



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
OMBUDSMAN
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Date d'arrivée

Ms. Emily O'Reilly
European Ombudsman
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Dear Ms O'Reilly,

I would like to thank you for your letter regarding the initiative directed at the protection of human rights in the implementation of the funds from the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund (AMIF) – funds intended primarily to support actions such as providing appropriate housing for the seekers of international protection and the resettlement of refugees, social and medical assistance, as well as integration measures. First and foremost, I would like to express my support for your initiative. I am joining you in the assertion that the publication of the multi-annual national programs for AMIF is extremely important in order to make it possible for the national ombudsmen to monitor human rights compliance of national authorities when they implement EU funds.

The Republic of Croatia has been granted emergency funding from for the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund and its national program for AMIF funding has been approved as well.

During the ongoing migration crisis, by which Croatia has been impacted since 16 September 2015, in the period spanning to 31 December 2015 midnight, 555,700 migrants passed through its territory. Making their way to other EU member states, they were provided with organized transport to Hungary and Slovenia. During their transitory stay in our country, only 21 individuals applied for international protection.

Regarding the refugee crisis, the Republic of Croatia was granted emergency funding from the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund in the amount of 12,436,485,41 EUR providing partial financing for the project “Meeting the Needs Regarding the Mass Arrivals of Third-

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Country Nationals Requiring International Protection". The agreement on the use of funds from AMIF's emergency fund was signed on 1 December 2015 and the approved funds can be used in the period from 16 September 2015 to 15 March 2016. In accordance with the agreement, the transfer of funds has already been made to the state budget for the costs of the goods and services purchased in the course of the year 2015 and eligible for funding under the agreement.

We requested and received from the Ministry of the Interior a report regarding the implementation of the funds approved from the AMIF's emergency fund providing a detailed overview of the ways the funds were utilized in meeting the needs of refugees and migrants. The funds were approved for providing food and water, the renting and maintenance of portable toilets, the renting of portable sanitation containers, the purchase of bunk beds or beds with mattresses, the purchase of sleeping bag mats, sleeping bags, blankets, gas heaters, etc. The Ministry has provided us with the details of the national program as well. We are enclosing the copy of the program with our letter and it can also be accessed through the website of the Ministry of the Interior (<http://www.mup.hr>).

On 1 December 2014 the Republic of Croatia submitted its proposal of the national program for AMIF funding for the 2014-2020 period via the European Commission's system for the electronic exchange of information. On 18 December 2015 the Commission adopted its implementing decision approving the national program and stating which of the actions are acceptable for funding under the national program. The Ministry has planned the beginning of the implementation of the project based on the multi-annual program for the middle of the year 2016.

We will monitor closely, from their beginning, the implementation of the activities under the newly approved national program for AMIF funding, especially the activities with the goal of strengthening human rights. We intend to place special emphasis on detention and the conditions of the reception of irregular migrants and individuals seeking international protection, which is also one of the mandates of our Office under our role as the National Preventive Mechanism. Under this mandate, in the course of the year 2016 we are planning to conduct visits to reception centers for asylum seekers, the transit center, as well as the reception centers for aliens. Our attention will be focused as well on the establishment of alternative measures to detention mandated by the new Law on International Protection passed in July of 2015.

Regarding the refugee crisis, the Ombudswoman's teams have been visiting all of the key spots of the refugees' and migrants' movement and stay, monitoring the respect for human rights of refugees and migrants and issuing recommendations with the goal of ensuring these rights are respected. Since the opening of the Slavonski Brod winter transit center we have focused our attention on the monitoring of the reception conditions, of the provision of health care and translation services, of the provision of information on international protection and, especially, the monitoring of the restriction of movement of the so-called economic migrants related to the re-admission procedure.

I hope this information proves useful for your initiative. Should you require any additional information or clarifications regarding the actions aimed at monitoring the respect for human rights of the seekers of international protection and irregular migrants as part of the implementation of the AMIF funds, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Mario Krešić (+385 1 4851 277, mario.kresic@ombudsman.hr), Deputy Ombudsman.

Sincerely,



NATIONAL PROGRAMME AMIF

IDENTIFICATION OF THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITIES

Competent authorities responsible for the management and control systems

Authority	Name of the authority	Head of the authority	Address	E-mail address	Date of designation	Activities delegated
Responsible authority	Ministry of Interior, Independent Sector for Schengen Coordination and European Union Projects	Krešimir Perović, Head of Independent Sector	Ulica grada Vukovara 33, 10 000 Zagreb	kperovic@mup.hr		
Audit authority	Agency for the Audit of European Union Programmes Implementation System	Neven Šprlje, Director	Alexandra Von Humboldta 4/V, 10000, Zagreb	neven.sprlje@arpa.hr		
Delegated authority	Ministry of Finance, State Treasury	Miljenko Fičor, Assistant Minister	Katančićeva 5, 10000 Zagreb	informiranje@mfin.hr		payments

Management and control system

The system will be based on the experience from the management and control systems for SOLID funds and Schengen Facility.

On November 26 2014 the Government of Croatia issued the Decision on Designation of the Competent Authorities within the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund And Internal Security Fund Management and Control System, by which the Minister of Interior was appointed to take the role of Designating Authority. The Audit Authority is the Agency for the Audit of European Union Programmes Implementation System. The Ministry of Finance will be the Delegated Authority for receiving payments from the Commission and making payments to the beneficiaries.

The Designating Authority will, upon opinion of the Audit Authority, nominate the Responsible Authority - Independent Sector for Schengen Coordination and European Union Projects of the Ministry of Interior.

CCI	2014HR65AMNP001
Title	Republic of Croatia National Programme AMIF
Version	1.3
First Year	2014
Last Year	2020
Eligible From	01-Jan-2014
EC Decision Number	
EC Decision Date	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strategic basis of the AMIF programme is defined in Migration Policy of Republic of Croatia for the period 2013 to 2015 (MP) and Action plan for removing obstacles to the exercise of individual rights in the area of integration of foreigners in the period 2013-2015 (AP).

The purpose of MP is to ensure that migratory movements have positive impact on economic, social and cultural development of the state and the society.

The goal of the MP is that all state bodies and other stakeholders work, in a timely and coordinated manner, on finding effective responses to positive and negative effects of migratory movements. MP sets the framework which creates the preconditions for migration which stimulate economic growth and progress and gives full contribution to an agreed EU common migration policy.

ASYLUM (40% of AMIF) The aim of asylum policy is improving efficiency and speed of asylum procedure. AMIF funded actions will include strengthening of cooperation with NGOs, cooperation between key government bodies competent for asylum issues, support to asylum seekers which includes providing legal protection and representation during the procedure, interpretation, appropriate accommodation, available social activities, medical assistance etc. AMIF supported training and education of asylum officers and other staff included in asylum procedure is envisaged, along with public awareness raising activities and special attention will be put on identification of vulnerable persons and improvement of conditions (accommodation, health care, legal representation etc.). For the next 7 years it is planned that with support of AMIF all aspects of CEAS will be strengthened and developed, reception and asylum standards enhanced, asylum policy evaluated, accommodation capacities for implementation of resettlement and relocation on solidarity principle between Member States (MS) improved and quality of the national mechanism enhanced.

MIGRATION/INTEGRATION (25% of AMIF) The aim of integration policy is to ensure rights to third country nationals (TCN) primarily related to work, housing, education, safety etc. while TCN loyally and constructively participates in the economic, social and cultural development of the society. Integration policy aims on successful integration of TCN, which encompasses strengthening of cooperation among all relevant government and local bodies responsible for establishing appropriate legal framework and its effective and consistent implementation at national, regional and local level, as well as strengthened cooperation with NGOs.

AMIF shall support adequate accommodation, education, Croatian language courses, recognition of education, introduction to Croatian history and culture, safety and all other relevant rights, to enable TCN to participate in the society. Trainings of experts and activities on raising public awareness, especially for preventing and combating discrimination, xenophobia and racism shall also be co-financed by AMIF. Croatia also wishes to facilitate unifying of families of persons granted IP.

RETURN (24% of AMIF) Actions will focus on providing fair and effective return policy with both its voluntary and forced return components. Voluntary return as preferred mode will be promoted by handing out leaflets and offering certain benefits (return tickets, allowance, medical treatment money, shorter entry ban (or no entry ban)).

Attention will be given to cooperation with other MS and Frontex (identification procedures, joint return flights operations, knowledge and expertise exchange).

An important task to be supported by AMIF is building capacity for alternative to detention for irregular migrants.

AMIF shall also be used for improving infrastructure, maintenance, services, and living conditions in centres for TCN. Pre-return assistance will include provision of information by information campaigns and individual consultation. Post-return assistance will encompass daily allowances and reintegration measures such as secondary transportation, first necessary housing, medical assistance etc. Return operations will encompass cooperation with third countries' consular authorities and international organizations, use of advanced parties, and administrative preparation. Cooperation with court and medical experts, and provision of translation and interpretation by using linguistic analysis are important for identification of TCN.

Croatia shall continue monitoring of TCN removal by an independent body. Education and training of staff is planned in order to increase capacity of reception centres and staff dealing with return issues (language courses, human rights trainings etc.).

SOLIDARITY (0,6% of AMIF) Croatia has no experience or procedures established for the implementation of the relocation and resettlement, so AMIF will be used for learning from other MS practices. As well field visits for preparing the transfers will be supported AMIF.

11% of AMIF will be allocated to technical assistance.

2. BASELINE SITUATION IN THE MEMBER STATE

Summary of the current state of play as of December 2013 in the Member State for the fields relevant to the Fund

ASYLUM Reception and accommodation of asylum seekers is organized in two reception centres. The total capacity of accommodation ranges to about 700 places, of which about 600 in Zagreb and about 100 in Kutina. Bigger part of the reception centre in Kutina has been renovated in June 2014, and is intended exclusively for vulnerable groups of asylum seekers.

In 2013 MoI accepted about 2 000 people into both centres. In the last 2 years the number of persons accommodated daily ranged from 150 to 250. 300 places are ready for accommodation and 300 need adaptation: sanitary adaptation, entrance, common living rooms and rooms for psychosocial help activities. There is also need to ensure sufficient number of beds and to introduce video surveillance, i.e. electronic surveillance of entrance, exit and distribution of meals by introducing access control cards. Reception centre in Zagreb, situated in former hotel, needs new facilities and introduction of additional social activities for asylum seekers. The quality of infrastructure and services in reception centres are at the level of European standards and are regularly monitored and evaluated by UNHCR and NGOs. Croatian Red Cross is continuously present in reception centres since 2004 and possesses significant institutional and staff experience and capacity.

The total number of asylum seekers was 1 195 in the year 2012, 1 089 in 2013, 454 in 2014 and 156 until October 2015. . Since 16 September 2015 started the mass inflow of TCN irregular migrants from territory of Serbia and aiming to transit Croatia. By 28 October 2015 273 383 migrants entered Croatia, most of them leaving after a day or two. To handle the situation Croatia established a temporary reception centre in Opatovac, situated near the eastern border. Capacity of this centre is 5000 places. The Opatovac centre will, from the beginning of November 2015 be gradually replaced by temporary centre established in Slavonski Brod, with improved accommodation conditions, especially with regard to cold weather. For managing the situation in the first 40 days the costs for the national budget were around 9,2 million EUR.

Duration of the procedure to first-instance decision on the request for international protection (hereinafter IP) is up to 6 months and in the case of filing a lawsuit, up to 9 months. In 2014, IP was granted to 26 persons (16 persons-asylum, 10 persons-subsiary protection). From the establishment of asylum system in 2004 till May 2015, 152 persons were granted IP (83 persons-asylum, 69 persons- subsidiary protection).

One of the main problems during asylum procedure is lack of translators and interpreters for some languages (urdu, pashtu, farsi, dari, somali, tigrinya) which directly influences access to asylum procedure and its duration.

A challenge in the asylum procedure is establishing the asylum seekers age when he/she declares to be a minor. Amendments of legislation, made in 2015, foresee age assessment through medical examination in case of doubt (especially in Dublin procedure). In 2014 there were 10 unaccompanied minor asylum seekers and 2 by October 2015.

Through a Transition Facility project MoI will be equipped with 30 workstations with fingerprint livescan which will complete implementation of EURODAC Regulation 603/2013. Currently there are two workstations operating in Zagreb and Ježevo.

2015 national legislation amendments foresee alternatives to detention of asylum seekers which should be further developed. In 2014 number of detained asylum seekers was 23 and 21 until October 2015.

Free legal assistance is provided in appeal procedure. National legislation amendments also included providing information and legal advising by NGO's or lawyers in first instance procedure, financed by MoI.

For effective CEAS implementation it is needed to enhance number of Dublin transfers.

Training of staff engaged in reception and asylum procedure with special attention to identification of vulnerable persons and further strengthening of capacity in the field of collecting and processing COI, will influence acceleration of asylum procedure.

There are different databases gathering data on different stages of asylum procedure. It is necessary to develop existing databases and interconnect them to make the use of data more effective.

Amendments of national legislation, made in 2015, introduced legal basis for resettlement and relocation of beneficiaries of IP. Act on International and Temporary Protection defines that decisions on transfers will be issued by the Government. On 16 July 2015 the Government issued the Decision which envisages resettlement of 150 and transfer of 400 persons. According to Council Decision (EU) 2015/1601 of 22 September 2015 establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and Greece Croatia is to accept additional 568 relocated persons.

In the period 2008 - 2015, MoI allocated an average annual amount of 200 000 EUR for the activities in the field of asylum. Due to multiple increase of the numbers of asylum seekers there was additional investment from national budget in reception and accommodation facilities of 1 million EUR in 2012 and 1.5 million EUR in 2013. Activities implemented through the European Refugee Fund 2013 programme: legal aid in asylum procedure, translation and interpretation.

MIGRATION/INTEGRATION The immigration and integration policy is still in its early phase of development. Number of foreign residents is less than 1% of the population and the number of TCN is much smaller. According to MoI statistics, on 31 December 2013 number of TCN with valid temporary residence was 11 831 and number of TCN with valid permanent residence was 11 430. On 31 December 2014, number of TCN with valid temporary residence was 11 360 and number of TCN with valid permanent residence was 12 089. Two main purposes for granting temporary residence are family reunification and work. The largest groups of TCN with regulated status in Croatia are citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo and Macedonia. Having in mind the structure of TCN the focus of integration activities is set on IP beneficiaries. EU membership did not lead to a significant increase in legal immigration. The annual quota of employment permits for TCN has been decreasing in the last 4 years, due to high unemployment. Future needs of the labour market are not easily predictable. However, attracting highly skilled workers could be the one of the economic growth generators. This implies providing information on procedure regarding entry and stay. Having in mind high number of temporary resident permits issued to TCN for the purposes of family reunification, emphasis will be put on family reunification, especially for persons granted IP, in order to facilitate their entry and stay. MoI currently provides information about residence permits to TCN via its web site.

2013 Action Plan measures are mostly aimed at integration of persons under IP. Measures have been defined on the ground of six main issues regarding integration: right on social welfare and health care, accommodation, education and language learning, employment, interdepartmental cooperation, raising awareness.

In 2013 various activities have been implemented and 73.000 EUR was invested. Activities included social and educational activities (language learning, psychosocial care, workshops, education on cultural differences), education on integration. Croatian Red Cross (CRC) organized information and education centre for TCN. A particularly serious problem is the lack of housing for persons granted IP. Their number has increased and that tendency will probably continue. Accommodation expenses for two years period from the day IP is granted are financed by national budget. Currently for housing of IP beneficiaries 10 state owned apartments are available. All 10 have been renovated and furnished with 22.700 EUR invested. Accommodation for unaccompanied minors up to 14 years of age is organised in children's home and for minors 14-18 years of age in centre for upbringing and educating children and youth. 22 persons were involved in the education system (2 preschool, 10 primary school, 7 high school and 3 university).

Public awareness raising actions encompass educational materials, magazines, public lectures. Three seminars in 2013 included professional education of police officers, social care officers and civil society representatives.

Integration of TCN is one of the biggest challenges. It is two-way process: integration of TCN as well as preparedness of Croatian citizens on the effects of post-migration process. For the successful functioning of the community, it is needed to implement the integration of TCN with ensuring their equal status in economic, social and cultural life, with a special emphasis on education, labour, employment and housing, in order for them to achieve permanent residence status and citizenship. Therefore, it is needed to improve collaboration of all competent authorities. Notwithstanding the low percentage of TCN in the population, further research of public attitude towards TCN (asylum seekers, refugees and persons under subsidiary protection) and toward the state migration, asylum and integration policy is needed. Special emphasis has to be put on strengthening cooperation with media, civil society organisations, social partners and private sector and raising awareness of local communities. Through these activities, society would become more sensible towards IP beneficiaries, which will lead to their easier employment and accommodation and easier education of minor IP beneficiaries.

To implement mentioned measures it is needed to set up monitoring and analyses of immigration statistics. In order to have up-to-date statistical system data on TCN in accordance with EU regulation, by connecting three existing national databases, unique statistical and IT database for purpose of collecting data on TCN should be developed. Croatia intends to develop strategies and implementation of common measures through exchange of best MS's practices.

RETURN The bodies responsible for return of TCN are units for illegal migration within the border police at the regional level, and the Service for Illegal Migration and Reception Centre for Foreigners, at the state level. This Centre is closed type centre in Obedišće Ježevsko with accommodation capacity for 80 persons, 48 for men, 8 for women and 24 for minors and vulnerable groups. Construction of the facility for minors and other vulnerable groups finished in July 2015, is financed by IPA 2011 project. Construction of the transit centres for foreigners Trilj and Tovarnik, financed by Schengen Facility, is in progress. Each will provide for the accommodation of 62 persons. In case of high migration pressure, the capacity of these centres can be increased. In case of need there is also possibility to accommodate 50 persons at the premises of Police Station Sisak.

Preparatory activities for developing alternatives to detention should be carried out.

Croatia has not yet established system of assisted voluntary return, so an objective is to establish co-operation with NGO or international organisation, which shall prepare the programmes for voluntary return and reintegration. Together with establishing assisted voluntary return system, one of the goals will be promoting independent voluntary return, on base of return decision without entry ban, and within reasonable time.

In 2014 and first half of 2015 the number of return decisions was reduced, what is in line with downward trend of number of illegal border crossings. The TCN involved in return were mostly nationals of the countries of the region.

In administrative return procedures in 2014, 171 measures on expulsion were issued by courts, and 2073 expulsion decisions were issued by the police. Also, in 2014, 1 196 return decisions were issued to leave EEA, of which 769 or 64,30%, were carried out. In first half of 2015, 35 protection measures on expulsion were issued by the courts, and 640 expulsion decisions were issued by the police. In first half of 2015 year, 531 return [VD1] decisions were issued to leave EEA, of which 381 or 71,75%, were carried out.

Service for Illegal Migration of MoI is competent for implementation of the 26 readmission agreements. In 2014 531 TCN were accepted, which is 26.04% lower than in 2013 (718), and 923 TCN were returned, which is 20.36% lower than in 2013 (1 159). In first half of 2015 long-term downward trend was continued. A total of 122 TCN was accepted, which is lower than in the same period of the year 2014 (255), and 150 TCN were returned, which is lower than in same period of 2014 (480).

The main reason why some TCN were not removed to the countries of origin is that, after receiving decision, they delayed removal by applying for asylum. A great challenge in return processes is also identification of TCN and acquisition of documents required for return, due to concealment of identity, false representation, and unwillingness of third countries' authorities to identify their citizens. Missions of most high-risk countries in terms of migration (such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Syria, Iraq, etc.) are accredited in other MS, what can be an obstacle for return. Therefore, maintaining good relations with these representations is needed.

Activities of European Return Fund 2013 programme were: buying return tickets, allowance, interpretation and translation, supply of equipment and running costs for Reception Centre. Also, after public call the agreement was signed with Croatian Legal Centre (NGO) for monitoring of forced return. Until 30 June 2015 six monitoring operations were carried out. Monitoring is also transposed into the Law on Foreigners and the Book of Rules on the Treatment of Foreigners.

The amount spent from the national budget in 2014 for removal was 32.447,56 EUR.

3. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Specific objective	1 - Asylum
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Croatian legal framework in the field of asylum is continuously harmonized with EU acquis. Main focus is strengthening of institutional and administrative capacity in the field of asylum in order to increase level of security and improve quality managing migration and asylum. The aim of the measures implemented is to provide easier access to asylum procedure for TCN seeking IP. All actions conducted in the frame of national and international legislation will lead to faster and more efficient asylum procedure and accordingly to more effective implementation of CEAS.

Act on International and Temporary Protection along with its implementation acts is basic act on asylum. Other relevant documents are Strategic Plan 2015-2017 and Guidelines of the MoI, Yearly reports of the MoI, Yearly reports on asylum and migration. International legislation on asylum encompasses Convention relating to the Status of Refugees-Geneva Convention and its Protocol. In the reference period of MP, Croatian legislation on asylum and international protection shall obligatory comply with the amendments of the EU acquis. For faster and more efficient asylum procedures, one of the most important conditions is financial resources granted from AMIF and National budget.

Together with strengthening of institutional and administrative capacity in the field of asylum, it is necessary to maintain ongoing training and professional development of asylum officers. Special attention will be put on further strengthening and developing the capacity for collecting and processing of information on the countries of origin of IP applicants.

Current capacities in Zagreb and Kutina reception centres fulfil the basic needs for reception. The Transition Facility project for improvement of accommodation conditions Kutina is expected to be implemented in 2016 (procurement of beds and mattresses, renovation). However, there is a need for continuous investment in infrastructure, adaptation and enlargement of capacities, especially in Zagreb Reception centre (e.g. electronic surveillance of Reception centre).

Objectives to be achieved with support of AMIF:

- New facilities and additional social activities will be introduced in reception centre,
- 300 accommodation places will be adapted and additional 300 places fully equipped for living of asylum seekers,
- Quality surveillance of entrance and exit in reception centre will be achieved,
- Decision making in the asylum procedure shall be sped up by 50%,
- Translation will be available into 6 new languages,
- Age assessment will be ensured,
- 45 staff members will be trained,
- 3 study visits to other MS to develop capacity in resettlement and transfer issues,
- Resettlement and transfer of beneficiaries of international protection introduced and implemented,
- Dublin transfers will be carried out,

- Legal information and advising available to asylum seekers,
- Existing data basis will be interconnected.

National objective	1 - Reception/asylum
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To ensure sustainability of the goals reached so far in the area of asylum, the national objective is to secure sufficient life quality during the asylum procedure according to EU standards. The national approach is based on good cooperation between the state and civil society.

During the period 2014-2020, in the field of Reception/Asylum, Croatia will focus on three types of actions:

1. Speed up asylum procedures and decision making
2. Improving reception capacities and conditions
3. Education of staff.

In this respect, general national priorities, for which national funding is provided are:

- Decision making procedure related to asylum applications;
- Basic infrastructure maintenance;
- Assistance programmes for asylum seekers.

Actions to be co-funded by AMIF:

- Improvement of reception infrastructure, services and conditions of stay (introduction of new and improvement of social activities in reception centres);
- Introduction of access control cards depending on increase of number of asylum seekers, additional entrances in the reception centres, procurement of equipment, sanitary reconstruction, adaptation and furnishing of rooms for psychosocial treatment and ambulance;
- Education and training of staff engaged in reception issues and asylum procedures, in line with EASO Training Curriculum (e.g. training of asylum officers, border police, legal representatives of unaccompanied minors, streamlining of administrative procedure, judges, guardians, strengthening of cooperation between services etc.), aimed at improvement of asylum procedure speed and quality;
- Running costs (electricity, water, heating) of reception centres. AMIF co-financing will, having in mind limitations of the national budget, be important to assist Croatia to maintain adequate level of accommodation standards ;
- Translation, interpretation, introducing video translation;
- Providing legal assistance to asylum seekers;

- Assistance and support to asylum seekers (information on procedure, counselling, medical assistance, social mediation, identification of vulnerable persons, language training etc.);
- Financing Dublin transfers,
- Establish system of identification and assistance to vulnerable groups and persons (especially those with mental and psychological illness) and provision of adequate conditions, services and psychosocial care to these persons through new programs, identification of age of asylum seekers;
- Further strengthening of capacity in the field of collecting and processing COI
- Measures addressing possible high influx of asylum seekers (contingency plan).
- Adaptation and furnishing of apartments for persons granted IP and financing of extended needs of accommodation or insurance of enhanced needs for accommodation.

National objective	2 - Evaluation
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Croatia will focus on effective functioning of the existing asylum systems for regular evaluation of the asylum procedures, through quality planning and monitoring.

In order to ensure the quality of the asylum procedure and to monitor Croatia's reception capacity, evaluation methods will be developed in partnership with national authorities and organisations. The information systems and databases used and maintained by the immigration authorities will be developed and their reporting functions improved.

Actions which will be supported through national funding are:

- Development and maintenance of unique national data information system.

Main actions which will be co-funded through AMIF are:

- Development and maintenance of an unique IT database for managing, monitoring and evaluation of asylum system and procedures.
- Exchange of experience with other MS regarding large influx of asylum seekers.

National objective	3 - Resettlement
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Croatia intends to finance with the aid of the Fund study visits so that relevant services may learn from the best practices and advice of experienced MS about resettlement. As well field visits for preparing the resettlement and providing of information to resettled persons will be supported by AMIF.

Actions intended to be co-funded by AMIF:

- Study visits to learn about experiences and best practices of other MS,
- Field visits for preparing the resettlement,
- Producing the guide containing information for resettled persons,
- Implementation of the resettlement, supported by AMIF in line with Regulation No 801/2014.

Specific objective	2 - Integration/legal migration
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The aim of the projects to be funded by AMIF is to achieve the highest possible level of inclusion for TCN in all crucial areas of integration policy: education, training, employment, knowledge of the Croatian language and society, as well as an active participation in social and political life.

The Croatian policy framework in the field of legal migration and integration is determined by laws (Law on Foreigners, Act on International and Temporary Protection and its implementation acts) and strategic and planning documents (MP and AP, Strategic Plan 2015-2017 and Guidelines of the MoI, Yearly reports of the MoI, Yearly reports on asylum and migration).

Integration of TCN is gaining its importance. Since Croatia is still a transit country, essential element of the strategy is to ensure effective and permanent integration of TCN who chose Croatia as their destination country.

Integration on national level, as a new measure, is expected to bring more targeted assistance to TCN as well as promotion of integration into Croatian society. The integration process is a lengthy process that, in addition to the active participation of TCN, also includes an interdepartmental approach of the government bodies, local authorities and civil society. Because of the importance of integration for the successful functioning of the community, in 2013 the Government appointed a Standing Committee (SC) for the implementation of the integration of TCN, which appointed a Working Group to deal with the operational implementation of planned tasks and report to the SC on the implementation and possible difficulties associated with it. For successful implementation of the integration of TCN it is important to continuously proceed with the implementation of measures which, in order to prevent discriminatory practices and behaviour towards immigrants, ensure right on status equal to that of the nationals of the Republic of Croatia, with a focus towards acquiring Croatian citizenship. For this purpose, it is necessary to involve and strengthen the partnership with civil society (NGOs and social partners) and the private sector in fostering and promoting the diversity of cultural expression. To achieve its purpose, the above mentioned campaign has to be supported and conducted in cooperation with employers' organizations, big companies and especially recruiting companies. Consequently, starting from 2014, all government bodies shall allocate adequate financial assets in the budget plan for this purpose.

Objectives to be achieved with support of AMIF:

- Improvement of the quality and contents of integration programmes with the emphasis on special groups of migrants;
- Local accessibility and decentralization of the programmes,

- Increased number of TCN involved in designing, implementing and attending the programmes.

National objective	1 - Legal migration
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One of objectives of the MP is to promote immigration of skilled labour, particularly by developing forecasts of labour needs and the resources.

One of actions that Croatia will undertake with the support of the AMIF will be focused on providing TCN access to comprehensive advice and information about living and working conditions in Croatia.

In that sense, cooperation between the authorities carrying out and monitoring different permit procedures must be strengthened and the migration administration and its procedures must be flexible and clear.

Croatia will provide national funding for ensuring capacity for the functioning of the system of managing legal migration and integration of TCN.

The actions co-funded from AMIF shall encompass:

- Pre-departure dissemination of information to TCNs on host MS (brochures on immigration rules in details in languages spoken by the TCN to be distributed by Croatian consular missions).

National objective	2 - Integration
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The national objective in the area of integration is determined by the European agenda for integration and national legislation (Law on Foreigners, Act on International And Temporary Protection and its implementation acts). To achieve this objective it is necessary to carry out various actions whose main goal is to facilitate active participation of immigrants in all areas of social life in Croatia.

Some of the actions to address these priorities, which would be supported by national funding are:

- Identifications of possible areas of intervention in order to better identify migrants needs;
- Further harmonization of national legislation;
- Creating a well-managed migration policy;
- Provision of basic integration assistance for persons granted IP;
- Provision of basic social and health protection rights.

Actions co-funded from AMIF shall encompass:

- Further implementation of programmes for basic assistance and services for TCN, including beneficiaries of IP, such as language courses and examinations, civic orientation courses, education, preparatory measures to facilitate access to the labour market, housing, medical and psychological assistance, social and work-related counselling, recognition of diplomas and qualifications, providing information on rights and duties, and possibilities of participation in integration programmes, especially for vulnerable groups;
- Development, translation, printing and dissemination of the guide through the integration systems, containing information on rights and obligations of TCN and contact details of competent institutions;
- Improvement of communication and cooperation between persons granted IP and local communities, with the aim of preventing the emergence of social exclusion, discrimination and xenophobia – organising workshops and events to promote intercultural understanding;
- Interdepartmental cooperation, which includes all government bodies, and local and regional bodies, responsible for providing support and assistance to vulnerable society groups – providing written instructions, organising meetings and information events;
- Raising awareness regarding TCN (better awareness of the general public, authorities, and migrants themselves of integration issues, including integration of beneficiaries of IP);
- Monitoring the implementation of integration policies in Croatia and direct work on the integration of persons granted IP.

National objective	3 - Capacity
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The priorities in this area are further development of administrative, legislative and institutional capacity and the continuous education and training of civil servants working on migration and asylum issues.

Some of the actions to address these priorities, which will be supported by AMIF are:

- Developing immigration statistics and analysis and monitoring the strategies ;
- Developing procedures and instructions for Improving flexibility and clarity in the migration administration, including the permit procedures; ensuring that permit applications are processed without delay and within reasonable time period;
- Capacity building for implementation of the integration policy on the regional and local level (training for regional and local level authorities on TCN rights);
- Enhancing cross-administration collaboration between authorities and cooperation with other MS; through information exchange, study visits, best practices, development strategies and implementation of common measures;

- Foreign languages training for employees who are working on legal migration issues.

Specific objective	3 - Return
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Future focus will be on a fair and effective return policy with its both voluntary and forced return components; preferential use of voluntary return in cooperation with NGOs and competent international organizations will be encouraged. Croatia does not have assisted voluntary return and reintegration program. The draft of new Law on Foreigners foresees establishing of assisted voluntary return system.

These endeavours will further be supported by enhanced cooperation with countries of origin, as well as analysis and evaluation of return issues encountered by all stakeholders (returnees, state bodies, NGOs). Particular attention will be given to cooperation with other MS (especially in cases where identification of a TCN is difficult) and Frontex.

Construction and equipping of new facilities for TCN, adaptation and renewal of equipment in existing buildings, improved infrastructure, services and living conditions in the reception centres and also in open-type centres for temporary accommodation are also priorities under AMIF. In Croatia, for now there is only one detention centre imposing restrictions on the movement of TCN who are in the process of removal. Activities of construction of the new facility for minors and other vulnerable groups of irregular migrants in Reception Centre for Foreigners Ježevo, financed through an IPA 2011 project, were finished in July 2015. Construction of the transit centre for foreigners (and border police station) Trilj at the south of Croatia, and transit centre for foreigners Tovarnik, near eastern border, both financed through Schengen Facility, are in progress.

Monitoring of forced return is transposed into the Law on Foreigners and into the Book of rules on the Treatment of Foreigners. Through activities of European Return Fund 2013 a call for selection of a monitoring organisation was published and the agreement is signed in April 2015 with Croatian Legal Centre.

Objectives planned to be achieved with support of AMIF:

- Free legal aid provided to TCN in return process;
- Forced-removal monitoring system continuously implemented,
- Finding and implementing alternatives to detention,
- System of assisted voluntary return established and implemented,
- System and capacities for forced removal improved,
- Cooperation with Member States improved,
- Cooperation with third countries improved.

General national priorities, for which Croatia provides national funding are:

- Provision of basic administrative functions for the design and implementation of return measures;
- Improvement and strengthening of cooperation with all partners involved in the pre-return and return activities;
- Improving conditions for detaining of TCN;
- Finding and implementing alternatives to detention;
- Exchange and transfer of know-how and best practices in terms of return measures in other MS;

Main actions co-funded from AMIF shall encompass:

- Information campaigns on voluntary return and effective programmes to assist voluntary return (i.e. translation services, legal aid, social care, working with minors, etc.);
- Creating capacity for open-type temporary accommodation of irregular migrants, alternatives to detention;
- Continuous implementation of monitoring of forced return;
- Providing free legal aid to TCN in return process;
- Improvement of infrastructure, living conditions and running costs at the Centres for Foreigners. AMIF co-financing will, having in mind limitations of the national budget, be important to assist Croatia to maintain adequate level of accommodation standards, that would not be different from the level in the MS with higher standard of living;
- Social, psychological, and medical assistance for detained persons, and special assistance to vulnerable persons, health care, food and hygienic minimum for irregular migrants in return procedure (refers to migrants who are detained in police stations);
- Capacity building and training of staff of the Reception centres and other officers involved in return procedures (e.g. language courses, human rights and liberties trainings, cultural awareness and intercultural competencies oriented trainings, regular trainings for escorts, etc.);
- Translation, interpretation and expansion of the network of translators and interpreters;
- Creating new and improving of existing IT database regarding irregular migrants;
- Supply of protective equipment for police officers
- Medical supplies for TCN in return process.

National objective	2 - Return measures
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The return measures will be focused on voluntary return, cooperation with countries of origin, and post-return assistance.

General national priorities, for which Croatia provides national funding are:

- Preparation and implementation of specific voluntary return and reintegration programmes;
- Provision of appropriate care and assistance in cases where return or removal is not possible (due to objective reasons);
- Provision of basic coercive means and equipment for the implementation of return measures.

Main actions co-funded from AMIF shall encompass:

- Promotion and implementation of voluntary return and reintegration projects for TCN;
- Cooperation with consular authorities and immigration services of third countries with a view to obtain travel documents and facilitate return and readmission;
- Preparation and enforcement of return operations (administrative and staff costs, translation and interpretation, travel costs, accommodation, medical costs, and other costs related to successful and safe operation);
- Initial post-return assistance in both voluntary and forced return (providing of means for secondary transportation, first necessary housing, medical assistance, one-time financial assistance etc.).

National objective	3 - Cooperation
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Cooperation will focus on other MS and Frontex.

General national priorities, for which Croatia provides national funding are:

- Strengthening of cooperation with diplomatic missions and consular posts of third countries in Croatia, other MS and in third countries.
- Strengthening of cooperation with NGOs or other international organisations;
- Setting-up contacts meetings with administrative and other bodies of third countries with the aim of identifying undocumented TCN;
- Strengthening of cooperation with local providers of services for detainees (such as local primary school, health centre, social service, etc.).

Main actions co-funded from AMIF shall encompass:

- Cooperation with MS and Frontex agency in executing joint return flights, identification projects, and other activities relating to the return of TCN (organization of charter flight to third countries and/or participation in joint return flights);
- Cooperation with international organizations, NGOs, and other partners in terms of providing appropriate services for TCN during detention and with the aim of facilitating voluntary return programs, including pre-return and reintegration assistance;
- Meetings, seminars and training in Croatia, as well as in third countries and in MS for officials regarding the exchange of information on the status, practices and experiences regarding return.

Specific objective	4 - Solidarity
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Amendments of national legislation, made in 2015, introduced legal basis for implementation of programme of transfer of beneficiaries of international protection. The Act on International and Temporary Protection defines that decisions on transfers will issue the Government. In line with this on 16 July 2015 the Government issued the Decision on Resettlement and Transfer of Third Countries Nationals or Stateless Persons who Fulfil Conditions for Granting International Protection, which envisages transfer of 400 beneficiaries of international protection to Croatia. Simultaneously the Government issued the Decision on establishing the inter-institutional working group for implementation of the Decision on resettlement and transfer.

Croatia intends to finance with the aid of AMIF study visits so that relevant services may learn from the best practices and advice of experienced MS about transfers of beneficiaries of international protection. As well field visits for preparing the transfers will be supported AMIF and providing of information to transferred persons.

National objective	1 - Relocation
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The 2015 amendments of national legislation provided legal basis for implementation of programme of transfer of IP beneficiaries. The actions below are relevant in that framework, and in the framework of the relocation activities in line with Council Decision (EU) 2015/1601 of 22/09/2015.

Actions to be co-funded by AMIF:

- Study visits to learn about experiences and best practices of other MS,
- Field visits for preparing the transfers,

- Producing the guide containing information for transferred persons,
- Implementation of the transfers, supported by AMIF in line with Regulation No 801/2014.

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Specific Objective	NO/SA	Main action	Name of action	Start of planning phase	Start of implementation phase	Start of closing phase
SO1 - Asylum	NO1 - Reception/asylum	1	Improvement of reception infrastructure, services and conditions of stay	2015	2017	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO1 - Reception/asylum	2	Training of staff on reception and asylum procedures in line with EASO Curriculum	2015	2016	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO1 - Reception/asylum	3	Introducing video translation	2015	2016	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO2 - Evaluation	1	Unique IT database for managing, monitoring and evaluation	2015	2016	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO2 - Evaluation	2	Exchange of experience with other MS regarding large influx of asylum seekers and COI information	2015	2016	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO3 - Resettlement	1	Study visits to learn about experiences and best practices of other MS	2015	2016	2023
SO1 - Asylum	NO3 - Resettlement	2	Field visits for preparing the resettlement	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO1 - Legal migration	1	Pre-departure dissemination of information to TCN on the host MS	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO2 - Integration	1	Further implementation of programmes for basic assistance and services for TCN	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO2 - Integration	2	Development, translation, printing and dissemination of the guide	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO3 - Capacity	1	Procedures and instructions for flexibility and clarity in administration	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO3 - Capacity	2	Enhancing cross-administration collaboration and cooperation with other MS	2015	2016	2023
SO2 - Integration/legal migration	NO3 - Capacity	3	Foreign languages training for employees who work on legal migration issues	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO1 - Accompanying measures	1	Continuous implementation of monitoring of forced return	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO1 - Accompanying measures	2	Finding and implementing alternatives to detention	2015	2016	2023

Specific Objective	NO/SA	Main action	Name of action	Start of planning phase	Start of implementation phase	Start of closing phase
SO3 - Return	NO1 - Accompanying measures	3	Free legal aid provided to TCN in return process	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO2 - Return measures	1	Promotion and implementation of voluntary return and reintegration projects	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO2 - Return measures	2	Preparation and enforcement of return operations	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO2 - Return measures	3	Initial post-return assistance in both voluntary and forced return	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO3 - Cooperation	1	Cooperation with MS and Frontex	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO3 - Cooperation	2	Cooperation with international organizations, NGOs, and other partners	2015	2016	2023
SO3 - Return	NO3 - Cooperation	3	Meetings, seminars and training in Croatia, other MS and third countries	2015	2016	2023
SO4 - Solidarity	NO1 - Relocation	1	Study visits to learn on experiences and best practices of other MS	2015	2016	2023
SO4 - Solidarity	NO1 - Relocation	2	Field visits for preparing the transfers of IP beneficiaries	2015	2016	2023

4. SPECIAL CASES

4.1 Resettlement

Justification of the number of persons to be resettled

The Act on International and Temporary Protection defines that decisions on transfers will issue the Government. In line with this on 16 July 2015 the Government issued the Decision on Resettlement and Transfer of Third Countries Nationals or Stateless Persons who Fulfil Conditions for Granting International Protection, which envisages resettlement of 150 persons.

By the accompanying Decision the Government established the Interdepartmental Working Group which will prepare the implementation of resettlement.

Pledging plan

Vulnerable groups and Common Union resettlement priorities (Lump Sum 10 000€ per person resettled)	2014-2015	2016-2017	2018-2020
Syrian refugees in the region		150	
Total union priorities		150	
Grand total		150	

4.2 Transfer & relocation

	From	To	2014-2015	2016-2017	2018-2020
Transfer		Republic of Croatia	0		
Relocation (2015/1523)	Greece	Republic of Croatia		160	
Relocation (2015/1523)	Italy	Republic of Croatia		240	
Relocation (2015/1601)	Greece	Republic of Croatia		434	
Relocation (2015/1601)	Italy	Republic of Croatia	0	134	

5. COMMON INDICATORS AND PROGRAMME SPECIFIC INDICATORS

Specific objective	1 - Asylum			
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of target group persons provided with assistance through projects in the field of reception and asylum systems supported under this Fund	Number	0.00	7,000.00	Project reporting
C2.1 - Capacity (i.e. number of places) of new reception accommodation infrastructure set up in line with the minimum requirements for reception conditions set out in the EU acquis and of existing reception accommodation infrastructure improved in line with the same requirements as a result of the projects supported under this Fund	Number	0.00	600.00	Project reporting
C2.2 - The percentage in the total reception accommodation capacity	%	0.00	90.00	Project reporting
C3.1 - Number of persons trained in asylum-related topics with the assistance of the Fund	Number	0.00	300.00	Project reporting
C3.2 - That number as a percentage of the total number of staff trained in those topics	%	0.00	80.00	Project reporting
C4 - Number of country of origin information products and fact-finding missions conducted with the assistance of the Fund	Number	0.00	0.00	Project reporting
C5 - Number of projects supported under this Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate asylum policies in Member States	Number	0.00	7.00	Project reporting
C6 - Number of persons resettled with support of this Fund	Number	0.00	150.00	Authority in charge of transferring the persons

Specific objective	2 - Integration/legal migration			
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of target group persons who participated in pre-departure measures supported under this Fund	Number	0.00	500.00	Project reporting
C2 - Number of target group persons assisted by this Fund through integration measures in the framework of national, local and regional strategies	Number	0.00	1,500.00	Project reporting
C3 - Number of local, regional and national policy frameworks/measures/tools in place for the integration of third country nationals and involving civil society, migrant communities as well as all other relevant stakeholders, as a result of the measures supported under this	Number	0.00	3.00	Project reporting

Specific objective	2 - Integration/legal migration			
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
Fund				
C4 - Number of cooperation projects with other Member States on integration of third-country nationals supported under this Fund	Number	0.00	3.00	Project reporting
C5 - Number of projects supported under this Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate integration policies in Member States	Number	0.00	1.00	Project reporting

Specific objective	3 - Return			
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of persons trained on return-related topics with the assistance of the Fund	Number	0.00	350.00	Project reporting
C2 - Number of returnees who received pre or post return reintegration assistance co-financed by the Fund	Number	0.00	500.00	Project reporting
C3 - Number of returnees whose return was co-financed by the Fund, persons who returned voluntarily	Number	0.00	3,000.00	Project reporting
C4 - Number of returnees whose return was co-financed by the Fund, persons who were removed	Number	0.00	5,000.00	Project reporting
C5 - Number of monitored removal operations co-financed by the Fund	Number	0.00	75.00	Project reporting
C6 - Number of projects supported under the Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate return policies in Member States	Number	0.00	1.00	Project reporting

Specific objective	4 - Solidarity			
Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of applicants transferred from one Member State to another with support of this Fund	Number	0.00	968.00	Authority in charge of relocation
C2 - Number of cooperation projects with other Member States on enhancing solidarity and responsibility sharing between the Member States supported under this Fund	Number	0.00	0.00	Project reporting

6. FRAMEWORK FOR PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME BY THE MEMBER STATE

6.1 Partnership involvement in the preparation of the programme

The draft national programme was prepared in consultation with relevant authorities and organisations, involved in the issues of asylum, migration, integration and return, most of which will later be involved in implementation. The Responsible Authority provided presentations on the Fund and had meetings with major partners at different stages of drafting the programme. The representative of the Responsible Authority attended a session of the Permanent Committee for Implementation of the Integration of TCN into Croatian Society where objective of integration was discussed. Further consultation on the issue of integration was channelled through the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, which is coordinating the activities of the Permanent Committee. The consultation with NGOs was coordinated by the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, established to coordinate the work of ministries, central state offices, Croatian Government offices and state administrative organizations, as well as administrative bodies at local level in connection with monitoring and improving the cooperation with the non-governmental, non-profit sector in the Republic of Croatia. The Responsible Authority had also consulted with the authority responsible for the European Social Fund, the Ministry of Labour and Pension System, as well as with the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, which is the central coordinating body for European Structural and Investment Funds. The information on the Fund is as well available at the internet site of the MoI.

6.2 Monitoring Committee

The Monitoring Committee will be established by a decision of the Government. The members of the Monitoring Committee will be representatives of all relevant authorities (interior, finance, education, science and sport, labour, social affairs, human rights, coordination of EU funds). The Committee will be chaired by an official of the Ministry of Interior. Key responsibilities of the Monitoring Committee will be:

- participate in defining the annual lists of projects to be financed;
- monitoring of implementation and achievement of AMIF and ISF goals;
- review of monitoring and implementation reports;
- opinions and recommendations on the management and control system and the fund management.

The Committee shall meet quarterly and on as-needed basis.

6.3 Common monitoring and evaluation framework

The Independent Sector for Schengen Coordination and European Union Projects within the Ministry of Interior is the main body responsible for the preparation of implementation and evaluation reports. These reports will be based on common and specific programme indicators specified in this programme. Gathering of data will be arranged through a continuous process of information exchange between the responsible authority, delegated authority and beneficiaries of funding.

Interim and ex-post evaluation reports will be prepared by independent external evaluators.

Throughout the process of monitoring and evaluation, the Monitoring Committee will provide opinions and proposals for improvement. All findings and reports within the common monitoring and evaluation framework will be forwarded to the Audit Authority and to the Designating Authority.

Details rules on the implementation of the common monitoring and evaluation framework will be set forth in the rules of procedure of the Responsible Authority.

6.4 Partnership involvement in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national programme

During the implementation of the programme the partnership involvement will follow similar principles as during the preparation of the programme. The publicity will be ensured through publishing of all relevant information on the Responsible Authority's website portal. Also, there is a permanent role to be played by the Monitoring Committee, which will constantly monitor the implementation of the programme and provide guidance and advice. As well, the involvement of partners in the implementation of the programme will be ensured by regular and as needed meetings.

The main partners are state authorities and other public entities (ministries, state offices, agencies, local authorities), international and non-profit organisations, NGOs and scientific research institutions (involved in the preparation of expert studies and analysis). Important partners are EU Agencies and networks (Frontex, EASO), and some key international organizations and associations (such as UNHCR, IOM and ICMPD). The involvement of non-state actors (NGOs and the private sector) will be ensured through exchange of information, as well as through direct meetings on as-needed basis.

As regards selection of projects to be implemented under awarding mode, the suggestions and proposals of partners will be considered prior to publishing public calls for proposals for the selection of projects. In all phases of the process, the principles of equal treatment and non-discrimination against all applicants will be ensured.

6.5 Information and Publicity

Information and publicity will be supported through:

- publication of all relevant materials and information on the web site of the Responsible Authority (e.g. national programmes, lists of actions, projects and grant recipients supported by the fund, information on funding opportunities) and publication of calls for tenders and calls for proposals on the web site of the Responsible Authority;
- information to potential beneficiaries on the funding opportunities, the conditions of eligibility for funding, procedures and the criteria for selecting and granting the projects to be funded, as well as on the contacts who can provide information on the national programme;

- organizing public events;
- providing information on requests of public media;
- project-level information and publicity measures of beneficiaries.

6.6 Coordination and complementarity with other instruments

Coordination with other funds shall be ensured through consultation within the Monitoring Committee which will be comprised of competent representatives of public authorities from all related areas. Therefore, the representatives will be able to detect any possible synergies and complementarity, or double-financing and overlapping with initiatives and project within their home departments. The complementarities with European Structural and Investment Funds shall be ensured via close cooperation with the Coordinating Body for these funds and is also represented in the Monitoring Committee. The annual lists of projects shall be discussed at the Committee prior to approval of projects.

Also, the Independent Sector for Schengen Coordination and European Union Projects of the Ministry of the Interior is in good position to take care of the complementarity of financing in the field of home affairs, since it performs the functions of the Responsible Authority for Schengen Facility, European Refugee Fund and European Return Fund, and as well coordinates preparation, implementation and monitoring of IPA and Transition Facility projects in which MoI is involved.

These are all the programmes and projects related to asylum and migration that are in implementation or in preparation to be financed from other EU financial instruments:

1. IPA 2011 project Upgrading the capacities for minors and other vulnerable groups of illegal migrants in the Reception Centre for Aliens (a new building for minors and vulnerable groups finished, supervision of works finished, equipment contracted)
2. Transition Facility project Supply of Equipment for Eurodac second phase (30 new workstations, to be supplied in 2016)
3. Transition Facility project Reconstruction of Accommodation and Accompanying Facilities in Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Kutina (to be implemented in 2016 and to be accompanied by a twinning light project)
4. Schengen Facility project Transit Centre for Foreigners Trilj and Border Police Station Trilj (construction, supervision of works, equipment – all in implementation, to be finished in 1st Q of 2016)
5. Schengen Facility project Transit Centre for Foreigners Tovarnik (construction, supervision of works, equipment – to be finished in 1st half of 2016)
6. European Return Fund for 2013
7. European Refugee Fund for 2013

Information on the projects and beneficiaries is available at the web page of the Ministry of Interior: <http://www.mup.hr/main.aspx?id=186718>.

6.7 Beneficiaries

6.7.1 List of five main types of beneficiaries of the programme

1. State authorities
2. Non-governmental organizations
3. International public organizations
4. Croatian Red Cross
5. Local public bodies

6.7.2 Direct award (if applicable)

Direct award is planned for public bodies on the grounds of technical or administrative competence, especially where the law does not leave any other choice. MoI performs several activities falling under AMIF - by the Act on International and Temporary Protection it is responsible for international protection and as well by the Law on Foreigners for some tasks regarding legal migration. Also, the units of the Border Police Directorate are the only competent bodies for the forced return. Direct award will also be applied for the public bodies for some aspects of legal migration and integration where the law prescribes that these fall under their specific responsibility.

7. THE FINANCING PLAN OF THE PROGRAMME

Table 1: AMIF Financial plan

Specific objective / national objective / specific action	Total
SO1.NO1 Reception/asylum	5,944,611.00
SO1.NO2 Evaluation	1,713,380.00
SO1.NO3 Resettlement	50,000.00
TOTAL SO1 Asylum	7,707,991.00
SO2.NO1 Legal migration	128,345.00
SO2.NO2 Integration	2,926,760.00
SO2.NO3 Capacity	428,345.00
TOTAL SO2 Integration/legal migration	3,483,450.00
SO3.NO1 Accompanying measures	1,900,000.00
SO3.NO2 Return measures	1,900,000.00
SO3.NO3 Cooperation	200,000.00
TOTAL SO3 Return	4,000,000.00
SO4.NO1 Relocation	50,000.00
TOTAL SO4 Solidarity	50,000.00
Technical assistance	1,892,359.00
TOTAL Special Cases	7,308,000.00
TOTAL	24,441,800.00

Table 2: Special case pledges

Special case pledges	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Resettlement total			750,000.00	750,000.00				1,500,000.00
Relocation (2015/1523) total			1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00				2,400,000.00
Relocation (2015/1601) total	0.00	0.00	1,704,000.00	1,704,000.00				3,408,000.00
Transfer total	0.00	0.00						0.00
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	3,654,000.00	3,654,000.00				7,308,000.00

Table 3: Total Annual EU commitments (€)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
Asylum and solidarity	0.00	2,020,065.59	8,135,773.00	1,740,813.00	1,548,115.00	1,441,968.00	1,443,601.00	16,330,335.59
Integration and return	0.00	1,633,651.41	1,533,877.00	1,222,397.00	1,070,713.00	1,325,413.00	1,325,413.00	8,111,464.41
TOTAL	0.00	3,653,717.00	9,669,650.00	2,963,210.00	2,618,828.00	2,767,381.00	2,769,014.00	24,441,800.00

Justification for any deviation from the minimum shares set in the Specific Regulations

Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
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