



Brussels, 17.10.2022  
C(2022) 7243 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 17.10.2022**

**on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2023 - 2025**

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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### **on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2023 - 2025**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, and in particular Article 11(8) and Article 26(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the proper functioning of the European Migration Network ('EMN'), established by Council Decision 2008/381/EC<sup>1</sup>, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023 - 2025. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) Given the particular nature of the EMN National Contact Points, being a network of EU Member States established by the Council to be co-financed by the EU, it is necessary to adopt this work programme, which is a component of the AMIF thematic facility, separately before the adoption of the work programme for other components of the AMIF thematic facility.
- (3) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (4) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c) of the Financial Regulation indirect management is also to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (6) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial

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<sup>1</sup> Council Decision 2008/381/EC of 14 May 2008 establishing a European Migration Network (OJ L 131, 21.5.2008, p. 7).

Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark did not take part in the adoption of Council Decision 2008/381/EC and is not bound by it or subject to its application. In consequence, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Steering Board of the European Migration Network established by Article 4 of Decision 2008/381/EC.
- (11) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Home Affairs Funds,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The work programme*

The financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund for years 2023-2025, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the work programme for the years 2023-2025 is set at EUR 36 000 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 10 02 01 Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the general budget of the Union, as follows:

- (a) EUR 33 000 000 for 2023;
- (b) EUR 2 000 000 for 2024;
- (c) EUR 1 000 000 for 2025.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations:

- (a) as provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2023, following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths;

- (b) as provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024 and 2025 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

*Article 3*

*Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4 of that Annex.

*Article 4*

*Flexibility clause*

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

*Article 5*

*Grants*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 17.10.2022

*For the Commission*

*Ylva JOHANSSON*

*Member of the Commission*



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ANNEX

**ANNEX**

**to the**

**Commission Implementing Decision**

**on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the Thematic Facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme 2023 - 2025**

## **ANNEX**

### **to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme 2023 - 2025**

#### 1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the in Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund<sup>1</sup>, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for years 2023 - 2025 as follows:

- for grants implemented under direct management (point 2),
- for procurement implemented under direct management (point 3),
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 4),
- for other actions or expenditure (point 5).

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 271, 15.07.2021, p. 1.

(a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Detailed priorities of the European Migration Network (EMN) for 2023–2025 and indicative grant allocations for the EMN National Contact Points ('EMN NCPs') were discussed in the EMN Steering Board meeting of 25 May 2022 and subsequently endorsed.

Budget line

10 02 01

<b>Implementation arrangements</b>	<b>Amounts in EUR</b>
Grants:	25 849 000
Procurement:	4 280 000
Indirect management:	3 621 000
Other actions or expenditures:	2 250 000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>36 000 000</b>

Objectives pursued and expected results

As stated in Council Decision 2008/381/EC establishing a European Migration Network, the objective of the EMN shall be to meet the information needs of Union institutions and of Member States' authorities and institutions on migration and asylum, by providing up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum, with a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in these areas. The EMN shall also serve to provide the wider public with such information.

In accordance with Article 2 of Council Decision 2008/381/EC, these objectives should be achieved by:

- collecting and exchanging up-to-date and reliable data and information from a wide range of sources;
- analysing such data and information and provide this in a readily accessible format;
- in collaboration with other relevant EU bodies, contributing to the development of indicators and criteria that will improve the consistency of information and helping in the development of Union activities related to migratory statistics;
- producing and publishing periodic reports on the migration and asylum situation in the Union and the Member States;
- maintaining the existing Internet-based information exchange system which provides access to relevant documents and publications in the area of migration and asylum;
- raising awareness of the EMN, by providing access to the information it gathers and disseminating the output of the EMN, unless this information is of a confidential nature;
- co-ordinating information and cooperating with other relevant European, national and international bodies.

The EMN adds a unique added value to the realisation of the above objectives, due to the presence of a national contact point in each Member State and through the quality of its outputs shared under an EU-wide coverage, with a strong focus on analysis and the public availability of its outputs.

The EMN shall continue to enhance cooperation while avoiding duplicating the work of existing EU instruments or structures (e.g. European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX)), European External Action Service (EAAS), other European Commission departments and services (e.g. DG Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL), DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), DG European Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), DG International Partnerships (DG INTPA), DG Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD), DG Joint Research Centre (DG JRC), Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD), Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), Eurostat), Migration Policy Centre (MPC) at the European University Institute (EUI) and networks (e.g. General Directors of Immigration Services Conference (GDISC), European Network on Integration, Prague Process, Budapest Process) as well as with international organisations (e.g. International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), International Labour Organization (ILO), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Council of Europe, the World Bank) and civil society (e.g., European Network on Statelessness, Missing Children Europe, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, International Committee of the Red Cross, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)) etc.

A new external evaluation of the EMN will be undertaken at the end of 2024. .

The work programme for the EMN for the period 2023 -2025 includes the action grants to the EMN NCPs of the EU Member States participating in the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), actions implemented through procurement and other actions or expenditures including a co-delegation with the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (JUST).

Consistency and co-ordination with the relevant Union instrument and structures in the area of migration and asylum will be ensured.

## 2. Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 25 849 000.

### 2.1. Direct Awards of Action grants to EMN National Contact Points

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Entities appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for 2022-2025 as main applicants and possibly other entities, only as co-applicants, belonging to the



national administration to be identified in the grant agreement.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation

To pursue the main objective of the EMN Work Programme 2023-2025: to provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information to meet the information needs of EU as well as of authorities and institutions in the EU Member States and of EMN observer members,<sup>2</sup> in a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in the area of migration and asylum, the EMN will notably focus on the following priority activities :

- To **contribute to information needs feeding policymaking** and responses to migration emergency situations in the European Union in the following **specific thematic areas** which should be taken into account when determining the focus of EMN activities notably its publications, capacity building workshops and thematic events:
  - Innovative methods and approaches in migration. This should build on work already conducted in 2021 and 2022 and will encompass new technologies; new narratives, new governance cooperation schemes etc.
  - Gathering information on the development of innovative approaches to **facilitate attracting talent** to the EU as a whole and matching talent from third countries with European employers to assist in filling labour shortages.
  - Providing an overview of **migration partnership instruments with third countries** as well as contributing to the development of such instruments, incentives and potential leverages by collecting relevant information on existing practices and policies. Reporting on the coordination, impact and sustainability of migration partnerships of EU Member States with third countries on all sectors by providing an overview of good practices and challenges.
- Where deemed relevant and endorsed by the EMN Steering Board, the EMN will **reprioritise activities to be able to respond to emerging migration policy needs** ensuring a balanced use of **EMN resources**. Notably, the EMN would:
  - take into account the conflict in Ukraine and other emerging situations, at EU external borders, prioritise the collection and sharing of information concerning impacts and responses linked to emerging migration and/or asylum situations including contingency planning and preparedness under the EMN Rapid Information Collection Working Group RIC.
  - where requested by the Commission, and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share qualitative information useful to contribute to the Commission **reporting processes on the implementation of EU legislation and policies**.
  - where requested by the Commission and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share information useful to contribute to the process of

<sup>2</sup> In 2021 Moldova and Georgia joined the EMN as Observer Countries. In 2022 additional non-EU Countries Ukraine, Montenegro, Armenia and Serbia are in the process of joining the EMN as Observer Countries as well.

**developing better ad-hoc fitness checks, evaluations, and impact assessments carried out by the Commission.**

- Ensure that the European Migration Network Information Exchange System can adequately respond to and facilitate exchanges among national authorities, while hosting and maintaining migration related **IT-tools at the EU level useful for migration management purposes** (e.g., tools seeking to provide technical solutions to facilitate reporting, operational cooperation or collect migration data.
- To optimize further the EMN data collection and validation processes with a view to reduce further the related workloads.
- **To contribute to the improvement of comparability of statistics** including through reinforced cooperation with EUROSTAT on harmonising the use of statistics across the EU and for preparation of the statistical annex of the EMN annual report on migration and asylum and of the EMN country factsheets.
- **To foster a common understanding and use of terms on migration and asylum** based on agreed definitions including through the further development and dissemination of the EMN glossary.
- To systematically consider **cooperation with relevant EU institutions, agencies, international and non -government organisations exchange and engage with experts from the public or private sector and academia** to increase the quality and relevance of the information produced.
- To share **good practices and contribute to the development of practical cooperation** and knowledge building on migration and asylum at both EU and national levels to overcome identified challenges and barriers, including the pooling of resources and expertise. This includes gathering information on Member States' practices and facilitating practitioner cooperation with Member States on specific aspects of migration including identifying and sharing innovative best practices as well as promising and innovative ideas and proposals to the challenges faced by policy makers and practitioners.
- To ensure effective collaboration with new EMN observer members from **EU candidate, potential candidate countries and partnership countries**, to ensure their inputs are usefully evaluated and integrated in EMN publications, workshops, and events.
- **Engaging with third countries** within the EU enlargement, neighbourhood and eastern partnership policies with the aim to share information and improve mutual understanding on asylum and migration issues.
- To share and exchange **Commission and Member States migration narratives**, the EMN will be used as a platform for targeted dialogue on migration topics to better inform the public and to disseminate information to policy makers at EU and National level. Moreover, the EMN will complement this outreach by organising dedicated webinars and conferences on specific migration topics of interest to the Commission and the MS.

Actions shall be implemented in line with the detailed priorities and objectives for the EMN for 2023–2025 as endorsed on 25 May 2022 at the EMN Steering Board meeting.

## Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

## Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main applicants must be the entities appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for 2023-2025.

## Indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs

In accordance with Article 4(5) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC the indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs in the EU Member States have been endorsed by the EMN Steering Board following its meeting on 25 May 2022.

### 3. Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in the period 2023 - 2025 is EUR 4 280 000.

#### 3.1. Actions implemented by procurement contracts

## General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical assistance: service provider activities to assist the Commission in the organisation of the work of the EMN

Communication services: organisation of EU level events for the dissemination of the main results of the EMN activities

Studies: evaluation study of the EMN.

## Implementation

These actions will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

### 4. Actions implemented in indirect management

The global budgetary envelope reserved for actions implemented in indirect management under this work programme is EUR 3 621 000.

#### 4.1. Contribution agreements with EMN National Contact Points

## Implementing entities

International organisations and entities assimilated to international organisations in accordance with Article 156 of the Financial Regulation, which are appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for the period 2023 - 2025 as main

applicants, and in particular the International Organization for Migration.

This concerns in particular organisations which have been subject to an ex ante assessment pursuant to Article 154 of the Financial Regulation, including those that are signatories of a framework partnership agreement in force concluded with the Commission pursuant to Council Regulation (EU) 2016/369, or those that are covered by the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement concluded with the United Nations.

In case it is not possible to sign a contribution agreement with the selected participants, the Commission reserves the right to sign a grant agreement under the same conditions provided for in point 2.1.

#### Description of the activities to be funded by the contribution agreements.

To pursue the main objective of the EMN Work Programme 2023-2025: to provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information to meet the information needs of EU as well as of authorities and institutions in the EU Member States and of EMN observer members,<sup>3</sup> in a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in the area of migration and asylum, the EMN will notably focus on the following priority activities:

- To **contribute to information needs feeding policymaking** and responses to migration emergency situations in the European Union in the following **specific thematic areas** which should be taken into account when determining the focus of EMN activities notably its publications, capacity building workshops and thematic events:
  - Innovative methods and approaches in migration. This should build on work already conducted in 2021 and 2022 and will encompass new technologies; new narratives, new governance cooperation schemes etc.
  - Gathering information on the development of innovative approaches to **facilitate attracting talent** to the EU as a whole and matching talent from third countries with European employers to assist in filling labour shortages.
  - Providing an overview of **migration partnership instruments with third countries** as well as contributing to the development of such instruments, incentives and potential leverages by collecting relevant information on existing practices and policies. Reporting on the coordination, impact and sustainability of migration partnerships of EU Member States with third countries on all sectors by providing an overview of good practices and challenges.
- Where deemed relevant and endorsed by the EMN Steering Board, the EMN will **reprioritise activities to be able to respond to emerging migration policy needs** ensuring a balanced use of **EMN resources**. Notably, the EMN would:
  - take into account the conflict in Ukraine and other emerging situations, at EU external borders, prioritise the collection and sharing of information concerning impacts and responses linked to emerging migration and/or asylum situations including contingency planning and preparedness under the EMN Rapid Information Collection Working Group RIC.

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- where requested by the Commission, and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share qualitative information useful to contribute to EU Commission **reporting processes on the implementation of EU legislation and policies**.
  - where requested by the Commission and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share information useful to contribute to the process of **developing better ad-hoc fitness checks, evaluations, and impact assessments carried out by the Commission**.
  - Ensure that the European Migration Network Information Exchange System can adequately respond to and facilitate exchanges among national authorities, while hosting and maintaining migration related **IT-tools at the EU level useful for migration management purposes** (e.g., tools seeking to provide technical solutions to facilitate reporting, operational cooperation or collect migration data.
- To optimize further the EMN data collection and validation processes with a view to reduce further the related workloads.
  - **To contribute to the improvement of comparability of statistics** including through reinforced cooperation with EUROSTAT on harmonising the use of statistics across the EU and for preparation of the statistical annex of the EMN annual report on migration and asylum and of the EMN country factsheets.
  - **To foster a common understanding and use of terms on migration and asylum** based on agreed definitions including through the further development and dissemination of the EMN glossary.
  - To systematically consider **cooperation with relevant EU institutions, agencies, international and non-government organisations exchange and engage with experts from the public or private sector and academia** to increase the quality and relevance of the information produced.
  - To share **good practices and contribute to the development of practical cooperation** and knowledge building on migration and asylum at both EU and national levels to overcome identified challenges and barriers, including the pooling of resources and expertise. This includes gathering information on Member States' practices and facilitating practitioner cooperation with Member States on specific aspects of migration including identifying and sharing innovative best practices as well as promising and innovative ideas and proposals to the challenges faced by policy makers and practitioners.
  - To ensure effective collaboration with new EMN observer members from **EU candidate, potential candidate countries and partnership countries**, to ensure their inputs are usefully evaluated and integrated in EMN publications, workshops, and events.
  - **Engaging with third countries** within the EU enlargement, neighbourhood and eastern partnership policies with the aim to share information and improve mutual understanding on asylum and migration issues.
  - To share and exchange **Commission and Member States migration narratives**, the EMN will be used as a platform for targeted dialogue on migration topics to better inform the public and to disseminate information to policy makers at EU and national level. Moreover, the EMN will complement this outreach by organising dedicated

webinars and conferences on specific migration topics of interest to the Commission and the MS.

Actions shall be implemented in line with the detailed priorities and objectives for the EMN for 2023–2025 as endorsed on 25 May 2022 at the EMN Steering Board meeting.

### Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main applicants must be pillar assessed entities appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for 2023-2025.

### Indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs

In accordance with Article 4(5) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC the indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs in the EU Member States have been endorsed by the EMN Steering Board following its meeting on 25 May 2022.

#### 5. Other actions or expenditure

##### 5.1. IT services provided by the Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers

### Amount

The global budgetary envelope reserved for other actions or expenditure under this work programme is EUR 2 250 000.

### Description

This action allows further development of IT migration management tools for the Member States and the Commission. The action will also help the EMN in meeting information needs on migration and asylum, through the EMN Information Exchange System (EMN IES).