

HEADING 3: Security and citizenship

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Lead DG: HOME

I. Overview

What the programme is about?

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) promotes the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration. This Fund contributes to the achievement of four specific objectives:

- Asylum: strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System by ensuring that EU legislation in this field is efficiently and uniformly applied;
- Legal migration and integration: supporting legal migration to EU States in line with the labour market needs and promoting the effective integration of non-EU nationals;
- Return: enhancing fair and effective return strategies, which contribute to combating irregular migration, with an emphasis on sustainability and effectiveness of the return process;
- Solidarity: making sure that EU States which are most affected by migration and asylum flows can count on solidarity from other EU States.

EU added value of the programme

The management of migration flows presents challenges which cannot be dealt with by the Member States acting alone. Some Member States bear a heavy burden due to their specific geographic situation and the length of the external borders of the Union that they have to manage. The principle of solidarity and the fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States is therefore at the heart of the common policies on asylum and immigration. EU funding supports the implementation of those principles.

Furthermore, the adoption of measures and the pooling of resources at EU level will increase significantly the EU leverage necessary to convince third countries to engage with the EU on those migration related issues which are primarily in the interest of the EU and the Member States.

Implementation mode

For the implementation of the allocated budget, the Commission uses several implementation modes:

- Shared management, implemented by the Member States
- Direct management of grants and procurement: Support to Union actions and emergency assistance under AMIF, in cooperation with international and civil society organisations, via grants and contracts awarded through calls for proposals and procurement.
- Indirect management of entrusted entities: Support to programmes implemented through delegation agreements under AMIF annual work programmes.

II. Programme Implementation Update

In 2017, **the national programmes** were substantially modified to include additional funding linked to resettlement (EUR 455.6 million), return (EUR 140.8 million) and measures implementing the EU Action Plan on the integration of third- country nationals (EUR 140 million), in particular those carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities in the context of Member States' Migrant Integration Strategy.

In 2018, the national programmes were again revised

- To include EUR 30 million and EUR 20 million to support respectively the integration of third country nationals and the return of irregular migrants.
- To reflect the outcome of the mid-term review exercise carried out in accordance with article 15 'Mid-term review' of the Regulation ⁽¹⁾ laying down general provisions on AMIF and ISF.

In December 2018, the AMIF Regulation was amended ⁽²⁾ to allow the reuse of the non-consumed resources for the two Council Decisions dating from 2015 on relocation and the Council Decision dating 2016 on legal admission for other Union migration priorities beyond 2018.

⁽¹⁾ 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.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2018/2000 amending article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards the recommitment of the remaining amounts committed to support the implementation of Council Decisions (EU) 2015/1523 and (EU) 2015/1601² or the

Furthermore, in 2019, the national programmes were revised to include additional resources of EUR 97.6 million for resettlements to be carried-out by the Member States in 2020. The national programmes will be revised again in 2020 to include additional funding for resettlement.

By 15 February (or 1 March upon justified request) 2020, Member States submitted their annual accounts covering the financial year 2019; together they have requested a total amount of EUR 583 million. By 31 March 2020, the Annual Implementation Reports for AMIF were submitted by Member States. Over period 2014-2019, EUR 2.25 billion was actually spent by the MS, equivalent to an absorption rate of 50.36 %.

Example of a shared-management projects on-going: Spain

Due to the increased number of asylum seekers in the country, a reallocation of AMIF funds towards the asylum area took place in 2018 (EUR 74 million), in view of developing 4 500 new places in the **reception centres**, and be able to provide the necessary health and social support to 50 000 persons. In parallel, funds are used to strengthen the capacities of the **Office for Asylum**, with a development of a fully automatized system for a quicker processing of the asylum applications, as well as the co-financing of the salary of 75 temporary asylum experts, to be replaced by trained State officials by 2020.

The **emergency assistance** instrument provides financial assistance to Member States, International Organisations and (exceptionally) EU Agencies to address urgent and specific needs in the event of an emergency situation in a Member State, in particular in the area of migration, border management and security. It is the main tool of DG HOME to provide strategic operational support of EU added value at short notice in the form of grants and contribution agreements. By end-December 2019, the total amount of AMIF emergency assistance granted to Member States since 2015 reached EUR 1.266 million. In 2019, 21 grants and contribution agreements were signed for a total of EUR 208 million, of which EUR 133 million for actions implemented by two international organisation (UNHCR and OIM) for the benefit of Greece.

Emergency assistance in Greece

Since the beginning of 2019, Greece continued to see a rise in the number of migrants. In 2019, 73 626 arrivals have been recorded in Greece (60 151 by sea and 13 475 by land), compared to 47 915 arrivals recorded in 2018. This represents 54 % increase, while between 2018 and 2017 the increase was of around 38 %. The trend continues, in the first months of 2020, 8 762 people arrived in total: 7 046 by sea and 1 716 by land. The number of irregular migrants present on the Aegean islands continues to increase significantly, reaching for the first time since the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement a peak of 41 474 migrants on 11 March 2020. The islands remain overcrowded and the reception capacities, both in the islands and in mainland, are stretched to the maximum. Due to the continuously increased arrivals, the Greek authorities, with the support from the Commission, needed and still need to further step up their efforts to address the shortcomings in migration management, in particular on the reception capacity and asylum processing sides. That's why in 2019 it was necessary to further reinforce emergency funding for Greece by means of a budget authority transfer, which covered, among others, a significant part of the reception needs in the mainland and in the islands, the protection of the unaccompanied minors through the provision of accommodation, guardianship and foster care services, as well as the access to the Greek Asylum Service, an Integration project and the Assisted Voluntary Return scheme.

Emergency assistance in Cyprus

The migratory situation in the Eastern Mediterranean route also led to the granting of further emergency assistance to Cyprus. More specifically, in December 2019 the Commission awarded an emergency assistance grant of EUR 1.8 million under AMIF to strengthen the existing structures and operational capacity of the Social Welfare Services to cope with the rapidly increasing numbers of asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors.

Emergency assistance in Spain

AMIF Emergency assistance in Spain focussed in 2018 and 2019 on actions deployed by the national authorities to deal with the irregular migration, for a total EU allocation of EUR 52 million. In 2019, a new project operated by the Red Cross was awarded, aiming at providing humanitarian support to strengthen 50 000 migrants reaching the Spanish coast, by delivering first-aid to protect their lives and health, detecting potential victims of human trafficking and identifying persons likely to need international protection.

In 2019, **Union actions projects** selected under the 2015 annual work programme were closed, while those selected under the 2016 and 2017 programmes were still running. New grant agreements and delegation agreements were concluded for actions under the 2018 annual work programme and their implementation started in the end of 2019 or in early 2020. The AMIF 2019 work programme for **Union actions** was adopted on 10 May 2019 for a total envelope of EUR 88.9 million and the relevant calls will be finalised in 2020.

In July 2019 a single call for proposals covering priorities such as fostering of integration of persons in need of protection through private sponsorship schemes, involvement of newly arrived third country nationals in local communities, social and economic integration of migrant women, launching of awareness raising and information campaigns on the risk of irregular migration, and the

allocation of those amounts to other actions under the national programmes. Article 18(3) of the AMIF Regulation states that 'those amounts shall not be transferred to other actions under the national programme'. In order to be able to use these remaining amounts for voluntary relocation, resettlement and / or other Union migration priorities beyond 2018, an amendment of Article 18 of the AMIF Regulation was needed.

training of Member States' experts in the area of asylum, was published with a deadline of 30 January 2020. This call attracted a lot of interest with 334 applications received which will be evaluated in the spring of 2020.

Apart from the open call for proposals mentioned above, this work programme also supports the Regional Development and Protection Programmes in North Africa and in the Horn of Africa, the implementation of the Mobility Partnership Facility, the support to the Schengen Evaluation Mechanism as well as procurements to support the Commission's activities.

The AMIF also continued to support the **European Migration Network (EMN)**. The 2019-2020 work programme for grants related to the EMN was adopted on 12 November 2018 for an amount of EUR 18 million and the evaluation of the applications from all Member States was concluded in early 2019.

Key achievements

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund remained in 2019 a key source of financial assistance to cope with increased migratory flows and reception of asylum seekers.

In 2019, 379 340 **asylum seekers** received assistance from the programme (2018 – 370 374).

DG HOME also supports Member States in their efforts to integrate third country nationals. In 2019, 954 496 third-country nationals have received integration assistance. This assistance covered, among others, language and civic orientation training, preparatory actions to facilitate access to the labour market and capacity building.

Coordinated **resettlement efforts**, providing to persons in need of international protection a safe and legal way to reach the EU, have continuously increased since 2015 and were recognized as one of the 'Top 20 achievements of the Juncker Commission' ⁽³⁾.

Resettlement operations are an important part of the AMIF, with almost EUR 1 billion allocated to them in the 2014-2020 programming period, which constitute almost ¼ of the overall financial value for the Fund. This corresponds to 101 116 persons to be resettled, of which 62 651 persons have been reported in payment claims to the Commission up to 2019 included (62 % implementation).

Taking into account the success of the implementation of the '50 000' scheme and the delays in the adoption of the Union Resettlement Framework by the co-legislators, the Commission put in place a new ad hoc resettlement scheme covering the year 2020 with a target of 20 000 persons. Responding to the Commission's call, Member States collectively pledged almost 30 000 resettlement places. This generous pledge – going beyond initial expectations – confirms the Member States' commitment to resettlement and their resolve to scale up safe and legal pathways to protection in Europe. The collective EU pledge for 2020 represents almost 50 % of global pledges. The expansion of EU resettlement is in line with the UNHCR 3-year (2019-2021) Strategy and was welcomed by all stakeholders at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019.

In order to reduce incentives for irregular migration, the Fund contributed in 2019 to the **return** of 64 518 persons (both voluntary and forced), slightly below the level of 2018 %, when 70 239 persons were returned. This corresponds to EUR 90.25 million in payments declared by the Member States in 2019 to the Commission, in particular, through the financial support given to the Member States for the Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration Programmes, 30 009 persons have been returned voluntarily in 2019. Among return related projects, it is important to mention the ERRIN project run by the Netherlands in cooperation with other Member States, which contributed to assistance with voluntary return of 11.000 persons to 17 third countries, with a perspective of 20.000 persons until June 2021. The EU funding for this project will be extended until 1 July 2022 for two purposes: (1) to allow for reaching the target of 25.000 persons and (2) to prepare for the transition of the network activities to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (EBCGA).

In 2019, 23 530 of the returned migrants received pre or post return reintegration assistance co – financed by the fund. The return operations organised by the Member States complement the return operations organised by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency. The agency has organized 330 return operations with charter flights in 2019 (down from 345 in 2018, but well above the target of 130 set in the 2016–2020 Strategic Plan), returning 10,900 persons (compared to 12,200) to their countries of origin. In addition, the number of people returned by scheduled flights tripled to almost 4,800 persons (to 81 countries), increasing efficiency and reducing costs. It is worth recalling that the Agency can only assist Member States to implement enforceable return decisions issued by competent national authorities.

AMIF also provided, together with the United Nations Refugee Agency, over EUR 264 million to meet accommodation needs on the Greek mainland and the islands. On an annual basis, 25 000 places are being provided under the ESTIA (Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation) scheme and more than 90 000 asylum seekers are receiving cash assistance. The Fund also provided, together with international partner organisations, nearly EUR 108 million for the protection of children in Greece, and ensure access to schools and basic education. Until end-2019, approximately 1 100 places have been made available in shelters for unaccompanied children in the mainland and more than 12 000 children are estimated to have attended education at public schools.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/euco-sibiu-annex-iii_en.pdf

Finally, between mid-2018 and end-2019, in average 600 places for unaccompanied children were provided in hotels, and since spring 2019 five safe zones were constructed and are operating in the Greek Islands.

Examples of success stories under shared management

Germany

Terre des hommes Deutschland is running the project ‘Child-oriented reception of unaccompanied minors through qualification, knowledge and networking’ for a total EU Contribution of EUR 576,224.69. It was conceived in response to the increasing number of unaccompanied minors (UM) arriving in Germany since 2015, who were applying for asylum and the resulting high number of requests for advice, networking and training (pedagogical and legal, in particular) by all people involved in assisting UM, in particular employees of youth welfare institutions and social services, guardians, judges. The goal of the project is to improve the quality in assisting UM through specific education and training of relevant stakeholders involved with the reception and asylum procedures of UM. The project also enhances the networking among these stakeholders, thereby supporting the exchange of expertise on matters relating to child welfare and legal aid and representation for UM.

Sweden

The project ‘Stadsdelsmors’, for a total EU Contribution of EUR 513,991, is running from 2016 till 2020 and it aims to break down social isolation and increase the participation of a particular target group of third country nationals in society, namely those who are living in social exclusion (legally resident third-country nationals or those who are in the process of acquiring legal residence). The project is developed in close exchange with similar projects in other European and Schengen countries (Denmark, Norway and Germany). The aim is that the target group should have access to social and professional networks in order to extend their networks and social health and this is realised inter alia through the provision of information on social issues in easy Swedish. Until now, 1512 persons were helped in the context of this project.

Greece

Under the AMIF National Programme, Greece launched in December 2017 a call of EUR 50 million public contribution (EUR 37, 5 million EU contribution) to subsidize the operation of **Unaccompanied Minors’ Hospitality Structures** (shelters for UAMs). The call was intended to cover the period 2018-2020. All shelters will provide all the services needed to ensure safe living conditions for the unaccompanied minors (accommodation, food, clothing and basic items, daily essentials, Medicare) and specialised psychosocial, educational, legal and other services to safeguard the minors’ rights, ensure their gradual integration into society, and their growth and development. Under the current call 45 structures are already fully operational and provide some 1200 accommodation places, while another 4 applications are under evaluation for the provision of another 150 places and more NGOs have expressed their interest.

Another flagged project implemented under the Greek AMIF National Programme is the **assisted voluntary returns (AVRR) scheme** which is implemented by IOM with the amount of the EU contribution reaching EUR 24.3 million. In the last years, 21.389 third country nationals have been informed about the AVRR project and 4886 (21 %) have returned to their countries of origin. In September 2019, the Greek Authorities awarded to IOM a second grant in order to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of the voluntary returns, which is the main outflow from the migration system in Greece. The new grant has an implementation period of 3 years and is also including the financing of the operation of the open AVRR centre in Galatsi (Athens district) that has been supported by DG HOME emergency grants until the end of August 2019. The amount of the EU contribution of this project is EUR 39 million for three years.

Italy

In the context of the current financial framework, Italy attached particular attention to **strengthening the monitoring system of reception facilities** through the implementation of project ‘MIRECO’ (EU contribution: EUR 2.7 million). This project aimed to monitor and improve the reception conditions of the refugees by standardizing the verification tools at national level and by improving the operational capacity of the authorities in charge. This has led to the establishment of a permanent observatory composed of relevant organizations (IOM, UNHCR, National Association of Italian Municipalities/ANCI) and the constant sharing of monitoring results in the observatory, which is useful for the creation of an integrated monitoring system for the -qualitative standards of reception services. Until October 15, 2018, monitoring visits to 706 centres were carried out to monitor reception quality standards.

Another milestone of Italy’s activities under its AMIF national programme is the **healthcare of vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers**, including persons with mental issues. Project ‘FARI 2’ (estimated EU contribution EUR 1.4 million) had as main objective to reach out to and assist beneficiaries of and applicants for international protection (around 2,500), including unaccompanied minors; to launch/reinforce integrated intervention models; to enhance operators’ skills and improve the performance of regional health services (around 1,800 healthcare operators at local health centres and reception centres); to provide medical guidance and to analyse the healthcare experiences of applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection.

Examples of success stories under emergency assistance

AMIF emergency assistance funding played an important role in supporting front line Member States facing increased numbers of arrivals. Below some successful examples of this funding:

Greece

To address this situation, the Commission has awarded towards International Organisations and Greek authorities a number of emergency assistance projects in order to alleviate the situation. EUR 69 million were granted to IOM to run the project for Site Management Support for the provision of accommodation and related services in 30 camps in the mainland for approximately 27.000 places, increasing by 7 000 places the capacity of the mainland sites in comparison to 2018. The project lasted the whole of 2019. Furthermore, in December 2018 the Commission awarded over EUR 194 million to UNHCR to fund an accommodation scheme and cash assistance (ESTIA) that provides approximately 25.000 places in apartments and adequate shelters on the mainland and several islands for most vulnerable cases. The project equally covered the whole of 2019.

Moreover, in July 2019, the Commission awarded to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) the HELIOS project, which is a pilot integration project composed of three different components: education, accommodation and employability. The beneficiaries enrolled (international protection), have the obligation to attend language courses and simultaneously with the assistance of IOM and its partners find apartments for rent. For the period from 16 July until the end of 2019, 10.249 beneficiaries were reached and assisted, 5.990 were enrolled to HELIOS project and received support for independent living and 616 beneficiaries received rental subsidies upon finding independent housing. The aim is that in the next phase the beneficiaries will be able to integrate into the labour market. The amount of the project reaches EUR 47 168 302 92.2 million and the end of the project is scheduled for the end of November 2020. In addition, from March 2020, the MERIMNA project for the Safeguarding of children in the borders, for the creation and operation for safe zones in the Reception and Identification Centres in the islands and in Fylakio, is run by IOM. More than 500 children have resided in these structures in 2019.

Italy

Italy received AMIF emergency assistance to improve the performance of its asylum procedures through the provision of asylum experts, interim administrative staff, IT equipment, inter-cultural mediation and other services to assist with the registration and processing of asylum applications. Under two on-going EMAS projects, for a total amount of EU contribution of EUR 20.3 million, the Ministry of Interior receives support to implement the procedure for the recognition of international protection: 81 inter-cultural mediators and 20 legal officers are deployed at the Immigration Offices at the local Questura and Air Borders offices to assist Police Officers in the immediate registration of asylum requests. The administrative activity at Police Offices, offices of the Territorial Commissions and of the National Commission has been simplified to reduce, for example, the average time dedicated to the analysis of requests and for first instance decisions.

EU emergency assistance also supported Italy in the area of return. In particular, the Italian Ministry of Interior has recently completed an emergency action for the assisted voluntary return and re-integration of 1 080⁽⁴⁾ migrants with the International Organisation for Migration as implementing partner (EU contribution: EUR 6 million).

Moreover, in July 2019 the Ministry of Interior received from the Commission EUR 0.7 million AMIF emergency assistance to carry out the humanitarian evacuation of approximately 450 vulnerable asylum seekers from Libya and Niger to Italy. The evacuation operations, implemented jointly with UNHCR and the Italian Institute for Migration and Poverty have been completed successfully, with the last evacuation from Niger in November 2019.

Malta

In addition, throughout 2019, a number of MS, continued voluntary relocation supported by the AMIF emergency funding. For instance, in July 2019, the Commission awarded emergency support to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) under AMIF for the voluntary relocation of up to 500 persons from Malta to EU Member and Associated States of Relocation for an EU contribution of EUR 0.5 million. By the end of 2019, a total of 325 persons had been assisted in their relocation and 175 persons were remaining to be transferred. On 24 January 2020, the Commission decided to extend the ongoing project and awarded to IOM an additional amount of EUR 0.5 million to relocate up to 500 more persons until 31 July 2020 following the continued disembarkations in this Member State.

Union actions

Examples of AMIF funded Union actions can be found in the Snapshot s published by the Commission at the following link

https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/e-library/multimedia/publications/20190909_snapshot-2019-eu-asylum-migration-integration-internal-security-fund_en

⁽⁴⁾ It is to be noted that these numbers are not included in the number of persons reported in the indicator section, as the indicator under the specific objective only aggregate data reported under the shared management national programmes

In 2019, cooperation with local and regional authorities has been strengthened in the area of integration. In particular, DG HOME has reinforced its cooperation with the Committee of Regions on integration, supporting the initiative **Cities and Regions for integration**. Under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, DG HOME financed in 2019, for a total of EUR 14.5 million, the creation of **eight transnational networks** of cities and regions for cooperation on integration which will start in 2020 and run during three years. On 3 December, DG HOME organised a large conference on integration at local level with more than 400 representatives from local and regional authorities across Europe. DG HOME also continued its support to Member States through the **European Integration Network**.

Evaluation/studies conducted

The key findings of the latest Interim evaluation of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2014-2017 (SWD (2018) 340 final <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018SC0339&from=EN>) have been presented in the Programme Statements DB2020.

By 31 December 2023, the Member States will provide an ex-post evaluation report on the effects of actions under their national programmes and by 30 June 2024 the Commission will present an ex-post evaluation report on the effects of the legal bases.

At the same time, DG HOME is implementing the **Action Plan** following the internal audit findings on the monitoring and reporting on the implementation and performance of National Programmes. In particular, DG HOME has strengthened its processes for monitoring the National Programmes and increased its efforts to improve the reliability of performance data reported by the Member States in their Annual Implementation Reports submitted annually. More attention will be given to the consistency of data reported by the Member States. DG HOME will provide guidance to the Member States with a view to ensure common understanding of the indicators established in the Fund and to establish better links with information provided in the accounts.

Moreover, the European Court of Auditors issued recommendations on the strengthening of the management of the AMIF emergency assistance and national programmes. They cover in particular strengthening the performance monitoring framework by monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS funded projects, ensuring that EMAS project contain output and outcome indicators with clean targets and baselines etc.

While the Commission started implementing the ECA's recommendations already under the ongoing programmes, the main structural recommendations will be put in place in the context of the next MFF.

Forthcoming implementation

It is expected that, following the information received in the 2019 AMIF Annual Accounts and Annual Implementation Reports, the implementation of the Funds will gain further momentum. DG HOME intends to steer the Member States even more to enhance the implementation of the programme, among others through the participation to national monitoring committee meetings, bilateral discussions, monitoring visits, messages at political level, etc.

A revision of the national programmes is envisaged in 2020 in order to include the additional funding for resettlements to be carried-out by MS in 2020.

Grant agreements under the AMIF 2019 annual work programme for Union actions will be concluded in 2020 and the implementation of the actions will start. In continuation of previous years, it will cover the area of integration of third-country nationals for which seven priorities have been established in the annual work programme. It will also concern the asylum and migration policy, including the external dimension of this component to enhance third countries' capacity to provide that asylum-seekers and refugees receive effective protection, assistance and durable solutions (repatriation, local integration and/or resettlement) (Regional Development and Protection Programmes).

The European Migration Network (EMN) is supported under the EMN 2019-2020 work programme.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

For the next long-term EU budget 2021-2027, the Commission's proposals aim to provide a response to increased migratory, mobility and security challenges, with more flexible funding instruments (AMF, BMVI and ISF) to address unforeseen migratory events and border protection at the core of the new budget, including a fairer distribution key

In the current AMIF, the allocation key for the national programmes was fixed at the beginning of the programming period, based on statistical data underlying the SOLID annual programmes from 2011 to 2013. Because the migration situation in the EU changed drastically in the years following the adoption of the current MFF, the allocations to the national programmes did not adequately correspond to the respective needs of Member States. In addition, there was no possibility to update the allocation key during the programming period based on the real needs and pressures.

Learning from this, Annex I of the AMF proposal 2021-2027 includes criteria for allocation of the funding to the Member States based on statistical data that give evidence and better reflect the real-time needs of the Member States. The criteria is based on statistical data taking into account various 'stocks' and 'flows' that reflect the needs and pressures experienced by different Member States in three key areas covered by the Fund: asylum, legal migration and integration and countering irregular migration including returns. This aims to reflect more accurately the specific circumstances of Member States at different stages of receiving third country nationals. In addition, COM proposed to use the latest three reference years closest to the start of the programming period to provide a more updated picture of the actual needs for each Member State.

The proposal also introduces the possibility to update the allocation key at mid-term review when additional 10 % of funding is allocated or at any moment when additional funding would be allocated to Member States based on the allocation key to reflect more accurately any changes in the needs and pressures in Member States and support those Member States that might in the future be faced with a disproportionate workload.

In the 2021-2027 period the AMIF will be succeeded by the Asylum and Migration Fund, which aims to support comprehensive migration management, grounded on the principles of solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility. The AMF will channel 60 % of the total financial envelope of the Fund to the Member States' programmes whereas the remaining 40 % will be managed through a thematic facility, which will periodically provide funding for a number of priorities through top ups to Member States' programmes (specific actions), Union actions and emergency assistance allowing for a more flexible use of the Fund.

Among the specific priorities for 2021, one could mention:

- supporting persons in need of international protection while ensuring solidarity and responsibility-sharing among the Member States – in particular via resettlement and relocation schemes as well as emergency funding;
- supporting integration measures at national, local and regional level;
- supporting mobility schemes in the area of legal migration;
- returns and fight against irregular migration;
- strengthening partnership and cooperation with third countries for the purpose of managing migration;
- providing support to the European Migration Network.

The programming exercise has started and the Member States have been invited to submit their draft programmes by 30 April 2020. Adoption of programmes and forthcoming implementation of 2021 appropriations will depend on the outcome of the MFF negotiations.

References:

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the council establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund (COM(2018) 471 final).

III. Programme key facts and performance framework

1. Financial programming

Legal Basis	Period of application	Reference Amount (EUR million)
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/EC	2014 – 2020	3 137,0

	Financial Programming (EUR million)							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total Programme
Administrative support	2,2	2,2	2,3	2,5	2,5	2,1	2,5	16,3
Operational appropriations	228,4(*)	620,9	1 796,6	1 612,0	745,4	1 188,9	946,2	7 138,3
Total	230,5	623,0	1 799,0	1 614,5	747,9	1 191,0	948,7	7 154,6

(*)The appropriations for the year 2014 have been reviewed to take account of the transfer to subsequent years of the allocations not used in 2014 (reprogramming exercise carried-out in 2015 in accordance with Article 19 of the Multiannual Financial Framework Regulation).

2. Implementation rates

	2019				2020			
	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate
Voted appropriations	1 183,791	100,00 %	875,348	99,83 %	1 233,275	35,96 %	952,409	21,67 %
Authorised appropriations (*)	1 193,883	99,88 %	798,508	110,41 %	1 242,138	36,37 %	963,492	22,39 %

(*) Authorised appropriations include voted appropriations, appropriations originating from assigned revenues (internal and external) as well as carried-over and reconstituted appropriations; the execution rate is calculated on 15 April 2020

3. Performance information

Programme performance

Taking into account the volatile and challenging migration situation throughout the 2014-2019 period, it is important to stress that the AMIF is achieving its objectives. AMIF provides the financial means to push forward the EU's agenda on migration. DG

HOME works to establish a comprehensive approach on this agenda, developing legislative proposals to establish and improve common EU action, monitoring and enforcing the correct implementation of applicable rules by the Member States.

Overall AMIF has generated important EU added value, despite the relatively small size of the funds in comparison with the important challenges imposed by the crisis that occurred during this period. The main benefit at EU level arises from the transnational dimension of certain actions but also the benefit of burden-sharing at EU level, supported in particular by the Emergency assistance and the relocation mechanism.

Sustainability has been thoroughly considered by AMIF through checks mechanisms set in place at programming and implementation stages across most instruments, although to a lesser extent by the Emergency assistance due to the nature of the actions. Overall, most of the innovative measures (e.g. simplified cost-options, multiannual programming) are considered particularly beneficial by beneficiaries and appear to have achieved simplification. Room for improvement appears to exist, especially in what concerns the internal coherence of the fund (among AMIF management modes) because there is little awareness among beneficiaries about the actions and projects realised within the AMIF framework. Similarly, the administrative burden appeared to be the main factor that undermined the efficiency, including some control measures that appeared too stringent for the Member states even if AMIF has led to simplification relative to the past. Finally, the monitoring and evaluation system under AMIF in line with the Better Regulation guidelines needs further improvement, including in terms of definitions of its indicators and the collection of data.

In terms of performance, for many of the indicators set in the AMIF, either the milestones have been exceeded or even the targets have been achieved. The implementation of AMIF will run until end-2022, and thus 3 years of implementation remain. Up to 2019, AMIF has attained an absorption rate of 50.3 %, which can be considered overall satisfactory. In 2019, the Member States have submitted EUR 583 million of payments to the Commission, similar to the level of the 2018 expenditure (EUR 605 million).

Strengthening the Common European Asylum System (CEAS)

According to Eurostat data, 721 000 asylum applications (of which 657 000 first time applicants) were lodged in the EU in 2019. This represents an 11 % increase compared to 2018 (but 45 % less than the peak in 2015), indicating that the pressure on national migration systems remained at high level.

DG HOME continued to make efforts facilitate discussions on the legislative package to reform CEAS, but co-legislators could not reach an agreement. Consequently, in the absence of an agreement, AMIF continued to provide the necessary emergency assistance to the Member States faced with migration pressure to improve their asylum systems and to reception capacities. Emergency assistance is the main tool of DG HOME to provide strategic operational support of EU added value at short notice in the form of grants and contribution agreements. The interim evaluation of the Fund also confirmed the emergency assistance as being one of the main benefits as EU level. By the end of January 2020, the total amount of AMIF emergency assistance since 2015 reached EUR 1.26 billion.

In this context, special attention was paid to the most vulnerable, particularly the unaccompanied minors due to the high number of unaccompanied children present in the Member States. For example, in 2019, DG HOME supported Greece to develop a strategy for unaccompanied children to ensure their safety. Moreover, EUR 50 million contributed to the protection of the unaccompanied minors through the provision of accommodation, guardianship and foster care services

As regards the AMIF national programmes, already in 2019, the Fund reached its 2020 targets in the field of **asylum**: 2.7 million target group persons have received assistance since 2014 as compared to the target of 1.28 million. The number of persons trained in asylum-related topics largely exceeds the target, with more than 52 709 persons trained since 2014 as compared to a target of 25 205 persons. Targets are also exceeded for the number country-of-origin information products and this is due to the activities of one Member State, which has produced far more products than initially planned.

When it comes to creation of new asylum reception capacity, fewer number of places have been created in 2018 (3 027) and 2019 (3 578), as compared to 2017 (14 770). Due to the reduced number of asylum seekers, a number of Member States seem not need to create new capacity with support from the Fund. Cumulatively, 30 026 places have been created with support provided under the national programmes, significantly below the overall target of 50 778 places.

Coordinated resettlement efforts, providing to persons in need of international protection a safe and legal way to reach the EU, have continuously increased since 2015 and were recognized as one of the ‘Top 20 achievements of the Juncker Commission’. Taking into account the success of the implementation of the ‘50 000’ scheme and the delays in the adoption of the Union Resettlement Framework by the co-legislators, the Commission put in place a new ad hoc resettlement scheme covering the year 2020 with a target of 20 000 persons. Responding to the Commission’s call, Member States collectively pledged almost 30 000 resettlement places. This generous pledge – going beyond initial expectations – confirms the Member States’ commitment to resettlement and their resolve to scale up safe and legal pathways to protection in Europe. The collective EU pledge for 2020 represents almost 50 % of global pledges. The expansion of EU resettlement is in line with the UNHCR 3-year (2019-2021) Strategy and was welcomed by all stakeholders at the Global Refugee Forum last in December 2019.

Resettlement operations are an important part of the AMIF, with almost EUR 1 billion allocated to them under the national programmes in the 2014-2020 programming period, which constitute almost ¼ of the overall financial value for the Fund This corresponds to 101 116 persons to be resettled, of which 62 651 persons have been reported in payment claims to the Commission up to 2019 included (62 % implementation).

Effective integration and legal migration

The gap between the employment rates of third-country nationals compared to EU nationals is used as an indicator to measure progress in integrating third country nationals in EU societies. The gap between the employment rates of third-country nationals compared to EU nationals has effectively increased from 13.4 percentage points in 2014 to 14.6 in 2018. It did however narrow in the last two years, down from 15.5 percentage points in 2017 to 14.6 in 2018.

DG HOME supports the MS in their efforts to integrate third-country nationals, through funding and by working with a broad range of stakeholders to promote integration. The aim is to make migration an opportunity for both third-country nationals and host societies,

DG HOME continued to work closely with North African Countries on migration and security. By supporting the EU-Africa Trust Fund with EUR 30 million under the Union actions, DG HOME contributed in 2019 to shaping the strategic approach to countries in North of Africa. Financial support to specific areas in Morocco contributed to reducing the number of irregular migrants on the Western Mediterranean route. To build up or strengthen asylum and reception systems and to address protection needs in African countries, DG HOME contracted in 2019 EUR 19.5 million through the Regional Development and Protection Programme, rolling out new actions in Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Tunisia, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Under the AMIF national programmes, almost 6 million target group persons have received integration assistance already surpassing the target of 2.6 million. Moreover, number of local, regional and national policy frameworks already exceed the target: 8 957 were already put in place as opposed to the target of 7 443.

However, when it comes to the number of persons who participated in pre-departure measures, the results are far below target set (71 097 persons versus 240 920 target). The data up to 2019 shows very uneven results in Member States. There are MS exceeding significantly their targets, others remain at zero or are at a very early stages of fulfilling their targets. The reasons can vary from MS to MS: the target have by been largely overstated, lack of pre-departure programs, lack of target groups, efficiency of national administrations, etc.

Furthermore, of the 62 cooperation projects foreseen by MS, up to 2019, only 44 have been reported. Nevertheless, it should be noted, that, through Union Actions, DG HOME has promoted cooperation projects between local and regional authorities through targeted calls for proposals.

In the period 2014–2020, EUR 1.027 billion have been allocated under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund to support measures on integration and legal migration. In 2019, Member States reported expenditure for EUR 101 million, reaching a cumulative of EUR 377 million (36.7 % absorption rate).

Effective return policies

For the asylum system to be credible, migrants with no right to stay in the EU need to be **returned**. However, return is seen as an area where further improvement should be made. Prospects of improvement depend both on better cooperation by third countries and on Member States' effectiveness in implementing returns.

Unsatisfactorily low return rates persist due to inefficient enforcement of existing instruments at EU and national level, and a common readmission policy that does not fully deliver. In 2018, the total return rate of irregular migrants was 41.49 % (42.36 % in 2017). The rate of effective return to third countries also slightly decreased to 35.63 % (37.55 % in 2017)⁵. This decrease is partially explained by the lower performance regarding returns to the Western Balkans, where, in the previous years, the rate approached or exceeded 100 % and pushed the average EU rate up. If data regarding the Western Balkans countries is removed from the overall EU return data, the rate of effective return to (other) third countries in fact increased from 29.34 % in 2017 to 31.64 % in 2018.

In 2019, the rate of return to third countries decreased to 31.5% (compared to 35.63% in 2018)⁶. This decrease is partially explained by the combination of a significant increase in return decisions issued (around 34 000 more than in 2018, in particular in some Member States; i.e. Greece, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Slovenia, Finland and the Netherlands), that has not been matched by a similar trend in numbers of effected returns to third countries (around 9 000 less than in 2018). This trend prevailed for a number of important countries of return. Even the Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership countries, which traditionally pushed the average EU rate up with rates close to 100%, witnessed in 2019 (like in 2018) a decrease and influenced significantly the overall rate due to the high proportion of return decisions issued to their nationals out of total number of decisions.

Additional efforts are required to address key challenges to the effectiveness of returns through measures both in Member States and with third countries. Actions taken include the following:

- DG HOME put forward a proposal for a recast of the Return Directive and will continue to push for its adoption;
- Enhanced role of EBCGA (in 2019, 10 900 were returned with charter flights + 4776 with scheduled flights);
- DG HOME will continue to negotiate and implement readmission agreements and informal arrangements with non-EU countries; Member States should make full use of the arrangements already in place.
- Enhance the Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes.

⁵ The effective return rate excludes the bilateral transfers between Member States.

⁶ The return rate for EU-27 (without the UK) was 29% in 2019 compared to 32% in 2018.

Under the EU-Turkey Statement, returns of Syrians to Turkey have continued, but at a very slow pace. In 2019, 30 Syrians were returned from the Greek islands to Turkey. In total, 1,995 persons were returned to Turkey between March 2016 and the end of 2019 under the EU-Turkey Statement.

In total, EUR 998.6 million have been allocated to priorities in return (voluntary and forced) under the national programmes in 2014–2020 and EUR 457 million have been spent so far, reaching an absorption rate of 45,8 %. In 2019, Member States declared payments of EUR 90.25 million to the Commission.

The AMIF supported Member States in the return of 64 518 persons in 2019, slightly below the level of 2018 when 70 239 persons were returned with the support of the Fund. The 2019 data shows a significant increase in forced returns (34 509 persons in 2019 versus 29 610 in 2018) whereas voluntary returns saw a decrease in 2019 (30 009 in 2019 versus 40 629 in 2018).

Enhancing solidarity and responsibility-sharing between the Member States

As the 2016 Commission proposal for the Dublin regulation revision aiming, inter alia, at ensuring fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States by complementing the system with a corrective allocation mechanism, has not been adopted by the co-legislators, there was a need for emergency measures to support the Member States facing unproportioned numbers of arrivals. Therefore, in addition to their national allocations, several Member States, notably Greece, Italy and Spain (?), benefit from the AMIF emergency assistance, allowing them to save more lives at sea, receive the arriving migrants in conditions, attaining better humanitarian standards, ensure basic healthcare as well as protection to vulnerable groups. The emergency assistance amounts granted up to end-December 2019 to Greece are EUR 841 million and to Italy EUR 178 million.

The funding to support the emergency relocation scheme has been allocated in the 2016 Budget for a total number of persons of 160 000 persons. Due to the expiry of the scheme, the Commission proposed the amendment of Article 18 of the AMIF Regulation to open up the possibility for Member States to use the remaining unused funds for the relocation (EUR 505 million) for other actions. This was agreed by the co-legislators (Regulation (EU) 2018/2000). Accordingly, through revision of national programmes in 2019, this funding has been reallocated to voluntary relocation (EUR 26 million) and resettlement (EUR 116 million), among other key priorities in the migration area and the remaining amount to other policy areas such as asylum, integration or return. Currently, 36 268 persons to be relocated are foreseen in the national programmes, including for voluntary relocation. Up to 2019, in the annual accounts, Member States have reported 32 069 persons relocated under the relevant 2015 Council Decisions out of a total 36 268 persons (88 % implementation).

It is to be noted that the role of the emergency assistance tool within the future Fund AMIF will remain important for next period 2021–2027 in order to address unforeseen events linked to the volatile migration situation.

The European Court of Auditors issued recommendations on the **strengthening of the management of the AMIF emergency assistance and national programmes**. They cover in particular strengthening the performance monitoring framework by monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS funded projects, ensuring that EMAS project contain output and outcome indicators with clean targets and baselines etc. In that respect, it should be noted that the indicators below are only encompassing national programmes projects (see comments below the tables)

While the Commission started implementing the ECA's recommendations already under the ongoing programmes, the main structural recommendations will be put in place in the context of the next MFF. This includes also improved performance monitoring with more regular and reliable data in line with the Common Provision Regulation.

In cooperation with the Member States, the Commission services will develop definitions for each indicator set out in AMF Regulation. This will ensure a common understanding of each indicator across all Member States and programmes. Moreover will this not only greatly contribute to improving data quality, it will also enhance data comparability. Member States will be required to develop this performance framework for each of its HOME funds programmes and underpin it by methodological considerations.

The managing authority, in its yearly management declaration and as part of the annual assurance package, will have to confirm the reliability of submitted data relating to indicators and the progress of the programme. The annual performance review will be an occasion for a policy dialogue with the Member States on issues of programme implementation and performance. In particular, the annual performance reports will provide qualitative information on programme implementation going beyond the quantitative data submitted for the indicators. It will complement the bi-monthly transmission of structured data and strengthen the performance review process. In the context of the performance framework, Commission services will hold at least two meetings with Member States during the programming period.

All data required for monitoring progress in programmes implementation including outputs and results will be transmitted electronically. Every two months Member States will transmit structured data on the common indicators to the Commission. Thus, the Commission services will have a much more updated picture of programme performance than in the current period. In addition, the HOME programmes will now also use the open data platform which had been established in the current programming period for the European Structural and Investment Funds. It will allow stakeholders to access almost real time data on programme implementation. This is an important novelty for the HOME funds, which in the current period do not publish data on the open data platform.

(?) Member States receiving emergency assistance under AMIF: AT, BE, BG, HR, CY, FI, FR, DE, EL, HU, IT, LU, NL, SI, ES, SE.

In addition, Member States are required to set up a system of electronic data exchange between beneficiaries and managing authorities, and between different authorities of the management and control system. This requirement builds on the current CPR regulation, which did not cover the HOME funds, and further develops certain aspects of data collection. It is thus a novelty for the HOME funds. Beneficiary and project information, as well as the performance reports will be published on a dedicated website run by the managing authority. This will give greater visibility to achievements and allow better communication.

General objectives

General Objective 1: to contribute to the efficient management of migration flows and to the implementation, strengthening and development of the common policy on asylum, subsidiary protection and temporary protection and the common immigration policy, while fully respecting the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

Indicator 1: Effectiveness of return policy as reflected by the ratio between the number of irregular migrants returned to their country of origin compared to return decisions issued

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
39.2 %				Increased ratio				Increased ratio
	Actual results							
	41.75 %	42.70 %	50.60 %	42.36 %	41.49 %	37.82 %		

Methodology: Baseline calculation: 166 975 effected returns/425 875 issued with a return decision. The indicator measures the number of third country nationals who have left the territory of a Member State following an administrative or judicial decision or act stating that their stay is illegal and imposing an obligation to leave the territory compared to the total of return decisions issued. Data include persons who are transferred from one Member State to another under the mechanism established by the Dublin Regulation ([Council Regulation \(EC\) No 604/2013](#) and [Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1560/2003](#) amended by [Council Regulation \(EC\) 118/2014](#). Excluding these transfers, the rate of effective return was at 31.5 % in 2019 (35.63 % in 2018)

Comment: Extract from Eurostat on 05/06/2020. Data are revised on a continuous basis according to the most recently updated data provided by the countries. For accuracy purposes, the indicator should be called: ‘Effectiveness of return policy as reflected by the ratio between the total number of irregular migrants returned compared to return decisions issued’.

Source: Eurostat

Indicator 2: Ratio voluntary/forced return

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
45.5 %				Increased				Increased ratio
	Actual results							
	58.4 %	80.3 %	117.3 %	125.8 %	109.2 %			

Comment: Eurostat on 28/01/2019. Data are revised on a continuous basis according to the most recently updated data provided by the countries.

Indicator 3: Difference in employment rates of third-country national (TCN) compared to that of EU nationals

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
Points of difference: 11.9				12				
	Actual results							
	13	14	14	16	15			
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
Employment rate of Third-country nationals:								
	Actual results							
	56.30 %	56.70 %	53.60 %	57.40 %	59.30 %			
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
Employment rate of Host-country nationals:								
	Actual results							
	69.70 %	70.70 %	67.20 %	72.90 %	73.90 %			

Comment: 10 points. Given the migratory context/refugee crisis, this figure will not decrease drastically over the short term. Integration efforts by MS supported by the EU could produce an effect as from 2017/2018 unless the overall EU economic situation deteriorates.

Source: Eurostat. Baseline 2013: Employment rate of non-EU citizens has decreased from 54.9 % in 2011 to 52.6 % in 2013, whilst the employment rate for EU nationals remains stable at 64.5 %.

Unit of measure: Percentage points and percentages respectively.

Indicator 4: Convergence of recognition rates for international protection by Member States for asylum applicants from the same third country

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2013	Milestones foreseen							2020
				Lower (increased convergence)			Lower (increased convergence)	Lower (increased convergence)
	Actual results							
	25.2	27.3	28.2	29.0	24.4			

Methodology: The standard deviation in the recognition rates in the Member States for asylum seekers from Afghanistan is 20.1 (the higher the standard deviation, the higher the difference between MS's recognition rate in comparison to the average recognition rate).

Comment: Standard deviation of the recognition rates for Afghanistan for Q1Q3 2018. For Member States with at least 100 decisions regarding asylum seekers from Afghanistan.

Source: Calculations based on Eurostat data

Specific objectives

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

Indicator 1: Number of target group persons provided with assistance through projects in the field of reception and asylum systems supported under the Fund

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			643 350			1 286 700	1 286 700
	Actual results							
	155 246	386 669	874 732	1 323 954	1 694 688	2 074 028		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020, reflecting the current situation on migration flow which is decreasing.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 2: Capacity (i.e. number of places) of new reception accommodation infrastructure set up in line with the common requirements for reception conditions set out in the Union acquis and of existing reception accommodation infrastructure improved in accordance with the same requirements as a result of the projects supported under the Fund and percentage in the total reception accommodation capacity

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			25 389			50 778	50 778
	Actual results							
	1 533	3 065	8 651	23 421	26 448	30 026		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020, reflecting the current situation on migration flow which is decreasing. It appears that the Member States are reducing the capacity of new reception accommodation infrastructure, likely linked to the reduced number of asylum seekers in some countries.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 3: Number of persons trained in asylum-related topics with the assistance of the Fund, and that number as a percentage of the total number of staff trained in those topics

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
Number of persons	0			12 603			25 205	25 205

trained in asylum-related topics with the assistance of the Fund: 0	Actual results							
	0	1 826	7 798	21 752	37 625	52 709		
	Milestones foreseen							2020
Percentage of persons trained in asylum-related topics with the assistance of the Fund of the total number of staff trained in those topics: 0 %	0 %			28 %			56 %	56 %
	Actual results							
	0 %	10 %	18 %	28 %	31 %	1		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020. The indicator shows a continuous increase of number of persons trained in asylum-related topics.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 4: Number of country-of-origin information products and fact-finding missions conducted with the assistance of the Fund

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			36 123			72 246	72 246
	Actual results							
	0	11 799	22 659	34 711	49 867	66 214		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020. The indicators shows a continuous increase.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 5: Number of projects supported under the Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate asylum policies in Member States

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			72			143	143
	Actual results							
	2	41	57	68	70	83		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 6: Number of persons resettled with support of the Fund

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	7 362			30 139			101 116	101 116
	Actual results							
	0	3 766	16 189	24 844	38 887	62 651		

Comment: Provided in the annual accounts sent by Member States on 15 February each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States in the 2019 accounts as of 15/02/2020 (number of persons resettled).

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Projects aiming at improving reception and asylum systems.	18 03 01 01	482	152,4
Projects aiming at improving Member States' capacity to develop, monitor and evaluate their asylum policies.	18 03 01 01	23	9,6
Persons pledged for resettlement with the lump sum.	18 03 01 01	0	0
Projects under Union actions aiming at strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System.	18 03 01 01	15	32,8
Persons benefitting from the voluntary humanitarian admission scheme – Turkey.	18 03 01 01	0	0

Total (projects)		520	194,8
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Outputs	Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)							
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Projects aiming at improving reception and asylum systems.	F	81	240	450	351	506	955	482
	P	0	109	191	337	605		
Projects aiming at improving Member States' capacity to develop, monitor and evaluate their asylum policies.	F	20	20	20	16	23	23	23
	P	0	6	9	18	34		
Persons pledged for resettlement with the lump sum.	F	7 362	9 312	7 700	5 765	1 462	633	0
	P	60	3 215	12 423 (*)	24 844 (**)	14 043 (***)		
Projects under Union actions aiming at strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System.	F	10	10	12	9	11	13	15
	P	0	6	5	3	3		
Persons benefitting from the voluntary humanitarian admission scheme – Turkey.	F	n/a	n/a	n/a	13 000	17 000	0	0
	P	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		

(*) Source: Annual Implementation Reports 2016 from the Member States.

(**) Source: AMIF Annual Accounts 2017.

(***) Source: AMIF Annual Accounts 2018.

Specific Objective 2: to support legal migration to the Member States in accordance with their economic and social needs, such as labour market needs, while safeguarding the integrity of the immigration systems of Member States, and to promote the effective integration of third-country nationals

Indicator 1: Number of target group persons who participated in pre-departure measures supported under the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			120 460			240 920	240 920
	Actual results							
	0	9 259	20 573	33 039	52 776	71 097		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March 2017 – Germany data only.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 2: Number of target group persons assisted by the Fund through integration measures in the framework of national, local and regional strategies								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			1 312 031			2 624 062	2 624 062
	Actual results							
	51 105	118 834	1 559 560	2 913 692	4 948 785	5 903 281		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 3: Number of local, regional and national policy frameworks/measures/tools in place for the integration of third-country nationals and involving civil society and migrant communities, as well as all other relevant stakeholders, as a result of the measures supported under the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			3 722			7 443	7 443
	Actual results							
	8	402	2 314	4 817	7 522	8 957		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 4: Number of cooperation projects with other Member States on the integration of third-country nationals supported under the Fund

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			31			62	62
	Actual results							
	0	0	0	17	19	44		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 5: Number of projects supported under the Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate integration policies in Member States

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			67			134	134
	Actual results							
	1	4	29	46	66	81		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/20120.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Projects aiming at facilitating legal migration and increasing the number and quality of pre-departure measures.	18 03 01 02	6	9,6
Projects related to integration measures, both at local and regional level.	18 03 01 02	423	92,2
Projects aiming at increasing the capacity of Member States to support legal migration to the Union and to promote the effective integration third-country nationals.	18 03 01 02	54	14
Projects under Union actions within Asylum and Migration Fund aiming at supporting legal migration to the Union and promoting the effective integration of third-country nationals.	18 03 01 02	48	84,2
Total		531	200,0

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Projects aiming at facilitating legal migration and increasing the number and quality of pre-departure measures.	F	7	7	8	17	6	5	6
	P	0	1	5	8	12		
Projects related to integration measures, both at local and regional level.	F	81	240	450	929	741	379	423
	P	0	97	495	733	1334		
Projects aiming at increasing the capacity of Member States to support legal migration to the Union and to promote the effective integration third-country nationals.	F	27	45	80	165	62	48	54
	P	0	21	44	110	237		
Projects under Union actions aiming at supporting legal migration to the Union and promoting the effective integration of third-country nationals.	F	10	10	10	30	18	10	48
	P	0	0	17	25	39		

Specific Objective 3: to enhance fair and effective return strategies in the Member States which contribute to combating illegal immigration, with an emphasis on sustainability of return and effective readmission in the countries of origin and transit

Indicator 1: Number of persons trained on return-related topics with the assistance of the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			14 020			28 040	28 040
	Actual results							
	40	1 033	5 215	9 254	18 561	24 660		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 2: Number of returnees who received pre or post return reintegration assistance co-financed by the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			101 810			203 620	203 620
	Actual results							
	7 614	27 896	51 634	67 942	91 719	115 249		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 3: Number of returnees whose return was co-financed by the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
Total: 0	0			307 050			614 100	614 100
	Actual results							
	5 929	48 506	87 936	141 383	211 622	276 140		
	Milestones foreseen							2020
Voluntary returns: 0	0			158 085			316 170	316 170
	Actual results							
	4 522	37 560	67 576	88 504	129 133	159 142		
	Milestones foreseen							2020
Forced returns: 0	0			148 965			297 930	297 930
	Actual results							
	1 407	10 946	20 360	52 879	82 489	116 998		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 4: Number of monitored removal operations co-financed by the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			3 428			6 856	6 856
	Actual results							
	29	4 695	10 793	17 565	21 124	30 096		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 5: Number of projects supported under the Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate return policies in Member States								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			22			44	44
	Actual results							
	2	6	10	19	19	29		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Projects aiming at increasing the number and quality of measures accompanying return procedures.	18 03 01 02	47	45,5
Projects aiming at increasing the number and quality of return measures.	18 03 01 02	80	102,1
Projects aiming at increasing the practical cooperation between Member States and the capacity of Member States to develop effective and sustainable return policies.	18 03 01 02	22	4,7
Projects under Union actions aiming at enhancing fair and effective return strategies in the Member States.	18 03 01 02	1	4
Total		150	156,3

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Projects aiming at increasing the number and quality of measures accompanying return procedures.	F	40	45	50	114	53	42	47
	P	0	41	51	80	121		
Projects aiming at increasing the number and quality of return measures.	F	54	70	85	194	90	72	80
	P	0	48	98	85	147		
Projects aiming at increasing the practical cooperation between Member States and the capacity of Member States to develop effective and sustainable return policies.	F	14	18	22	50	23	22	22
	P	0	18	5	7	12		
Projects under Union actions aiming at enhancing fair and effective return strategies in the Member States.	F	10	10	10	4	25	8	1
	P	2	1	6	29	6		

Specific Objective 4: to enhance solidarity and responsibility-sharing between the Member States, in particular with those most affected by migration and asylum flows, including through practical cooperation

Indicator 1: Number of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection transferred from one Member State to another with support of the Fund

Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0				160 000			36 268	36 268
	Actual results							
	0	34	5 175	24 523	31 375	32 069		

Comment: Provided in the annual accounts sent by Member States on 15 February each year.

Methodology: this indicator monitors relocation operations under the two Council decisions of September 2015 as well as under ad hoc voluntary operations. It should be noted that the number of persons relocated under the two 2015 Council decisions is 34 712 persons, reported by Greece and Italy. It includes relocations to Schengen associated countries. Without the SACs, the number of persons relocated under the two Council decisions in the Member States is 31 693.

Unit of measure: Milestones and target are cumulative, actual results are cumulative.

Indicator 2: Number of cooperation projects with other Member States on enhancing solidarity and responsibility sharing between

the Member States supported under the Fund								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
	Milestones foreseen							2020
0	0			3			7	7
	Actual results							
	0	0	0	0	0	1		

Comment: Provided in the annual implementation reports sent by Member States on 31 March each year.

Availability of Data: Based on latest data submitted by Member States as of 31/03/2020. In the annual implementation reports, the objective of solidarity is expressed via transfer, relocation and resettlement of people, not via projects.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Projects addressing relocation.	18 03 01 01	0	0
Persons pledged for relocation with the lump sum.	18 03 01 01	0	0
Persons transferred in the framework of the Dublin reform and/or emergency actions addressing migratory pressure	18 03 01 01	14	395
Total (projects)		14	395

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Projects addressing relocation.	F	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
	P	0	0	1	1	2		
Persons pledged for relocation with the lump sum.	F	0	0	160 000	0	0	0	0
	P	0	4	6 467 (*)	53 320 (**)	49 941 (***)		
Persons transferred in the framework of the Dublin reform and/or emergency actions addressing migratory pressure	F	7	7	30	20	8	2	4
	P	0	17	20	11	18		

(*) Source: Annual implementation report 2016 covering the accounting period (16/10/2015 – 15/10/2016).

(**) Source: AMIF Annual Accounts 2017.

(***) Source: AMIF Annual Account 2018.

4. Contribution to Europe 2020 Strategy and mainstreaming of policies

Contribution to Europe 2020 headline targets

Table Contribution to Europe 2020 headline targets

75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed
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Gender mainstreaming

The AMIF Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 516/2014) stipulates that eligible actions need to take account of the human rights-based approach to the protection of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and should, in particular, ensure that special attention is paid to, and a dedicated response is provided for, the specific situation of vulnerable persons, in particular women, unaccompanied minors and other minors at risk. Support for third country national victims of trafficking is ensured on this ground.

5. Programme contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere

AMIF supports the most vulnerable groups by providing material aid, providing assistance in housing, means of subsistence, health, psychological and social care including through adapting reception centres and services to the most vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors.

SDG 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries

AMIF makes a meaningful contribution to safe migration by supporting information campaigns on legal migration channels to the EU, legal migration through resettlement and family reunification and by promoting mobility schemes to EU such as circular or temporary migration schemes. AMIF also contributes to social inclusion of third country nationals by supporting their integration, active participation in the society and their acceptance in the receiving society through for instance, actions focusing on civic orientation and training, including language trainings to newcomers, or promoting meaningful contact and constructive dialogue between third country nationals and the receiving society.

6. Information about financial instrument(s) and trust fund(s) financed by the Programme

As of 2016, AMIF contributes to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa. The initial contribution of EUR 5 million to the Trust Fund foreseen under the AMIF 2017 annual work programme for Union actions was reinforced up to a total of EUR 77 million in order to address funding gaps identified especially for the North Africa window of the EUTF, and where needs on the root causes of migration are more pressing. Furthermore, in 2018, DG HOME contribution to the Trust Fund was increased from an initial EUR 5 million to EUR 23 million. In 2019, an additional 30 million euros was included in the AMIF work programme. In 2020 EUR 50 million are foreseen to be paid.