continued in order to monitor and analyse website access by users. The Information Exchange System for EMN NCPs will continue to be maintained to serve as an up-to-date point-of-reference for policymakers and practitioners, whereby they can access EMN generated information to support their needs.

EMN NCPs shall maintain complementary national websites providing targeted information tailored to their national audiences, which may include a repository of national case law, legislation and non-EMN publications. National websites should also take account of the information needs of the wider public. Whilst the specific design of a national website shall be the responsibility of an individual EMN NCP, it shall nevertheless make clear that they are part of the EMN. A greater emphasis will be placed on monitoring website usage also at national levels.

As a complement to the EMN and national websites, and in order to reach out to a wider audience, the [EMN Wikipedia page](#) shall be maintained, in a range of Member State languages.

2.4.2 EMN Conference 2015-2016

Up to two EMN Conferences could be organised annually in 2015 & 2016 respectively. The form, responsible organisers and thematic approaches, as well as participants, shall be determined by the European Commission & EMN NCPs.

2.4.3 (Inter) National Events

EMN NCPs may participate in other (inter)national workshops/seminars/conferences not organised by the EMN, but only when the event occurs within an EU Member State or Norway and when an EMN NCP's participation involves the presentation of an EMN Study(ies) or concerns a topic of relevance to the activities of the EMN. Participation at an event outside the EU or Norway may be possible following prior approval by the Commission, again subject to the presentation of an EMN Study(ies) or where the event concerns a topic of relevance to the activities of the EMN and if this is consistent with the approach for networking with other entities (see section 3.3.3).

2.5 Co-ordination of EMN NCP activities

Necessary efforts to co-ordinate the activities given above, as well as for the management of a grant shall be undertaken. The EMN Handbook, which serves as reference document for the *modus operandi* of the EMN, shall be maintained, with efforts made to increase its accessibility. The Guide for Applicants will be reviewed as and when deemed necessary to include more details on sound and efficient financial management.

An application for EMN NCP action grants may be submitted as soon as the Commission decision on the EMN Work Programme 2015-2016 serving as financing decision is adopted and published under this general suspensive condition:

- the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2015 are available after the adoption of the budget for 2015 by the budgetary authority or if the budget is not adopted as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

3. Budgetary Provisions in 2015-16

The Asylum Migration and Integration Fund supports the European Migration Network and provides the financial assistance necessary for its activities and its future development. The total budget foreseen for the implementation of EMN activities in 2015-2016 is **EUR13.400.000**.

The amount made available for the European Migration Network under the 2015 appropriations of the Fund will cover the implementation of the ENM activities in 2015-2016 as presented in this work programme in accordance with Article 22 (2) of Regulation (EU) No 516/2014. .

3.1 Grants for EMN NCPs

The total EU contribution foreseen for 2015-2016 for the support of EMN NCPs is **EUR 12.375.000**. The Commission shall implement the EU financial support in accordance with the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the EU.

Financial assistance provided for the activities of the European Migration Network shall take the form of grants to the National Contact Points referred to in Article 3 of Decision 2008/381/EC and public contracts as appropriate, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. The assistance shall ensure appropriate and timely financial support to those National Contact Points. Grants shall be awarded without a call for proposals pursuant to Article 190(1) (d) RAP to the below listed EMN NCPs on the basis of individual grant applications.

There will be a strong correlation between the previous year's NCP performance and the determination of the final amount of the grants which will also take into account migration population challenge in relation to actual population size. In accordance with Article 22 4(a) of the basic act establishing AMIF and amending Article 4(5)(a) of the EMN Council Decision, the indicative amount of the EU contribution for each EMN NCP is given in the following Table.

	Member State	EU contribution (in EUR)
1	Austria	675.000
2	Belgium	540.000
3	Bulgaria	120.000
4	Croatia	110.000
5	Cyprus	140.000
6	Czech Republic	120.000
7	Estonia	350.000
8	Finland	810.000
9	France	500.000
10	Germany	780.000
11	Greece	300.000
12	Hungary	290.000
13	Ireland	700.000
14	Italy	670.000
15	Latvia	235.000
16	Lithuania	350.000

17	Luxembourg	790.000
18	Malta	145.000
19	Netherlands	970.000
20	Poland	215.000
21	Portugal	360.000
22	Romania	100.000
23	Slovak Republic	400.000
24	Slovenia	115.000
25	Spain	710.000
26	Sweden	960.000
27	United Kingdom	920.000
	TOTAL	12.375.000

The actual EU contribution to an EMN NCP will be determined on the basis of the grant application submitted by the EMN NCP. The maximum EU co-financing is set at 80% of the Total Eligible Costs. Grants shall be covered by a written agreement. The period of eligibility for costs incurred for the implementation of 2015-2016 activities of the NCPs supported through grants may be from 1 January 2015 until 31 December 2016.

The award criteria will be the relevance of the proposal with regards to the objectives of the EMN, the estimated impact and cost effectiveness of the proposed activities.

The maximum EU funding for indirect costs (overheads) is set at a flat-rate of 7% of the Total Direct Eligible Costs.

Each EMN NCP shall submit, within 60 days after the end of the reporting period, a detailed narrative report describing the activities undertaken and their impacts, along with a detailed budget report.

3.2 Procurement

An amount of **EUR 1.025.000** is allocated for procurement contracts.

Type, indicative timetable and object of the contracts

- (a) Service Provider activities to assist the Commission in the organisation of the work of the EMN: service contract, a possible prolongation of the existing service contract is foreseen for Q3 2016.
- (b) Supporting communication and dissemination activities of EMN: 2 specific contracts, Q1-Q4 2015.
- (c) Performing related activities and/or specific studies which are, for example, very technical and/or external-EU activities which the EMN is not in a position to do: 2 specific contracts, Q1 – Q4 2015.

Appendix 1

Definitions of EMN outputs

Ad-Hoc Query

Ad-Hoc Queries are a means by which EMN NCPs and the Commission can collect information from the Member States in a relatively short time on a wide range of asylum- and migration-related issues, e.g. legal migration, irregular migration, borders, return, visas etc. The network produces compilations of the responses to Ad-Hoc Queries, which rapidly assess the perspective of responding Member States in relation to a specific topic.³

Ad-Hoc Query Compilation

A summary document containing all Member State responses to an EMN Ad-Hoc Query, quality checked to a high level for consistency and accuracy, prepared by the launching EMN NCP.

Ad-Hoc Query Overview

A short overview of the main findings of an EMN Ad-Hoc Query, prepared by the EMN NCP launching the Study and accompanying the Ad-Hoc Query compilation.

Ad-Hoc Query Summary

A succinct summary of EMN NCP responses to one or more related EMN Ad-Hoc Queries presenting as an accessible narrative, drawing out the key findings and highlighting issues relevant to policymakers, prepared by the EMN Service Provider.

Annual Policy Report

In accordance with Article 9 of Council Decision 2008/381/EC, the EMN Annual Policy Report serves to provide an overall insight into the most significant political and legislative (including EU) developments, as well as public debates in the area of migration and asylum. These reports include, to the extent possible, relevant statistical data (even if tentative) to quantify the explanation of developments and indicate any trends in the reference year. Since 2009, the Annual Policy Report has contributed to the Commission's Annual Reports on Immigration and Asylum, reviewing the progress made in the implementation of asylum and migration policy.

Country Factsheets

Country Factsheets are updated on an annual basis, and provide succinct information on the most significant political and legislative developments in migration and international protection taking place in the Member States and Norway, plus the latest migration and international protection statistics.

Organograms: Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies

Succinct summaries of the organisation of asylum and migration policies in each Member State and Norway are produced, including an organogram, and are updated to include significant national development, when these take place.

EMN Studies

The EMN produces Studies relevant to policymakers at national and EU levels, to meet both long-term and short-term needs. Study topics are selected from proposals made by individual or groups of EMN NCP(s) and/or the European Commission, based on their relevance to policymaking in the Member States and the Commission and its agencies. Topics may be proposed for in-depth,

³ EMN Leaflet, March 2013

strategic studies, with long-term relevance (*Main Studies*), or for shorter studies to meet a short-term information need (*Focussed Studies*). The Steering Board reviews and formally approves the selection of topics within the context of an annual EMN Work Programme⁴.

EMN Inform⁵

EMN Informs provide succinct key findings and messages to policymakers on a specific topic based on the results of information gathered and analysed by the EMN, for example, from Reports and Studies, or from Ad-Hoc Queries.

EMN Bulletin⁶

The EMN Bulletin provide up-to-date, topical information on a regular basis to policymakers and practitioners, to inform them of current and recent developments at EU and Member State level, including, to the extent possible, (latest) published statistics, primarily from Eurostat. The statistics provide a “snapshot” of the migratory situation in the EU and its Member States and are updated in light of any recent published statistics from Eurostat or Member State authorities.

EMN Status Report⁷

In accordance with Article 4(5c) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC, annual EMN Status Reports (subject to the approval of the Steering Board) are drafted to inform the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, of the on-going activities of the EMN and the key findings of its studies. The Status Reports thus cover the main outputs of the EMN in a particular year and further include information on, amongst others, the extent of networking, the activities taken to promote the EMN to a wider audience and information on how the EMN is managed.

⁴ EMN Leaflet, March 2013

⁵ EMN Leaflet, March 2013

⁶ EMN Handbook V2

⁷ EMN Handbook V2

ANNEX II

EMN National Contact points

MEMBER STATE	EMN NCPs – beneficiaries identified in the basic act as recipients of the grant¹
AUSTRIA	International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Office in Vienna
BELGIUM	Belgian Immigration Office (DVZ/OE)
BULGARIA	Ministry of Interior
CROATIA	Ministry of Interior
CYPRUS	Ministry of Interior
CZECH REPUBLIC	Department for Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of Interior
ESTONIA	Estonian Academy of Security Sciences
FINLAND	Finnish Immigration Service (Migri)
FRANCE	Ministry of Interior
GERMANY	Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)
GREECE	Ministry of Interior
HUNGARY	Ministry of Interior
IRELAND	Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)
ITALY	National Research Council
LATVIA	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (PMLP)
LITHUANIA	International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Office in Vilnius
LUXEMBOURG	University of Luxembourg
MALTA	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security
NETHERLANDS	Immigration and Naturalisation Service Information and Analysis Centre (INDIAC)
POLAND	Ministry of Interior
PORTUGAL	Immigration and Borders Service (SEF)
ROMANIA	General Inspectorate for Immigration
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Office in Bratislava
SLOVENIA	Ministry of Interior
SPAIN	General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration, Ministry of Employment and social Security
SWEDEN	Swedish Migration Board
UNITED KINGDOM	Home Office Science, Migration and Border Analysis (MBA)

¹ The beneficiaries hereby identified may implement the action in partnership with other entities belonging to the National Administration to be identified in each legal commitment.