

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate E – HOME Affairs Funds **The Director**

> Brussels HOME.E.3/DA

> > HOME-Funds/2021/29

COMMITTEE FOR THE HOME AFFAIRS FUNDS

Subject: Launch of Specific Actions under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (BMVI) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF)

Dear Members of the Committee for the Home Affairs Funds,

Following the adoption of the Commission's Implementing Decisions establishing the Thematic Facility work programmes for 2021-2022¹, this document sets out the overall planning of the envisaged specific actions, as included in the Annexes to the work programmes adopted for the three Funds (AMIF, BMVI and ISF). In the attached overview table, you may find the complete list of specific actions.

The basic acts of the Funds define specific actions as 'transnational or national projects that bring Union added value in line with the objectives of the Fund for which one, several or all Member States may receive an additional allocation to their programmes'.

The Commission is responsible for the overall programming of specific actions under the three Thematic Facilities and will launch calls to allow interested Member States to submit proposals. Approval of a proposal will result in the allocation of additional funding to the programme of the Member State² concerned. The additional amount will be earmarked as such in the programmes of the successful applicants.

¹ C(2021)8458 of 25.11.2021 (AMIF); C(2021)8459 final, of 25.11.2021 (BMVI) and C(2021)8460 of 26.11.2021 (ISF). Please, note that the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the components of the Thematic Facility under the Integrated Border Management Fund, the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (BMVI) adopted the work programme covering the years 2021 and 2022 for actions implemented under direct and indirect management and the years 2021 to 2024 for actions implemented under shared management.

² In the case of the BMVI, to the Schengen Associated Countries also, provided that the supplementary agreements for their participation in the BMVI are concluded.

For each specific action, DG HOME will communicate to the Member States the launch of the call for expression of interest. Where appropriate, in light of the subject matter and timing, DG HOME may bundle one or more specific actions in one call.

In concrete terms, DG HOME will send a note to the Committee members, announcing the launch of the call. The note will set out the purpose and objectives of the specific action(s), the admissibility and assessment criteria, the deadline for submission, the envisaged planning for the selection process and any implementation conditions. It will include the application form for the project proposal and the budget form (Annex 1) and, for the transnational projects, a partnership declaration form (Annex 2).

You may find enclosed, in the three attached documents, an indicative planning for the calls for expression of interest of all specific actions per Fund, as identified in the Annexes to the three multi-annual Thematic Facility Work Programmes. The documents indicate:

- the title of each specific action;
- the indicative budget of each specific action;
- an indicative short description of the purpose and the expected results for each specific action;
- an indication on Member States partnership (for a transnational project);
- the date of expected publication of the call for expression of interest³.

As the nature and purpose of specific actions differ greatly, the timeline for completing all the steps after the call for expression of interest may vary as well. The call for expression of interest may be adapted to the particularities of each specific actions.

Managing Authorities must be involved in the preparation of a proposal for a specific action by a Member State. The Managing Authority of the Member State requesting funding for a specific action must submit and take responsibility for the proposal. That is because the additional funding, once approved, would be implemented in the framework of the Member State's AMIF, BMVI or ISF programme and would have to be implemented in accordance with EU and national rules, and the national management and control system of the Member State concerned.

DG HOME will invite Managing Authorities to submit their proposal(s) using the provided application form and, in the case of a transnational project, one or more partnership declaration form(s), within the deadline set in the call for the expression of interest sent to the Member States (usually between 8 to 12 weeks).

Member States have an opportunity to request clarifications from DG HOME on the call for expression of interest (usually up to three weeks before the deadline to submit the application, through the dedicated functional mailbox, that will be communicated in the call for expression of interest). DG HOME will send its replies to the Members of the Committee, to ensure equal access to the information.

In order to ensure equal and fair treatment of the proposals and allow the Commission to allocate at the same date all the available funding, DG HOME will assess all proposals simultaneously. Therefore, proposals submitted after the deadline will not be admissible.

³ In some cases, there is no call for expression of interest, but information to Member States on the allocation of funding to their programmes, due to the nature of the action concerned. See the descriptions in the annexes.

The Commission will inform the HOME Affairs Funds Committee on the outcome of each exercise. Subsequently, we will notify individual Member States of their successful proposals and work with them to carry out the revisions of their national programmes as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

Chiara GARIAZZO

Chair of the Committee for the Home Affairs Funds

Enclosures: Overview table AMIF Overview table BMVI Overview table ISF

c.c.: JHA Counsellors