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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)

During the previous programming period, BE made significant progress in addressing certain compliance gaps with relevant Union acquis and EU Action Plans in the area of asylum, integration and migration. With regard to asylum, the AMIF funding allowed BE on the one hand to provide for a significant contribution to the Common European Asylum System (EASO), and the work towards further harmonization; and on the other hand to further strengthen its national asylum system. BE implemented new legal requirements under the Asylum Procedures Directive (2013/32/EU), with e.g. a focus on specific vulnerable groups; but also contributed to and strengthened a wide range of practical cooperation initiatives under the umbrella of EASO. BE keeped on taking up its responsibility to invest in a solid and flexible asylum system; improve the quality and efficiency of the procedures, also by making use of the latest available technologies, flexible pooling of staff, target group oriented communication strategies; and providing solidarity on EU level by supporting other Member States through the relocation of applicants of international protection (AIP) and on an international level by the resettlement of several thousands of refugees from outside of EU, providing them with a durable solution in BE. Concerning reception, AMIF funding allowed BE to optimize and digitalize the capacity management of the reception network, to increase the quality of the reception network by carrying out and harmonizing quality audits and to strengthen partnerships, both on the national and the international level. In the area of return and contribution to the EU acquis on return and readmission, the effectiveness of return procedures was further developed by setting up an integrated approach in close cooperation with local authorities, federal authorities, EU partners and third-country authorities. In this area, BE developed special attention and adapted approaches for vulnerable groups (families, persons with special needs). BE also invested heavily in supporting the further development of Frontex's role in its new return mandate by implementing a Specific Action (EURLO) and supporting a smooth transfer of activities to the agency.
In general, BE intends to continue and, where possible, enhance the actions developed under the preceding funding programmes.
Furthermore, the additional EU funds allocated to Belgium’s AMIF programme under the Specific Action "Supporting the Implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum" will allow BE to implement several additional activities in line with the priorities for Pact implementation as defined in the needs assessment prepared by the European Commission and Belgium’s National Implementation Plan, and in the final version of forms, as agreed during the dialogue between the Belgian and Commission Senior Focal Point.
In the area of asylum, the 1st (main) challenge for BE remains the development of a qualitative, flexible and easily adaptable reception system. BE will give increased attention to optimize reception capacities and being able to adapt to situations of rapid increase/decrease of arrivals and fluctuations in duration of stay in reception, as BE had to respond very quickly to these issues during the last program period by creating capacity on a very short term. BE will also focus on enhancing reception quality with special emphasis on vulnerable persons and well-being as well as psychological and legal assistance. It will also give increased attention to increasing the autonomy of the residents in the reception by integrating them as much as possible into the host society (early integration), to promote employment and competence development of the residents in the reception, to enhance the asylum institutions’ internal functioning, to ensure a smooth transition of recognized refugees from the reception network to adequate and stable housing and successful integration into the society as a whole, as well as to enhance exchange of information and best practices at EU level. Last but not least , a new permanent service will be established for unaccompanied minors (based on the existing permanent service) and the care of unaccompanied minors will be optimized, notably through the recruitment of additional salaried guardians.Furthermore, BE will enhance reception quality with the digitalisation of the reception system through significant investment in the Match-it database. This transition from a bed-based to a person-based case management system will ensure a concrete follow-up of specific vulnerabilities and allow for the monitoring of individuals staying outside the network. In the medium to long term, linking Match-it with eMigration will enable a continuous follow-up of a person's trajectory throughout the entire asylum chain.
Finally, the new Dublin center will be financed through the remaining funds of the general AMIF allocation and the national budget.

The 2nd challenge for BE is to uphold a solid, flexible, efficient and effective asylum system that can quickly react to shifting migration patterns, but also take into account new policy developments and changing needs. It's BE's clear intention to progressively reduce the existing backlog of asylum applications (over 12.500 pending cases at the beginning of 2021) and shorten the time needed to complete the asylum procedure to six months. By applying an evidence-based and pro-active approach, it will also continue to invest in innovative approaches and new technologies. Not only to identify the weakness and implement the adequate measures for a swifter and qualitative 1st instance decision-making process, but also to allow for business continuity and better cater for the needs of its stakeholders (applicants in general, but also for more specific groups with specific procedural needs). One of the key priorities thereby is the further digitalization of the asylum and migration procedures with the aim of making them faster and more integrated. For this aspect, the use of AMIF-funding, as a complement to the obtained funds through the Recovery and Resilience Fund (RRF), is envisaged. RRF will be used to develop the eMigration backbone and the associated modules. AMIF will be used to renew the digital business processes, notably through the CGRS e-dossier, the digitalization of the Council for Alien Law Litigation (CALL) via investment in the Laurentide system to prepare for the Pact, and the modernization of the Immigration Office's procedures. Double financing will be excluded since both projects will be controlled on all levels. Moreover, the same audit authority acts for both the AMIF and RRF projects. Another aspect is the further exploration of the possibilities for conducting remote interviews and the recording of personal interviews, including investments in the necessary infrastructure for the CGRS and the subsequent use of these recordings by the CALL

In this context, BE will continue supporting further harmonization of the CEAS and therefore intends to uphold its active role with regard to EASO and the future EUAA. To meet these challenges, the CGRS, the CALL, and the Immigration Office will focus on preparing for amended procedures regarding implicit/explicit withdrawals, subsequent requests, and accelerated procedures (notably for unaccompanied minors). Furthermore, BE will implement a new multidisciplinary approach to age assessment, involving both the CGRS and the Immigration Office. Special attention will be given to legal counselling at the time of registration, while the Dublin unit will be significantly reinforced to meet strict deadlines and ensure the best interests of the child. Finally, to maintain the general organization's output despite the impact of the Pact's implementation, dedicated staff (FTEs) and temporary reinforcements will be provided.BE remains committed to enhancing information exchange and practical cooperation between Member States, supporting actions with regard to solidarity and responsibility sharing, in line with the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

The 3rd challenge for BE is to maintain its commitment to support solidarity and cooperation with third countries in this area. BE aims to consolidate further its structural resettlement programme that has been gradually established in the previous period. BE intends to uphold its commitment with respect to the global resettlement needs and on basis of the EU priorities, with an increased attention to vulnerable persons. BE also aims to further streamline and consolidate its resettlement procedures to ensure a more predictable resettlement process, to further explore the possibilities for complementary pathways, and to actively contribute towards more EU harmonization also in this field, additionally to the commitments of the structural resettlement programme.

On the external dimension, BE stands ready to explore within the AMIF framework a more active involvement with regard to capacity building activities (specifically on asylum and reception systems) in targeted third countries where BE expertise can provide an added value, in line with BE foreign policy priorities and preferably in cooperation with other EU Member States. BE expertise entails i.a. COI, trainings on EASO training modules and different aspects with regard to the asylum and reception processes. Through its Permanent Representation, the Managing Authority will ensure consistency with other external actions supported by other EU funding instruments.

In the area of integration of third-country nationals (TCN), the recommendations of the EU Semester for BE point to the low employment rate (especially for women), the need to recognize their skills in order to contribute to integration in the labor market and the importance of education (integration of children of TCN, language learning). For TCN who are residing legally in BE or who are in the process of acquiring legal residence, the first two challenges for BE are to ensure the need for basic integration is met and to build tolerance in the host society (through "Plan Samenleven" local authorities in Flanders will be financially supported to take action). Integration into labor market will be covered by ESF+. AMIF provides support to early integration (language, knowledge, customized support, education, etc.). The

national programme takes into account the BE country report on the EU Semester 2020 and its recommendations regarding people with migrant background, in particular regarding labor market integration and education. These challenges are subject to regional competences. Given the specific situation of the country, two intermediate bodies have been appointed for the management of the respective regional components (ESF Flanders and FSE Wallonie-Bruxelles), which will be responsible for the management of their part of the AMIF. The funds allocated to the German-speaking Community will be managed by BE's Managing Authority, to which technical assistance will be provided. Each region has its own priorities, based on the regional needs in the field of integration.
In the French-speaking community, AMIF supports French training and Citizenship Training ('Parcours d'intégration') of TCN (unlike ERDF which finances the infrastructure and equipment for education). Additionally, the training of trainers and the development of tools have contributed to the professionalization of the integration sector. Beneficiary feedback and evaluation indicate that some of the needs of TCN are not being sufficiently met: interpretation services, psycho-social support, intercultural approach to fight against discrimination, vocational courses, better partnership between beneficiaries, etc. A special approach must also be reserved for minors and young newcomers. These themes, in complementarity with actions already supported by AMIF 2014-2020 which will be continued, have to be met more closely during this new programming. AMIF will provide a significant financial complement to strengthen service offer after a period of slowdown in activity caused by COVID and an increase in waiting lists at the level for example of French operators (by doubling the groups so that they are smaller, by promoting e-learning, etc.).
At the Flemish level, AMIF has had a significant impact on policy. By mainstreaming projects like the mother courses (an integration offer tailored to low-literate mothers with young children, developed through AMIF) or the blended learning approach, it is possible to give TCN who migrate to Flanders a tailor made integration course. Flanders is able to set up projects on a small, experimental scale that responded to policy gaps. The priorities of the Flemish policy can be found in “Beleidsnota Gelijke Kansen, Integratie en Inburgering 2019-2024”. The Fund also offered opportunities to set up exchanges between different stakeholders (regional and local authorities, NGO’s, academics, TCN representatives, …) to enhance mutual learning and build expertise, and to measure the effect and impact of integration measures. Flanders has learned from the past period that AMIF can offer opportunities for innovation and capacity building in the area of integration.

In the current programming period, Flanders envisages to use AMIF to further respond to the needs and challenges of the 21st century, which are also included in the EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion. AMIF will be used to develop new initiatives that better respond to the needs of individuals and families and also to promote mutual respect and active citizenship. Flanders will focus in particular on building strong partnerships with local authorities for a more effective integration process. Based on a broad stakeholder survey, Flanders chooses to continue the use of AMIF to enable innovation in integration policy, to further implement good practices and to build up expertise. In this way, AMIF is complementary to Flemish policy, which is mainly aimed at financing services, such as language courses, civic integration programs, etc..
At the Flemish level and the level of the French community, synergy with the ESF+ programme is ensured through a number of measures. As AMIF focuses on short-term integration measures for the specific target group of TCN and on the development of new integration strategies, ESF+ aims at the long-term social inclusion of vulnerable groups, including people with a migrant background. The joint management of both Funds at Flemish and French community level makes exchange and coordination between the two Funds possible.
Another challenge for BE, besides basic integration and building tolerance in the host society, is to continue efforts to increase the efficiency of its legal migration procedures and in particular to speed up issuing permits under legal migration channels for applicants qualifying for legal migration through, among others, updating IT tools to improve efficiency of procedures and better detect abuses, increasing cooperation in countries of origin and in EU Member States (e.g. information campaigns).
In the area of return, the 1st challenge for BE is to continue to apply successfully its progressive approach towards individual TCN. Individual TCN who have to leave the territory are encouraged to do so and if they need assistance, BE will first offer them to return on a voluntary basis. Persons who have to return should be closely coached in such a way that they opt for voluntary return.

The objective of the voluntary return programme is to further invest in making a voluntary return as humane, effective and sustainable as possible. Over the last decade, Fedasil, through AMIF, has managed to build a solid voluntary return program in collaboration with its implementing partners IOM and Caritas. It has been able to roll out a broad network of partnerships on a national scale. Nevertheless, reaching the target group, both AIP and undocumented migrants, remains a major challenge on the ground. BE will therefore continue its efforts on the following three central objectives during the next AMIF.
First, by persevering in making maximum efforts to reach the target group. Fedasil will continue to identify and inform potential candidates for voluntary return and refer them to appropriate coaching trajectories. Significant asset here is Fedasils direct collaboration with first line social workers and intermediaries coming in close contact with the target audience. Under the next AMIF, BE will therefore provide a continued effort in making qualitative information on return readily available; both directly towards the potential returnees as to the organizations/social workers operative on the field.
Secondly, by further developing broad coaching trajectories. Fedasil aims to guarantee a continuity of accompaniment throughout the candidates complete stay in BE (from the moment of arrival, to during and after the asylum application) by means of a coordinated approach with cities, civil society and the Asylum Authorities.
Thirdly, by strengthening the reintegration support offered to returnees. BE wishes to provide tailor made reintegration assistance for every candidate returnee and, where present, remove barriers that prevent return. The offered reintegration assistance in the countries of origin still needs to be expanded in order for it to meet with returnees specific needs.
Furthermore, a humane and effective approach to forced return will also be further developed. Persons who have to return should be more intensively sensitized to return. Within the framework of forced return, a challenge for BE is to reinforce its capabilities for detention ensuring it is compliant with EU standards and forced removal involving improvements in the management tools for the return chain, while investing in a more humane environment within detention facilities, in alternatives to detention and in an adequate treatment of vulnerable persons.
For both voluntary and forced return, the focus will be on strengthening the cooperation with countries of origin, improvement of the efficiency and speed of procedures (including through IT tools) with special attention to vulnerable groups.
When it comes to lessons learned from the implementation of the previous programming period, BE aims to increase the administrative capacity of its Responsible Authority (RA) by selecting fewer but larger projects on the one hand, and by making intelligent use of ‘simplified cost options’ on the other hand. The multiplication of projects containing a significant number of small costs, as well as the strategy to control all projects at 100%, resulted in a very heavy workload for the RA during the previous programming period, thus significantly limiting the RA’s possibilities to streamline and simplify administrative procedures.
Regarding the expected results of each specific objective, BE aims to complete the indicative actions of the implementation measures. The targets to be reached can be found in the milestones and targets under the output and result indicators. BE confirms that the 'types of intervention' matching the “0 EUR” amount in table 3 of the programme correspond to those for which possible future needs linked to the implementation of the Thematic Facility are anticipated, in line with Article 22(4)(d) CPR.

2. Specific Objectives & Technical Assistance

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

Selected	Specific objective or Technical assistance	Type of action
☒	1. CEAS	Regular actions
☒	1. CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action
☒	1. CEAS	Specific actions
☒	1. CEAS	Annex IV actions
☒	1. CEAS	Operating support
☐	1. CEAS	Emergency assistance
☒	2. Legal migration and integration	Regular actions
☒	2. Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action
☒	2. Legal migration and integration	Specific actions
☒	2. Legal migration and integration	Annex IV actions
☒	2. Legal migration and integration	Operating support
☐	2. Legal migration and integration	Emergency assistance
☒	3. Return	Regular actions
☐	3. Return	Pact and Ukraine specific action
☐	3. Return	Specific actions
☒	3. Return	Annex IV actions
☒	3. Return	Operating support
☐	3. Return	Emergency assistance
☒	4. Solidarity	Regular actions
☐	4. Solidarity	Pact and Ukraine specific action
☐	4. Solidarity	Specific actions
☒	4. Solidarity	Annex IV actions
☒	4. Solidarity	Operating support
☐	4. Solidarity	Emergency assistance
☒	4. Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission
☒	4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer in)

Selected	Specific objective or Technical assistance	Type of action
☐	4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer out)
☐	4. Solidarity	Solidarity actions
☒	TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)	
☐	TA.37. Technical assistance - not linked to costs (Art. 37 CPR)	

2.1. Specific objective: 1. CEAS

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

SO1.1 Baseline situation

SO1.1.1 Reception

The Federal Agency for reception of asylum seekers (Fedasil) coordinates and finances the reception network. This network totals (01.01.2021) 27.240 places managed by several operators.

The occupancy has increased significantly from 17.754 in January 2018 to 25.197 residents beginning of September 2021. This evolution is linked to a higher number of applicants of international protection (AIP) and also a longer duration of the procedure and consequently a longer duration of the AIP stay in the reception network.

Nearly the full capacity ceiling of the reception network was reached between September 2019 and March 2020. At the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown inflow of the AIP almost came to a standstill, as the pressure on the network somewhat reduced to more acceptable levels.

To deal with the pressure thus created Fedasil took emergency measures by opening temporary mobile units (p.e. army tents) to house the inflow of AIP.

The duration of stay in the network has decreased in 2019 compared to 2018. However, this trend was reversed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, asylum seekers stayed for a longer period in the network.

The total expenditure of Fedasil in 2019 was €432.753.538. From this €417.927.240 is used for reception from which €259.218.793 as funding for the reception outside Fedasil and €158.708.447 for reception facilities managed directly by Fedasil. The remaining budget is used for Voluntary Return activities (€5.921.904) and the EU-funded programmes such as Voluntary Return, Resettlement, etc (€8.675.363).

SO1.1.2 Asylum

The asylum and migration crisis of 2015-16 put the Belgian asylum system under severe pressure. The plethora of measures taken at EU and national level resulted in a decrease of the numbers and allowed the asylum authorities to significantly reduce the backlog by mid-2018 and return to pre-crisis levels. During the second half of 2018 and 2019 the numbers suddenly started rising again (2018: 23.443, 2019: 27.742). We observed a sharp drop in 2020 due to the Covid pandemia and the resulting limitations of migration (2020: 16.910 applicants), but it was followed by a new important and increase from the beginning of 2021 (January-August 2021: 15.048 applicants, with monthly statistics at the end of the period exceeding observations during the pre-Covid period and a sharp increase during the last months : January: 1.377 and August 2.862). Meanwhile the protection rate decreased (2018: 49,1%, 2019: 36,9%, 2020: 34,1% and January-August 2021: 35,5%). The main reasons for this decline are: a smaller share of applicants from Syria and a sharp rise in decisions declaring inadmissible a subsequent application or an application from an applicant with a protection status in another EU member state.

It proved that Belgium remained an important destination country not only for new arrivals, but increasingly for secondary movements. It also brought to the light some weaknesses in the system, such as the need for a seamless transition between the Immigration Office and CGRS procedures, resulting in longer processing times and a need for sufficient staff in all steps of the procedure.

AMIF 2014-2020 allowed to develop a more robust and flexible system that was put to the test due to high migratory pressure but could withstand it. It allowed to uphold a high quality decision-making even in difficult times when applications where high and processing times increased

The asylum authority improved its quality process, the information provision to AIP, the professionalization of the interpreters and also reinforced its knowledge management, human capital and

internal management procedures. These aspects were mainly covered in a multi-annual project ('Optimalisering') with an EU contribution of € 1.6 mio.

AMIF 2014-2020 also allowed for an active support to the development of the CEAS and further harmonization in different fields: investing in projects with regard to specific vulnerable groups, the strengthening of capacity and harmonization efforts with regard to country of origin information, the development of innovative approaches with regard to the use of new media tools within the asylum procedure (e.g. the use of social media in the context of COI-research), and the active support in a wide range of EASO-activities (e.g. experts provided to the Asylum Support Teams; strong involvement in the development of country guidance and joint COI reports).

SO1.2 Main challenges, national needs & proposed responses

SO1.2.1 Reception

The main points that need attention are the quality and flexibility of the reception system and the smooth transition towards an integration path for AIP obtaining a permit to stay (with a special focus on employment) and a 'return trajectory' for those who have received a negative decision.

In terms of flexibility, the main goal is to optimize reception capacities and to be able to adapt to situations of rapid increase/decrease of arrivals or fluctuations in duration of stay in reception via the development of a contingency planning, sufficient buffer capacity and changes in infrastructure.

In terms of quality, the main points of attention for the future are a better coordinated policy towards vulnerability and resiliency factors and vulnerable persons, and a reinforcement of the asylum institutions' internal functioning: digitalization, internal audits, data monitoring and data quality, knowledge management, training of staff, monitoring of policy processes, etc.

In order to address the above-mentioned challenges and contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium firstly wants to be able to cope with sudden changes in the number of AIPs, secondly, develop a specific approach to vulnerability and vulnerable persons (in particular UAM, for example by appointing and supporting guardians) and finally improving the internal operation and effectiveness of its services. Next to that Belgium aims at ensuring a smooth transition towards an integration path for AIP obtaining a permit to stay and offering a 'return trajectory' for those who have received a negative decision. To achieve this integration path attention will be given to, amongst others, employment of AIP, increased access to information and legal aid and qualitative training possibilities for AIP.

The reception system, managed by Fedasil, is also undergoing a digitalization evolution, notably through the reform of its IT tool "Match-IT", transitioning from a bed-based tool to a person-based system. The aim is to create a truly integrated case management system, that also includes asylum seekers outside the accommodation network, where the individual takes a central role in service provision and monitoring. Furthermore, it is essential that "Match-IT" will be interconnected with eMigration so that all actors in the asylum and reception-chain operate through an interlinked, digital communication and information environment.

Lastly, in order to reduce the pressure on reception capacity, efforts are also being made to encourage voluntary stays outside the reception network. These individuals receive support adapted to their context.

SO1.2.2 Asylum

On the one hand, Belgium wants to address the shortcomings that came to light in relation to high number of AIP from 2018 onwards (e.g. need for a seamless procedure; sufficient staff,…). On the other hand,

Belgium wants to be forward-looking by pro-actively investing in innovative approaches and new technologies (i.a. the further digitalization of the asylum process; further exploring the possibilities of remote interviewing; further development of the use of new media tools in the COI-research and in training of staff).

Thereby, it will also take into account the transposition and implementation requirements of new legislative and policy developments (both nationally and EU), the insights obtained through practical and strategic cooperation at national and EU-level (also EASO/EUAA) and the follow-up actions with regard to the monitoring by the EUAA. Belgium will keep on actively investing in EU practical cooperation as a driver for further harmonization (country of origin information; trainings, development of tools, quality etc).

Due attention will be given to increasing the efficiency and resilience of the international protection process. This can be through the development of a more integrated approach between the different stakeholders in the asylum process; and this allows for swifter procedures in general, and for specific caseloads (e.g. repeat applications). Belgium intends to continue to enhance the quality and efficiency of the process by improving organizational aspects (e.g. credibility, human capital training) and by further digitalizing different aspects of the asylum process (e.g. smart digitalization of related processes, automation of the processing of fingerprints, the possibilities to optimize and/or expand the remote interviewing). For these aspects, the use of AMIF-funding, as a complement to the obtained funds through the Recovery and Resilience Plan, is envisaged. Investments are focused on digital applications to be integrated into the Migration Backbone, a common infrastructure that can be used for all case-management applications at the level of the Immigration Office and (indirectly) the CGRS. In the previous AMIF funded cycle, the Belgian Immigration Office fully renewed the entry-point of the operational workflow for International protection, by re-developing the initial Registration process. In the upcoming cycles, the successive phases in the workflow will be redeveloped to the new modular environment. As far as the CGRS is concerned, the focus in the upcoming cycle will be on digitizing the entire process and redesigning the existing solutions, based on the results of the analysis funded under the previous cycle.

Belgium will keep on investing to maintain a flexible and qualitative asylum process; through training and professionalization of staff and with due attention for the human capital. Centralizing and strengthening the Dublin unit will allow to increase the quality and efficiency of the expected outputs. Due attention will also be paid to quality and analysis of data with regard to the asylum process, to allow for better monitoring at national and EU-level; and also to better understand secondary movements.

The specific attention for the identification and support to vulnerable groups (mainly applicants with special procedural and reception needs) will continue. A clear need exists for high quality networks that can deliver reliable family assessments.

Belgium also stands ready to support initiatives of capacity-building with regard to international protection in third countries (external dimension CEAS), in line with the EU-priorities.

Belgium stands ready to adapt its system in line with the new spirit and obligations of the Pact. The accelerated procedure will become more important and Belgium will adjust its workflows and dedicate more staff and interpreters to this. It will adjust its procedure with regard to the new provisions on subsequent applications which will require i.a. extra translation capacity. The determining authority will acquire new responsibilities: decisions on implicit and explicit withdrawal; but also the setting up of a multidisciplinary age assessment procedure; this will require the hiring and training of dedicated staff. Belgium will keep on investing in a complete digital case management system; and will invest in ICT, AI,

hard- and software i.a. to allow for the audio-recording of the personal interview.

In 2026/2027, the focus will be on translating the Pact on Migration and Asylum into national procedures.

One of the pillars of the Pact concerns fast and efficient procedures. The set of European directives and regulations that form the basis of the Pact therefore has a significant impact on the appeal procedures before the CALL. The most important points are: additional decisions, therefore additional appeals, a significant expansion of the grounds for an accelerated procedure, increase in Dublin decisions, the audio recording of hearings, the IT-systems' adaptations.

SO1.3 Implementation measures

For the implementation of the measures below, and with a view of further enhancing EU harmonization, Belgium will take into account the specific guidelines and tools developed by the EASO/EUAA

SO1.1 Ensuring a uniform application of the Union acquis and of the priorities related to the Common European Asylum System.

Indicative list of actions:

- Strengthen the resilience of the asylum and reception authorities and meet the new obligations resulting from the entry into force of the Pact on Migration and Asylum through investments in ICT support and hardware (incl. in biometrics), and making use of new scientific approaches on different aspects (asylum process, Country of Origin Information , quality and credibility,…), strengthening the human capital and continuous training of staff and ensuring sufficient interpreters. Increase the number of staff of different administrations.

- Identify the problems of vulnerable groups with a particular focus on LGBTQI and women victims of violence (sexual violence, domestic or intra-family violence, forced marriages, child marriages, ...) and create a network of contact persons and formalize the cooperation with the partners of the asylum and reception chain with regard to the targeted group

- Protect, support and empower with an specific focus on the priorities and key actions of the EU Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings

- Guarantee a guardian for each unaccompanied minor : the project "Shortening the waiting list for guardians for unaccompanied minors" selected under the specific action AMIF/2023/SA/1.2.1 will contribute to this objective.

- Carry out the necessary exchange of information with Member States where a request was previously rejected, in order to ensure the correct processing of subsequent applications for international protection. To achieve the goal of effective information exchange, the following actions will be implemented: development of adapted workflows, recruitment of staff and training of staff.

SO1.2 Supporting the capacity of Member States' asylum systems as regards infrastructures and services where necessary.

Indicative list of actions:

- Increasing the flexibility of the asylum process through the development of a more integrated approach between the different administrations involved in the asylum process (i.a. to allow for swifter processing in the asylum chain)

- Increasing the flexibility of the reception network by developing a contingency plan, by the development of a dynamic buffer policy and by digitalization and automatization of front-end and back-end processes

-Increasing the capacity of the administrations needed for the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum

- Analyzing and adapting the reception infrastructures and services with regards to vulnerable people in order to better support their needs (for ex victims of trafficking in human beings)

- Exploration and implementation of measures to optimize and/or expand the capacity for interviewing AIP both during the registration process as well as during the procedure

- Development of identification mechanisms and support tools regarding asylum applicants part of vulnerable groups so as to better address those groups, in particular guaranteeing the best interest of minors, e.g. by improving the participation of the child in the guardianship procedures and by improving the age assessment procedure, actions to prevent disappearances from minors and actions to better inform, protect and guide minors

- Optimize the quality of the reception network and services provided to residents by harmonizing and monitoring the reception structures, by developing communication and educational policies and tools, by training of staff and by improving the quality of data and by further stimulating partnerships with a wide range of organizations providing medical, social, psychological care, translations services, buddy projects,… We also exchange regularly good practices with neighboring countries (mostly the Netherland and Luxembourg) and we will take into account existing tools and developments on EU level. By better informing the public within and around the reception structures, we want to increase tolerance in the host society.

- Development and application of common statistical tools, methods and indicators to measure progress and assess policy developments. Belgium will use AMIF funds to make certain adaptations to the national statistical system

- Strengthen the quality and professionalism of the guardianship system by ensuring the swift appointment of guardians, providing continuous training, support, and access to professional tools, and improving the information flow to unaccompanied minors or minors with doubts regarding their minority, including through enhanced cooperation with interpreters.

SO1.3 enhancing cooperation and partnership with third countries for the purpose of managing migration, including by enhancing their capacities to improve the protection of persons in need of international protection in the context of global cooperation efforts.

Indicative list of actions:

- Develop targeted capacity building projects with regard to both international protection (external dimension CEAS) and migration management

- Create information campaigns, both within as outside the European Union, addressed towards a.o. transit migrants, migrants from regions with a sudden influx and with little chances to obtain asylum.

SO1.4 providing technical and operational assistance to one or several Member States, including in cooperation with EASO.

Indicative list of actions:

- Active contribution to solidarity measures between Member States in terms of asylum and reception, in particular through the mobilization of expertise and participation in relocation operations where

appropriate and decided on a EU level, including in cooperation with EUAA.

- Exchange of best practices on first line registration processes and quality assurance, on identification of and approaches towards vulnerable groups.

In order to tackle the above-mentioned challenges and in order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium plans to rely on 'operating support', especially but not exclusively to support the statutory responsibility of our major partners. Eligible actions for operating support under this objective shall cover staff costs of public authorities implementing Union acquis or running costs of reception centers. We estimate that it will mostly cover staff costs and maintenance/replacement of ICT systems. We plan to use operating support when there is a (budgetary) need for it.

In terms of operating support under SO1, potential beneficiaries include, among others:

- The Federal Agency for reception of asylum seekers (Fedasil)

- Immigration Office (DVZ), the federal organisation responsible for entry, stay, establishment and return of foreigners

- The Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS), the federal administration that offers protection to persons who are likely to suffer persecution or serious harm if they return to their country of origin

- The Council for Alien Law Litigations (CALL), the court that handles the appeal proceedings

- The Guardianship Service, part of the federal administration of Justice, recognizes and appoints guardians for unaccompanied minors (UAMs), provides them with training and support and monitors them.

In line with Article 21 of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium shall comply with the relevant Union acquis and the Charter.

In line with Articles 15(3) and 16(9) of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium reserves itself the right to select actions that would be eligible for higher co-financing, for example when it comes to measures targeting vulnerable persons and AIP with special reception or procedural needs.

Belgium only intends to provide support in the form of grants referred to in Article 52 CPR.

2.1. Specific objective 1. CEAS

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 participants supported	number	281,205	451,885
O.1.1.1	of which number of participants who received legal assistance	number	0	0
O.1.1.2	of which number of participants benefiting from other types of support, including information and assistance throughout the asylum procedure	number	246,515	388,250
O.1.1.3	of which number of vulnerable participants assisted	number	34,690	63,635
O.1.2	Number of participants in training activities	number	4,149	25,354
O.1.3	Number of newly created places in reception infrastructure in line with Union acquis	number	0	320
O.1.3.1	of which number of newly created places for unaccompanied minors	number	0	0
O.1.4	Number of renovated/refurbished places in reception infrastructure in line with Union acquis	number	0	0
O.1.4.1	of which number of renovated/refurbished places for unaccompanied minors	number	0	0

2.1. Specific objective 1. CEAS

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.1.5	Number of participants who consider the training useful for their work	number	0	share	2021	18,490	number	Data offered by Fedasil and CGVS (participant lists)	75% of all participants trained (result indicator 2) (Fedasil) Evaluation form (CGVS) (Figures subject to potential policy changes due to unforeseeable developments in the migration area like sudden high influxes or returns)
R.1.6	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	12,347	number	Data offered by Fedasil and CGVS (participant lists)	aiming for 50% of training participants using the skills in their work (Fedasil) Evaluation form (CGVS) (Figures subject to potential policy changes due to unforeseeable developments in

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
									the migration area)
R.1.7	Number of persons placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021	0	number	not applicable	
R.1.7.1	of which number of unaccompanied minors placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021	0	number	not applicable	
R.1.7.2	of which number of families placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021	0	number	not applicable	

2.1. Specific objective 1. CEAS

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.Reception conditions	49,760,258.47
Intervention field	002.Asylum procedures	22,102,233.22
Intervention field	003.Implementation of the Union acquis	5,969,331.02
Intervention field	004.Children in migration	11,548,494.43
Intervention field	005.Persons with special reception and procedural needs	10,204,994.21
Intervention field	006.Union resettlement programmes or national resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes (Annex III, point 2(g))	804,018.62
Intervention field	007.Operating support	1,100,000.00

2.1. Specific objective: 2. Legal migration and integration

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

SO2.1 Baseline situation

SO2.1.1 Legal Migration

The influx to Belgium in the framework of legal stay- short stayers is quite stable over the last years (2017: 188.558, 2018: 177.262, 2019: 194.817). Main motives in 2019 for granting a visa are: tourism, family visit and professional reasons. For Visa D, long stay, a clear increase in visa-delivery is observed in the period 2011-2019 (+20%). Figures show that in the majority of cases in the field of legal migration the real intention to come to Belgium is to join a family member (43%), study (31%) or work (17%). Belgium is also confronted to various forms of pseudo-legal migration like abuse of family-reunification (relations of convenience) or pseudo-students. In recent years, Belgium has in particular received an abnormally high number of applications for study visas from specific TCN, whose real intention was clearly to find a gateway to Europe with the help of guarantors residing abroad. The need for the creation of a guarantor database is still present.

Belgium undertook in recent years different measures to prevent abuse. The rules on family reunification were reformed in 2006 (transposition of directive 2003/86) and 2011. In 2006 marriages of convenience, and in 2007 forced marriages were made punishable. As this resulted in a shift towards abuses of cohabitation, Belgium reformed its legislation in that matter. A better follow-up on decisions was put into place, also while transposing the Return Directive, leading towards an increase in voluntary departures.

With regard to the implementation of Directive 2011/98/EU on a single application procedure for a single permit for TCN to reside and work in the territory of a MS, competences have been restructured within the landscape of the federal State. As of today, Belgium is working on the optimalization of the procedures related to Labour migration via a further digitalization and integration of services. This to allow both an integrated management from the perspective of the competent authorities (on both Federal as well as regional level), as from the perspective of the migrants and their employers.

Since 1 April 2018, the new law on fraudulent legal recognition of children came into force. This law allows the Belgian Government to tackle abuses of rights linked to the recognition of a child by a parent with right to stay.

Under AMIF (2014-2020) several actions were implemented contributing to the current baseline situation. The most important ones, among others, are ‘Evibel’ and 'Fighting abuse'. Evibel was a project about developing a new database that allows for secure and automated exchange of data with government partners. Fighting abuse aimed to encourage legal migration and prevent irregular migration (prevention missions and campaigns in third countries + analysis of documents submitted in the context of long-term visa applications).

SO2.1.2 Integration

The federal level is responsible for the integration of TCN who cannot participate in the activation services offered by the Communities. To enable their social integration, social services need to offer them support as soon as possible so that they can enter into tailor made counselling. Public Centers of Social Welfare play a major role in this early support process by assessing the specific needs of the newcomers through a social investigation and building with them a pathway for social integration.

For Flanders, data shows that in 2021 the employment rate (20-64 years) of non-EU citizens was 44,6%,

that of Belgian citizens 76,5%. The employment rate of non-EU women is only 33,9% . The share of low-skilled people (maximum lower secondary education) is noticeably higher among persons born outside EU (38%) than among people born in the EU (15%). The share of middle educated people (maximum upper secondary education) is also higher among persons born in EU (39,7%) than among persons born outside EU (34,3%).

In French-speaking community, population (30-34 years) with a higher education diploma is 40,8% for Belgian residents, 38,9% for other nationalities (SPF Emploi 2020). This share for European nationality (41,5%) is higher than for non-EU nationality (39,4%).. A study by the National Bank of Belgium (2020) also shows that migrants have a lower probability of employment and participation in the labour market in Wallonia. Data shows (SPF Emploi 2019) that the employment rate (20-64 years) of non-EU citizens was 32,1% (Wall) and 41,9% (BXL) lower. That's lower than Belgians and EU citizens respectively 60,7% and 72,9%).

In the Brussels-Capital Region (BCR), among job seekers, 79,7% are of foreign origin while this proportion is 73,1% among the population of working age (30-64 years) (Actiris 2020). The overrepresentation in unemployment exclusively affects groups of non-EU origin. The share of the population (30-34 years) with higher education diploma is 46,6% for non-EU nationality versus 58,7% for Belgian and 65,9% for EU nationality.

For the German speaking community, the data shows that in 2018 the employment rate of non-EU citizens was 37% lower than Belgians and 16% lower than EU citizens.

Among TCN, a large proportion has completed studies abroad that are not recognised in Belgium (51.4% of jobseekers of non-EU origin). In terms of access to employment, this clearly raises the question of foreign degree recognition and the devaluation of skills.

These figures underline the gaps identified in the Belgian country report on the EU Semester 2020 and its recommendations regarding people with migrant background, in particular regarding labor market. In the program period 2014-2020, AMIF developed new integration strategies that address these gaps. Through targeted actions for subgroups, the introduction of new technologies and strategies to tackle segregation and discrimination, AMIF has had a significant impact on policy. By mainstreaming new strategies, the effect of AMIF will be clearly visible in the coming years.

BE will also implement the Specific Action titled 'Vona' (AMIF/2022/SA/2.4.1_001), designed to increase and enhance the provision of appropriate gender sensitive and trauma-informed care and support to adult third country national female victims of human trafficking at the three specialized centers for victims of human trafficking in Belgium (Payoke, Pag-Asa and Sürya).

SO2.2 Main challenges, national needs & proposed responses

SO2.2.1 Migration

The early adaption of electronic case management within the Belgian Immigration Office, has currently led to a backlog in efficient digital infrastructure. A lot of procedures take long delays because of the high number of processes that still need to be fulfilled manually (even so be it in a digital environment).

The Belgian Immigration office, the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Regions and the National Social Security Office have a clear ambition to further streamline procedures related to labour migration.

In this framework, they will continue their efforts to enhance further a so-called Unique Window for work-related migration (working in Belgium) as a single digital gateway service to streamline front-end processes to migrants and employers as well as back-end procedures on decision-making and information flows between the different involved institutions.

Also for other legal migration schemes, further digitalization on both front- as back end is needed. Digital service integration between stakeholders as municipalities, regions and federal institutions can realize important effects of scale and direct benefits with regard to optimized use of capacity and improved service delivery both on client side (the migrant) as on control related activities. To this end, Belgium seeks to obtain a more detailed profile of the population which has introduced a request to stay, improve processes, detect abuses early and safeguard the efficiency of procedures.

The need for the creation of a guarantor database stays valid. Not only the digital capture of the information, but also processes to guarantee a good quality of the data needs to be set-up.

Besides pure digitization and automation, there is also a clear need to improve the information position of the decision-makers and intermediate bodies on requests for stay other than asylum. This will both improve the quality and speed of the procedures.

BE needs to invest more in information campaigns on EU legal migration schemes, with a clear focus on providing online information in different languages. Information on legal migration channels should be made more accessible and actively promoted, particularly in countries where misuse of legal channels has been noticed.

SO2.2.2 Integration

The management of the regional components is the responsibility of the two intermediate bodies, each with their own emphasis.

Flanders will continue to use AMIF to invest in improving and extending integration policy to better meet the needs of TCN. Special attention will go to the development and implementation of measures to strengthen the social networking and participation of TCN, such as setting up buddy projects, making volunteer work accessible to newcomers, take initiatives to involve TCN in different local associations, … These actions aim to speed up the integration process and to build tolerance in the host society. We also invest in capacity building of local authorities and in cooperation between policy makers, NGO's and academics.

Flanders provides coordination between the AMIF program, the ESF+ program and RRF, always at program level and at project level. The joint management of both funds by the same managing authority enables a smooth exchange on new calls, funded projects and results / good practices. Where AMIF is used for short term integration measures for the specific target group of TCN's and for the development of new integration strategies, ESF+ aims at the long-term social inclusion of vulnerable groups, including people with a migrant background.

The French-speaking community will focus on the 'parcours d'intégration' for TCN including civic orientation courses, social and psycho-social support and French as foreign language classes. Attention will be paid to UAM, to integration of children in education and also to ensuring synergies with the ESF+ in particular in relation to facilitating access to the labour market. The number of persons involved by the 'parcours' is estimated on 15.000 each year, around 20% of these have benefited from AMIF. As in the previous programme, the ESF+ will be used for general actions with a broad target group while the AMIF will be used to fund actions for the specific target groups defined in the AMIF. AMIF provides support for

TCN at the beginning of their integration process where ESF+ help them in their socio-professional integration path. Complementarities and synergies are ensured by common authorities for ESF+ and AMIF. Since the audit for both ESF+ and AMIF is the same authority, the risk of double financing is reduced to an absolute minimum.

The German speaking community will work on training in order to increase social integration and employment, such as integration courses, preparatory courses for the labour market and language tuition, as well as on support to stimulate the access to public Services. The German speaking community focuses on improving cooperation between services, especially on the local level and supporting cultural and anti-discrimination activities.

The programmes developed by the Communities offer the necessary support for TCN who already master the language to a certain extent and are already in an integration process. Nevertheless, a specific, limited, group needs more specific assistance to reinforce basic language skills and autonomy to access the programmes. Hence, the Federal level (POD MI/SPP IS) will to continue to foster the social integration of this specific target group of TCN in collaboration with the Public Centres of Social Welfare and the civil society.

SO2.3 Implementation measures

SO2.1 Supporting the development and implementation of policies promoting legal migration and the implementation of the Union legal migration acquis.

Indicative list of actions:

- Strengthening the information position for migration services (e.g. better access to country of origin information relevant to migration and private international law). Information exchange, good practice and development and implementation of joint actions and establishment of transnational cooperation networks with an eye on capacity building and training, as well as the development and application of common statistical tools, methods and indicators to measure progress and assess policy developments. Belgium will use AMIF funds to make certain adaptations to the national statistical system.

- Digitization to improve the quality of and access to public service (access to personal records, strengthening of client support services, strengthening the information position of academic legal services) as well as the digitization and integration of administrative processes on legal migration (+ tools for control and detection of fraud).

- The preparation and development of national strategies in the areas of asylum, legal migration, integration, return and irregular migration (e.g. creation of new complementary channels for people in need of international protection), as well as the establishment of programs on circular and legal migration with key third countries, such as EU neighboring countries.

- Monitoring special target groups to prevent fraud and setting up control mechanisms adapted to the target group while implementing information and prevention campaigns to promote legal migration channels/prevent irregular migration, in full respect of fundamental rights.

- Integration of vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors and young people (access to education, supervision of unaccompanied minors, etc.).

- Additional resources for existing NT2 courses. The additional resources would serve to strengthen the range of language courses on offer.

- Rent support for displaced persons within the transition model of the emergency village in Ghent

- Poverty policy: resources for an integrated group programme for socially vulnerable mothers with young

children that bridges the gap between childcare, work, education and integration. The aim is social inclusion and subsequent employment through local cooperation and structural anchoring with Opgroeien, VDAB, Werk, Inburgering and Ligo.

SO2.2 supporting measures to facilitate regular entry into and residence in the Union

- The preparation and development of national strategies in the areas of asylum, legal migration, integration, return and irregular migration (e.g. creation of new complementary channels for people in need of international protection), as well as the establishment of programs on circular and legal migration with key third countries, such as EU neighboring countries.

SO2.3 enhancing cooperation and partnership with third countries for the purpose of managing migration, including through legal avenues of entry to the Union, in the context of global cooperation efforts in the area of migration

- The preparation and development of national strategies in the areas of asylum, legal migration, integration, return and irregular migration (e.g. creation of new complementary channels for people in need of international protection), as well as the establishment of programs on circular and legal migration with key third countries, such as EU neighboring countries.

SO2.4 promoting integration measures for the social and economic inclusion of third-country nationals and protection measures for vulnerable persons in the context of integration measures, facilitating family reunification and preparing for the active participation of third-country nationals in, and their acceptance by, the receiving society, with the involvement of national and, in particular, regional or local authorities and civil society organisations, including refugee organisations and migrant-led organisations, and social partners

Indicative list of actions:

- Establishment of administrative structures, systems and tools (social, legal, educational, statistical and research to have robust data to drive policies), training of staff, development of educational tools or shared monitoring tools to improve support for TCN, set up and disseminate lessons learned from pilot projects on horizontal integration policies to relevant stakeholders, encourage coordination and cooperation between services providers including local authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

- Increase access to services: one-stop-shops or other collaboration for integration, accessible childcare, social translations, parenting support, support with guidance to work, support for vulnerable groups (UAM, education of children and students including in higher education, women, etc.), strengthening social networking and participation (buddy project, volunteer work, cohousing, etc.)

- Facilitating and support the early integration into the host society of applicants, and especially those with a high protection rate, by outlining a pathway in collaboration with the relevant federal and regional or local partners:

• language and other training programs

• identification and validation of knowledge and professional skills, foreign degree recognition

• customized support, social, psycho-social and mental health support

- Promote active participation and inclusion in the host society of all applicants, by combating polarization, by facilitating early integration of applicants, especially those with a high protection rate, and by supporting recognized refugees and local reception initiatives in their transition duties (for applicants

for a period of 4 months after receiving status during their transition period)

In order to tackle the above-mentioned challenges and in order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium plans to rely on 'operating support', especially but not exclusively to support the statutory responsibility of our major partners. Eligible actions for operating support under this objective shall cover staff costs of public authorities implementing Union acquis and maintenance/replacement of ICT systems. We plan to use operating support when there is a (budgetary) need for it. In terms of operating support under SO2, potential beneficiaries include, among others:

1.
    - The Federal Agency for reception of asylum seekers (Fedasil);
    - Immigration Office (DVZ), the federal organisation responsible for entry, stay, establishment and removal of foreigners.

In line with Article 21 of the AMIF Regulation, BE shall comply with the relevant Union acquis and the Charter.

In line with Articles 15(3) and 16(9) of the AMIF Regulation, BE reserves itself the right to select actions that would be eligible for higher co-financing, for example when it comes to integration measures implemented by local and regional authorities and civil society organisations, including refugee organisations and migrant-led organisations.

BE only intends to provide support in the form of grants referred to in Article 52 CPR.

2.1. Specific objective 2. Legal migration and integration

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 participants in pre-departure measures	number	0	0
O.2.2	Number of local and regional authorities supported to implement integration measures	number	88	210
O.2.3	Number of participants supported	number	41,455	97,848
O.2.3.1	of which number of participants in a language course	number	21,720	58,463
O.2.3.2	of which number of participants in a civic orientation course	number	13,653	29,120
O.2.3.3	of which number of participants who received personal professional guidance	number	6,082	10,265
O.2.4	Number of information packages and campaigns to raise awareness of legal migration channels to the Union	number	0	0
O.2.5	Number of participants receiving information and/or assistance to apply for family reunification	number	0	0
O.2.6	Number of participants benefitting from mobility schemes	number	0	0
O.2.7	Number of integration projects where local and regional authorities are the beneficiary	number	62	99

2.1. Specific objective 2. Legal migration and integration

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 participants in language courses who have improved their proficiency level in the host-country language upon leaving the language course by at least one level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages or national equivalent	number	0	share	2021	3,867	number	Data offered by ESF Wallonie	Calculated on the 2015-2020 indicator of the number of “French as a foreign language” participants" (Figures subject to potential policy changes due to unforeseeable developments in the migration area)
R.2.9	Number of participants who report that the activity was helpful for their integration	number	0	share	2021	25,010	number	Data offered by POD MI, ESF Flanders, ESF Wallonie, Payoke	The number will be based on a questionary for the target group (POD MI, Payoke) 65% of the participants (ESF Flanders) 2021-2027 targets extrapolated from the 2015-2020 “type of exit” indicator (ESF Wall.)

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.2.10	Number of participants who applied for their qualification or skills acquired in a third country to be recognised / assessed	number	0	number	2021	0	number	not applicable	
R.2.11	Number of participants who applied for a long-term residence status	number	0	number	2021	14,000	number	ESF Wallonie	

2.1. Specific objective 2. Legal migration and integration

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.Development of integration strategies	25,487,385.17
Intervention field	002.Victims of trafficking in human beings	470,284.53
Intervention field	003.Integration measures – information and orientation, one stop shops	1,000,000.00
Intervention field	004.Integration measures – language training	13,645,422.70
Intervention field	005.Integration measures – civics and other training	14,630,623.29
Intervention field	006.Integration measures – Introduction, participation, exchanges host society	13,849,737.98
Intervention field	007.Integration measures – basic needs	1,600,000.00
Intervention field	008.Pre-departure measures	0.00
Intervention field	009.Mobility schemes	675,283.68
Intervention field	010.Acquisition of legal residence	1,000,000.00
Intervention field	011.Vulnerable persons, including unaccompanied minors	6,366,304.26
Intervention field	012.Operating support	2,115,245.74

2.1. Specific objective: 3. Return

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

SO3.1 Baseline Situation

In 2015, 2016 and 2017 there was an increase in the total number of returns from Belgium (2014: 8.727, 2015: 1.081, 2016: 10.861, 2017: 11.011, including inadmissible persons). In 2018 and 2019 voluntary return as well as forced return decreased (3126 voluntary returns and 9322 forced returns in 2018, in 2019: 2559 voluntary returns and 8620 forced returns).

In the area of voluntary return, great efforts were made to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the AVRR program. A coherent program was build up, consolidated at three levels: local, national and international level.

A global national information plan rolled out in order to maximize access to the AVRR program; the target group was intensively and proactively informed, nationwide and during all stages of their stay in Belgium

·Implementation of the Return Path in the Fedasil Reception Network

·Implementation of 5 Regional Fedasil return offices (Brussel, Antwerpen, Gent, Liège, Charleroi)

·Installation of a helpdesk hotline (easily accessible)

·National network of return partners

·Collaboration with local authorities and civil society organisations through the CONEX national partnership network

·The roll out of Outreach activities

The continuous optimization process of the overall Belgium AVRR program in collaboration with the implementing partners IOM & Caritas:

·Development of a social and sustainable program, with extra attention paid to vulnerable profiles and tailor-made reintegration assistance (UAM, Victims of Human Trafficking) people with medical conditions, families with children

·Improvement of the quality of return counselling

·Enhancement of practices and technical tools for return counseling

·Development of a training portfolio and the roll out of a Train the Trainer program

The roll out of a global communication plan

·expanding the arsenal on communication tools such as flyers/website/newsletters/ social media, easily accessible for the target group

On the international level:

·Increased cooperation with other MS and EU agencies in order to organize the voluntary return in a more coherent way (exchange of best practices, capacity building, ..)

·Increased cooperation with countries of origin in order to optimize the post-arrival assistance. The country specific projects rolled out in the previous AMIF programme in Morocco , Cameroon and Chechnya will be continued under the national budget. New ‘focus countries’ are identified in the next AMIF programme. Amongst which: Afghanistan, Armenia, Brazil, El Salvador, Georgia, Ghana, Iraq, Mongolia, Niger, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Somalia and Turkey.

Voluntary return figures have stabilized in recent years, peaking in 2015-16 linked to the asylum crisis. The management of the voluntary return program has evolved into a flexible system in which operational capacity (organizing high-quality and efficient return guidance) is linked to the dissemination of information (directly to the migrant and through cooperation with civil society organizations and local authorities) and reintegration support tailored to the migrant with extra attention for vulnerabilities.

In the area of forced return, Belgium has made progress in the removal of persons with a criminal background, the treatment of vulnerable persons who have to return and has been in the frontline to use the Return Case Management Systems (RCMS) that allow digital processing of readmission applications (e.g. Georgia, Pakistan). Belgium also made progress in the use of other EU or Frontex tools, although many obstacles remain. Belgium suffers an impact as a transit country and a destination country for AIP.

Continuous efforts are made in the field of follow-up and increased efficiency of the return process. Great effort has been done on making information on return readily available to a broad group of persons and these efforts need to be continued under the AMIF.

Yearly approx. 92m € are dedicated to return actions by the immigration office, Fedasil and the monitoring of forced return.

SO3.2 Main challenges, national needs & proposed responses

Belgium fully supports that TCN who can no longer stay in a MS should first be encouraged to return on a voluntary basis before resorting to forced return. This implies maximal access to voluntary return programme and the provision of voluntary return and reintegration assistance.

For both voluntary and forced return, the focus will be on closer cooperation with countries of origin (by taking into account fundamental rights safeguards), improving the efficiency and speed of procedures (including through IT tools) and reserving special attention to vulnerable persons and persons with specific needs.

The Belgian authorities include within the AMIF framework the possibility to finance the implementation of all current and future recommendations made as a result of the Schengen Evaluation in the field of return.

The objective of the voluntary return programme is to make a voluntary return feasible. To achieve this aim, the programme must be both problem solving (removal of obstacles complicating a return) and accessible (AIP and irregular TCN must know that the programme exists and access to it should be easy).

Fedasil is committed to further consolidate and anchor its AVRR program in the future. It's coordination unit will proceed to ensure all voluntary return activities are coherent. It will continue the roll out of a global information plan through the use of the regional return offices, the national network of Return Partners, and the cooperation with local authorities and civil society organizations via the CONEX city network. It will continue intensifying its outreach activities.

It will furthermore invest in developing broad coaching trajectories adjusted to the specific target group and installed throughout their complete stay in Belgium (from the moment of arrival, to during and after the asylum application). This via a coordinated approach with cities, civil society and the Asylum

Authorities in which Fedasil will take on a central role.

As for its reintegration topic concerned, striving to make a voluntary return sustainable for every returnee, will remain Fedasil's priority. As a result, increasing work will be done in the future in making reintegration assistance even more available, tailor-made, and adjusted to the returnees specific needs. For example by reinforcing the local partners in the countries of origin, which will enable them to provide more qualitative services to the returnees. And in that manner, remove certain barriers that could prevent candidate returnees from opting for a voluntary return, e.g. more possibilities in investing in proper business plan or startup of a microloan, less financial dependency on family members, less stigma upon return, …

Next to this, Fedasil will also continue to highlight the importance of increased cooperation with other MS and other EU agencies on the voluntary return topic - with the aim of organizing voluntary return in a more EU coherent way.

As for both voluntary return and forced return concerned, the following general needs and responses can be identified:

·Follow up of persons who have to return, especially of persons still residing in their homes and in reception centers as an alternative to detention and further development of the open return center/places

·Extension of the capacity of the detention centers for forced return

·Extension of the capacity of the escorting of persons to be removed

·Improvement of the case management of the return processes (development of an integrated data system)

·Improvement of identification processes and cooperation with countries of origin

·Improvement of the return processes by enhancing cooperation with other authorities and by further developing and updating ICT tools

·Humanization and modernization of closed centers and return procedures by investigating alternatives for detention of vulnerable persons, tailor-made support and assistance and further training of the staff

·Follow-up of persons with a return decision by information campaigns, promotion of voluntary return by individual and family coaching

·Investing in increased reintegration assistance with special attention to vulnerable persons (families with children, UAM, persons with medical problems,…)

·Expanding the outreach activities on voluntary return on a national and international scale (BE + FR) via the project Reach Out.

·Investing into creating acquaintance around the topics of AVVR and reintegration by the wide public, civil society and other relevant actors in the field; among them by organizing a Conference and exposition in light of the 15 years of AVVR reintegration program in Belgium

·Installing coaching trajectories adjusted to the target audience (inside and outside the reception system in collaboration with DVZ)

·Creating a specific unit concerning 'Undocumented Migrants', which will operationally coordinate both national and local policy in regards to undocumented migrants residing outside the Fedasil reception system.

The main problem in the field of forced return is the lack of capacity of investments in developing more alternatives to detention, e.g. the coaching of persons who have to return on the one hand and on the other hand the lack of capacity both within the detention system as in the escorting of persons to be removed. Investing in alternatives to detention, e.g. the coaching of persons who have to return, is only useful if there is a full follow-up to detention if no sustainable residence or voluntary departure is possible.

Improvement needs also to be made in the management of the return chain (amongst others the integration of the several EU large IT systems into the national one and the development of the RCMS data model).Other, the problems with returning persons with special needs and the capacity of the Federal Police to organize escorts within short deadlines. Finally, while already meeting high standards of humane treatment of persons within the return system, there is always a need to do better.

In the field of integrated and forced return, Belgium will further develop a humane and effective approach relying on the following orientations:

·limit the use of detention by encouraging voluntary return across the board and further develop alternatives to detention

·Give vulnerable persons an adequate treatment

·Improve identification processes and cooperation with countries of origin to accept their nationals

·Increase the coaching and monitoring of persons who should return and offering appropriate Assisted Voluntary Return packages

·Improve the case management in the return chain (RCMS model) and integrate EU large IT systems into the national system

·Increase the support for escorting unwilling/resisting persons during repatriation

·Respect all EU and international standards concerning detention and return

·Where detention is still needed, improve living conditions in detention centers, and shorten detention times through enhanced return coaching and a speedier identification process

·Where return is enforced, improve the conditions and effectiveness of return operations including through a system of monitoring and using joint return operations

·Develop advanced ICT tools to provide reliable return related data and support procedures

·Seek durable return solutions for vulnerable TCN and UAM

SO3.3 Implementation measures

SO3.1 Ensuring a uniform application of the Union acquis and policy priorities regarding infrastructure, procedures and services

Indicative list of actions:

-Modernization and expansion of detention capacity and improvement of the organization of alternatives to detention and different coaching methodologies managed and implemented by the Immigration Office

-Training of staff responsible for supervising forced returns and establishment of effective independent monitoring of forced returns, ensuring improved monitoring during and after return and improved identification processes

-Actions on reinforcing capabilities to respect fundamental rights in the forced returns procedures and to organize return in a humane way, especially for vulnerable groups. (Optimize and improve access to hearing rights and appeal procedures, individualized assessments on Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in return cases; …)

-Actions aimed at the digitization of the return processes, integration towards EU Readmission and Frontex tools, and digital integration of return processes to Large Scale IT systems

-Production of data and statistics on return procedures and irregular migration. Belgium will use AMIF funds to make certain adaptations to the national statistical system

-The Immigration office will further invest in supporting actions on prevention, detection and sanctioning of illegal employment of irregular residing migrants

-Further digitalize and datalize the return process, in order for its internal working processes to be optimized and even more data-driven

o By the implementation of the return trajectory in Match-It

o By the roll out of a AVRR booking unit inside of Fedasil

o By the implementation and roll out on national scale of the RIAT case handling- and monitoring tool, developed by the EU Commission.

o By the setup of the IT tool Datawarehouse, which aims to systematically monitor and evaluate the return process

SO3.2 Supporting an integrated and coordinated approach to return management at the Union and Member States' level, to the development of capacities for effective and sustainable return and reducing incentives for irregular migration

Indicative list of actions:

-Strengthening the capacity of the pool of escorts for accompanying foreign nationals residing illegally through the deployment of trained personnel and accompanying foreign nationals.

-Maintain and strengthen decentralized professional return guidance and program management AVVR

-Maintain and improve local embedding by establishing partnerships with relevant actors and by information campaigns, both within Belgium as well as in Third Countries

-Active participation and involvement in various EU fora and initiatives by exchanging best practices on/and conducting information and awareness-raising activities

-Put maximum effort on the EU collaboration and use of EU resources on the topic of voluntary return:

-Further co-operate in creating a common EU return policy by expanding the intensive and active partnership with FRONTEX, ERRIN, EMN

-Strive to harmonize on EU voluntary return policy through benchmarking and collaboration with Belgium's neighboring countries/other EU MS

-Maintain and continue to implement the existing EU financed projects on re-integration ERRIN Reg, ERRIN plus, Sustainable Reintegration in Iraq

-Capacity building at the EU external borders (as has been done during the previous AMIF in for example Greece, Bulgaria)

SO3.3 Supporting assisted voluntary return and reintegration

Indicative list of actions:

-Reinforce the existing reintegration assistance offered to returnees; by making it even more available, tailor-made, and adapted to the current AVRR tendencies

-Revising the existing reintegration packages, in line with other European countries

-Granting extra support for vulnerable groups: families with children, UAM, persons with medical condition. If adequate, granting extra support for the returnees caring family/community. The well-being of the returnees namely depends on their own individual needs, as well as those from their network

-Granting access to reintegration assistance for undocumented migrants who decide to opt for voluntary return. In that way, adjusting to the current reality of a growing share of vulnerable persons living in illegal stay in Belgium

-Reinforcing and expanding the services local partners in the countries of origin can offer. Thereby enabling them to provide more qualitative support to the returnees

SO3.4 Strengthening cooperation with third countries and their capacities to implement readmission agreements and other arrangements, and enable sustainable return

Indicative list of actions:

-Integrated & coordinated approach in EU in collaboration with EU organizations for AVRR and reintegration topics concerned (e.g. ERRIN, FRONTEX, EMN-REG, ERSO, …)

-Capacity building at MS level and 3th Countries, especially in countries of origin with a large irregular influx and ready to engage in a migration dialogue

-Facilitate and support identification and tracing processes with the collaboration of the countries of origin

-Setting up a more specific and tailor-made reintegration support in countries of origin, with special attention to "strategic" countries (countries where Belgium has a large number of asylum applications and / or irregular migrants): e.g., specific countries in which AMIF will invest during its program, as there is Armenia, Russia, …; e.g. admin support in the Balkan

In order to tackle the above-mentioned challenges and in order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium plans to rely on ‘operating support’, especially but not exclusively to support the statutory responsibility of our major partners. Eligible actions for operating support under this objective shall cover staff costs of public authorities implementing Union directives or running costs of reception/detention centers. We estimate that it will mostly cover staff costs and maintenance/replacement of ICT systems. We plan to use operating support when there is a (budgetary) need for it. In terms of operating support under SO3, potential beneficiaries include, among others:

-The Federal Agency for reception of asylum seekers (Fedasil)

-Immigration Office (DVZ), the federal organisation responsible for entry, stay, establishment and removal of foreigners

-The General Inspectorate of the Federal Police (AIG), an independent supervisory body that monitors the optimisation of the functioning of the federal and local police

In line with Article 21 of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium shall comply with the relevant Union acquis and the Charter.

In line with Articles 15(3) and 16(9) of the AMIF Regulation, Belgium reserves itself the right to select actions that would be eligible for higher co-financing, for example when it comes to actions to develop and implement effective alternatives to detention or assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes and related activities.

Belgium only intends to provide support in the form of grants referred to in Article 52 CPR.

2.1. Specific objective 3. Return

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.3.1	Number of participants in training activities	number	8,623	20,094
O.3.2	Number of equipment purchased, including number of ICT systems purchased / updated	number	4	10
O.3.3	Number of returnees who received re-integration assistance	number	3,060	7,160
O.3.4	Number of places in detention centres created	number	0	50
O.3.5	Number of places in detention centres refurbished/renovated	number	0	0

2.1. Specific objective 3. Return

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.3.6	Number of returnees voluntarily returned	number	0	number	2021	6,000	number	Data offered by DVZ (Immigration Data Warehouse) and Fedasil, online booking tool FAR	Listings and registers from the Closed centers, FITT houses and OTC (DVZ) Use and implementation of new online booking tool FAR (in collaboration with EU Border and Coast Guard Agency): annually 100 persons returned via FAR (Fedasil)
R.3.7	Number of returnees who were removed	number	0	number	2021	375	number	DVZ	
R.3.8	Number of returnees subject to alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021	3,000	number	DVZ (Immigration Data Warehouse)	Listings and registers from the Closed centers, FITT houses and OTC (figures subject to potential policy changes due to unforeseeable

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
									developments in the migration area like sudden high influxes or returns)

2.1. Specific objective 3. Return

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.Alternatives to detention	8,719,829.38
Intervention field	002.Reception/detention conditions	5,801,799.07
Intervention field	003.Return procedures	6,177,422.11
Intervention field	004.Assisted voluntary return	31,537,521.36
Intervention field	005.Reintegration assistance	3,498,239.96
Intervention field	006.Removal/Return operations	768,195.54
Intervention field	007.Forced-return monitoring system	8,146,189.79
Intervention field	008.Vulnerable persons/UAMs	1,361,082.29
Intervention field	009.Measures addressing incentives for irregular migration	0.00
Intervention field	010.Operating support	2,500,000.00

2.1. Specific objective: 4. Solidarity

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

SO4.1 Baseline Situation

After several ad hoc resettlement operations (ex-Iraq, ex-Libya), 2013 marked the first year of the Belgium structural resettlement programme. During 2014-2019, Belgium gradually scaled up its resettlement programme and resettled in total 3.190 refugees from different nationalities and different countries in the world. Belgium evolved from an emerging resettlement country with limited experience to a country with a solid programme. The different phases in the process (selection, Pre-Departure Orientation,…) were constantly evaluated and fine-tuned based on experience and information exchange with other resettlement countries within the EU (through EASO and the Commission) and beyond (through UNHCR fora such as the ATCR and Core Groups). Systems were put in place to respond to the increase in the Belgian quota and by extension in Europe. The resettlement quota increased sharply (2014: 100; 2015: 300; 2016: 550; 2017: 1.150; 2018-19: 2.000; 2020-21: 758 + 881).

Belgium has further developed its processes on the overall coordination level (e.g. steering group/stakeholders' meeting), the selection process level (further developing and formalizing of internal processes such as screening, administrative follow-up, development of manuals and guidelines) and the pre-departure orientation (BELCO) and arrival phase.

Moreover, Belgium opened up alternative legal pathways for a total of 1.022 persons in need of international protection in the period 2016-2017. These persons were granted visa for humanitarian reasons/family reunification. All were Syrians residing in Turkey. These actions were implemented under the competences of the Belgian Immigration Office in close cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

With regard to relocation, Belgium has set up a coordination mechanism involving the different stakeholders and has further streamlined the internal administrative processes. In Belgium, the three government agencies (Asylum authority – CGRS; Immigration Office DVZ; and the reception agency-Fedasil) cooperate closely to implement the relocation engagements, each agency from its own perspective. With support of the AMIF, Belgium relocated in the period 2015 – August 2020 a total of 1.349 AIP from Greece, Italy and Malta. The majority of these applicants were from Syrian nationality and Eritrean nationality.

SO4.2 Main challenges, national needs & proposed responses

The resettlement programme should be further consolidated as to be able to uphold the commitments and to offer more predictability to all stakeholders. Possibilities for complementary pathways will be further explored.

The essential contribution of AMIF will be to provide a stable and predictable framework for pledging exercises, anchor national efforts in international solidarity and diversify the admission routes (community sponsorship, students, workers, humanitarian visas, family reunification, etc.) for people in need of protection. AMIF contributions can also be used for increased cooperation with partners at national level that take up an important role of the resettlement program or other complementary pathways (e.g. local authorities).

Belgium also wants to share its the expertise it has acquired over the years (e.g. setting up of a resettlement programme; conducting of selection and cultural orientation missions; involvement of stakeholders) with countries that are new to the resettlement process; support the further development of EASO Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Network and in that way also provide support for the external dimension of CEAS and in the further development and use of EASO Resettlement Support Facilities (Turkey and possibly in other third countries).

SO4.3 Implementation measures

SO4.1 enhancing solidarity and cooperation with third countries affected by migratory flows, including through resettlement in the Union and through other legal avenues to protection in the Union

Indicative list of actions:

-Develop actions related to the implementation of resettlement procedures or national resettlement regulations

-Resettle refugees and develop other legal means of access to protection

-Develop complementary admission routes, in particular community sponsorship in the context of resettlement

-Involve different national stakeholders and further invest in the cooperation with local authorities to improve the process of resettlement and develop long term solutions for refugees in Belgium

-Maintain and/or increase the resettlement of refugees and humanitarian admission, diversify the complementary admission routes for people in need of international protection and capacity-building activities, services and infrastructures in third countries as well as stakeholders and the general public

SO4.2 supporting transfers from one Member State to another of applicants for international protection or beneficiaries of international protection

Indicative list of actions:

-Participate in ad hoc or structural relocation operations in line with the Pact on Migration and Asylum and more specifically with the part regarding effective solidarity.

-Further develop, improve and streamline the internal and European relocation processes, in the light of the outcomes of the negotiations on the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

Belgium only intends to provide support in the form of grants referred to in Article 52 CPR.

2.1. Specific objective 4. Solidarity

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.4.1	Number of staff trained	number	5	10
O.4.2	Number of participants who received pre-departure support	number	4,155	12,185

2.1. Specific objective 4. Solidarity

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.4.3	Number of applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection transferred from one Member State to another	number	0	number	2021	506	number	database Fedasil	Due to the lack of a clearer description for the columns 'Baseline or reference value', 'Reference year' and 'source data', Belgium is currently unable to fill in these columns
R.4.4	Number of persons resettled	number	0	number	2021	2,433	number	database Fedasil	Due to the lack of a clearer description for the columns 'Baseline or reference value', 'Reference year' and 'source data', Belgium is currently unable to fill in these columns.
R.4.5	Number of persons admitted through humanitarian admission	number	0	number	2021	657	number	database Fedasil	Due to the lack of a clearer description for the columns 'Baseline or reference value', 'Reference year' and 'source data',

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
									Belgium is currently unable to fill in these columns

2.1. Specific objective 4. Solidarity

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.Transfers to another Member State (relocation)	560,000.00
Intervention field	002.Support by a Member State to another Member State, including support provided to EASO	0.00
Intervention field	003.Resettlement (Article 19)	22,156,229.21
Intervention field	004.Humanitarian admission (Article 19)	4,656,000.00
Intervention field	005.Support, in terms of reception infrastructure, to another Member State	0.00
Intervention field	006.Operating support	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 technical assistance (TA) of the three HOME funds AMIF, ISF and BMVI will be combined. The TA will mainly be used to cover the staff costs and related expenses of the Managing Authority (MA), the Intermediate Bodies (IB's) and the Audit Authority (AA).

BE currently envisages that at least 17 FTE will be paid by the TA of AMIF, ISF and BMVI combined. In line with article 44 of the CPR, the required evaluations will also be funded with the help of the TA. In addition, the TA will also be used for the further development and maintenance of the IT-system ('AMBIS').

Regarding communication and publicity, Belgium will fully support the initiatives created by the EU-inform network and will fulfill all its legal obligations. Within the MA, 1 FTE will be responsible to coordinate these obligations and activities. BE also foresees some budget for capacity building but the exact use of this still remains to be decided.

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	417,318.14
Intervention field	002.Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control	15,023,454.99
Intervention field	003.Evaluation and studies, data collection	834,636.29
Intervention field	004.Capacity building	417,318.14

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		24,665,626.00	34,750,867.00	34,793,686.00	34,956,856.00	31,990,803.00	26,220,177.00	187,378,015.00
Mid-term review						16,796,181.00	15,889,126.00	32,685,307.00
Thematic facility WPI		16,887,560.59						16,887,560.59
Thematic facility WPII			3,184,240.00	9,282,632.00	530,000.00	27,319,267.00	15,816,417.00	56,132,556.00
Thematic facility WPIII								
Total transfer (in)							1,821,415.00	1,821,415.00
Non-Thematic facility transfer (in)								
Thematic facility WPII transfer (in)							1,821,415.00	1,821,415.00
Total transfer (out)								
Non-Thematic facility transfer (out)								
Thematic facility WPII transfer (out)								
Total		41,553,186.59	37,935,107.00	44,076,318.00	35,486,856.00	76,106,251.00	59,747,135.00	294,904,853.59

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)		
CEAS	Regular actions	Total	62,608,122.55	20,869,374.19	20,869,374.19	0.00	83,477,496.74	74.9999999940%
CEAS	Specific actions	Total	4,795,200.00	532,800.00	532,800.00	0.00	5,328,000.00	90.0000000000%
CEAS	Annex IV actions	Total	1,500,000.00	166,666.67	166,666.67	0.00	1,666,666.67	89.9999998200%
CEAS	Operating support	Total	1,100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,100,000.00	100.0000000000%
CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action	Total	31,486,007.42	3,498,445.27	3,498,445.27		34,984,452.69	89.9999999971%
Total CEAS			101,489,329.97	25,067,286.13	25,067,286.13	0.00	126,556,616.10	80.1928283937%
Legal migration and integration	Regular actions	Total	67,433,068.28	22,477,689.43	22,477,689.43	0.00	89,910,757.71	74.9999999972%
Legal migration and integration	Specific actions	Total	365,623.20	40,624.80	40,624.80	0.00	406,248.00	90.0000000000%
Legal migration and integration	Annex IV actions	Total						
Legal migration and integration	Operating support	Total	2,115,245.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,115,245.74	100.0000000000%
Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action	Total	10,926,350.13	1,214,038.91	1,214,038.91		12,140,389.04	89.9999999506%
Total Legal migration and integration			80,840,287.35	23,732,353.14	23,732,353.14	0.00	104,572,640.49	77.3053897953%
Return	Regular actions	Total	50,636,404.96	16,878,801.66	16,878,801.66	0.00	67,515,206.62	74.9999999926%
Return	Annex IV actions	Total	15,373,874.54	1,708,208.29	1,708,208.29	0.00	17,082,082.83	89.9999999590%
Return	Operating support	Total	2,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500,000.00	100.0000000000%
Total Return			68,510,279.50	18,587,009.95	18,587,009.95	0.00	87,097,289.45	78.6594851948%
Solidarity	Regular actions	Total	3,406,229.21	1,135,409.74	1,135,409.74	0.00	4,541,638.95	74.9999999450%
Solidarity	Annex IV actions	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Solidarity	Operating support	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission		23,406,000.00				23,406,000.00	100.0000000000%

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)		
Solidarity	International protection (Transfer in)		560,000.00				560,000.00	100.0000000000%
Total Solidarity			27,372,229.21	1,135,409.74	1,135,409.74	0.00	28,507,638.95	96.0171737056%
Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			16,692,727.56				16,692,727.56	100.0000000000%
Grand total			294,904,853.59	68,522,058.96	68,522,058.96	0.00	363,426,912.55	81.1455738159%

Table 6A: Pledging plan

	Number of persons per year						
Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Resettlement in line with Art. 19(1) of AMIF Regulation		1,250	250	375			
Humanitarian admission in line with Art. 19(2) of AMIF Regulation							
Humanitarian admission of vulnerable persons in line with Art.19(3) of AMIF Regulation	500		63	19			
National resettlement schemes in line with Article 19(2) of AMIF Regulation							
National resettlement schemes – vulnerable in line with Article 19(3) of AMIF Regulation							
Transfer of applicants for or beneficiaries of international protection (Transfer in) in line with Art. 20(1)-(4) of AMIF Regulation		6	32	18			

3.3. Transfers

Table 7: Transfers between shared management funds[1]

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

[1]Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

Table 8: Transfers to instruments under direct or indirect management[1]

Instrument	Transfer Amount
	0.00

[1]Cumulative 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	1. Publicprocurement.be 2. Lois a) Passation et attribution : Loi du 17 juin 2016 relative aux marchés publics; b) Attribution d'un marché public : Loi du 17 juin 2013 relative à la motivation, à l'information et aux voies de recours en matière de marchés publics, de certains marchés de travaux, de fournitures et de services et de concessions. 3. Arrêtés royaux a) Arrêté royal du 18 avril 2017 relatif à la passation des marchés publics dans les secteurs classiques; b) Arrêté royal du 14 janvier 2013 établissant les règles générales d'exécution des marchés publics	Tous les bénéficiaires sont soumis au respect de la législation sur les marchés publics. Si le montant du marché public > seuil de l'UE, seront notamment nécessaires: nom du contractant, numéro TVA ou d'identification financière, identification des bénéficiaires effectifs des contractants, date/nom/référence du contrat, etc. Si subventions en cascade : nom de l'entité concernée, numéro TVA ou d'identification fiscale et informations sur les accords entre l'entité et le bénéficiaire (date et montant de la convention & références).
		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	1. Art. 4 de la loi du 17 juin 2013 relative à la motivation à l'information et aux voies de recours en matière de marchés publics et de certains marchés de travaux, de fournitures et de services. 2. Décision motivée d'attribution.	1. La loi du 17 juin 2013 prévoit, à l'article 4, al. 1, 8° que l'autorité adjudicatrice doit notamment rédiger une décision motivée lorsqu'elle attribue un marché (soumis à publicité EU), quelle que soit la procédure. 2. Reprend notamment le nom du

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
				3. Charte «Accès des PME aux marchés public», éditée par le SPF Économie, PME, Classes moyennes et Energie en 2018 4. Règlement (UE) 2021/1060 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 24 juin 2021	soumissionnaire remportant le marché, le nombre de soumissionnaires initial et la valeur du marché attribué. 3. Propose 13 principes afin d'accroître l'accès des PME aux marchés publics. Le public cible de la charte se compose en premier lieu des pouvoirs adjudicateurs fédéraux. 4. Porte des dispositions communes relatives au Fonds européen de développement régional, au Fonds social européen plus, au Fonds de cohésion et au Fonds européen pour les affaires maritimes et la pêche, et établissant les règles financières applicables à ces Fonds et au Fonds «Asile et migration», au Fonds pour la sécurité intérieure et à l'instrument relatif à la gestion des frontières et aux visas.
		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	1. Acteurs du contrôle : SPF Intérieur (Autorité de gestion), Inspection des Finances, le Corps Interfédéral de l'Inspection des Finances (Autorité d'audit), la Cour des comptes de Belgique, la Cour des comptes européenne, la Commission européenne 2. Voies de recours : Médiateur, Conseil d'État, Cours et Tribunaux	Publicprocurement.be est à disposition de tout adjudicateur belge et permet d'effectuer toutes les procédures et transactions liées à un marché public de manière électronique. Les fonctionnaires et les entreprises peuvent trouver plusieurs informations (des manuels, des exemples de documents types, des points de contact…) concernant les différents aspects des marchés publics depuis la législation jusqu'au traitement des marchés via les moyens électroniques.

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
				3. Publicprocurement.be 4. Loi du 17 juin 2013 relative à la motivation, à l'information et aux voies de recours en matière de marchés publics et de certains marchés de travaux, de fournitures et de services (art. 9/1 §2)	
		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	L'Arrêté royal du 15 avril 2018 désigne le point de référence en vue de collaborer avec la Commission européenne en matière de marchés publics et de contrats de concession. Un deuxième rapport de contrôle de la Belgique concernant les marchés publics et les concessions est également disponible : https://www.publicprocurement.be/fr/documents/rapport-de-controle-2021	L'Arrête royal du 15 avril 2018 désigne la chancellerie SPF du Premier ministre comme point de contact au sens de l'article 83, paragraphe 5, de la directive 2014/24/UE. Cette entité coordonne la préparation du rapport de surveillance. Ce rapport de contrôle est publié sur leur site Internet : https://www.publicprocurement.be/fr/documents/rapport-de-controle-concernant-les-marches-publics-et-les-concessions-belgique-2018
		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	L'article 36, §5 de l'arrêté royal du 18 avril 2017 relatif à la passation des marchés publics dans les secteurs classiques. L'Autorité belge de la Concurrence met à disposition des acheteurs un guide sur la collusion dans les marchés publics: https://www.abc-bma.be/sites/default/files/content/download/files/20170131_marches_publics.pdf Deuxième rapport de contrôle (2021) pour la Belgique concernant les marchés publics et les concessions. Informations pour les	L'article 36, §5 de l'arrêté royal du 18 avril 2017 relatif à la passation des marchés publics dans les secteurs classiques stipule que les offres interdites en raison de prix anormaux doivent être signalées à l'Autorité belge de la Concurrence : https://www.abc-bma.be/fr/propos-de-nous Il existe également la possibilité de se référer à ARACHNE, l'outil de notation des risques mis au point par la Commission européenne.

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
				années 2018, 2019 et 2020: https://www.publicprocurement.be/nl/documenten/toezichtrapport-2021	
3. Effective application and implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights	Yes	Effective mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the Charter of 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.	Yes	Appels à projets et mise en œuvre des projets Direction IV Droits fondamentaux du SPF Justice FRA: « European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights » (https://e-learning.fra.europa.eu/; https://e-learning.fra.europa.eu/course/index.php?categoryid=6) Check list CE 2016/C269/01, annexe III UNIA : soutien et formations pour les personnes qui veulent mener une politique de diversité (https://www.unia.be/fr/sensibilisation-et-prevention) Webpagina EU-Charter : https://ec.europa.eu/info/aid-development-cooperation-fundamental-rights/your-rights-eu/eu-cha	Sensibilisation lors des appels à projets. Engagement des bénéficiaires par rapport à la Charte dans la fiche de projet, et engagement rappelé dans l'arrêté de subvention. Aux différentes étapes du projet, l'AG et ses autorités déléguées pour l'AMIF (ESF Vlaanderen et Agence FSE) veillent le respect de la charte. L'autorité de gestion désigne en son sein un expert des Droits Fondamentaux. Cette personne est l'interlocuteur privilégié en cas de signalement de plainte ou de doute quant au respect de la Charte des droits fondamentaux. Elle travaille, le cas échéant, en collaboration avec ses partenaires (UNIA, Direction IV Droits fondamentaux du SPF Justice). Pour disposer de l'expertise nécessaire pour assurer le respect de la Charte : - L'expert suit une formation sur la Charte auprès de la FRA, renouvellée tous les deux ans (step-by-step Charter e-guidance, des exemples concrets montrant le champ d'application de la Charte, études de cas) ; - L'expert se réfère à la checklist de la CE; - L'expert se fait épauler par ses partenaires (UNIA, Direction IV Droits fondamentaux du SPF Justice)
		2. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of non-compliance of operations supported by	Yes	Comité de Suivi et son règlement d'ordre intérieur : Si des cas de non-conformité avec la	En cas de doutes ou de constat de non-respect de la Charte par un des bénéficiaires, ou si elle est confrontée à

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		the Funds with the Charter and complaints regarding the Charter submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7).		Charte des droits fondamentaux de l'Union européenne sont identifiés, ils seront rapportés au comité de suivi ; les plaintes reçues et les suites qui leur ont été données seront également rapportées au comité de suivi. Règlement intérieur du comité de suivi : un point sera ajouté concernant la compatibilité des actions avec la Charte des droits fondamentaux.	une plainte, l'expert des Droits Fondamentaux prend contact avec avec un de ses partenaires (UNIA, Direction IV Droits fondamentaux du SPF Justice). Il peut ainsi être conseillé quant aux démarches à entreprendre. Les cas de non-conformité seront signalés au Comité de Suivi. Traitement des plaintes concernant spécifiquement l'application de la Charte de l'Union européenne : les plaintes seront transmises aux organismes compétents, avec une demande de suivi à l'autorité de gestion, le cas échéant. Un point est fait au minimum 1 fois par an au Comité de Suivi (actions concernant la Charte, résumé des plaintes et recours, et des cas de non-conformité constaté). Si nécessaire, un partenaire (UNIA, Direction IV Droits fondamentaux du SPF Justice) est invité au Comité de Suivi pour expliquer le cas. De la sorte, le Comité de suivi peut prendre une décision informée, le cas échéant. Inclusion d'une phrase dans le règlement intérieur du Comité de Suivi obligeant l'AG à l'informer des cas de non-conformité de la Charte ou des plaintes en lien avec celle-ci.
4. Implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) in	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	Objectifs et mécanismes de suivi - UNIA : Service public indépendant propose un soutien et des formations pour les personnes qui veulent mener une politique de diversité (https://www.unia.be/fr/sensibilisation-et-prevention) - Article 22 ter de la Constitution belge	L'AG veille au respect de la CNUDPH par les bénéficiaires durant toute la durée de leur projet. En collaboration avec UNIA , l'autorité de gestion prépare une checklist comprenant les points importants à contrôler afin d'assurer le respect de la CNUDPH par les bénéficiaires.

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC				- La CNUDPH prescrit la désignation d'une instance indépendante pour le suivi de la Convention et d'un mécanisme de coordination au sein de l'administration - Plan d'action fédéral Handicap 2021-2024 : https://socialsecurity.belgium.be/fr/handistreaming	En collaboration avec UNIA, l'autorité de gestion décide de la fréquence et des modalités selon lesquelles les bénéficiaires doivent être contrôlé sur le respect de la CNUDPH. Plan national „Handistreaming" compte 145 mesures. Un rapport à mi-terme (fin '22) présentera les avancées et contiendra des mesures visant à réaliser la Stratégie interfédérale handicap ('21-30). L'AG évalue si, oui ou non, ces mesures sont réalisées par les bénéficiaires. Transmission des données collectées au SPF sécurité sociale. SPF sécurité sociale DG Soutien et Coordination (BESOC) est point de contact et de coordination. Rapport étatique belge concernant la mise en œuvre de la CNUDPH (2011) Observations finales du rapport périodique de la Belgique (2014) Rapport alternatif "Belgian Disability Forum (BDF) (2014) Evaluation à mi-parcours de la CNUDPH par le BDF (2017)
		2. Arrangements to ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards are properly reflected in the preparation and implementation of the programmes.	Yes	Programmes opérationnels Appels à projets et mise en œuvre des projets	Engagement des bénéficiaires par rapport à la CNUDPH dans fiche de projet, rappelé dans arrêté de subvention. Dans la préparation et la mise en œuvre des programmes, l'AG et ses autorités déléguées (ESF Vlaanderen et Agence FSE) vérifient le respect de la charte :

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
					- Pour disposer de l'expertise nécessaire, elles sont formées par UNIA; - Les cas de non-conformité sont signalés au Comité de suivi; - Les plaintes sur application de la CNUDPH sont transmises aux organismes compétents, avec une demande de suivi à l'AG, le cas échéant. Un point est fait au minimun 1 fois par an au Comité de Suivi (actions concernant la CNUDPH, résumé des plaintes et recours, et des cas de non-conformité constatés). Si nécessaire, UNIA est invité au Comité de Suivi pour expliquer le cas. Le Comité de suivi peut alors prendre une décision informée, le cas échéant. L'AG désigne dans son équipe une personne de référence concernant la diversité et l'égalité des chances. Cette personne est l'interlocuteur privilégié de l'AG et de ses autorités déléguées pour l'AMIF en cas de signalement de plainte ou de doute quant au respect de la CNUDPH. Cette personne, le cas échéant, travaille avec UNIA.
		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).	Yes	Le comité de suivi et son règlement d'ordre intérieur.	Un point sera fait au minimum 1 fois par an au Comité de suivi (actions concernant la CNUDPH, résumé des plaintes et recours, et des cas de non-conformité constaté). Si nécessaire UNIA est invité au Comité de Suivi pour expliquer le cas. Le Comité de Suivi peut ainsi prendre une décision informée, le cas échéant. Inclusion d'une phrase dans le règlement intérieur du Comité de Suivi obligeant l'AG à l'informer des cas de non-

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
					conformité ou des plaintes liées à CNUDPH.

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	Federal Public Service Home Affairs - European Funds Unit	Magdalena Irzycka	Head of Unit	magdalena.irzycka@ibz.be
Audit authority	Interfederal Corps of the Inspectorate of Finance	Béatrice Baumann	Head of the Federal Audit Cell of the Inspectorate of Finance for the European Funds	BJS.Baumann@inspfin.fed.be
Body which receives payments from the Commission	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	amif.isf@ibz.eu

6. Partnership

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

The Managing Authority launched a wide consultation process in January 2020, aimed at collecting the necessary input for the preparation of the AMIF, ISF & BMVI draft National Programmes for the period 2021-2027. This process continued throughout 2020 and 2021, up until the point of submission of the draft programmes. As a starting point, a questionnaire was sent out for each draft National Programme to relevant administrations and current beneficiaries, in order to inquire about the experiences of beneficiaries during the past programming period, the perceived challenges in terms of AMIF/ISF/BMVI, the needs in terms of 'operating support' and 'emergency assistance', possible interest in participating in joint 'Specific Actions', operational objectives of the relevant AMIF/ISF/BMVI funds to be financed, and an indicative list of actions/projects.

Specifically with regard to AMIF, the Delegated Authorities ('ESF Agentschap Vlaanderen' and 'Agence FSE de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles') responsible for the 'Integration' part of the AMIF programme, were also consulted. In order to provide input, the above-mentioned Delegated Authorities launched respective stakeholder consultations themselves. On the Walloon side, consulted partners included, among others, the Belgian Red Cross, the Public Centre for Social Welfare of Namur (OCMW / CPAS), the Open University of Charleroi, the non-profit 'Fight against Social Exclusion Molenbeek', the non-profit 'Promotion de la Formation en Alternance', and the Regional Centre in Verviers for the Integration of Foreigners or Persons of Foreign Origin. On the Flemish side, consulted partners included, among others, the public employment service of Flanders (VDAB), the non-profit 'Markant', the impact hub 'Blenders', the cities of Leuven, Mechelen, Genk, Beringen, Antwerpen, Aalst & Kortrijk, the Minority Forum, the Research Institute for Work and Society (HIVA), the collaboration platform 'Samenlevingsopbouw', the education centres / networks of Gent and Antwerp, the Centre for Language and Education of the Catholic University of Leuven, the Social Economic Council of Flanders (SERV), etc. The results of these stakeholders consultations were then compiled by the Delegated Authorities and communicated to the Managing Authority in the form of a single contribution. Hence, the range of consulted partners varies from relevant public administrations on the federal and regional level, provincial and/or local administrations, current project beneficiaries, not-for-profit organizations, universities, public employment services, education networks, minority platforms, and many more.

Based on the received inputs, a first draft National Programme was drawn up by the Managing Authority for each of the concerned funds. After each cycle of revision and updating/integrating comments, including those from European Commission experts, a revised version of the draft National Programme was circulated.

Moreover, the preparation and implementation of the National Programmes has been done under the auspices of the existing 'Steering Group', comprising representatives of the relevant political cabinets (Interior Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Asylum & Migration, Social Integration, Budget (as an observer),…), the Managing Authority and relevant administrations. Currently, this Steering Group is also meeting on a case-by-case basis in an 'enlarged' format – including representatives of the regional political cabinets and administrations – when matters relating to the 'Integration' part of the AMIF (i.e. a regional competence in BE) are concerned.

With regard to the involvement of actors on the local level, it is worth highlighting the role of the so-called 'OCMW's' (NL) / 'CPAS' (FR). The 'Openbare Centra voor Maatschappelijk Welzijn' or 'Centres publics d'Action Sociale' play a prominent role in providing first-hand social support to those in need, and this in the form of financial assistance (so-called 'integration income') and/or social employment. The 'OCMW's' are an important partner in the implementation of projects relating to the 'Integration' part of the AMIF Fund. They situate themselves on the level of each municipality and dispose of a long-standing track record when it comes to the implementation of AMIF-projects.

For the new programming period 2021-2027, BE plans to build on its existing – and functioning – operating structures. A 'Monitoring Committee' will be created and will be responsible for monitoring the progress in the implementation of the different National Programmes, as well as for the approval of the

annual (and final) performance reports for the AMIF, ISF and BMVI Funds. In line with article 40 of the CPR, the Monitoring Committee will also examine any issues that might affect the performance of the programme and the measures taken to address those issues. Hence, the partners who play the largest role in the implementation of the programmes are indirectly represented via the representatives of their respective political cabinets. In addition and in line with article 39§3 of the CPR, relevant decentralised administrations may also participate in the work of the Monitoring Committee. Beyond the work of the Monitoring Committee and specifically when it comes to the involvement of economic and social partners, it is important to highlight BE's long tradition of institutionalized social dialogue on a multitude of levels. For example, on the federal (national) level, both the National Labour Council ('Nationale Arbeidsraad' (NAR) / 'Conseil National de Travail' (CNT)) and the Central Council for the Economy ('Centrale Raad voor het Bedrijfsleven / Conseil Central de l'Economie) have an important role to play. Both bodies consist of delegates of the employers and workers organizations who are considered representative for the Belgian economic and social world. They act in an advisory capacity, either on their own initiative or on the request of members of the Belgian federal government or Parliament.

The same goes true with regard to the involvement of relevant bodies representing fundamental rights as well as equality and inclusion, where it is for example worth mentioning the role of 'Unia'. Unia is an independent public institution that fights discrimination and promotes equal opportunities. Its independence and engagement in favor of human rights is recognized by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions. As an institution, it has interfederal competence, which means that, in BE, it is active at the federal level as well as the level of the regions and communities. Unia also mounts campaigns for equal opportunities and against discrimination, formulates recommendations for government authorities and generates tools, publications and statistics. Specifically with regard to ensuring the compliance of the Home Affairs programmes and their implementation with the relevant provisions of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the Managing Authority foresees an important supporting role by 'Unia'. Both in terms of ensuring the necessary expertise as well as through providing relevant advice in case of doubts, a finding of non-compliance with the Charter, or a specific complaint, 'Unia' is considered as a key partner. In addition, the Managing Authority anticipates the possibility for 'Unia' or another partner in the field of human rights to be invited to meetings of the Monitoring Committee, i.a. in order to provide explanations on specific cases for example. Lastly, the Managing Authority will also prepare a checklist in cooperation with 'Unia' containing the most important verification elements with regard to the implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD). More details on the exact role of 'Unia' and its participation in the Monitoring Committee can be found in the section on 'enabling conditions'.

In line with the Monitoring Committee's (future) rules of procedure, BE will foresee the possibility to invite the above-mentioned partners and/or others, including representatives of the local / regional authorities, where appropriate, to meetings of the Monitoring Committee according to the issues on the agenda or the progress stage of the programme in line with Article 39 (1) of the CPR. In addition, when relevant, information sessions will be organised by the Managing Authority involving both institutional players and other partners in line with Article 8 of the CPR, with the aim to discuss progress in programme implementation.

To conclude, BE will comply with the requirements of article 44 of the CPR by entrusting (an) evaluation(s) of the AMIF/ISF/BMVI programmes to internal/external experts who are functionally independent, and this both for the 'impact assessment evaluations' to be carried out by 30 June 2029 as well as for the 'criteria evaluations' (effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and Union added value, etc.). Building on the evaluation experiences of the ongoing programming period (2014-2020), this approach allows for a wide and broad involvement of all types of stakeholders, both within and beyond the administrations represented within the Monitoring Committee. The same logic applies for the ex-post evaluation report on the effects of actions under the ongoing national programmes (2014-2020), in line with article 57(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No. 514/2014 (to be conducted by 31 December 2023). For the purpose of transparency, all evaluations will also be published on the website of the Managing Authority.

7. Communication and visibility

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

In terms of ensuring the necessary communication and visibility with regard to AMIF, BE will use a two-pronged approach. On the one hand, “direct awards” are being used to attribute funding under every Specific Objective (SO) within the AMIF fund. These mainly target (existing) project beneficiaries and/or so-called 'institutional players' as a target audience, given the fact that these have either a legal or de facto monopoly on the activities at hand. On the other hand, "open calls" are being used to attribute funding in the areas of 'integration', 'reception' and 'voluntary return'. These open calls are usually drafted / managed by the Managing Authority together with a specialized partner (such as 'Fedasil' (in terms of reception activities and voluntary return) or the 'Federal Public Planning Service for Social Integration' (in terms of integration activities). All open calls are published in the 'Belgisch Staatsblad / Moniteur Belge', which allows for all potential beneficiaries to be informed. Every 'open call' will be followed by an information session for all potential interested partners, including a Q&A session. The above-mentioned partners also provide assistance in ensuring the necessary visibility and communicating about potential funding opportunities (for example through their internal newsletters). In addition, the Intermediate Bodies on both the Flanders and Walloon level also launch 'open calls' in the field of Integration and undertake the necessary communication activities to inform potential beneficiaries (through newsletters, information sessions, etc.). Also for 'direct awards', information sessions will be organized to provide information and support to beneficiaries on the conceptualisation of their project, its implementation and the reporting obligations associated with it. During the information sessions, the beneficiaries will also be informed about their new communication obligations (such as the correct use of the EU emblem) in order to increase the visibility of their project and that of the European Union.

Secondary objectives in terms of communication and visibility are informing the general public about the activities and results of the programme(s), and showing the positive impact and added value of EU financing.

In order to achieve this, BE will primarily build on the existing measures and communication channels which are currently in place. At the level of the Managing Authority, these include, first and foremost, the AMIF-ISF website (https://amif-isf.be, available in Dutch and French), which will be updated in view of the new programming period 2021-2027. The AMIF-ISF website will therefore continue to be the main entry portal for any potential beneficiary who is looking for information and/or funding opportunities in the context of BE's National Programme on AMIF. A link to the relevant EU web-portal providing information about funding opportunities through the ‘EU thematic facility’, will also be added to the website.

The AMIF-ISF website is integrated into the Belgian joint portal of the European Structural and Investment Funds (http://www.europeinbelgium.be/fr/), in accordance with Article 46b) of the CPR.

In accordance with Article 48 of the CPR, Belgium has designated a National Coordinator for visibility, transparency and communication activities related to the support of the funds. In addition, the Managing Authority has appointed a Communication Officer. He/she is responsible for the communication of the AMIF/ISF/BMVI funds. He/she will be in regular contact with the National Coordinator and the other Belgian communication officers. He/she participates in the country team meetings, as well as the various activities set up by the INFORM platform.

Furthermore, the Managing Authority will participate in the 'Kohesio project' (https://kohesio.eu/) led by the European Commission, from the moment when its scope will be expanded to Belgium. The Kohesio project aims at creating a knowledge base of EU co-funded projects and beneficiaries. In this way, a greater public visibility of the projects carried out by the various beneficiaries will be ensured.

In terms of estimated budget, the costs for communication will form an integral part of BE’s technical assistance, and will mainly consist – at the level of the Managing Authority – of personnel costs (salary ‘Communication Officer’) and maintenance costs for the website.

Lastly, in terms of indicators and associated targets for communication activities, BE aims to achieve the following results on the level of the AMIF programme:

1.

- 100% of calls published on the public website;
- 100% of selected projects published on the public website;
- 100% of selected projects published on Kohesio;
- 10 open information session held.

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	☐	☒
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	☐	☒

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.)

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.

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.

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 reimbusresment 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 (Article 11 AMIF Reg., Article 8 BMVI Reg., Article 8 ISF Reg.)

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2022)8993 - 12 Dec 2022 - 4	4.0	Accepted	15 Dec 2025	

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
1. CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action		31,486,007.42		Specific Action to Support Member States in the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Funding will support the costs for: - Support to asylum seekers living out of the reception centers: socio-legal support, medical, basic needs (meal vouchers) – BB3 - Support for Asylum Seekers under the Brussels Deal Monitoring and Tracking system – BB3 - Hiring of additional staff and updating IT systems at CCE – BB4 - Support for staff, infrastructure and IT systems at CGRS – BB4 - Improve the functioning of the Dublin system (improving processes, hiring staff), in particular in relation to unaccompanied minors – BB6 - Develop a monitoring system of over seventeen indicators, including procedural and reception data, enabling early warning, rapid detection and response -BB8 - Ensuring as soon as possible a guardian for each UM – BB9 - Appeals: hire and train legal counsellors + info documents in main languages – BB9
2. Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action		10,926,350.13		Specific Action to Support Member States in the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Funding will support the costs for: - language and citizenship courses - education and support to vulnerable groups - professionalisation of education of UAMs - local integration policies.
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			2,544,741.45		Increase of Technical assistance (6%) stemming from: Specific Action to Support Member States in the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum (EU Contribution EUR 44.957.099,00 € of which 43.135.684,00 € from AMIF and 1.821.415,00 € transfer from BMVI – all including TA).

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2022)8340 - 23 Nov 2022 - 3	3.1	Accepted	4 Feb 2025	

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer in)		500,000.00		AMIF TF – Relocation (Art. 20 AMIF Regulation)
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			30,000.00		TA

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2022)8340 - 23 Nov 2022 - 2	2.0	Accepted	25 Jan 2024	

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
1. CEAS	Specific actions		4,795,200.00		The action aims to provide to the Belgium Guardianship Service with an additional 14 employee guardians, 1,5 coordinators within the associations and 1 employee for the Guardianship Service for the monitoring of the new employee guardians (assignment of pupils to the guardians, the control of the associations, financial reporting etc).
4. Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission		3,902,000.00		AMIF TF – Resettlement & Humanitarian Admission (Art. 19 AMIF Regulation)
4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer in)		60,000.00		AMIF TF – Relocation (Art. 20 AMIF Regulation)
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			525,432.00		TA: 3,600 stemming from relocation + 234,120 stemming from resettlement & humanitarian admission + 287,712 stemming from SA.

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2022)8340 - 23 Nov 2022 - 1	1.3	Accepted	16 May 2023	

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
4. Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission		3,004,000.00		Additional TF - AMIF - Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission (article 19)
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			180,240.00		TA

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2021)8458 - 25 Nov 2021 - 2	1.2	Accepted		

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
2. Legal migration and integration	Specific actions		365,623.20		AMIF/2022/SA/2.4.1_001 The 24-month Vona project is designed to increase and enhance the provision of appropriate gender-sensitive and trauma-informed care and support to adult third country national female victims of human trafficking at the three specialized centers for victims of human trafficking in Belgium: Pag-Asa (Bruxelles), Payoke (Flanders), and Sürya (Wallonia). In the wake of the Russian aggression against Ukraine and the subsequent flow of people entering the EU territory, with over 40.000 Ukrainian citizens who arrived in Belgium to date, mostly women and children, and considering the alarm raised by international agencies about trafficking risks, the present proposal shall build preparedness to handle a potential increase in the number of detected trafficking cases, while at the same time improve assistance and care for those who are already in the Belgian victim support program. Anchored to the Belgian victim support & assistance model common to the three specialized centers, the project is articulated into three broad thrusts: 1) direct assistance, 2) staff training 3) gender-sensitive capacity building.
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			21,937.39		TA

Procedure reference	Programme version	Status	Accept/Decline date	Comments
C(2021)8458 - 25 Nov 2021 - 1	1.1	Accepted		

Specific objective	Modality	Type of Intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action
4. Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission		16,500,000.00		Initial TF AMIF - Resettlement & Humanitarian admission (art.19)

DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent by
Programme snapshot 2021BE65AMPR001 5.2	Snapshot of data before send	11 May 2026		Ares(2026)4764639	Programme_snapshot_2021BE65AMPR001_5.2_en.pdf	11 May 2026	De Kerf, Nele