Brussels HOME.E.1/AA

# NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION AND INTERNAL SECURITY FUNDS COMMITTEE

**Ref.:** AMIF-ISF/2024/01

Subject: Note on essential elements of the Member States 2014-2020 ex post

evaluation reports of the AMIF-ISF national programmes

Dear Members of the AMIF-ISF Committee,

As a follow-up to the previous communication AMIF-ISF/2023/02 on the key elements of the ex-post evaluation of the AMIF-ISF 2014-2020 national programmes, and as the Member States continue to progress on delivering the *ex post* evaluations, this notes aims to provide a few reminders on essential elements to ensure the reports meet the requirements established in the legal basis.

The Horizontal Regulation establishes that the Member States shall submit an *ex post* evaluation report to the Commission by **31 December 2024** (Art. 57(1) point (b) of Regulation (EU) 514/2014). Additional formal requirements are laid down by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/207 on the Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the AMIF and ISF (hereafter CMEF).

To deliver the reports, the Member States shall upload the full ex post evaluation report in SFC2014, as per article 2(3) of the CMEF.

The reports shall follow the template established by the Commission, in line with article 2(1) of the CMEF.

The template was presented in the Webinar of 20 July 2023 on the key elements of the Expost evaluation Home Affairs Funds 2014-2020 and included in the Consolidated Background Note – October 2023. The template is reproduced in the box below.

### **Executive summary**

It should present the key achievements, findings and lessons learned that could be relevant from a policy perspective. If the report is drafted in the national language, it should be translated into English.

#### Introduction

This section should clarify the purpose of the evaluation, provide information on the independence of the evaluators<sup>3</sup> and an overview of the analytical approach (methods used to collect and assess qualitative and quantitative data). It should also point out the main limitations of the analysis and information on the robustness of the findings.

## **Intervention logic**

This section should provide an overview of the relevant socio-economic context in which the AMIF and ISF intervention take place, identifying the key needs in the area and how the actions carried out in the national programmes were expected to contribute to addressing them.

# State of play of the implementation

This section should provide a factual description of the progress made by the programmes, in terms of their financial as well as physical implementation. It should delineate the main challenges faced by the programme and any contextual changes that led to deviations from the initial plans.

#### **Evaluation findings, by question and sub-question**

Questions are organised by the evaluation criteria of effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, complementarity, EU added value, sustainability and simplification and reduction of administrative burden. The answers to the evaluation questions and sub-questions should be supported by a full triangulation of qualitative and quantitative evidence collected and assessed by the independent evaluators in connection to the judgement criteria agreed with the Responsible Authority. The national evaluation reports should cover only the actions implemented under the national programmes (shared management). Emergency Assistance projects and Union Actions will be addressed only under the coherence and complementarity area. All questions and sub-questions should be addressed.

## Conclusions and lessons learned

This section is to wrap up on the key findings from the evaluation and to describe corresponding lessons learned to inform the policy cycle. Good (bad) practice cases should be included to the extent possible in connection to the lessons learned.

# **Annexes**

The independent evaluators should include in the Annex the detailed methodological approach followed and the evaluation matrix. The annexes can be used to provide further detail into the qualitative and quantitative data used for the evaluations.

The reports shall include a reply to each of the questions defined in Annex 1 (AMIF) and II (ISF) of the CMEF and make use of the indicators listed in its Annex III and IV, as per Article 2(2).

For further details on submission of the national evaluation reports and the report requirements, see the aforementioned Background Note in <u>SFC2014</u>.

In addition, the Commission is required to submit an *ex post* evaluation report on the implementation of the AMIF and ISF to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee, and to the Committee of the Regions by 30 June 2025 (Art. 57(2) point (b) of Regulation (EU) 514/2014).

As the deadline for the submission of the Commission's report arrives shortly after the deadline for the Member State's national evaluation reports, it is imperative that Member States submit their reports on time for the national evaluation reports to contribute to the Commission's report.

In addition, the Member States are kindly reminded to transmit to the Commission data stored at the Member State level as soon as available and no later than **September 2024** to contribute to the Commission's evaluation report. A template for this transmission of data is available on <u>SFC2014</u> <sup>1</sup>. The completed templates should be uploaded in SFC2014 under the head "Evaluation /Evaluation Documents" and use the document type "*Data for the ex-post evaluation – HR Article 55(5)*".

Responsible Authorities are invited to refer to the functional mailbox <u>HOME-FUNDS-EVALUATIONS@ec.europa.eu</u> in case of doubts, requests for clarifications or issues with the data uploaded in SFC2014 by the Commission, keeping their Desk Officer in copy.

Yours faithfully,

Silvia MICHELINI

Templates are different in scope to reflect the fact that not all Member States participate in all Funds/Instruments. Each Member State is invited to use the template corresponding to the Funds/Instrument in which it participates.