

SFC2021 Programme for AMIF, ISF and BMVI

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1. Programme strategy: main challenges and policy responses

Reference: points (a)(iii), (iv), (v) and (ix) Article 22(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR)

Cyprus (CY) a front-line Member State (MS) as an island shares no common borders while it does not belong to the Schengen area yet. Due to the Turkish invasion in 1974 the Republic of CY (RoC) has since been illegally divided and is prevented from exercising effective control in 37% of CY's territory which falls under Turkish military occupation. There exists a 180 km-long buffer zone between the ceasefire line of the Turkish occupation forces and the CY National Guard called the 'Green Line' supervised by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force which in conjunction with the fact that over 70% of the overall influx come directly from Turkey or through the areas which are not under the effective control of the RoC create unique conditions for irregular migration.

I.BORDERS

The **general objective** of CY as defined in the CY IBM Strategy (August 2020) is to ensure a **high level of control and protection of external borders and facilitate smoother border crossings**. CY Strategy is under constant monitoring in order to be fully harmonised with EU priorities incl. recommendations (RECs) from border management related reports (Frontex Vulnerability Assessment, Schengen evaluations, Country Specific RECs) and any national policy developments.

CY responsible authorities (**Port and Marine Police Unit (PMPU), Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC), Police Aviation Unit, Aliens and Immigration Unit (AIU), Police European Union Directorate, Ministry of Interior**) have incorporated into their strategy the objectives set in the EU IBM Strategy and the national strategy on Integrated Border Control Management. In CY Police Strategic Action Plan 2021-2023 a main priority is the **effective border control and regulation of migration issues**. PMPU is responsible for maritime surveillance, as the body responsible for Eurosur, though its radar system and fleet, together with the Police Aviation Unit and the JRCC, through its dedicated radar system, which is also responsible for the planning and coordination of search and rescue operations during border surveillance in order to locate and rescue people whose lives are at risk within the CY Search and Rescue Region which coincides with Nicosia FIR.

In order to successfully deal with **rising migration pressure** and based on the Migration Action Plan (20/12/19) CY transformed the Pournaras Emergency Centre *'into a **First Reception Centre with enlarged capacity, incl. a dedicated area for vulnerable people, such as unaccompanied minors**'* offering material reception conditions and managing incoming mixed migration flows via swift identification, investigations, medical examinations, registration and fingerprinting, vulnerability assessments and channeling migrants to the applicable follow-up procedures. In 7/2020 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Centre were agreed (28.7.2020) aligning and streamlining procedures with the EU acquis in view of an effective and efficient migration management. Also, mass arrivals at the point of disembarkation/arrival prior to the transfer at the Centre are covered by the National Plan NAFKRATIS.

EU acquis

The RoC based on the Accession Act in 2003 is committed to fully applying the Schengen acquis. The preparation for its full accession into the Schengen Area is still in process and there are still needs to be covered.

CY has declared its readiness for Schengen Evaluations concerning all parts of the Schengen acquis on 28/5/19. The evaluation on data protection took place in 11/2019. The evaluation for external borders took place in 2/2021. The Implementing Decision on the RECs addressing gaps identified was adopted by the Council in 9/2021. With respect to remedial actions, CY has submitted a dedicated Action Plan to the EC in 3/2022 which is currently being assessed.

The SIS/SIRENE evaluation is planned within 2023. In this respect, the Proposal on the application of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in the area of Schengen Information System in the RoC (COM (2021) 472 final) concludes that CY has made the necessary technical and legal arrangements, incl. data

protection issues, to process SIS data and exchange supplementary information. Additionally, CY has proceeded successfully within the 1st semester of 2022, along with other MS, with the testing procedure concerning SIS Recast and is ready for full connection to the system and loading of all data after the entry into operation of SIS recast. This integration will allow the evaluation of CY in SIS, which is the only sector still to be evaluated. Unfortunately, in view of the ongoing procedure for the introduction of SIS Recast, the earliest possible date for the full implementation of SIS by CY will be in autumn 2022, provided that SIS Recast will go live at EU level.

As for the Frontex Vulnerability Assessment, CY is currently in the process of addressing the gaps identified in the 2021 report as well as monitoring the completion of actions to fill the gaps of previous reports.

The Programme will be used to accommodate any Scheval/Vulnerability Assessment RECs with financial implications that may be issued to CY.

Main challenges

Based on the results of the **Scheval and the 2021 Vulnerability Assessment** the main gaps identified in the areas of relate to the:

- number of permanent **specialised staff** performing border checks at the airports (CY013);
- systematic **training** (e.g Frontex trainings, legislation etc) (CY012, CY013, CY015);
- border control procedures in compliance with **EU acquis**;
- accommodation capacity to host arriving migrants).

The availability of **staff** has direct impact on the quality of border checks at Larnaca and Paphos airports where just before the COVID-19 pandemic the average number of passengers to be checked per border guard was disproportionally high compared to other EU airports (e.g 85 000 vs 30 000 in 2018). Regular trainings could not take place because of shortages in staff. Certain gaps are already being addressed via operational and training support from Europol and Frontex.

As regards **EUROSUR**, although there is compliance with the Regulation (EU) 2019/1896, there is still room for improvement mostly in relation to the upgrade of infrastructure (new NCC).

Rising migratory pressure and COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the deficiencies in the structure of the **Pournaras Centre**, which needs to be reconstructed in order to meet the needs of arriving migrants in line with the EU acquis.

Recent legislative developments regarding border **large-scale IT systems** have placed a significant burden on authorities to comply with the development and/or upgrade of these systems on national level given the limited number of staff available.

SAR incidents have intensified due to increased migration flows. In the past 3 years 46 SAR operations were due to migration flows and out of the 1616 people rescued 1528 were third country nationals (95% of the total) with problems such as difficulty in communication, limited information for evaluating the situation, placing pressure on the readiness of the relevant bodies. Early detection and immediate response have proven to be key elements in effectively managing this type of events.

CY needs to increase its **operational/response capabilities** through relevant equipment and IT tools. In particular there is a need to maintain/replace/upgrade existing means (incl. patrol boats, IT systems, communication means, UAV), increase trainings and further promote interagency cooperation with other MS and/or third countries in order to cover all East Mediterranean region.

Programming period 2014-2020

A number of projects has been implemented successfully aiming to enhance security and border surveillance operational capabilities such as:

- **Vessels** for the **PMPU /JRCC** enhancing the operational response at sea and in safeguarding

external borders in the framework of EUROSUR

- **Upgrade of SIS II and SIS recast** improving cooperation and exchange of information
- **Trainings** for border guards enhancing capabilities
- **Coastal surveillance** thermal cameras and fixed/mobile units facilitating early warning in migrant SAR operations
- **Upgrade of Pournaras Centre** has been successfully co-funded from ISF-borders and Interreg. Operational needs received funding from ISF-borders EMAS (1.2.19-30.6.20) and the National Programme (NP), incl. Specific Action (1.7.20-30.6.22).

Programming period 2021-2027

Based on the strategic priorities, Schevals and Vulnerability Assessments, actions implemented in PP2014-20, CY aims to achieve the following:

- Improve **border control** through:
 - effective communication with other MS, staff training, replacing/upgrading existing infrastructure and installing new technologies;
 - improving capabilities for prevention and early detection of migrant flows and unauthorised border crossings and illegal migration by upgrading the available specialised equipment /infrastructure and ensuring adequate technical support and trainings;
 - improving first reception infrastructure/capacity in line with the Union's commitments on fundamental rights in order to effectively manage migration flows;
- Develop the national components (incl. staff, training, equipment, IT equipment) of the **European Border and Coast Guard**;
- Effectively address RECs **from the Schevals and Vulnerability Assessments** in order to achieve compliance with the EU acquis (IBM strategy, human resources, trainings, border checks/procedures/surveillance);
- Support the development of **large-scale IT tools** based on EU acquis/legislation which need to be operational once CY becomes a Schengen member;
- Enhance **SAR operations and capabilities** which may arise during border surveillance operations at sea through trainings, upgrade/replacement of equipment/IT tools, cooperation with other MS/third countries.

The above, incl. operational costs, will be covered by both the Programme and national resources.

All actions will comply with fundamental rights and in particular the respect of the principle of non-refoulement, where relevant.

II.VISAS

The harmonization of visa policy with the EU acquis is a priority for CY. The main objective is to improve the quality and effectiveness of its consular capabilities as well as sustain a level of effective visa processing and establish its consular presence, where necessary, in compliance with the Schengen requirements in short-stay visa issuing procedures.

CY issued 76 114 short-stay visas in 2017, 71 152 in 2018 and 76 135 in 2019. The measures taken to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic have affected short-stay visa issuing for 2020, but in the coming years the demand is expected to increase.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), responsible for consulates and visas, has already applied a significant part of the Schengen acquis in terms of the common visa policy. However, much remains to be done in order for CY to comply with Schengen requirements, facilitate legitimate travel and prevent migratory and security risks.

At this stage, CY is carrying out actions such as:

- Preparatory measures for the development of the new National CY-VIS (procurement procedures for the development of the new system)
- Drafting of national legislation for the operation and use of the VIS system
- Harmonization of Diplomatic Missions with the Visa Code.

Also, based on the Scheval regarding Visa Policy CY will incorporate any related action to address relevant RECs to its strategic priorities.

EU acquis

Following the Declaration of Readiness of the RoC for the start of Schengen assessments, the evaluation on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the common visa policy took place between 28/11-3/12/21. Based on the Evaluation Report adopted on 8.3.22 and the RECs proposed to address the gaps identified in 6/2022, CY is currently in the process of drafting a dedicated Action Plan which will include remedial actions to be assessed by COM. The Programme will be used to accommodate any Scheval with financial implications that may be issued to CY.

Main challenges

Based on the progress of actions implemented and the Scheval the main challenges with financial implications are:

- **Visa sections:** The absence of adequate security equipment and guards in certain consular offices creates problems and risks for consular staff and puts in danger the safety of the visa issuing procedure. Also, in certain diplomatic missions, a number of deficiencies has been identified in terms of infrastructure affecting the compliance of consular operations with the Schengen acquis (e.g renovation of waiting rooms, etc). Therefore, building modifications, incl. security (e.g purchase of security equipment, recruitment of security guards) for improving the quality of security and services for applicants need to be implemented. Moreover, there seems to be a shortage of staff in the consulates, esp. in countries with high demand for visa processing, given the CY's relatively small administration, therefore, additional local/seasonal staff will be required;
- **Training:** growing immigration pressure, constant rotation of diplomats and developments in visa policy increase the need for trained staff to effectively deal with consular issues and/or crises. Training programmes as regards visa acquis and procedures (incl. Visa Code, VIS Regulation) offered to consular and other staff is limited and needs to be upgraded;
- **Visa processing IT system:** there is a need to develop a **new CY VIS system** which will be in compliance with the revised VIS Regulation, in order to bring CY in full readiness when it comes to data process and exchange of information of short-stay visa applications and Schengen visas subsequently, once CY enters the Schengen area. Preparations for the development of a new system have begun within the PP2014-21 and the system is expected to become operational by the end of 2023 while its operation/maintenance need to be supported under the PP2021-27;
- **VIS recast/interoperability:** cover the cost for the new VIS upgrade and its interoperability with the other EU information systems;
- **Visa stickers:** the format of the visa stickers used needs to be upgraded to the latest version of the uniform visa sticker.

Programming period 2014-2020

Due to the importance of the following actions, these will also be carried out in PP2021-27:

- **Development of new CY-VIS:** This action began in PP2014-20 but due to the complexity and the long duration required for its implementation, it will continue in PP2021-27. Specifically, PP2014-20 included the following: studies, technical specifications of the new CY-VIS for the tender documents. The development of the actual system will be carried out in PP2021-27. Due to changes in the policy of the responsible Ministry for IT systems, the disaster recovery site, data centre and intranet for the new VIS were delayed and are expected to be implemented in PP2021-27 together with the actual system;
- **Building modifications** and purchase and installation of **security equipment** and

telecommunication systems at visa sections: by the end of PP2014-20, building modifications will have been completed in 10 consular sections together with the relevant security equipment. Also, telecommunication systems will have been installed in 14 visa sections;

- **Purchase and installation of equipment for the detection of false and falsified documents** by the consular sections of the Diplomatic Missions, during the examination of the documents submitted for the issuance of short-term entry visas.

National Resources cover operational costs related to short-stay visa issuing e.g staff, trainings maintenance/ repairs/ upgrade/ purchase/ rental of infrastructure/equipment, supplies, general services, participation in seminars/committees/working groups (e.g. VIS Advisory Group, Visa Working Party).

Programming period 2021-2027

1. **Support the Visa policy and procedures** through the improvement of infrastructures, development/support/maintenance of the new CY VIS system, security, staff, trainings in order to facilitate legitimate travel and prevent migratory and security risks with the help of the Programme.

III.ORGANISATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Based on lessons learnt from PPs 2007-2013 and 2014-2020, the European Funds Unit of the Ministry of Interior as the Managing Authority (MA) for all 3 Home Affairs Funds, has identified monitoring/reporting/control procedures and their related provisions from the Common Provisions Regulation in correlation with increased funding as challenging for both the MA and the beneficiaries. In particular, since beneficiaries of the Fund are public bodies, delays were observed in the implementation of projects or timely use of funding due to delays in procurement and decision-making procedures, shortages in staff, changes in policy priorities and COVID-19 pandemic, together with the need to reduce existing administrative burden (e.g. number of audit controls).

So far, the MA is addressing these challenges via: development of a customised electronic data system for the MA and the beneficiaries (currently in the design phase by the contractor), new sampling methodology on controls (incl. on-the-spot visits), revised risk assessment tool, application of simplified cost options. In terms of governance, the MA uses a manual of procedures and has participated in CAF evaluation for the identification of strengths and gaps while it aims to improve internal decision-making procedures through the new data system.

CY ensures complementarities for the 3 Home Affairs Funds through a common MA and for other Funds with their inclusion in the Cypriot Partnership Agreement.

2. Specific Objectives & Technical Assistance

Reference: Article 22(2) and (4) CPR

| Selected | Specific objective or Technical assistance | Type of action |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | Regular actions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | Specific actions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | Annex IV actions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | Operating support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | STS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | Emergency assistance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | ETIAS regulation Art. 85(2) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. European integrated border management | ETIAS regulation Art. 85(3) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. Common visa policy | Regular actions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Common visa policy | Specific actions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. Common visa policy | Annex IV actions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. Common visa policy | Operating support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Common visa policy | Emergency assistance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TA.37. Technical assistance - not linked to costs (Art. 37 CPR) | |

2.1. Specific objective: 1. European integrated border management

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

I. Baseline situation

Since 2018, CY has seen a steady increase in the illegally arriving migrants. In 2018 there were 4795 arrivals but in 2019 the number had increased to the record number of 7908 arrivals (60% increase compared to 2018). In 2020, due to COVID19 pandemic, there was a small decrease (5340 illegal entries). In 2021 there were 11913 illegal entries, despite the pandemic and travel restrictions (123% increase compared to 2020). By 9.2022 there were already 13 539 arrivals. Legal entries amount to 35% against 65% of illegal entries.

On the other hand, passenger flow in the international airports in Larnaca and Paphos (CY's two Air Border Control Points (BCPs)) has been constantly rising, reaching in 2019, a record number of 8 and 3 million passengers respectively. This puts an additional burden on border controls esp. during peak tourist season. CY has installed Border Xpress Kiosks, a system which can process up to three passengers in one minute examining both passports and identity cards, ensuring speedier controls and reduction of waiting time for passengers. However, the need for border control officers proportionate to the number of passengers travelling through the airports remains.

II. Main Challenges

Border management

Integrated Border Management (IBM)

Based on the technical and operational EU IBM strategy, national authorities have proceeded with the elaboration of the National IBM Strategy. To facilitate the implementation of the strategy, training programmes for police personnel on IBM need to be organised.

EUROSUR

CY has applied Eurosur in 12/2013. The NCC is located within the PMPU Head Quarters, which also includes other administrative PMPU services. It operates in accordance with art. 21 of EBCG Regulation (EU) 2019/1896, on a 24/7 basis in a specifically configured room, while it has the only Eurosur Node. As for the physical security requirement, all components/equipment of the NCC comply with the provisions of the Regulation, while the NCC has already passed successfully the inspection carried out by the Cyprus National Security Authority for Accreditation.

The National Situational Picture is maintained within NCC and includes events and operations at sea borders. The Analysis Layer is prepared and maintained by the AIU which makes it available at NCC. NCC has the command and control of all police mobile units once they operate at sea for the purpose of Eurosur, incl. fleet operations. It has a combination of mobile and fixed units. Fixed units involve the Coastal Radar Surveillance System with sensors along the coast of CY. The mobile units include 13 patrol boats, 5 fast patrol vessels along the coast, 4 helicopters which are engaged in operations at sea.

However, there is a need for further upgrade:

- The current NCC premises are, on one hand, dated presenting various problems related to their maintenance, and, on the other hand, are part of an existing building for which no provisions had been made in the design phase for the requirements of EUROSUR, since EUROSUR was

established much later on. Although the current premises have so far been in line with the existing regulation, in light of the new developments as regards interagency cooperation for the exchange of information in a secure way between relevant bodies, and any future requirements, there is a need for new dedicated premises which will ensure sufficient space for interagency communication, secure communication line with all relevant bodies and systems and sufficient space for IT equipment, secure premises in terms of infrastructure, in line with the requirements of the Regulation (EU) 2019/1896, incl. training facilities not only for the CY staff but also for other MS ;

- In 2022, an additional node will be installed for the AIU (the National Point of Contact of Frontex activities), which participates in the planning for accessing EUROSUR 2.0., while access to other agencies, such as Customs Authorities is currently under way and will need to be further promoted;
- The overaged patrol boats need to be replaced since their low acceleration speed limits response capabilities, while further upgrade the fleet, with specialised equipment and systems, in order to effectively cope with the increased needs at sea borders.

Air Border Passport Control

The Alien and Immigration Unit (AIU) as the competent authority conducting passport controls at the external borders disposes more than a quarter of its human resources on a permanent basis in order to perform the necessary border controls at the 2 Air BCPs (Larnaca, Paphos). From April to October each year, the personnel at both Air BCPs is reinforced with additional personnel, incl. secondments from other offices/departments of the AIU or with officers working overtime, or from a pool of officers. The pool consists of trained personnel from Police departments other than AIU, who are called on duty during peak season. During 2019 the total secondments and overtime duties allocated to the 2 Air BCPs amounted to 22 additional officers at Larnaca and 12 at Paphos Airport, at full time equivalent, a number which is considered, nonetheless, lower than the number of trained personnel required during high season. Additional equipment needs to be deployed during high season, incl. for the detection of fraudulent documents (116 incidents of false documents were detected in 2018, 207 in 2019, 146 in 2020 and 306 in 2021).

Border Patrols

Many patrol cars assigned to Police units conducting border controls were procured in the framework of the External Borders Fund in 2012 and therefore, there is a need to replace the existing fleet. Additionally, there is a need for mobile offices and remote access to police databases, for personnel deployed in cases of illegally arriving migrants by boat, during the initial reception and registration procedure.

First Reception

In the last four years, CY has been experiencing a sharp increase in illegally arriving migrants. Indicatively, in 2018 and 2019, 755 (343 and 412 respectively) illegally arriving migrants entered through the areas under the effective control of the Government of the RoC and 11 470 (2018= 4 235, 2019= 7 235) illegally arriving migrants entered through areas not under the effective control of the RoC. In 2021 (January to October) CY received 9 238 irregular migrants, 38% more than the corresponding number for the whole year of 2020.

Based on CY's operational strategy, all migrants illegally entering the RoC are directed to the Pournaras Centre. It is estimated that an average of 1600-1800 new arrivals enter the Centre ($\pm 10\%$) each month for a maximum of 30 days (incl. 14 days of quarantine in the context of COVID-19 infection management) in order for all relevant first reception procedures to take place, such as first screening, vulnerability assessment, police interrogations, medical examinations, security checks and channeling to asylum or return procedures. Apart from the Asylum Service (AS), other relevant authorities are present at the

Centre: CRMD, Civil Defense, AIU, Ministry of Health, Social Welfare Services (SWS) as well as Frontex and Europol. Since 11.2018 until 2.2022 the Centre has received a total of 26 885 irregular migrants (4 405 in 2019, 5 056 in 2020, 12 284 in 2021, 9208 in the 1st half of 2022) exceeding its current capacity.

Due to the increasing numbers of persons entering the Centre and given that the political situation remains the same, the upgrade and support of the Centre is considered a high priority. The aim is to ensure the quality of the necessary first reception procedures for the persons temporarily residing at the Centre by upgrading its infrastructure and supporting operational costs for activities related to first reception activities as described in the Migration Action Plan and the SOP's (incl. medical equipment/consumables, security services, provision of meals, etc., until a migrant is issued a confirmation letter upon an application for IP or channeled to the return procedure) which fall under the scope of the BMVI.

In order to improve the reception conditions at the Center, a Master Plan has been drawn up with the involvement of relevant stakeholders. This design includes the creation of a waiting area, screening and registration, replacement of the tents with prefabricated units in the quarantine areas, expansion of the capacity of the Center, additional safe zones etc. In the current phase, CY is in the process of implementing the 1st phase with national funds (i.e. the second perimeter fence with cameras, the road network and the connection to the sewer). A feasibility study for the development and funding of the next construction phases is underway in order to earmark dedicated funding from the BMVI.

In the framework of the relevant action plan and the MoU with the EC and also in the framework of the EUAA Operational Plan to CY, the AS is in close consultation and cooperation with the EUAA for possible further support concerning the operation of the Centre.

European Border and Coast Guard (EBCG)

The Common Integrated Risk Analysis Model is in operation and related staff issues are being addressed so as to enable the continuous flow of information.

As for the setting up of the Standing Corps under Category 2, 3 and 4 and their subsequent training, there is a need to organise training programmes on the profiles defined in the Frontex Management Board decision 1/2020, aiming to enlarge its pool of experts who fulfil the criteria for participation in the European Border Guard Teams so that CY will be able to meet the national quotas provided for by the EBCG Regulation and give CY Police more options in terms of human resources, when it is called upon to fulfil its duties under the EBCG regulation and at the same time being able to cover the needs esp. at the BCPs.

EU acquis

Based on the latest assessments (Schengen/Vulnerability) CY needs to:

- increase its national training capacity in order to provide harmonised training of border guards, incl. regular refresher training and second-line checks, in accordance with the Common Core Curricula for Border Guards;
- increase national capacities to detect document fraud, esp. for first-line controls (Air BCPs, ports), and the capacity of border control authorities to collaborate with investigative authorities on migrant smuggling cases;
- Support the accommodation capacity to host arriving migrants.

Large-scale IT systems and interoperability

CY, although still not part of the Schengen area, needs to be fully compatible with the requirements stemming from the developments in the area of large-scale IT systems.

On **Entry/Exit System (EES)** and the **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** CY has faced delays in their development due to political discussions. The CRMD is responsible for the ETIAS system, whereas a political agreement on the EES is expected shortly. Due to these delays, it is expected that significant part of the development of the systems will fall within 2021-27 and be covered by the Programme, together with all related measures that need to be taken in order for CY to comply with its obligations:

- **EES:** development, operation and maintenance, connection to the National Uniform Interface (NUI), organisation/management/operation of existing national border infrastructure and connection to EES, organisation of Central Access Points, access of staff;
- **ETIAS:** development, operation and maintenance of the system, connection to NUI, organisation/management/operation of the ETIAS National Unit, organisation of Central Access Points, access of staff, data entry into the ETIAS watchlist, support of data security.

As regards the **Schengen Information System (SIS)**, CY has developed a national SIS system which has been ready for use since 4/2013 and upgraded to the latest version via the ISF-B. CY also uses Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), fully upgraded and operational. A Disaster Recovery system (also funded under ISF-B 2014-20) is in place to ensure the inhibited functioning of the Central Police system (CPCS)—which is the base for all other systems (SIS, AFIS). In view of the new Regulations, there is a need to maintain the proper functioning of the national system and ensure compatibility with Central SIS. AFIS will need to be upgraded to SIS AFIS with the integration of the shared Biometric Matching Service (sBMS). The implementation of SIS Recast is in progress.

Since **interoperability** is one of the main elements of the future use of the large-scale IT systems, CY needs to develop the necessary technical components that will enable proper access to EU information when required, e.g. a shared biometric matching service, a common identity repository and a multiple-identity detector, while ensuring the necessary training of authorised users.

Moreover, the **API** system, installed and upgraded with the help of ISF-B, needs to be further developed within the next years.

SAR operations during border surveillance

There are 12 fixed tower surveillance systems (with day and thermal cameras) -9 along the south coast and 3 in inland locations under JRCC jurisdiction. Three vehicles and two UAVs with built-in cameras are also used for the prevention and detection mechanism mainly for migrant flows towards CY and EU. JRCC also has the operational control and coordination of maritime and aeronautical assets of other governmental authorities for SAR operations, incl. those that may arise during border surveillance operations at sea. There are ongoing efforts to promote cooperation with other MS/ third countries, as regards training and information exchange.

III. Implementation measures and Indicative Actions

In the framework of BMVI, the Commission Programming Fiche for CY, national strategic planning as well as the RECs from internal audit and inspection procedures, Vulnerability Assessments and Schevals,

CY intends to pursue the following measures:

1. Improvement of border control (Annex II-1a-c) by reinforcing capacities for carrying out checks and surveillance, incl. at the airports and ports in correlation with continuously high levels of migration through the following indicative actions:

- Upgrade/replace **surveillance equipment** (e.g. AIS systems, night vision goggles) on surveillance means, i.e. helicopters/navy fleet;
- Upgrade and/or purchase new technology **surveillance equipment/ infrastructure** to support surveillance missions, incl. long/short range aeronautical/maritime systems (e.g. surveillance platforms);
- Upgrade of the application of arrivals/departures during passport controls, in a systematic and automated way, ensuring reliability of data;
- Upgrade/ replacement of existing or purchase of new **communication systems** (radio, satellite);
- Creation of a **Regional Coordination Centre (RNCC)** in the framework of EUROSUR;
- Renewal of the **NCC fleet** in order to improve border surveillance;
- Development of permanent **NCC building** infrastructure;
- Annex IV-Support First Reception Centre in **Pournaras**, incl. upgrade of existing infrastructure, maintenance/operational costs that fall under the scope of the BMVI.

2. Ensure uniform application of the Union Acquis (Annex II-1d) in relation to external borders as per the deficiencies identified through the Schevals/Vulnerability Assessments and the corresponding RECs that need to be implemented incl. the following:

- Reinforce **training programmes** for border guards incl. on integrated border management, fundamental rights, trafficking in human beings, child protection, identification of vulnerable persons, Standing Corps, Common Core Curricula for Border Guards, Advanced Level Document Officers (ALDOs), EUROSUR, Sea Border Mobility;
- Enhance **border control equipment** (e.g. detection of fraudulent documents, passport and fingerprint readers, forensic document examination projectors, border patrol vehicles and mobile command posts).

3. Setting up, operation and maintenance of large-scale IT systems (Annex II-1e) through the following:

- Development of IT systems e.g **EES, ETIAS, SIRENE II**, incl. maintenance/upgrades. Connection of systems to the Central Police Communication System (CPCS);
- Further development of **SIS/ SIRENE II** (incl. SIS-AFIS), incl. software/ hardware, maintenance (the maintenance of the Disaster Recovery of the LEA connection will be covered by ISF);
- **Interoperability** of large-scale IT systems
- Actions to enhance the quality of data stored in ICT systems and improve the exercise of a data subject's rights to information, access to, and rectification and erasure of, his or her personal data, and to the restriction of the processing thereof.

4. Support SAR operations (Annex II-1f-g) that may arise during border surveillance operations at sea by increasing capacities through the following:

- Replacement of Communication Control System for Border Surveillance Management Control and SAR operations at sea;
- Interagency training in Border Control Management and SAR operations at sea, incl. high tech training tools, simulators.

Where applicable, the above measures will promote cooperation with other MS and/or neighbouring/other third country.

Any equipment purchased with the support of the Fund will be in line with the requirements set out in Article 13(14) of BMVI Regulation (EU) 2021/1148.

Consistency between the national IBM Strategy and the national capability development plan with the BMVI NP will be ensured.

IV. Operating Support

The responsible authorities will use part of the available funding for the 2021-27 for the following:

CY Police responsible for border controls will:

- Support the maintenance of software systems (incl. purchase of licenses) that were developed during 2014-20 as well as their upgrades;
- Address staff shortages (e.g. IT analysts) regarding all EU systems incl. the N-SIS Office;
- Provide appropriate staff training (e.g. Schengen, EBCG training).

JRCC responsible for border surveillance and SAR operations, incl. those that may arise during border surveillance operations at sea within the FIR Nicosia will:

- Cover running costs of naval/ aeronautical assets;
- Cover maintenance/repair costs for assets, border surveillance platforms, specialised infrastructure/ equipment.

V. Expected Results

- Strengthen the level of control and protection of external borders and facilitate smoother border crossings;
- Address the main key policy priorities ensuring uniform implementation of the Union acquis based on the RECs of the Schevals/Vulnerability Assessments;
- Improve operational capabilities for border surveillance through the setting up/operation/maintenance of specialised infrastructure and equipment, specialised trainings of staff, incl. search and rescue;
- Ensure operation and compliance of requirements of large-scale IT systems.

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e) of Article 22(4) CPR

Table 1: Output indicators

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Milestone (2024) | Target (2029) |
|----------|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| O.1.1 | Number of items of equipment purchased for border crossing points | number | 0 | 150 |
| O.1.1.1 | of which number of Automated Border Control gates / self-service systems / e- gates purchased | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.2 | Number of infrastructure maintained / repaired | number | 0 | 1 |
| O.1.3 | Number of hotspot areas supported | number | 1 | 1 |
| O.1.4 | Number of facilities for border crossing points constructed / upgraded | number | 0 | 1 |
| O.1.5 | Number of aerial vehicles purchased | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.5.1 | of which number of unmanned aerial vehicles purchased | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.6 | Number of maritime transport means purchased | number | 3 | 13 |
| O.1.7 | Number of land transport means purchased | number | 0 | 46 |
| O.1.8 | Number of participants supported | number | 200 | 800 |
| O.1.8.1 | of which number of participants in training activities | number | 100 | 500 |
| O.1.9 | Number of joint liaison officers deployed to third countries | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.10 | Number of IT functionalities developed / maintained / upgraded | number | 0 | 4 |
| O.1.11 | Number of large-scale IT systems developed / maintained / upgraded | number | 3 | 7 |
| O.1.11.1 | of which number of large-scale IT systems developed | number | 1 | 3 |
| O.1.12 | Number of cooperation projects with third countries | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.13 | Number of persons who have applied for international protection at border crossing points | number | 0 | 0 |

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e) of Article 22(4) CPR

Table 2: Result indicators

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline | Measurement unit for baseline | Reference year(s) | Target (2029) | Measurement unit for target | Source of data | Comments |
|--------|---|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|
| R.1.14 | Number of items of equipment registered in the Technical Equipment Pool of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 60 | number | CYPRUS POLICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.1.15 | Number of items of equipment put at the disposal of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | CYPRUS POLICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.1.16 | Number of initiated / improved forms of cooperation of national authorities with the Eurosur National Coordination Centre (NCC) | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | CYPRUS POLICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.1.17 | Number of border crossings through Automated Border Control gates and e-gates | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 0 | number | CYPRUS POLICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.1.18 | Number of addressed recommendations from Schengen Evaluations and from vulnerability assessments in the area of border management | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 100 | percentage | CYPRUS POLICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.1.19 | Number of participants who report three months | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 400 | number | CYPRUS POLICE - | Pls see attached Performance |

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline | Measurement unit for baseline | Reference year(s) | Target (2029) | Measurement unit for target | Source of data | Comments |
|--------|---|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | after the training activity that they are using the skills and competences acquired during the training | | | | | | | Training Bodies | Framework |
| R.1.20 | Number of persons refused entry by border authorities | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 14,200 | number | EUROSTAT - ASYLUM SERVICE | Pls see attached Performance Framework |

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

2.1.3. Indicative breakdown of the programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

Reference: Article 22(5) CPR; and Article 16(12) AMIF Regulation, Article 13(12) ISF Regulation or Article 13(18) BMVI Regulation

Table 3: Indicative breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Indicative amount (Euro) |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Intervention field | 001.Border checks | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 002.Border surveillance - air equipment | 160,000.00 |
| Intervention field | 003.Border surveillance - land equipment | 1,865,625.00 |
| Intervention field | 004.Border surveillance - maritime equipment | 7,989,562.50 |
| Intervention field | 005.Border surveillance - automated border surveillance systems | 2,287,500.00 |
| Intervention field | 006.Border surveillance - other measures | 3,512,500.00 |
| Intervention field | 007.Technical and operational measures within the Schengen area which are related to border control | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 008.Situational awareness and exchange of information | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 009.Risk analysis | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 010.Processing of data and information | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 011.Hotspot areas | 6,670,700.82 |
| Intervention field | 012.Measures related to the identification and referral of vulnerable persons | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 013.Measures related to the identification and referral of persons who are in need of, or wish to apply for, international protection | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 014.European Border and Coast Guard development | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 015.Inter-agency cooperation - national level | 651,172.52 |
| Intervention field | 016.Inter-agency cooperation - European Union level | 160,000.00 |
| Intervention field | 017.Inter-agency cooperation - with third countries | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 018.Joint deployment of immigration liaison officers | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 019.Large-scale IT systems - Eurodac for border management purposes | 0.00 |

| Type of intervention | Code | Indicative amount (Euro) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Intervention field | 020.Large-scale IT systems - Entry-exit System (EES) | 1,117,500.00 |
| Intervention field | 021.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) - others | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 022.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) - Article 85(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 | 2,000,000.00 |
| Intervention field | 023.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) - Article 85(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 024.Large-scale IT systems - Schengen Information System (SIS) | 1,749,146.24 |
| Intervention field | 025.Large-scale IT systems - Interoperability | 837,854.72 |
| Intervention field | 026.Operating support - Integrated border management | 474,400.00 |
| Intervention field | 027.Operating support - Large-scale IT systems for border management purposes | 3,585,175.00 |
| Intervention field | 028.Operating support - Special Transit Scheme | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 029.Data quality and data subjects' rights to information, access to, rectification and erasure of,their personal data, and to the retriiction of the processing thereof | 0.00 |

2.1. Specific objective: 2. Common visa policy

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

I. Baseline situation

CY has a diplomatic/consular presence in 45 countries (43 Diplomatic Missions, 6 Consulates General and 6 Permanent Representations). Only 9 of the buildings are state owned; all others are rented.

All provisions of the Visa Code related to the procedures of examining an application and issuing a visa, which are binding for CY, have been incorporated into a national decree (489/2004), based on the Aliens and Immigration Law (Cap 105). These legal instruments constitute, at this stage, the basis for the relevant procedures applied by the Cypriot Consulates. Relevant EU Regulations that were/are adopted after CY's accession to the EU, have a direct legal effect on the national level.

As CY is not a member of the Schengen area yet, it currently issues short-stay visas. However, CY is under the obligation for full accession to the Schengen area, thus, there are ongoing efforts in order to fully comply with the Schengen acquis once accession will be decided.

II. Main challenges

The main focus areas are:

Enhancing efficiency, client-friendly environment, security at consulates

- Building modifications and installation of security equipment at visa sections

There is a need to continue in the new programming period to upgrade visa sections in order to comply with the minimum-security requirements set for short-stay visa issuing. Although CY has so far completed building modifications in 18 consular premises, a number of visa sections still require building modifications and replacement/ upgrade of equipment (including renovations of waiting rooms, construction of bulletproof partitions/ counters, interview rooms, purchase and installation of security equipment-cameras, metal detectors, fire alarms, x-ray machines, installation of a magnetic card system on security doors for the entry only authorized personnel, etc) in order to ensure security standards.

- Operating support for consular sections.

During the PP 2014-2020 the support provided by ISF-borders has been instrumental in alleviating part of the burden placed on the national resources as regards operational costs of visa policy procedures. Since these needs are ongoing, it is evident that part of the funding needs to continue to be used for staff costs (including seasonal/local staff and security guards), operational costs of visa sections as well as maintenance of relevant equipment.

- Training of Staff

Due to the latest developments in visa policy and the increasing pressure for effective and efficient issuance of short-stay visas in compliance with the EU acquis, there is a need to develop comprehensive training programmes for the consular personnel as well as all other relevant staff who contribute to the common visa policy and consular cooperation. This will also be achieved through the development of dedicated training centre. Currently, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs does not have a suitable space for training needed for the common visa policy (e.g. VIS acquis, detection of false and falsified travel

documents) and therefore, there is a need to create a specialised training centre that will be used for the continuous and more comprehensive training of the diplomatic and consular staff (expatriate and local staff).

Digitalization of the visa policy

CY intends to implement any possible measures as regards the digitalization of the visa policy. It is noted that online applications are planned to be implemented through the new VIS.

Implementation of Schengen evaluation recommendations

Cyprus will need to address all recommendations of the Schengen Evaluation that have been raised or will be raised in the future during the on-site evaluations and in the respective Recommendation Reports.

Large-scale IT systems –Visa Information System (VIS)

- Development of new CY-VIS

A clear need stemming from the PP 2014-2020 as well as the Schengen Evaluation is the development of new national VIS as a replacement of the current national VIS system since the existing system is outdated and can no longer meet the requirements of European acquis. The development of the system is divided into two phases. The first phase (recruitment of consultants for feasibility study, technical specifications, tender documents) will have been completed within the PP 2014-2020. The second phase of the action which is the development of the actual new CY-VIS system, Data Center, Disaster Recovery Site will be carried out within the new programming period 2021-2027, which will need to include all relevant upgrades, operational and maintenance costs by the end of the programming period.

III. Implementation measures and Indicative Actions

In the framework of BMVI, the Commission Programming Fiche for CY, national strategic planning as well as the recommendations from internal audit and inspection procedures, Vulnerability Assessments and Schengen Evaluations, CY intends to pursue the following:

1.Support visa application issuing through the support of infrastructure and specialised equipment as well as maintaining/upgrading of security level, where relevant. This shall be achieved mainly through the following:

- Continue to support Consular Departments mainly through the necessary building modifications/upgrades well as purchase and installation of security equipment and telecommunication systems in order to meet requirements in the processing of short-stay visa applications. It is expected that approximately eleven (11) consular sections (New York, Washington, Canberra, Tehran, Bahrain, Beirut, Damascus, Cairo, Krasnodar, Samara, Yekaterinburg) will be able to benefit from the support of the Fund ;
- Reinforce the training of consular/seasonal/local/other related staff, including through the development of a dedicated specialised training area within the premises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Purchase of visa stickers in line with the latest format of the uniform visa sticker.

2. Support the development and maintenance of large-scale IT systems and in particular VIS, including VIS recast and connection of CY-VIS with other EU and national information systems (SIS II,

ETIAS, EES, EURODAC, ECRIS). In this respect, the following actions are expected to be implemented with the support of the Fund:

- Development of new CY-VIS, including relevant software and hardware, Data Centre services;
- Maintenance, monitoring, support and management of CY-VIS;
- Vis recast / connection of CY-VIS with other EU and national information systems.

3. Ensure uniform application of the Union Acquis in relation to common visa policy as per the deficiencies/gaps identified through the Schengen evaluation process and the corresponding recommendations that need to be implemented, including any future recommendations with financial implications.

IV. Operating Support

For the successful completion and implementation of the above listed actions of the specific objective, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, as the responsible authority for visa policy and short-stay visa issuing, will use part of the available funding for the PP 2021-2027 in order to ensure the appropriate support for the relevant operations. More specifically, the Ministry aims to:

- Enhance administrative capacity, especially during peak season, with additional local/ seasonal consular staff;
- Enhance security with the recruitment of security guards at consular sections;
- Maintenance of the new VIS once it is installed and in full operation;
- Reinforcement of the Schengen Department staff;
- Cover rental costs of consular sections.

V.Expected Results

By the end of the programming period and with the help of the Fund, CY expects that the following will have been achieved:

- Ensure the uniform implementation of the Union acquis in visa policy and short-stay visa processing and issuing based on the recommendations of the Schevals;
- Improve consular capabilities and quality and effectiveness of services provided in short-stay visa issuing procedures.

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e) of Article 22(4) CPR

Table 1: Output indicators

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Milestone (2024) | Target (2029) |
|---------|---|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| O.2.1 | Number of projects supporting the digitalisation of visa processing | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.2.2 | Number of participants supported | number | 37 | 100 |
| O.2.2.1 | of which number of participants in training activities | number | 37 | 100 |
| O.2.3 | Number of staff deployed to consulates in third countries | number | 24 | 24 |
| O.2.3.1 | of which number of staff deployed for visa processing | number | 11 | 11 |
| O.2.4 | Number of IT functionalities developed / maintained / upgraded | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.2.5 | Number of large-scale IT systems developed / maintained / upgraded | number | 1 | 1 |
| O.2.5.1 | of which number of large-scale IT systems developed | number | 1 | 1 |
| O.2.6 | Number of infrastructure maintained / repaired | number | 3 | 11 |
| O.2.7 | Number of real estates rented / depreciated | number | 0 | 0 |

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e) of Article 22(4) CPR

Table 2: Result indicators

| ID | Indicator | Measurement unit | Baseline | Measurement unit for baseline | Reference year(s) | Target (2029) | Measurement unit for target | Source of data | Comments |
|---------|--|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| R.2.8 | Number of new / upgraded consulates outside the Schengen area | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 25 | number | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.2.8.1 | of which number of consulates upgraded to enhance client-friendliness for Visa applicants | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 25 | number | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.2.9 | Number of addressed recommendations from Schengen Evaluations in the area of the common visa policy | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 100 | percentage | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.2.10 | Number of visa applications using digital means | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 326,040 | number | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.2.11 | Number of initiated / improved forms of cooperation set up among Member States in visa processing | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS | Pls see attached Performance Framework |
| R.2.12 | Number of participants who report three months after the training activity that they are using the skills and competences acquired during the training | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 70 | number | MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - Training Bodies | Pls see attached Performance Framework |

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

2.1.3. Indicative breakdown of the programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

Reference: Article 22(5) CPR; and Article 16(12) AMIF Regulation, Article 13(12) ISF Regulation or Article 13(18) BMVI Regulation

Table 3: Indicative breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Indicative amount (Euro) |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Intervention field | 001.Improving visa application processing | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 002.Enhancing the efficiency, client-friendly environment and security at consulates | 1,420,914.75 |
| Intervention field | 003.Document security / document advisors | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 004.Consular cooperation | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 005.Consular coverage | 1,284,000.00 |
| Intervention field | 006.Large-scale IT systems - Visa Information System (VIS) | 5,172,875.25 |
| Intervention field | 007.Other ICT systems for visa application processing purposes | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 008.Operating support - Common visa policy | 2,122,210.00 |
| Intervention field | 009.Operating support - Large-scale IT systems for visa application processing purposes | 4,000,000.00 |
| Intervention field | 010.Operating support - Special Transit Scheme | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 011.Issuance of visas with limited territorial validity | 0.00 |
| Intervention field | 012.Data quality and data subjects' rights to information, access to, rectification and erasure of, their personal data, and to the restriction of the processing thereof | 0.00 |

2.2. Technical assistance: TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)

Reference: point (f) of Article 22(3), Article 36(5), Article 37, and Article 95 CPR

2.2.1. Description

The scope of Technical Assistance is to attain an effective and correct implementation of the programme through preparatory, management, monitoring, evaluation, information, and control actions of the financed interventions.

The implementation of the BMVI Programme shall thus be based on effective and efficient practices through clear and transparent processes that seek to reduce administrative burden, strengthen organisational capacity, and improve exchange of information and communication among the main stakeholders.

Additionally, the technical assistance addresses the need to adjust to national legislation in terms of security, data protection and fundamental rights.

Such assistance includes the provision of advice, expertise, research, analysis, training or other assistance in connection with, inter alia:

- Reinforcing systems and processes of management and coordination
- Enhancing administrative organization and operation of entities involved in the implementation of the interventions and actions
- Upgrading the managerial and delivery capacity of the beneficiaries of the Fund
- Completing necessary formal procedures in case and data handling in relation to the actions described above
- Analyzing the national legislation and reviewing of national laws aimed at ensuring compliance with international legal obligations or implementing E.U. laws and regulations
- Drafting non-legislative texts (such as circulars and guidelines) based on the documents and procedures of the Managing Authority.

Allocation of Technical Assistance and indicative Actions

Information & Communication (allocation 2%)

- Information Campaigns;
- Public events and visits (conferences);
- Commemorative plaques;
- Press releases;
- Leaflets, brochures, newsletters, and magazines;
- Web site for Migration & Home Affairs Funds (AMIF, BMVI, ISF);
- Participation of the Managing Authority in exhibitions and other national and international dissemination events;

Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control (allocation 6%)

- External Consultancy to support programming preparation and monitoring;
- Costs for the meetings of the Monitoring Committee for Migration and Home Affairs Funds;
- Costs for the on-spot-controls.
- Travel expenses linked to the implementation and monitoring of the Fund;

Evaluation and studies, data collection (allocation 23%)

- Studies (e.g., SCOs, development of OPS, impact of the programmes, best practices, establishment of new tools etc.);
- Actions relating to evaluations of programme such as the mid-term and ex-post evaluations;

Capacity building (allocation 69%)

- Fixed-term staff for the Managing Authority;
- Supplies for the operation of the Managing Authority;
- Purchase of equipment for the operation of the Managing Authority
- Trainings/ seminars for the staff of the Managing Authority

2.2. Technical assistance TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)

2.2.2. Indicative breakdown of technical assistance pursuant to Article 37 CPR

Table 4: Indicative breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Indicative amount (Euro) |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Intervention field | 001.Information and communication | 56,473.36 |
| Intervention field | 002.Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control | 169,420.09 |
| Intervention field | 003.Evaluation and studies, data collection | 649,443.69 |
| Intervention field | 004.Capacity building | 1,948,331.06 |

3. Financing plan

Reference: point (g) Article 22(3) CPR

3.1. Financial appropriations by year

Table 5: Financial appropriations per year

| Allocation type | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | Total |
|--------------------------|------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Initial allocation | | 7,877,112.00 | 9,570,752.00 | 10,322,230.00 | 7,992,373.00 | 6,615,759.00 | 6,705,903.00 | 49,084,129.00 |
| Mid-term review | | | | | | | | |
| Thematic facility WPI | | 800,676.00 | | | | | | 800,676.00 |
| Thematic facility WP II | | | | | | | | |
| Thematic facility WP III | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer (in) | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer (out) | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | 8,677,788.00 | 9,570,752.00 | 10,322,230.00 | 7,992,373.00 | 6,615,759.00 | 6,705,903.00 | 49,884,805.00 |

3.2. Total financial allocations

Table 6: Total financial allocations by fund and national contribution

| Specific objective (SO) | Type of action | Basis for calculation Union support (total or public) | Union contribution (a) | National contribution (b)=(c)+(d) | Indicative breakdown of national contribution | | Total (e)=(a)+(b) | Co-financing rate (f)=(a)/(e) |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | Public (c) | Private (d) | | |
| European integrated border management | Regular actions | Total | 18,833,006.25 | 6,277,668.75 | 6,277,668.75 | 0.00 | 25,110,675.00 | 75.0000000000% |
| European integrated border management | Specific actions | Total | 755,354.72 | 83,928.30 | 83,928.30 | | 839,283.02 | 90.0000002383% |
| European integrated border management | Annex IV actions | Total | 7,413,200.83 | 823,688.98 | 823,688.98 | 0.00 | 8,236,889.81 | 90.0000000121% |
| European integrated border management | Operating support | Total | 4,059,575.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4,059,575.00 | 100.0000000000% |
| European integrated border management | ETIAS regulation Art. 85(2) | Total | 2,000,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,000,000.00 | 100.0000000000% |
| European integrated border management | ETIAS regulation Art. 85(3) | Total | | | | | | |
| Total European integrated border management | | | 33,061,136.80 | 7,185,286.03 | 7,185,286.03 | 0.00 | 40,246,422.83 | 82.1467710053% |
| Common visa policy | Regular actions | Total | 7,877,790.00 | 2,625,930.00 | 2,625,930.00 | 0.00 | 10,503,720.00 | 75.0000000000% |
| Common visa policy | Annex IV actions | Total | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Common visa policy | Operating support | Total | 6,122,210.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 6,122,210.00 | 100.0000000000% |
| Total Common visa policy | | | 14,000,000.00 | 2,625,930.00 | 2,625,930.00 | 0.00 | 16,625,930.00 | 84.2058158551% |
| Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR) | | | 2,823,668.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 2,823,668.20 | 100.0000000000% |
| Grand total | | | 49,884,805.00 | 9,811,216.03 | 9,811,216.03 | 0.00 | 59,696,021.03 | 83.5647068922% |

3.3. Transfers

Table 7: Transfers between shared management funds¹

| Transferring fund | Receiving fund | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----|------|------|----|-------|-------|
| | AMIF | ISF | ERDF | ESF+ | CF | EMFAF | Total |
| BMVI | | | | | | | |

¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

Table 8: Transfers to instruments under direct or indirect management¹

| Instrument | Transfer Amount |
|------------|-----------------|
|------------|-----------------|

¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

4. Enabling conditions

Reference: point (i) of Article 22(3) CPR

Table 9: Horizontal enabling conditions

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|---|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Effective monitoring mechanisms of the public procurement market | Yes | Monitoring mechanisms are in place that cover all public contracts and their procurement under the Funds in line with Union procurement legislation. That requirement includes: 1. Arrangements to ensure compilation of effective and reliable data on public procurement procedures above the Union thresholds in accordance with reporting obligations under Articles 83 and 84 of Directive 2014/24/EU and Articles 99 and 100 of Directive 2014/25/EU. | Yes | Πληροφοριακό Σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου E-procurement | Όλες οι πληροφορίες αναφορικά με τους Διαγωνισμούς Προσφορών (ονόματα αυτών που κέρδισαν την προσφορά, αριθμός αρχικών πλειοδοτών, αριθμός επιλεγμένων πλειοδοτών και αξία της σύμβασης), είναι διαθέσιμα στο ηλεκτρονικό σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου για τις Δημόσιες Συμβάσεις (e-procurement). |
| | | 2. Arrangements to ensure the data cover at least the following elements: a. Quality and intensity of competition: names of winning bidder, number of initial bidders and contractual value; b. Information on final price after completion and on participation of SMEs as direct bidders, where national systems provide such information. | Yes | Πληροφοριακό Σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου E-procurement | Πληροφορίες σχετικά με την τελική τιμή μετά την ολοκλήρωση του Διαγωνισμού, θα βρίσκονται διαθέσιμες στο Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου για τις πληρωμές (ERP). Επίσης, είναι διαθέσιμες στο επί μέρους λογιστικό σύστημα της εκάστοτε υπηρεσίας που διεξήγαγε τον Διαγωνισμό και τη Σύμβαση. Όσον αφορά στην πληροφορία κατά πόσο μια ΜΜΕ συμμετέχει σε διαγωνισμό, καταγράφεται στο ηλεκτρονικό σύστημα των Δημοσίων Συμβάσεων (e-procurement), καθώς κατά την εισαγωγή της εταιρίας στο ηλεκτρονικό σύστημα, θα πρέπει να δηλώσει την οικονομική της οντότητά της και κατά πόσο είναι ΜΜΕ. |

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | |
| | | 3. Arrangements to ensure monitoring and analysis of the data by the competent national authorities in accordance with article 83 (2) of directive 2014/24/EU and article 99 (2) of directive 2014/25/EU. | Yes | Πληροφοριακό Σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου E-procurement | Όλες οι πληροφορίες μπορούν να εξαχθούν από το ηλεκτρονικό σύστημα των Δημοσίων Συμβάσεων (e-procurement) και είναι διαθέσιμες στο κοινό. |
| | | 4. Arrangements to make the results of the analysis available to the public in accordance with article 83 (3) of directive 2014/24/EU and article 99 (3) directive 2014/25/EU. | Yes | Πληροφοριακό Σύστημα του Γενικού Λογιστηρίου E-procurement | Όλες οι πληροφορίες μπορούν να εξαχθούν από το ηλεκτρονικό σύστημα των Δημοσίων Συμβάσεων (e-procurement) και είναι διαθέσιμες στο κοινό. |
| | | 5. Arrangements to ensure that all information pointing to suspected bid-rigging situations is communicated to the competent national bodies in accordance with Article 83(2) of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 99(2) of Directive 2014/25/EU. | Yes | Νόμος 73(Ι)/2016 Άρθρο 83 (1) Εθνική Εταιρική Συμφωνία | Υπάρχει σε ισχύ υφιστάμενη Εταιρική Συμφωνία, η οποία καθορίζει μεταξύ άλλων το τρόπο ανταλλαγής δεδομένων σχετικά με τις προσφορές (collusion/bid rigging). Το Άρθρο 83, Παράγραφος 1 της Εθνικής Νομοθεσίας (Νόμος 73(Ι)/2016), περιλαμβάνει ειδικά μέτρα έναντι των αναθετουσών αρχών/οντοτήτων, σε περιπτώσεις παραπτώματος ή συστημικών σφαλμάτων κατά την εφαρμογή της νομοθεσίας περί δημοσίων συμβάσεων. |
| 3. Effective application and | No | Effective mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the Charter of | No | | |

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|---|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|---|
| implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights | | Fundamental Rights of the European Union ('the Charter') which include: 1. Arrangements to ensure compliance of the programmes supported by the Funds and their implementation with the relevant provisions of the Charter. | | | |
| | | 2. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the Charter and complaints regarding the Charter submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7). | No | | |
| 4. Implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) in accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC | Yes | A national framework to ensure implementation of the UNCRPD is in place that includes: 1. Objectives with measurable goals, data collection and monitoring mechanisms. | Yes | <p>Ο περί της Σύμβασης για τα Δικαιώματα των Ατόμων με Αναπηρίες και περί Συναφών Θεμάτων (Κυρωτικός) Νόμος του 2011 (Ν. 8(III)/2011)</p> <p>Ευρωπαϊκή Στρατηγική για τα Δικαιώματα των Ατόμων με Αναπηρίες 2021-2030 (Brussels, 3.3.2021 COM(2021) 101 final)</p> <p>Πρώτη Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αναπηρία 2018 – 2028, www.mlsi.gov.cy/dsid</p> <p>Τρίτο Εθνικό Σχέδιο Δράσης για την Αναπηρία 2021-2023</p> <p>Αναλυτικός Απολογισμός του Εθνικού Σχεδίου Δράσης για την Αναπηρία γνωστοποιείται για ενημέρωση του Υπ. Συμβουλίου.</p> | <p>Οι μηχανισμοί παρακολούθησης εφαρμογής της Σύμβασης περιλαμβάνουν</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Το ΤΚΕΑΑ ως Κεντρικό Σημείο - Το Παγκ Συμβούλιο για ΑμεΑ ως Συντον Μηχανισμό - Το Γραφείο Επιτρ Διοικ και Προστασίας Ανθρ Δικαιωμάτων ως Ανεξάρτητο Μηχανισμό <p>Βάσει νόμου οι κρ. υπηρεσίες υποχρεούνται να διαβουλεύονται με την ΚΥΣΟΑ για πολιτικές που αφορούν ΑμεΑ. Η διαβούλευση γίνεται διά αλληλογραφίας, διμερών συναντήσεων σε επίπεδο Υπουργού ή Τμήματος, συμμετοχής σε ομάδες εργασίας ή επιτροπές, δημόσιας διαβούλευσης.</p> <p>Το Σχ Δράσης αξιολογείται ετησίως. Για κάθε δράση καταγράφεται αν υλοποιήθηκε πλήρως, μερικώς ή δεν υλοποιήθηκε,</p> |

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | <p>αιτία, διορθ μέτρα</p> <p>Το Παγκ Συμβούλ για τα ΑμεΑ και το ΥΣ ενημερώνονται και παίρνονται αποφάσεις</p> <p>Τα αποτελέσματα δημοσιεύονται</p> |
| | | <p>2. Arrangements to ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards are properly reflected in the preparation and implementation of the programmes.</p> | <p>Yes</p> | <p>Η νέα οδηγία του ΕΚ και του Συμβουλίου σχετικά με τις απαιτήσεις προσβασιμότητας για αγαθά και υπηρεσίες ημ. 17/4/2021 (νόμος για την προσβασιμότητα) βρίσκεται στο στάδιο ενσωμάτωσης στο εθνικό δίκαιο. Η ολοκλήρωση της αναμένεται τον Ιούνιο 2022.</p> <p>Το ΤΚΕΑΑ ετοίμασε το 1ο προσχέδιο του νομοσχεδίου μεταφοράς της Οδηγίας και συντονίζει τη διαβούλευση με τις αρμόδιες κρατικές υπηρεσίες</p> | <p>Οι Δημ Αρχές, Υπουργεία, κρατ Υπηρεσίες και ΜΚΟ που συμμετέχουν στην εφαρμογή και παρακολούθηση της Στρ και του ΣΔ συμμετέχουν στη διαδικασία διαβούλευσης και καταρτισμού του Προγράμματος και στην Επ. Παρακολούθηση</p> <p>Στο πλαίσιο του ΕΣ 4(η) θα προωθηθούν παρεμβάσεις ενεργού ένταξης στην αγορά εργασίας ενώ στον ΕΣ 4(ια) θα προωθηθούν παρεμβάσεις παροχής φροντίδας, κοιν ενσωμάτωσης και υπηρεσιών υποστήριξης διαβίωσης στην κοινότητα Οι Οργανώσεις Αναπήρων συμμετέχουν στο σχεδιασμό των έργων και υλοποίησή τους</p> <p>Ο τομέας της προσβασιμότητας καλύπτει πολλούς τομείς (φυσικό και δομημένο περιβάλλον, μεταφορές, πληροφόρηση, αγαθά και υπηρεσίες) Οι ανάλογες δράσεις και έργα ελέγχονται όσον αφορά τη τήρηση των αρχών και προδιαγραφών προσβασιμότητας από τις αρμόδιες αρχές στα πλαίσια των οικείων νόμων και κανονισμών τους, όπως παρουσιάζονται συνοπτικά στην Έκθεση της Κύπρου για</p> |

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | <p>την Εφαρμογή της Σύμβασης ΟΗΕ για τα Δικαιώματα των ΑμεΑ και το Εθν ΣΔ για την Αναπηρία</p> <p>Τα κριτήρια επιλογής έργων θα υποβληθούν στην Επιτρ Παρακολούθησης για έγκριση, η οποία σε κάθε στάδιο θα ελέγχει τη συμβατότητα τους με το Νόμο για τη μη διάκριση και τη Σύμβαση ΟΗΕ για τα Δικαιώματα των ΑμεΑ</p> |
| | | <p>3. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the UNCRPD and complaints regarding the UNCRPD submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7).</p> | <p>Yes</p> | <p>Η εξειδίκευση των διαδικασιών του Συστήματος Διαχείρισης και Ελέγχου θα καταγραφεί σε χωριστές κατευθυντήριες γραμμές/ εγκυκλίους που θα εκδώσει η Διαχειριστική Αρχή.</p> <p>Με βάση το Άρθρο 69 του Κανονισμού Κοινών Διατάξεων (ΕΕ) 2021/1060 τα Κράτη Μέλη έχουν την υποχρέωση να ετοιμάσουν περιγραφή του Συστήματος Διαχείρισης και Ελέγχου (όχι αργότερα από τις 30 Ιουνίου 2023).</p> | <p>Το ΤΚΕΑΑ θα συμμετάσχει στην Επ Παρακολούθησης και θα ενημερώνει τα μέλη για έργα/ ΣΧ που δεν συμμορφώνονται με τη Σύμβαση UNCRPD</p> <p>Ο Επίτροπος Διοικήσεως, ως Ανεξάρτητος Μηχανισμός Προώθησης, Προστασίας και Παρακολούθησης της Σύμβασης του ΟΗΕ για τα Δικαιώματα των ΑμεΑ έχει εξουσία, μεταξύ άλλων</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • να διεξάγει έρευνες • να συλλέγει στοιχεία • να εξετάζει είτε απευθείας, είτε μετά από παράπονα ή καταγγελίες περιπτώσεις μη εφαρμογής της Σύμβασης • να υποβάλλει εκθέσεις <p>Κάθε 6μηνο, το Γραφείο της Επιτρ Διοικήσεως και Ανθρωπ Δικαιωμάτων υποβάλλει έκθεση προς το ΥΣ με</p> |

| Enabling condition | Fulfilment of enabling condition | Criteria | Fulfilment of criteria | Reference to relevant documents | Justification |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | <p>αναφορές σε όλες τις εκθέσεις και τοποθετήσεις της μετά από την εξέταση των παραπόνων που λαμβάνει</p> <p>Το ΥΣ ενημερώνεται ανά εξάμηνο, από τα αρμόδια Υπουργεία για τις διορθωτικές ενέργειες που λαμβάνουν προς συμμόρφωση με τις εισηγήσεις της Επιτροπής</p> <p>Οι συναντήσεις της Επ Παρακολούθησης πραγματοποιούνται 1 φορά το χρόνο Η Επιτροπή θα ενημερώνεται για τις περιπτώσεις χειρισμού παραπόνων που υποβλήθηκαν στο πλαίσιο υλοποίησης των συγχρηματοδ Προγραμμάτων, για περιπτώσεις παραβίασης της Σύμβασης καθώς και τυχόν διορθωτικά/ προληπτικά μέτρα που προτάθηκαν για αποφυγή παρόμοιων προβλημάτων στο μέλλον.</p> |

5. Programme authorities

Reference: point (k) of Article 22(3) and Articles 71 and 84 CPR

Table 10: Programme authorities

| Programme Authority | Name of the institution | Contact name | Position | Email |
|--|---|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Managing authority | European Funds Unit, Ministry of Interior | Constantinos Kyprianou | Head of Unit | ckyprianou@moi.gov.cy |
| Audit authority | Internal Audit Service | Anna Zavou-Christoforou | Commissioner | commissioner@internalaudit.gov.cy |
| Body which receives payments from the Commission | Treasury of the Republic of Cyprus | Rea Georgiou | Accountant General | accountant.general@treasury.gov.cy |

6. Partnership

Reference: point (h) of Article 22(3) CPR

Throughout the implementation of the Programme the partnership principle will be ensured.

1. Partners for the BMVI funding instrument

Partners of the BMVI are the relevant public bodies who hold a de jure responsibility to form and regulate the policy of CY regarding the areas covered by the Fund. The particular authorities have also been acting as partners during the previous programming periods for the External Borders Fund (PP2007-2013) and the Internal Security Fund-borders and visas (PP2014-2020). Relevant partners also include academic institutions, international organizations, social partners and any other body that may have an impact in the area of border management, incl. migration flows, and visa policy.

2. Preparation of the Programme

So far the following bodies have been consulted as the relevant partners for the preparation of the BMVI Programme:

1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (visa policy),
2. Ministry of Justice and Public Order (borders),
3. Ministry of Interior
4. Ministry of Defence (SAR operations),
5. CY Police (borders),
6. Information Technology Department of Police
7. Port and Marine Police Unit
8. European Union & International Police Cooperation Directorate (EU&IPCD)
9. Directorate of Airports Security
10. Aliens and Immigration Unit of the Police (borders),
11. Joint Rescue and Coordination Centre (border surveillance, SAR operations that may arise during border surveillance operations at sea),
12. Civil Registry and Migration Department (ETIAS)
13. Civil Defence (migratory flows)
14. Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (IT systems)
15. Ministry of Health (First Reception)
16. Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance (First Reception)
17. Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare (First Reception)
18. Asylum Service (First Reception)
19. Social Welfare Services (First Reception)

On 01.11.2019 the Managing Authority (MA) sent to all partners, registered as members of the AMIF and ISF PP 2014-2020 Monitoring Committees respectively, a notification as regards the start of procedures in drafting the new Programme for the PP 2021-2027 for all three Home Affairs Funds. More specifically, the MA provided partners with an overview of the steps that need to be taken in order to start reflecting on the needs and actions to be taken under the new Funds, based on the initial Commission's proposal as

regards objectives and eligible actions. The information for all three Funds was disseminated to the members of both PP 2014-2020 Monitoring Committees, in order to address any possible responsibilities the partners might have for each of the new Funds. Together with the Commission's proposal, a template was also prepared with the basic information that the partners were required to fill in when presenting their needs and proposed actions addressing the particular needs (incl. estimated budget and timeframe, where possible). The first round of written suggestions from the partners were received by the end of the year. These suggestions included a brief description of the suggested actions, estimated budget and expected results.

Beginning of 2020, the MA informed partners about the CY programming fiche as this was prepared by the Commission, which generated another round of proposed needs and actions to be included in the new Programme.

Although the first deadline for submitting the first unofficial draft Programme was by the end of April 2020, due to the measures taken to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic, the coordination of the partners together with their expected contribution had been rendered extremely difficult. Therefore, CY opted to submit the first unofficial draft by the end of September 2020.

During the preparation stage, there have been bilateral meetings and communication with partners on their particular needs, pending the confirmation on the exact amount allocated to CY under the Fund. Once the amount became known, it enabled the MA to better streamline the budget appropriations to the needs deemed as priorities based on the current situation.

The contribution of social partners/civil society so far, due to the nature of the policy areas of the Fund, has concentrated on the management of migratory flows at the external borders, with special focus on the Pournaras Centre. As for research organisations/universities these have been consulted by the relevant authorities at project level.

3. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Programme

A Monitoring Committee, as per art. 33-35 of the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR), will be responsible for the monitoring of the implementation as well as the evaluation of the Programme. The Committee will meet at least once a year in order to examine the progress of the Programme as well as approve any relevant issues that fall within its jurisdiction. Taking into account the nature of Fund, the MA intends to invite as members of the BMVI Committee the following bodies:

- **Members with a right to vote:**

1. All partners as stated in paragraph 2 of this Section
2. Directorate General Growth, Ministry of Finance
3. Cyprus Customs and Excise Department

- **Members without the right to vote:**

National/EU public bodies

4. Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission
5. Internal Audit Authority (as the Auditing Authority of the Fund)

6. General Auditor of the Republic
7. Treasury of the Republic
8. Ombudsman Office (human rights)
9. Department of Environment
10. State Health Services Organisation
11. Citizen's Commissioner
12. Commissioner for Children's Rights
13. Commissioner for Gender Equality

Independent Authorities

14. Digital Security Authority
15. Research and Innovation Foundation

Academic/Research Institutions

16. Cyprus Rectors' Conference
17. KIOS Research and Innovation Centre of Excellence

Civic society organisations

18. Pancyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council
19. Cyprus Confederation of Organizations of the Disabled
20. Cyprus Paraplegic Organization
21. Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies
22. Cyprus Refugee Council

European Agencies

23. FRONTEX
24. European Agency for Asylum (EUAA)

International Organisations

25. International Organization for Migration
26. Cyprus Red Cross
27. UNHCR
28. Caritas Cyprus
29. Hope for Children

Other NGOs/relevant bodies

30. Any subcontractors involved in the management of migratory flows in terms of first reception.

The final format of the Monitoring Committee is pending approval from the Council of Ministers.

The Committee will be consulted, monitor the implementation of the Programme and provide suggestions as well as approve all issues as stated in art. 35 of the CPR. During the meetings of the Committee, beneficiaries may also be invited to present their projects and the respective results. Prior to the meetings, the RA may hold a communication with potential beneficiaries listed in the MA's data base of list of beneficiaries, requesting suggestions for further actions which could be discussed by the Committee. Clear documentation on the scope of each meeting will be provided by the MA prior and after the meeting, for better coordination and visibility, amongst others. In case of amendments of the National Programme all members of the Committee will be notified and asked to provide their written suggestions and/or approval.

As part of the evaluation of the Programme, the independent evaluator may contact partners from the relevant committees or the final beneficiaries of the projects, where necessary. The results of the evaluation and the evaluation report will be notified to the partners of the Monitoring Committee for approval as part of the monitoring process.

4. Complementarity

There is a constant effort to ensure complementarities and synergies of the Programme with other EU Funds which has begun during the PPs 2007-2013 and 2020-2014 and will be continuing throughout 2021-2027 even more so, since Home Affairs Funds are included in the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) 2021-2027. These are described in the Partnership Agreement prepared by the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development (DG EPCD) which is both the National Authority for the coordination of CPR Funds and the MA for the Programmes co-financed by the EU Cohesion Policy Funds (ESF+, ERDF and Cohesion Fund) and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) 2021-2027. As for AMIF and ISF, complementarities are ensured since CY has the same MA for all three Home Affairs Funds, thus facilitating coordination during implementation.

In order to best implement complementarities and synergies as well as ensure there is no overlap between actions implemented under each EU Fund and to more effectively use the available resources, the relevant competent authorities will continue to participate as members in the Monitoring Committees of the respective Programmes of each of the Funds and Programmes as well as arrange bilateral meetings for the examination of subjects of common interest. DGEPCD has also developed a web portal, providing information to citizens and businesses for funding opportunities under EU Programmes and Funds or national funds. All these enable the coordination between Home Affairs Funds and other EU Funds and provide a constant overview regarding implementation and possible changes or further developments regarding EU funding.

Apart from ensuring complementarities and synergies with other EU Funds in terms of operations, the MA is also in close cooperation with the relevant unit of the Treasury of the RoC, which is the Certifying Authority for the Programmes co-financed by the EU Cohesion Policy Funds as regards their experience with the Common Provisions Regulation, electronic data exchange system and their overall experience from the previous programming periods.



7. Communication and visibility

Reference: point (j) of Article 22(3) CPR

The MA has already appointed a communication officer who has been planning the communication strategy for the PP.

The objectives of the communication policy were formed based on research (e.g., Eurobarometer 2020) and on the experience gained during PP 2014-20. As a result CY objectives are the following:

1. Promotion of the role and solidarity shown by the EU on immigration and asylum matters, as well as internal security, protection of external borders and visa policy. The goal is to enhance the recognition and positive attitude of Cypriots towards both the target group (TCNs) & the EU.
2. Ensure maximum transparency in the management & implementation of the program and increase awareness & confidence in the opportunities provided by the EU.
3. Inform the general public about the actions & results of the program.
4. Immediate and timely information of potential beneficiaries about funding opportunities provided by the program and procedures for accessing it. The aim is to increase competition in terms of the number of potential beneficiaries and of proposals for new projects submitted.
5. Immediate and timely information & support of beneficiaries during the projects' implementation in terms of communication and promotion of the results & the projects' impact, ensuring compliance with regulatory framework obligations.

It is noted that a public opinion survey is taking place at the moment. The results will serve as the base on which the communication goals for the PP, as well as the tools to be used will be finalized.

Target audiences

1. The **general public** (people of all ages & education level) as the main target group, and **media outlets** (media & opinion makers), in order to achieve the first 3 communication objectives.
2. The **potential beneficiaries**, both individuals / small and medium-sized enterprises & public / local authorities, in order to achieve the 4th communication objective.
3. The **final beneficiaries**, in order to achieve the 5th communication objective.
4. The **academia** (public & private institutions). On one hand educational institutions are a potential final beneficiary. On the other hand informing the youth will help in the long term to achieve the first 3 communication objectives.

Communication channels

Based mainly on the results of the Eurobarometer 2020 the following channels, given in order of priority, will be used:

1. The **Internet**, the most easily accessible communication channel throughout the day and one with infinite possibilities and lower costs. In particular, the program's website, the MAs social media (Fb, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr) & various informative websites will be used.

It is noted that a website Portal providing access to all programmes of CY will be created under the supervision of the communication coordinator. The Portal will include information on the programs as well as a link to the programs' websites.

The Internet will enable the approach of younger people. This will have both short-term and long-term results in terms of achieving the first three communication objectives.

1. **Television**, the main source of information of Cypriots of all ages (production of TV spots, mainly in the context of the calls for proposals).

2. The **press**, a communication channel used by people of all educational levels and by older people. Among others, at least three interviews of the Head of the MA (at the beginning, middle & end of the PP), as well as reportages published on websites & press releases on the start or at completion of important projects.
3. The **radio**, a widely used source of information in CY (production of radio spots).
4. Organization of **events** (some concerning all the three programs, AMIF, ISF, BMVI) where the general public will be able to participate (e.g., seminars for potential beneficiaries, presentations at higher education institutions, events for the presentation of the managing authority's work, some in collaboration with other funds & managing authorities).
5. Publication of a **newsletter** per year, which will include information on the implementation of the programs (AMIF, ISF, BMVI), as well as presentation of important projects.

Planned budget

0.1% of the program's budget.

Monitoring and evaluation

A **public opinion survey** is being conducted at the moment. Its results will serve as a reference point for the next surveys, conducted in the middle and at the end of the PP, in order to determine whether the communication strategy will have achieved the expected results.

In addition, the following **indicators** will be adopted (indicative reference):

Outputs:

- Website traffic: 20% increase
- Number of posts & followers / impressions / views on social media: 4 posts per week on social media, 1200-1700 followers/ impressions/ views
- Number & frequency of TV spots: 2-3 TV spots during PP
- Number of interviews, reportage, press releases: 4 interviews, 7 reportages, 3 press releases during the PP
- Number & frequency of radio spots: 7 radio spots during PP
- Number of newsletters published: 1 newsletter per year

Results:

- Website's conversion rate (number of downloads, registrations, bouncing rate, login time)
- Engagement in social media (shares, likes, clickthroughs, comments, hashtag reports).

Impact (Based on the results of the public opinion surveys):

- Program recognition & EU contribution
- Positive view of the program & the EU contribution

8. Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 CPR

| Intended use of Articles 94 and 95 CPR | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates under the priority according to Article 94 CPR | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs according to Article 95 CPR | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Appendix 1: Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates

A. Summary of the main elements

| Specific objective | Estimated proportion of the total financial allocation within the specific objective to which the SCO will be applied in % | Type(s) of operation covered | | Indicator triggering reimbursement (2) | | Unit of measurement for the indicator triggering reimbursement | Type of SCO (standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates) | Amount (in EUR) or percentage (in case of flat rates) of the SCO |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|--|---|--|
| | | Code(1) | Description | Code(2) | Description | | | |

(1) This refers to the code in Annex VI of the AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations

(2) This refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable

Appendix 1: Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates

B. Details by type of operation

C. Calculation of the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates

1. Source of data used to calculate the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates (who produced, collected and recorded the data, where the data is stored, cut-off dates, validation, etc.)

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2. Please specify why the proposed method and calculation based on Article 94(2) CPR is relevant to the type of operation.

3. Please specify how the calculations were made, in particular including any assumptions made in terms of quality or quantities. Where relevant, statistical evidence and benchmarks should be used and, if requested, provided in a format that is usable by the Commission.

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4. Please explain how you have ensured that only eligible expenditure was included in the calculation of the standard scale of unit cost, lump sum or flat rate.

5. Assessment of the audit authority(ies) of the calculation methodology and amounts and the arrangements to ensure the verification, quality, collection and storage of data.

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Appendix 2: Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs

A. Summary of the main elements

| Specific objective | The amount covered by the financing not linked to costs | Type(s) of operation covered | | Conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission | Indicators | | Unit of measurement for the conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission | Envisaged type of reimbursement method used to reimburse the beneficiary(ies) |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------|--|------------|-------------|--|---|
| | | Code(1) | Description | | Code(2) | Description | | |

(1) Refers to the code in Annex VI of the AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations.

(2) Refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable.

B. Details by type of operation

Appendix 3

Thematic facility

| Procedure reference | | Programme version | | | Status | Accept/Decline date | Comments |
|---|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------|----------|
| C(2022)3163 - 19 May 2022 - 1 | | 1.2 | | | Accepted | 9 Nov 2022 | |
| Specific objective | Modality | Type of intervention | Union contribution | Pre-financing rate | Description of the action | | |
| 1. European integrated border management | Specific actions | | 755,354.72 | | Greece and Cyprus will implement in partnership the project “REACTION: REal-time ArtifiCial InTellIgence for BOrders Surveillance via RPAS data aNalytics to support Law Enforcement Agencies”, which is led by the Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum (HMMA). The project objective is to integrate, validate, and demonstrate a fully functional, next generation, holistic border surveillance and awareness platform, providing pre-frontier situational awareness beyond remote areas as an effective mean for early identification of critical situations. The platform will also be integrated and interconnected with the already installed information platforms for proactively actions. | | |
| TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR) | | | 45,321.28 | | TA | | |

DOCUMENTS

| Document title | Document type | Document date | Local reference | Commission reference | Files | Sent date | Sent by |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|--|------------|-------------------------|
| Programme snapshot 2021CY65BVPR001 1.2 | Snapshot of data before send | 1 Dec 2022 | | Ares(2022)8316764 | Programme_snapshot_2021CY65BVPR001_1.2_el.pdf Programme_snapshot_2021CY65BVPR001_1.2_en.pdf Programme snapshot 2021CY65BVPR001 1.2 - Machine Translated | 1 Dec 2022 | Kyprianou, Constantinos |