



Brussels, 10.5.2019
C(2019) 3371 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION DECISION

**on the financing of Union Actions in the framework of the Asylum, Migration and
Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2019**

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ANNEX

Work programme for 2019 for Union actions in the framework of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

1. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, amending Council Decision 2008/381/EC and repealing Decisions No 573/2007/EC and No 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decision 2007/435/EC¹, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for 2019 as follows:

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

1.1. Legal basis

Entities established in Member States participating in the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund AMIF (i.e. all except Denmark) can be beneficiaries of AMIF-supported actions. Entities established in Denmark can participate on a no-cost basis only.

All activities of the work programme must respect and be implemented in line with the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. All actions concerning children must respect and be implemented in line with the UN Convention on the rights of the child. Any beneficiaries working directly with children should have a well-defined child safeguarding/child protection policy. The increase in the number of migrant children (unaccompanied/separated or within families) should be reflected in the design and implementation of actions set out below.

Consistency, complementarity and synergies with other Union instruments will be ensured. In accordance with Article 3(4) and Article 3(5) of Regulation (EU) No 514/2014², actions in relation with third countries will be carried out in synergy and coherence with other actions outside the Union supported from Union funds, in particular external assistance instruments. Such actions are identified and implemented in full coordination with the European External Action Service (EEAS) and relevant Commission external relations services, including the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) as far as humanitarian assistance is concerned. They will be fully consistent with and, where relevant, complement the Union's humanitarian policy, and respect the principles set out in the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid³.

¹ OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 168.

² Regulation (EU) No 514/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 laying down general provisions on the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and on the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management (OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 112).

³ *The European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid*, Joint Statement by the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission 2008/C 25/01 (OJ C 25, 30.1.2008, p. 1).

1.2. Budget lines

Implementation arrangements	Budget line 18 03 01 01: Strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System and enhancing solidarity and responsibility-sharing between Member States	Budget line 18 03 01 02: Supporting legal migration to the Union, promoting the effective integration of third-country nationals and enhancing fair and effective return strategies	TOTAL
Grants	12.100.000 EUR	22.800.000 EUR	34.900.000 EUR
Procurement	58.000 EUR	2.507.000 EUR	2.565.000 EUR
Indirect Management	0 EUR	19.000.000 EUR	19.000.000 EUR
Other actions or expenditures	375.000 EUR	1.480.000 EUR	1.855.000 EUR
TOTAL	12.533.000 EUR	45.787.000 EUR	58.320.000 EUR

1.3. Objectives pursued

Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest common asylum standards in the world. Moreover, in the past three years the European migration policy has further developed based on the European Agenda on Migration proposed by the Juncker Commission in May 2015⁴. As demonstrated in the regular reports on the implementation of the European Agenda on Migration, the EU continues to actively seek a joint approach to migration, and many actions support refugees and asylum seekers and help Member States in need.

The Agenda sets out a comprehensive approach addressing irregular migration, border management, asylum policy and legal migration; it puts also an emphasis on returns, protecting external borders, solidarity with countries of origin, opening legal pathways and modernising the European visa policy. In addition, integrating migrants into European host societies and fighting against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings will remain priorities in 2019.

⁴ *A European Agenda on Migration*, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (COM(2015) 240 final).

1.4. Expected results

The work programme for 2019 for Union actions in the framework of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) will support the efforts listed above and further increase support for managing migration, and will result in:

- more support to Member States under high migratory pressure;
- more support for legal migration and the early integration of legally staying non-EU citizens;
- countering irregular migration, increasing the effective return of those people who have no right to stay and cooperation on readmission with third countries;
- equipping the Union with faster and more flexible means of responding to crises.

2. GRANTS

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 34 900 000.

2.1. Call for proposals for transnational actions on asylum, migration and integration

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Applicants and co-applicants targeted by this call for proposals are⁵:

- legal persons established in a Member State participating in AMIF. In duly justified cases, where their participation is necessary to achieve the objectives of the programme and if explicitly mentioned for that (those) call topic(s) in the call for proposals text, entities established in third countries can participate, but only as co-applicants. The eligible third countries, if any, will be specified for the relevant call topic(s), in the call for proposals text. If eligible for (a) call topic(s), international organisations may be established outside of the Member States participating in AMIF;
- public bodies (including local authorities, public employment services, youth services and education institutions), non-profit-making private entities or, if explicitly mentioned in the call for proposals text for the relevant topic(s) of the call, for-profit private entities working on a non-profit basis, or international organisations.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

⁵ Union agencies cannot be applicants or co-applicants. More specific eligibility criteria for the topics can be set in the call for proposals text.

2.1.1. Topic 1: Fostering the integration of persons in need of protection through private sponsorship schemes

As mentioned in the Communication on the Delivery of the European Agenda on Migration⁶, the EU is working to provide increased legal channels for the growing number of displaced persons in need of international protection. In this context, since 2015 an increasing number of people have been resettled through European, national and multilateral schemes. In the same Communication, the Commission invited Member States to explore ways to establish private sponsorship schemes where civil society organisations provide support for the settlement and integration for persons. Providing funding is one option to support the set-up of private sponsorship schemes in the EU, as identified in the Commission's study⁷ on this topic. With a strong involvement of local communities and civil society organisations, these schemes allow strengthened capacities at local level to provide adequate support for integration.

2.1.2. Topic 2: Social orientation of newly arrived third-country nationals through involvement of local communities, including mentoring and volunteering activities

Upon arrival, and in the very early stages of the integration process, migrants can very often experience difficulties in their social orientation, i.e. in adapting to their new geographical, social and administrative environment, as well as in dealing with authorities, public services or handling paperwork. These difficulties to adapt to a different environment can slow down the integration process and affect its outcome. The involvement of the local community can facilitate overcoming these difficulties through, for example, mentoring programmes and/or volunteering activities to provide support to third-country nationals in areas such as dealing with administrative procedures in the field of health and housing, access to education, knowledge of the new geographical environment, culture, basic language skills, etc. These activities could involve the local population with individuals or families. Programmes would not only facilitate the early integration steps of newly arrived migrants but also foster exchanges between migrants and the host society, thus contributing to mutual understanding, knowledge and building of a more cohesive community.

2.1.3. Topic 3: Social and economic integration of migrant women

In many EU countries, the latest analysis carried out in the context of the European semester⁸ point at significant gaps in integration outcomes between migrant men and women. For example, in 2016, the gap between the employment rate of non-EU-born males and non-EU-born females was almost 20 percentage points, a much higher gap than between native males and women (14.5 percentage points); in both cases, women have the lower employment rates. In some cases, this can be linked to their societal isolation, which does not facilitate the learning of the language and of the culture of the host country, nor the building of relationships with members of the host community, thus becoming an obstacle to their social inclusion. The Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), in its publication "Making integration work - family migrants" published in 2017⁹, pointed at the gender dimension of family migration and at the difficulties encountered by women to integrate, in particular in the labour market. The OECD stressed the need to address the social isolation of

⁶ COM(2017) 558 final.

⁷ Study on the feasibility and added value of sponsorship schemes as a possible pathway to safe channels for admission to the

EU, including resettlement, available at <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/1dbb0873-d349-11e8-9424-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-77978210>

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/2018-european-semester-country-reports_en

⁹ https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/making-integration-work_9789264279520-en#page3

women and put in place measures to facilitate their social integration. An effective social integration of women in the host society, in particular the capacity to interact and feel at ease with the new social environment, can have a positive impact and as well facilitate the integration in the labour market. Projects should support the social integration of women by facilitating contacts and exchanges with their new environment and host society; their participation to social and political life at local level (e.g. by encouraging them to participate to and/or initiate social/cultural/sport activities, which may include a language training component as well as literacy skills); and/or their professional integration in particular by addressing obstacles to their integration in the labour market (e.g. by providing childcare, helping in drafting CVs and preparing for a job interview, helping in developing social and professional networks).

2.1.4. Topic 4: Awareness raising and information campaigns on the risks of irregular migration in selected third countries and within Europe

The EU Action plan against migrant smuggling¹⁰ states that raising awareness of the risks of smuggling and irregular migration is crucial for preventing prospective migrants and asylum seekers, including people in more vulnerable situations such as children, from embarking on hazardous journeys towards the EU. The Action Plan foresees the launch of information and awareness raising campaigns in key countries of origin or transit for migrants. The objective of the information and awareness raising campaigns is to sensitise the target audience and to provide prospective migrants, vulnerable communities, diaspora members and local media with objective information about the perils and difficulties of voyages and about the legal, social and economic realities of life in Europe. Ultimately, these campaigns seek to enable asylum seekers and migrants to make informed decisions about their movements and plans for the future. In addition, information campaigns both in Europe and in third countries should also emphasise the opportunities for voluntary returns to countries of origin for those not in need of international protection, who feel their expectations do not match the reality either on route or in Europe.

2.1.5. Topic 5: Support to victims of trafficking in human beings

Providing better access to and realising the rights of the victims of trafficking in human beings is a priority under the 2017 Communication reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions¹¹. Basing on the Communication, and on findings of reports such as the Frontex Risk Analysis 2018¹² and the second report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking of human beings¹³, this topic aims at strengthening relevant stakeholders in the context of the implementation of the EU Anti-trafficking Directive with respect, in particular, to provisions on assistance and support for victims¹⁴. Supported transnational projects will contribute to the implementation of the 2017 Communication by supporting anti-trafficking objectives and priorities for third country nationals victims of trafficking. Supported projects must ensure that they take into consideration the gender-specific nature of this phenomenon as well as the high-risk groups and sectors it affects. This includes initiatives aiming at: early identification; provision of assistance and protection, considering the specific needs of the victims and appropriate for their age, gender, and the specific consequences of the form of exploitation

¹⁰ COM(2015) 285 final.

¹¹ COM(2017) 728 final.

¹² https://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/Risk_Analysis/Risk_Analysis_for_2018.pdf

¹³ COM(2018) 777 final.

¹⁴ Art. 11, 13 and 14 of Directive 2011/36/EU.

they have been subjected to; integration, safe and sustainable voluntary return; durable solutions for child victims; prevention of re-trafficking.

2.1.6. Topic 6: Protection of children in migration

The European Commission issued in April 2017 a Communication on the protection of children in migration, setting out detailed actions to be implemented by the EU and its Member States in order to address existing gaps in the protection of the migrant children. Since then some good progress has been achieved in the implementation of the communication in several fields, but further efforts are needed in most areas, especially as regards improving the reception of migrant children and facilitating the integration of those who will remain in the EU. The Communication underlined that EU funding must contribute to the protection of children in migration and support integrated child protection systems. Alternative care systems, including family-based care, foster care, and supervised independent living arrangements, have expanded in recent years in the EU, and the access of migrant children to such forms of care should be prioritized. The legislation of several Member States foresees alternatives to the detention of migrant children, yet in practice these alternatives are either not used or used in a limited way. Activities to be funded include exchange of good practices and/or capacity-building and/or logistic support for the implementation, expansion and improvement of alternative care systems for migrant children (such as foster care, family-based care and/or supervised independent living); effective alternatives to detention (such as regular reporting to the authorities by the appointed representative/family-based care/foster carers, the deposit of a financial guarantee, or an obligation to stay at an assigned place, as laid down in national law); and projects aimed to facilitate the integration of migrant children in the host communities.

2.1.7. Topic 7: Transnational projects by Member States for training of experts in the area of asylum and immigration

Setting-up of transnational initiatives aim to develop and implement training activities within Member States' administrations, in close cooperation with European Asylum Support Office (EASO). Activities would include: (i) identification of specific training needs in the field of asylum, immigration and relevant Union law within Member States' administrations, which are not covered by the training strategy developed by EASO in accordance with its mandate¹⁵; (ii) provision of quality training on asylum and immigration-related matters to selected national officials, complementing EASO's training and focusing on building capacities and expertise within Member States' administrations, notably in view of deployment of national experts in Member States facing high migratory pressure.

Implementation

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

¹⁵ Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 439/2010.

2.2. Direct award of a grant without a call for proposals to a consortium led by the Italian Ministry of the Interior to support long-term capacity-building and access to international protection and durable solutions for persons in third countries in the framework of a Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) in North Africa

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award:

This action grant will be awarded directly (without a call for proposals) following an invitation to the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) North Africa consortium of Member States' authorities to submit a proposal, in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation. The direct award of the grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action (which aim to enhance third countries' capacity to provide asylum-seeker and refugees with effective protection, assistance and durable solutions), requiring specific administrative powers, technical competence and a high degree of specialisation in the field of international protection in the targeted countries of the region, that only the consortium of public authorities and the associated organisations possesses (e.g. role and responsibilities in designing a relevant legal, policy, institutional framework; technical competence and presence along the migratory route concerned, etc). In addition, the administrative and leadership responsibilities of the Italian Ministry of Interior as Coordinator of the Regional Development and Protection Programme North Africa justify its appointment as coordinator of the grant.

The Italian Ministry of the Interior will act as leader and coordinator of the consortium. The authorities of Norway can participate in this action on a no-cost basis only. Non-governmental organisations established in the Member States participating in AMIF and international organisations may be associated with the consortium and participate in the implementation as co-beneficiaries.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation:

RDPP assistance to third countries builds on the recognised need for a comprehensive approach to better manage migration and address gaps in migrant protection and asylum, including efforts to increase access to durable solutions.

As set out in the 2005 Communication on Regional Protection Programmes (RPPs)¹⁶, RPPs should support action to enhance third countries' capacity to provide asylum-seekers and refugees with effective protection, assistance and durable solutions (repatriation, local integration and/or resettlement). In line with a more comprehensive approach, which also includes a development dimension, such programmes have been renamed 'Regional Development and Protection Programmes' (RDPPs). Council Conclusions on the Global Approach to Mobility and Migration (GAMM)¹⁷ of May 2012 also stressed the importance of helping third countries to become robust providers of effective protection in accordance with international law, and the contribution of RDPPs to offsetting negative impacts and supporting positive impacts in local communities. Improved safety and the availability of and access to means for self-reliance can avert onward movements and are an important precursor to a

¹⁶ COM(2005) 388 final.

¹⁷ Council document 94171/12.

durable solution. Finally, the Joint Communication on Migration on the Central Mediterranean route Managing flows, saving lives,¹⁸ has put increased focus on actions in North Africa and the countries along the Central Mediterranean migratory route.

The AMIF work programmes for Union actions for 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 supported the RDPP North Africa. This work programme for 2019 will provide additional support for developing the RDPP actions in Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger and Tunisia, as appropriate, with some activities potentially rolled out in other countries depending on changing migratory flows in Africa.

Projects funded under this action will focus on protection-related activities that can have an impact in the EU, including resettlement activities, and will be complementary to, and coordinated with, activities financed under: the development pillar of the RDPP; the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa; the EU humanitarian aid budget; the AMIF-funded Readmission Capacity Building Facility and other existing instruments to support assisted voluntary return and reintegration; initiatives providing information services for migrants and refugees in third-countries; and other funding sources.

The types of activities to be supported include, but are not limited to:

- establishing, developing and improving an effective refugee status determination (RSD) procedure, registration, reception arrangements in host countries, and a legal, policy and institutional framework to help host countries better manage migration and asylum situations;
- assistance to migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees stranded along the migratory route or as they disembark after being rescued at sea;
- encouraging and supporting resettlement commitments by Member States and other resettlement countries;
- training in protection issues for those dealing with refugees and migrants;
- information campaigns on access to international protection, the risks relating to irregular migration and possible alternatives;
- voluntary return and support for returnees from countries of transit to countries of origin in full respect of the principle of non-refoulement;
- integration of migrants and refugees in the host countries in the North Africa region.

A Steering Committee has been set up for the RDPP North Africa, chaired by the Italian Ministry of the Interior and comprising representatives of the Commission, the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), and Member States and countries associated to the Dublin regulation participating in the consortium (Italy, Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom), and, where relevant, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). The Italian Ministry of the Interior provides the secretariat of the Committee and technical support/assistance where necessary.

A sub-group has been set up to steer the AMIF-funded action under the RDPP. The sub-group provides overall strategic guidance for implementation, adopts and (where necessary) revises the action priorities and examines and approves each sub-action to be funded by the AMIF grant. The Committee and the sub-group monitor progress and meet periodically, as laid down

¹⁸ JOIN(2017) 4 final.

in the Committee's terms of reference.

Implementation

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

2.3. Direct award of a grant without a call for proposals to a consortium led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands to support long-term capacity-building and access to international protection and durable solutions for persons in third countries in the framework of the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) in the Horn of Africa

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award:

This action grant will be awarded directly (without a call for proposals) following an invitation to the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) Horn of Africa consortium of Member States' authorities to submit a proposal, in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation. The direct award of the grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action (which aim to enhance third countries' capacity to provide asylum-seeker and refugees with effective protection, assistance and durable solutions), requiring specific administrative powers, technical competence and a high degree of specialisation in the field of international protection in the targeted countries of the region, that only the consortium of public authorities and the associated organisations possesses (e.g. role and responsibilities in designing a relevant legal, policy, institutional framework; technical competence and presence along the migratory route concerned, etc). In addition, the administrative and leadership responsibilities of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Coordinator of the Regional Development and Protection Programme Horn of Africa justify its appointment as coordinator of the grant.

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs will act as leader and coordinator of the consortium. The authorities of Denmark, Norway and Switzerland can participate in this action on a no-cost basis only. Non-governmental organisations established in the Member States participating in AMIF and international organisations may be associated with the consortium and participate in the implementation as co-beneficiaries.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation:

As set out in the 2005 Communication on Regional Protection Programmes (RPPs),¹⁹ RPPs should support action to enhance third countries' capacity to provide asylum-seekers and refugees with effective protection, assistance and durable solutions (repatriation, local integration and/or resettlement). In line with a more comprehensive approach, which also includes a development dimension, such programmes have been renamed 'Regional Development and Protection Programmes' (RDPPs). Council Conclusions on the Global Approach to Mobility and Migration (GAMM) of May 2012 also stressed the importance of helping third countries to become robust providers of effective protection in accordance with international law, and the contribution of RDPPs to offsetting negative impacts and supporting positive impacts in local communities. Improved safety, and the availability of and access to

¹⁹ COM(2005) 388 final.

means for self-reliance can avert onward movements and are an important precursor to a durable solution. The June 2014 European Council Conclusions, the October 2014 Justice and Home Affairs Council Conclusions and the April 2015 European Council Conclusions called for the setting up of an enlarged RDPP in the Horn of Africa.

The AMIF work programmes for Union actions for 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 supported the RDPP Horn of Africa. This work programme for 2019 will provide additional support for developing the RDPP with a focus on Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and, if possible, Somalia, South Sudan, Eritrea and Uganda.

Projects funded under this action will focus on protection-related activities that can have a direct impact in the EU, including resettlement activities, and will be complementary to, and coordinated with, activities financed under: the development pillar of the RDPP Horn of Africa; the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa; the EU humanitarian aid budget; the AMIF-funded Readmission Capacity Building Facility and other existing instruments to support assisted voluntary return and reintegration; initiatives providing information services for migrants and refugees in third-countries; and other funding sources

The types of activities to be supported include, but are not limited to:

- establishment, development and improvement of an effective refugee status determination (RSD) procedure (including registration), including a legal/policy and institutional framework in order to help host countries better manage the migration implications of refugee situations;
- establishment, enlargement and improvement of reception conditions in host countries;
- training in protection issues for those dealing with refugees and migrants;
- information campaigns to migrants and potential asylum-seekers;
- encouragement and support to resettlement commitments by EU Member States and other resettlement countries;
- voluntary return and support to returnees from the countries of transit to the countries of origin in full respect of the principle of non-refoulement;
- support for the integration of migrants and refugees;
- provision of assistance to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees stranded along the migratory route.

Projects could focus on areas such registration and certification of vital events for refugees and host populations. Such activities can have an added value in giving refugees access to services and protection as well as to ensure their participation in the communities of the host countries. Areas such as child protection and protection of victims of sexual and gender-based violence will also remain key.

A Steering Committee has been set up for the RDPP, chaired by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and comprising representatives of the Commission, EEAS, Member States and countries associated to the Dublin regulation participating in the consortium (the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other international partners such as the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

A Steering Group has been set up to steer the AMIF-funded action under the RDPP. It provides strategic guidance for implementation, adopts and (where necessary) revises the action priorities and examines and approves each sub-action to be funded by the AMIF grant. The Committee and the steering group monitor progress and meet periodically, as laid down in the Committee's terms of reference.

Implementation

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

2.4. Direct award of a grant without a call for proposals to the Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE) for the project “E-MINDFUL - Enhancing a European evidence-based Migration Narrative to Develop Further Union's Long-term actions”

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The action grant will be awarded directly (without a call for proposals) following an invitation to the Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE) to submit a proposal, in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation. The direct award of this grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action, requiring technical competence and a high degree of specialisation that only the OSCE possesses. The OSCE is uniquely positioned to provide the most appropriate platform to discuss the implications of misrepresentation of migration and promote a positive narrative due to its geographical coverage ; the Organization's migration-related mandate; the concept of security that the Organization promotes; And the Organization's authoritative voice and convening power and its engagement against fake news, disinformation and propaganda.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposal on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

The political discourse about migration changed significantly in the past few years. Already before the so-called “migration crisis”, the representation of migration as a threat to social cohesion and security had increasingly monopolized the public debate in many countries in the world. Within this discourse, the evidence-based facts about migration are often overlooked, while divisive messages are growingly dominating the public representation of the phenomenon. The gap between reality and perception has widened, with the reinforcement of stereotypes, misconceptions and prejudices about migrants. The growing negative attitude towards migrants in much of the world has made approaches that could better harness the positive contribution of well-governed migration more difficult to implement.

Therefore, changing the narrative of migration to a more balanced and fact-based discourse that, while acknowledging its challenges, highlights the opportunities and resources migrants can bring, is a political responsibility and an emerging need for those who are active players in the public debate and policy-making – governments, media and civil society. Competences of the OSCE open the opportunity of a greater outreach, involving not only EU Member States but also candidate countries in the Western Balkans' region. Both EU Member States and the Western Balkans' region are, in fact, already dealing with common challenges: on the one hand, to reinforce border management capacity vis-à-vis unregulated migration flows; on the

other, to strengthen mechanism of reception of migrants and fostering durable solutions for socioeconomic inclusion. The overarching goal of this action is to promote a coherent awareness-raising strategy in order to foster policy and operational efforts that could better harness the presence of migrants, preventing “dangerous” and hate speech as well as xenophobic attitudes. The involvement of both EU Member States and candidate countries may strengthen co-ordinated efforts in making migration an opportunity for further inter-state and inter-regional dialogue and co-operation.

Through this direct award, the OSCE will develop an innovative communication format combining capacity building for media professionals and implement a cross-media awareness raising campaign. The OSCE will pilot innovative communication formats in the EU as well as in countries in the Western Balkans affected by unregulated flows of migrants, primarily Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia and Serbia. Furthermore, it will assess the impact of the awareness-raising initiatives carried out in the framework of the topic of the AMIF call for proposals AMIF-2017-AG-INTE-01. This will provide lessons learned to improve the effectiveness of long-term efforts in raising awareness on the positive contribution of migrants to socioeconomic development of hosting countries.

Implementation

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

2.5. Direct award of a grant without a call for proposals to a consortium of leading EU public media led by France Médias Monde for the multilingual online information portal for prospective migrants

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The action grant will be awarded directly (without a call for proposals) following an invitation to the consortium of leading EU public media led by France Médias Monde to submit a proposal, in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

The direct award of this grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action, requiring technical competence and a high degree of specialisation that only the above-mentioned consortium possesses. This consortium is the only provider with the necessary expertise, the European perspective and an existing presence in the target countries that would allow this project to be a success. The consortium brings together leading EU media with a wide international audience, broadcasting in over 30 languages and attracting over 230 million listeners and viewers each week via TV, radio, internet and mobile devices. Only this consortium can guarantee widespread international publicity in a range of languages and with a broad network of correspondents, stringers, observers and bloggers in the target countries.

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

In its conclusions of 9 November 2015, the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council²⁰ called for a common information strategy addressing asylum seekers, migrants, smugglers and traffickers and aimed at: discouraging migrants from embarking on perilous journeys and using the services of people-smugglers; explaining EU rules on the management of external borders

²⁰ Council document 13870/15.

and international protection, including resettlement, relocation and return; countering the narratives used by traffickers and smugglers; informing people about criminal prosecutions against traffickers and smugglers; and informing people about return operations.

In response to the Council conclusions, the Commission set up a task force on a migrants' information strategy), bringing together all relevant institutional actors, which has drawn up a migrants' information strategy based on three phases: assessment, content-production and dissemination. On 10 March 2016, the JHA Council asked the Commission to continue to develop and ensure implementation of the migrants' information strategy, *inter alia* through cooperation with EU public media operating internationally, in particular those already providing news and information services in the national languages of migrants' countries of origin and transit, especially in North Africa and the Middle East.

The objective of this action is to make reliable, fact-based information available to (potential) migrants and asylum seekers, and to send clear messages to discourage smugglers and traffickers, via media outlets already present in migrants' and asylum seekers' countries of origin and transit, with a particular emphasis on online and social media channels. In view of the European Agenda for Migration and the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling, the InfoMigrants.net multi-lingual news and information platform has been developed by a high-profile media consortium with actions funded under AMIF work programmes for 2016, 2017 and 2018. The portal, which aims to reach prospective migrants worldwide and inform them of the dangers and the legal realities, was formally launched in May 2017. In 2018, the portal has been extended to include the languages of Dari and Pashtu. During the past years, the portal continued to reach prospective migrants and to give them accurate information including the dangers of irregular travel and the legal realities of coming to Europe. Today InfoMigrants.net is one of the most effective channels to provide clear information to would-be migrants in countries of origin, in transit and even already in Europe. The activities to be funded by this grant include the continuation and expansion of the operations of the multilingual online platform.

Implementation

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

2.6. Direct award of a grant without a call for proposals to the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) for the reporting on indicators of migrants' integration – Settling in (third joint edition)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The action grant will be awarded directly (without a call for proposals) following an invitation to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

The direct award of this grant is justified by the specific characteristics of the action, requiring technical competence, high degree of specialisation and administrative power that only the OECD possesses. The OECD has a unique expertise, legitimacy and contacts with the data providers (administrations of Member States) to support the EU in this task.

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

Integration of immigrants and their children has become a priority issue in the policy agenda of many EU and OECD countries, not least because of the refugee crisis. Integration, both in its economic and social dimensions, is a prerequisite for a positive economic impact in the long run and for migrants being able to function as autonomous citizens in their host countries. It is also vital for building positive views in the society in the host country on refugees and migrants in general, and key for social cohesion. Over the past years, significant efforts have been made to develop statistical tools to monitor the integration of immigrants and their children at the international level. The OECD developed a broad knowledge regarding integration policies and outcomes in OECD countries, providing accurate data and indicators. In 2015, the OECD and the European Commission jointly released the first international comparison covering all EU and OECD countries (*Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2015 - Settling in*). The second joint edition of the *Settling in* report²¹ has been released in December 2018.

This grant will support the preparation of the third joint edition of the *Settling in* report, covering EU Member States as well as most non-EU OECD countries, thereby placing the European experience in a broader international perspective. The indicators will cover policy areas identified in the Zaragoza Declaration: contextual information; access to the labour market and job quality; education and skills; social inclusion (including income, housing, and health); civic engagement and active citizenship; and social cohesion and discrimination.

Implementation

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

3. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2019 is 2 565 000 EUR.

3.1. Actions to be covered by procurement contracts

General description of the contracts envisaged

- Fitness check follow-up studies;
- studies on legal compliance/infringements;
- support for the European dialogue on skills and migration;
- support for the European Integration Network (EIN);
- support for the EU Immigration Portal (EUIP);
- support for the European Migration Forum;
- support for the European website on integration (EWSI);
- support for the European network of migration law practitioners;
- information, awareness raising and communication activities in the asylum, migration, integration and risks of irregular migration policy areas covered by the Fund;
- printed publication, press seminars, events, audio-visual products, services of journalists and other experts, web maintenance of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs website, web editing and content support, graphic design support, and other communication and information materials and services in the area of EU migration policy;

²¹ <http://www.oecd.org/publications/indicators-of-immigrant-integration-2018-9789264307216-en.htm>

- other expert meetings, conferences, seminars and other events, technical workshops, IT consultancy and development, studies, evaluations and impact assessments in the area of EU migration policy.

Implementation

Procurement will be implemented directly either by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs or via co-delegation to the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers; the Directorate-General for Informatics; the Directorate-General for Communication; or the Office of Publications.

4. ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

4.1. Mobility Partnership Facility III

Implementing entity

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is a specialised international organisation with a sound experience in migration dialogues with third countries and in managing funding and programmes. ICMPD successfully passed the Commission's ex-ante "pillar assessment" on its level of capacity of financial management and protection of financial interests and has been selected as the entity entrusted to implement this action in indirect management based on its competence.

Furthermore, ICMPD established a strong network with EU Member States and partner countries covered by the policy dialogues on migration and has project-based offices in some countries that have Mobility Partnerships or Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility.

Description

Mobility Partnerships were launched in 2007²² as one of the bilateral cooperation frameworks to implement the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). The main objective of Mobility Partnerships is to offer a tailor-made policy dialogue and operational cooperation with third countries covering four GAMM thematic priorities²³. Migration dialogues can also take different shapes, such as Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility (CAMM). The Mobility Partnership Facility is complementary to other instruments of the Commission and was already supported under the annual work programmes for 2014 and for 2017 of AMIF and the Internal Security Fund (ISF).

Actions eligible for funding by the Facility shall be in line with the objectives of the AMIF and ISF, and each Fund will support actions falling within its remit. Priority shall be given to support:

- (i) partner countries' policy and legal frameworks for migration and mobility, including migration management, monitoring asylum and protection;

²² The Global Approach to Migration (GAM) was first defined by the European Council in December 2005 and encompassed in the Commission Communication "Applying the Global Approach to Migration to the Eastern and South-Eastern Regions Neighbouring the European Union" COM(2007) 247.

The Commission Communication "Strengthening the global approach to migration: increasing coordination, coherence and synergies" COM(2008) 611.

The Commission Communication: "The Global Approach to Migration and Mobility" COM/2011/743.

The Commission Communication "Establishing a new Partnership Framework with third countries under the European Agenda on Migration" COM (2016)385.

²³ Legal migration, preventing and combatting irregular migration, development and migration, international protection.

- (ii) circular and temporary migration schemes and pilot projects on legal pathways to migration;
- (iii) information to potential migrants on opportunities for legal migration and on requirements for legal stay, as well as on the risks of irregular migration;
- (iv) information on and protection of migrants, including pre-departure training;
- (v) capacity building;
- (vi) migration dialogues;
- (vii) border management;
- (viii) countering people smuggling;
- (ix) countering trafficking in human beings;
- (x) exchange of personnel;
- (xi) provision of specific equipment to build capacities;
- (xii) organisation of meetings and exchange of expertise.

Projects supported through the Mobility Partnership Facility will be implemented preferably via call(s) for proposals, open to public authorities or agencies of EU Member States as lead applicants. Public authorities of priority partner countries, international organisations or non-governmental organisations working on a non-profit basis established in the EU or in the priority partner countries will be able to apply as co-applicants (future co-beneficiaries). The Mobility Partnership Facility is funded through AMIF and ISF. When no EU Member State is in a position to apply under the call for proposals or no proposal presented could be selected for funding, the Steering Committee may task ICMPD to implement the activities concerned.

Governance and control structure

A Steering Committee for the Mobility Partnership Facility, led by the Commission and comprising representatives of the European External Action Service (EEAS), will ensure effective governance and control of the action by providing overall strategic guidance, and adopt, and whenever necessary revise, the annual work plan of the facility. ICMPD will ensure the secretariat of the Steering Committee and provide technical support/assistance when necessary. Management tasks of ICMPD include the management of the award procedures, accounting and administration of the Facility, as well as monitoring and reporting. The Steering Committee of the Facility will meet regularly and at least twice a year. For those countries with whom a Mobility Partnership or a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility is in place, governance structures such as Mobility Partnership meetings and local cooperation platforms will be used as the main discussion fora on migration matters.

5. OTHER ACTIONS OR EXPENDITURE

5.1. Contribution to European Solidarity Corps (ESC)

Indicative Amount

EUR 1 000 000

Description

The European Solidarity Corps, that the Commission launched in 2016, continues offering young people opportunities to volunteer where help is needed, respond to crisis situations, engage with the society around them, and develop their knowledge and skills at the start of their careers. One of the areas of activities for the Solidarity Corps is the reception and integration of third-country nationals, as indicated in the Communication on the Solidarity Corps of December 2016²⁴. It is therefore appropriate to support the Solidarity Corps also with resources from AMIF, given the synergies between the two instruments. This will allow organisations active in the field of reception and integration to involve Solidarity Corps members in their activities.

This action will be implemented by the Commission's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture through a co-delegation following the management modes and eligibility rules applicable to AMIF Union actions.

5.2. Improvements in asylum and managed migration statistics

Indicative Amount

EUR 375 000

Description

Eurostat will carry out, via a co-delegation, developments in asylum and managed migration statistics relevant to policies of the Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (e.g. recognition rates for the purpose of the Relocation programme).

Planned activities include:

- continuing support to the mainstreaming of asylum statistics jointly with the European Asylum Support Office (EASO);
- design of the methodology and implementation of the collection of the new statistics on seasonal workers, intra-corporate transferees, and, in a later stage, students and researchers under the scope of residence permit data collection;
- development of residence permits statistics on permits issued to persons joining beneficiaries of (international) protection;
- development of residence permit statistics on permits newly issued to long-term residents (*flow* statistics);
- development of residence permits statistics on intra-EU movements of third-country nationals depending on sufficient resources being available;
- review of the methodology of data collection on enforcement statistics;
- quarterly publication of the recognition rates for the purpose of the relocation programme;
- other activities on improving statistics relevant for EU asylum and migration policies.

5.3. Support for the deployment of European Migration Liaison Officers (EMLOs)

Indicative Amount

²⁴ COM(2016)942.

EUR 300 000

Description

European Migration Liaison Officers (EMLOs) are national experts seconded to work in the Delegations of the European Union in third countries. EU Member States cover the costs of their salaries and allowances, and the Commission covers, through this action, the costs of (civilian) missions, telecommunication and security costs, and any other relevant costs or activities under this action. The main purpose of designating and deploying EMLOs is to step up coordination in order to maximise the impact of EU action on migration in third countries and encourage key countries of origin/transit to engage on the whole range of migration issues.

The European Council, the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling, and the Communication on establishing a new Partnership Framework with third countries under the European Agenda on Migration, confirmed the commitment to deploy EMLOs in key third countries of origin and transit²⁵.

EMLOs will:

- help implement the comprehensive approach presented in the European Agenda on Migration, *inter alia* by helping to prevent and counter irregular migration, encouraging better organisation of legal migration and mobility, and mainstreaming migration issues in development cooperation;
- contribute to the operation of bilateral and regional frameworks for cooperation on migration; and
- gather, exchange, analyse and report on migration-related developments.

The priority countries for the deployment of EMLOs are Egypt (regional mandate covering East Africa), Morocco, Lebanon (covering also Syria), Niger, Nigeria, Senegal (regional mandate covering also the neighbouring countries), Pakistan (regional mandate covering also Afghanistan), Serbia (regional mandate covering all the Western Balkans countries), Ethiopia (regional mandate covering the whole Horn of Africa), Tunisia (covering also Libya), Sudan (regional mandate covering the parts of Horn of Africa, in particular Eritrea, which cannot be covered from Ethiopia), Turkey, Jordan, Bangladesh and Mali. Other countries can be added to reflect political priorities.

5.4. Corporate communication on the priorities of the Union

Indicative Amount

EUR 180 000

Description

As set out in the Communication on Corporate communication action in 2019-2020 under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020²⁶, in 2019 corporate communication will focus mainly on the EU's contribution to jobs and growth through integrated communication actions

²⁵ COM(2016) 385 final.

²⁶ C (2018)4063.

encompassing the Commission priorities set out in the Agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change. Communication actions will develop around our three-strand narrative "EU delivers – EU empowers –EU protects".

This action will cover the production of content, including photos, audio-visual, graphic and written material; provision of other corporate technical services which benefit the institution as a whole such as online services, including the institutional web presence and social media activity; dissemination of information through integrated communication actions including on multi-media platforms; acquisition of media space, including TV and radio air time, outdoor and indoor advertising, web adverts and other online promotion techniques and print media space; organisation of and participation in events, including exhibitions, forums, dialogues and other activities aimed at citizens; studies and evaluations, where relevant.

This action will be implemented via a co-delegation to the Commission's Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM), both by the Representations and headquarters through direct and specific contracts implementing mainly DG COMM framework contracts.