

SFC2021 Programme for AMIF, ISF and BMVI

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1. Programme strategy: main challenges and policy responses

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

The programme of Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) supports in synergy with other programmes and resources the goals set in the overarching **national strategy “Eesti 2035”** which provides a coherent guidance for policy-makers in different areas. In order to fulfill the objectives of the “Eesti 2035” several development plans will be elaborated in different policy areas involving relevant stakeholders. The AMIF objectives and relevant actions that are covered in this programme are mainly based on the **Internal Security Development Plan 2020–2030** (ISDP) and its programmes, including programmes on Citizenship, Migration and Identity Management Policy and on Strong Internal Security. The specific objective of integration has synergies with the **Cohesive Estonia 2030 Development Plan** (CEDP). Also the development plan for the Estonian language for 2021–2035, the Welfare Development Plan 2016–2023 and 2023–2030 will be taken into consideration in programming AMIF.

According to the ISDP, the main purpose of Estonian migration policy is to facilitate the entry into Estonia of foreigners who provide high added value to society and whose stay is in accordance with public interests, EU law and fundamental freedoms. Secondly, there is a need to prevent irregular migration and to organize return of third country nationals (TCN) who are irregularly present in the country, to ensure public order and national security. The CEDP would pay attention to the support needed for migrants who are staying in Estonia for both short and long term and support their active participation in the society and lifelong learning through targeted adaptation and integration measures.

The AMIF programme for period 2021–2027 will focus on the similar activities as AMIF 2014–2020. The challenges remain largely the same, also good practice in achieving objectives and implementing activities in the previous programming period is taken into account. The programme takes into account the administrative capacity and rules for efficiency, also possible simplification measures to reduce the administrative burden and to guarantee enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. The planned activities mainly support enhancing the conditions and will focus on access to the asylum procedures, ensuring high-quality reception conditions, continuing the wide range of cultural integration activities and both voluntary and forced return activities. The goals of the AMIF programme can be achieved with the contribution from various authorities in their area of responsibility. The support will be given in the form of grants.

The allocation for the Pact on Migration and Asylum (the Pact) will be used to address the main priorities identified in the Commission’s needs assessment and reflected in the National Implementation Plan. These include establishing a well-functioning border procedure with screening activities, ensuring streamlined and fair procedures, adequate safeguards as well as support the early integration of applicants for international protection and speedy returns of illegally staying third country nationals. These priorities will not be addressed only via the AMIF programme. National funding, in addition to the programme’s co-financing, is planned to be used in a number of areas. A major area of continued support remains that of early integration services, including access to education, the right to preserve the mother tongue and as well as labour market services. National budget will also continue to cover needs-based health care of TCNs in asylum and return procedures. In addition, the national budget covers the salary of judges, who are responsible for conducting various court proceedings. National budget may be used as necessary together with EU funding (AMIF and BMVI) in capacity building activities aiming to further strengthen the judiciary, thus ensuring fair and streamlined procedures (including border procedures). Possible measures in this area include hiring of staff, temporary assignment of qualified judges from district and circuit courts to administrative courts being possible during a state of emergency or state of war in accordance with existing legal frameworks, trainings for the staff of the judicial system and enhanced digital case management (integration of PBGB and CIS systems via the e-File System). The state budget will also contribute to the reconfiguration of the state-funded legal aid system, the cost of transfers of TCNs to the responsible Member State, and will also be used for costs that are connected to solidarity measures, beyond hiring and training of staff. Finally, the state budget will support the funding of an independent monitoring mechanism in relation to the asylum procedures at the external border.

In the area of asylum, the planned actions will be performed in cooperation with the state, civil society, international organisations and local municipalities. Considering the migratory developments in the world, including the need to implement the temporary protection directive due to war in Ukraine, it is important

that Estonia is prepared for a growing number of asylum applications and for ensuring necessary reception conditions of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection. In particular, to cover the needs of vulnerable groups and persons with special reception and procedural needs. Such conditions should establish prerequisites for adaptation as the first step of integration and further integration of the beneficiaries of international protection in Estonia.

Estonia is fully committed to the solidarity between Member States. The preparedness is maintained to make flexible solidarity contributions primarily in the form of providing experts or technical equipment via EU coordinated actions or on bilateral basis. It is also important to continue the participation in the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) European Asylum activities, including of use and development of tools to improve the conditions and procedures including of raising the level of knowledge and professionalism of officials. In addition, Estonia would continue supporting of better awareness and early identification of possible victims of human trafficking, particularly vulnerable groups and upon need directing those persons to appropriate assistance and services in accordance with the EU Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings 2021-2025.

The overall objectives for asylum are the following:

1. to ensure and further develop effective and high-quality asylum procedures;
2. to ensure and further develop reception conditions and support services for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection;
3. to ensure the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

Estonia will ensure that the three steps of making, registering and lodging an application for international protection are carried out as required by the Asylum Procedures Regulation. Particular attention will be given to ensuring that all rights, especially those of minors, are accessible from the moment of application as stipulated by the Pact instruments. Estonia will also ensure that timely information, free legal counselling, legal assistance and representation is provided by an authority recognized and qualified under national law to provide legal advice at the applicant's request as required by various Pact instruments [The provision of legal services during the administrative phase of international protection procedure is being specified in national legislation.].

The implementation of the Pact includes establishing border procedure and capacity corresponding to the adequate capacity of the border procedure. The Asylum Procedures Regulation emphasizes the need for timely decisions on asylum applications. To meet this requirement, Estonia will establish streamlined procedures and build capacity of the relevant authorities to ensure applications are processed within the set time frames. This requires increased capacity at the Police and Border Guard Board (e.g. restructuring existing and creating necessary new units), trainings for the representatives of relevant authorities and possible hirings, and conducting IT developments. AMIF funding contributes to these needs. Partial funding from AMIF may be required to provide necessary health care services to TCN subject to border procedure as well as improve legal counselling of asylum seekers [The provision of legal services during the administrative phase of international protection procedure is being specified in national legislation.].

As a result, asylum application procedure is enhanced and easily accessible. Decisions are made effectively by trained professionals, databases are developed sustainably, asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection have easy access to support services and accommodation conditions respect the standards defined in Directive (EU) 2024/1346.

In Estonia, the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) develops migration and asylum policy and implements it via the Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB). The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) is responsible for organizing the reception of asylum seekers, for designing various services offered and implementing them via the Social Security Board. The Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs (MoJDA) is responsible for ensuring effective justice delivery and the availability and accessibility of legal aid, including legal assistance, representation, and counselling [The provision of legal services during the administrative phase of international protection procedure is being specified in national legislation.].

Estonia ensures effective collaboration among various governmental institutions and agencies involved in migration management, resulting in a comprehensive and cohesive approach. This success is partly due to a comprehensive case management system that continues to evolve, enabling faster and more efficient procedures. Russia's full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine underscored Estonia's ability to adapt its migration support systems to changing circumstances, demonstrating its resilience and flexibility.

Estonia has transposed EU asylum acquis and is in the process of transposing the Pact to its national

legislation and preparing for its implementation.

In the field of integration, the CEDP sets goals and addresses civil society, global Estonian identity, adaptation and integration. The development plan sets its priorities in accordance with the EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021–2027. The EU Action Plan includes actions across all the policy areas that are crucial for integration. In addition to EU citizens and TCNs in EU the action plan also contains actions to address the specific challenges faced by refugees. Estonia will ensure focus on early integration measures for applicants of international protection, enabling asylum seekers to transition smoothly into independent living after being granted protection.

One of the sub-objectives of the CEDP is "Estonia supporting adaptation and integration", which centers on effective adaptation and integration policy. According to this, in recent years, new immigration has intensified in Estonia - more and more foreigners arrive to Estonia mainly for work, study or family reasons. New immigration is growing due to labour shortages, return migration and economic development. People are coming to Estonia from other EU Member States as well as from third countries (mainly Ukraine, Russia, India, Belarus). A significant proportion of new immigrants, 61%, plan to associate their future with Estonia (Estonian Integration Monitoring, EIM 2020).

Although the numbers of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection in Estonia have stabilized in the recent years, taking in to account the migratory developments and international conflicts in the world, it is important that Estonia is prepared for a growing number of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection.

Since May 2021 adaptation and integration are in responsibility of the Ministry of Culture (MoC), before the adaptation was curated by the MoI and integration by the MoC. Adaptation and integration are interlinked and having them under one roof will give better synergy in planning and implementation of policies.

Adaptation is a process whereby new arrivals who have (re)located to a country adjust to the new environment and the host society. The process is characterised by acquiring knowledge and skills that help to function independently in the new environment in the domains of daily life (finding a place of residence, putting children to school or kindergarten, taxes, health and social services, signing up for language classes, etc.), the state (organisation of society, legislation, functioning principles of the state, rights and obligations of citizens of other countries, matters regarding residence permits and right of residence, etc.) and cultural issues (basic understanding of the principal values and cultural traditions of the host society, basic language training, etc.). Not all foreigners' goal is to permanently settle down in Estonia, acquire Estonian citizenship etc., but rather due to increasing labour mobility and changing nature of work they tend to settle for couple of years and move forward and therefore do not need thorough integration services.

Integration on the other hand is a long term two-way process to reach social cohesiveness in the society between people with various cultural and linguistical backgrounds. Integration also contains more cultural aspects, higher level language skills, developing and carrying Estonian identity and obtaining Estonian citizenship.

The aim of the adaptation and integration policy is to create opportunities for those who come to Estonia, including applicants for international protection, to quickly adapt to life in Estonia and become active members of Estonian society, to acquire knowledge and skills, including Estonian, for adjusting to Estonian state and society and independently managing everyday life in the new host society. The aim is also to contribute to the development of a cohesive society in Estonia where people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds carry Estonian identity, participate actively in social life, including employment, lifelong learning and civil society, share democratic values and contribute to national and social development.

There is a need to support adaptation for migrants planning to stay in Estonia for both short (mostly people who come to work) and long periods. Different target groups need to be addressed to ensure and increase social cohesion. In doing so, more actors (such as local authorities, businesses, educational and social institutions, non-governmental organizations) need to be involved in adaptation and integration policies and activities.

Under AMIF, **the following overall goals for legal migration and integration are set:**

- TCNs are empowered and participate in the Estonian society actively, including civil society;
- the knowledge-based approach to the development of migration, adaptation and integration

policies has been strengthened;

- the involvement of TCNs (including also persons with undetermined citizenship) in the society has increased;
- the awareness and knowledge of the public about TCNs has increased.

Therefore, there is a continuous need to design and develop necessary adaptation, integration and support services, activities concerning information and orientation, awareness raising, trainings, cooperation activities, research etc. to meet the needs and individual interests of all TCNs, mainly newly arrived migrants and beneficiaries of international protection. Also, there is a need to further develop the capacity and knowledge of organisations and experts involved in the process of integration of TCNs.

In Estonia, the Ministry of Culture (MoC) is responsible for development of adaptation and integration policy, the MoI of civil society policy. In addition, the MoSA is responsible for specific reception conditions and integration services applicants and beneficiaries of international protection and the Ministry of Education and Research coordinates the policy of Estonian language.

Efficient return of third country nationals who have received a return decision or removal order remains of major importance in the ISDP for 2021-2030. The main focus will therefore be laid on the further development of national return management system, including improving return counselling system as well as further development of IT systems and return case management system and its interoperability.

To facilitate the return procedure, Estonia has concluded bilateral implementation protocols with almost every country that has readmission agreements on the EU level. Estonia has concluded readmission agreements with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and has also initiated negotiations with Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Vietnam.

Main objectives for return are:

- to ensure effective and speedy return procedure;
- to promote voluntary return;
- to protect fundamental rights of returnees throughout the return process and provide return counselling.

Estonia transposed directive 2008/115/EC (Return Directive) to its national legislation and the amendments to the Obligation to Leave and Prohibition on Entry Act (hereinafter referred to as OLPEA) entered into force on 24.12.2010. To achieve full conformity with the Return Directive requirements the amendments to OLPEA were made on 01.10.2014. To enforce the Pact, amendments to national legislation have been prepared.

It is planned to provide returnees with necessary services and assistance during the pre-return, return related and post-arrival and post-return phases and ensure that fundamental rights are respected throughout the return process and in all return procedures. That includes providing information and return counselling to ensure that returnees are aware of the possibilities for obtaining state legal aid. In Estonia the return procedures and relevant documents are drawn up in database of foreigners staying or having stayed in Estonia illegally. The aim is to allow to conduct return procedure (including court procedure) paperless and digital as much as possible.

According to the current plans the state budget will support the funding of an independent monitoring mechanism in relation to the return border procedures.

Estonian law allows the detention of children, unless this is contrary to the child's best interests. In practice detention of children is not used and unaccompanied minors are provided substitute home service by the Social Insurance Board during their stay in Estonia. When carrying out return procedure the special needs of vulnerable persons are taken into account. Therefore the services for vulnerable persons (e.g. accommodation, psychological or psychiatric assistance) need to be continued.

Efficient return policy is based on the good cooperation with Frontex, other EU member states and with third countries.

Activities will be designed and implemented in compliance with the requirements of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and will ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of age, gender, nationality, disability, etc., and will ensure that the best interests of the child are respected.

Synergies and consistencies with other programmes and instruments are sought, where possible.

AMIF is clearly targeted at TCNs, primarily applicants for and beneficiaries of international protection. The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) deals with TCN's and also with EU citizens, without overlapping

with AMIF. In Estonia, ESF+ funds are allocated to the orientation programme “Settle in Estonia” and language courses up to B1-level for TCN-s. Among the target groups are the beneficiaries of international protection, whose participation in the programme and language courses is primarily funded through AMIF. AMIF Specific Action will mainly be used to provide a civic orientation course and A1-level Estonian language course specifically for applicants for international protection.

Another area of synergy between AMIF and ESF+ funding is support to local governments and communities. While ESF+ primarily supports the development of local strategies and services for the adaptation and integration of newly arrived immigrants in general, AMIF focuses more on the cultural adaptation and wellbeing of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection. This includes trainings for local government representatives and providing counselling and support to beneficiaries, helping them to integrate and sustain their life in the host society.

There is also a synergy with Internal Security Fund (ISF) in terms of actions related to the protection of children in migration, fight against trafficking in human beings, protection of victims of trafficking, migrant smuggling and prevention and countering radicalisation. Actions related to the development of Eurodac system for border management purposes are connected to Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI).

There is also strong synergy with the BMVI particularly in the Specific Action (SA) allocation to finance the Pact implementation. The SA funding for BMVI will be used to create multipurpose accommodation capacity primarily for screening by transforming an existing detention centre and procuring mobile houses. The multipurpose infrastructure is meant for screening, however as needs arise, it could be used for border procedure purposes. Additionally, the BMVI SA allocation will be employed for extra border control and screening equipment. An IT solution will be developed to enhance screening and interconnectivity between systems (e.g. ILLEGAL, RAKS, and the e-File system), including an automated translation feature. BMVI SA allocation will also ensure services during screening and border procedures, covering costs of personnel performing horizontal tasks at the multipurpose accommodation centre.

AMIF is the main instrument to provide support for the reception of TCNs. In addition to AMIF, the external actions will continue to be implemented by the Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument and Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance that are and will remain the primary tools to support the external dimension of the Union’s migration and security policy. Erasmus+ has the leverage potential for actions to improve the education system and adapt it to the special needs of migrants. Long-term capacity building actions can usefully complement and develop the actions supported by AMIF, focused mainly on early education and integration actions, especially in the reception phase. With the objective of preventing and combating inequalities and discrimination on grounds of gender, disabilities, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, the programme will contribute to social cohesion in the EU, including with regard to TCNs. Actions to protect and promote the rights of the child will also contribute to the protection of migrant children. Estonia is open to fund either from AMIF or national budget activities stemming from Schengen evaluation recommendations.

There is also synergy with the Technical Support Instrument (TSI). TSI programme was used in 2024 to analyse national and EU regulations and methodologies related to Building Block 8 (Preparedness, Contingency Planning and Crisis response) of the Common Implementation Plan. In 2025 TSI support is used to enhance the capacity of reception staff in identifying vulnerabilities, support the creation of an autonomous Dublin Unit, aid in the analysis of national and European regulatory frameworks and contingency planning, and facilitate the development of study materials and guidelines for assessing special reception and procedural needs.

The AMIF programme 2021-2027 takes into account the relevant needs of all potential beneficiaries identified during the preparation of the national strategies. In addition, in case of EU-wide challenges a Member State can apply for the AMIF thematic facility resources. Therefore, Estonia used the option provided in Article 26 (1) of the CPR to transfer 5% of the AMIF allocation to the BMVI. One of the biggest challenges and therefore the government’s priority in Estonia is protecting the EU external border. The goal for the years 2022-2025 is to equip the land border with state-of-the-art surveillance technology. As the cost for the technology is very high, the AMIF transfer in an amount of 1 112 731,00€ will be used as one additional source.

2. Specific Objectives & Technical Assistance

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

Selected	Specific objective or Technical assistance	Type of action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Annex IV actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Annex IV actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Annex IV actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Return	Pact and Ukraine specific action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Annex IV actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Emergency assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Resettlement and humanitarian admission
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer in)
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	International protection (Transfer out)

Selected	Specific objective or Technical assistance	Type of action
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Solidarity	Pact and Ukraine specific action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TA.37. Technical assistance - not linked to costs (Art. 37 CPR)	

2.1. Specific objective: 1. CEAS

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

The AMIF programme contributes to the specific objective by focusing on the following implementation measures in Annex:

(a) Ensuring the uniform application of the Union acquis and of the priorities related to the Common European Asylum System;

Indicative list of actions in connection with Annex III:

- updating existing databases and developing new IT-solutions, including their integration with Eurodac;
- developing and providing training programmes and guidelines;
- analysing and developing work processes;
- developing legal acts and practice;
- providing support services for applicants for international protection, including high quality translation and interpretation services, information provision, legal counselling, representation [the provision of legal services during the administrative phase of international protection procedure is being specified in national legislation.], subsistence etc;
- country of origin information activities;
- studies, analyses etc;
- trainings, awareness raising and information sharing etc;
- maintaining preparedness for relocation and resettlement activities etc;
- streamlining court procedures to manage workload and enhance access to court procedure (e.g. procuring video conferencing capacity, including equipment).

(b) Supporting the capacity of Member States' asylum systems as regards infrastructures and services where necessary, including at local and regional level.

Indicative list of actions in connection with Annex III:

- improving the reception and accommodation capacity (including addressing the needs of families with children and unaccompanied migrant children);
- providing support services (e.g. psychological counselling, adaption activities, spare time activities etc) to applicants and beneficiaries of international protection;
- networks, capacity building and trainings for officials, experts etc;
- translation and interpretation service;
- studies, analyses etc;
- awareness raising and information sharing etc.
- support to local municipalities to help them design and manage additional services (e.g. guardianship and child protection) and develop contingency;
- development of protocols and guidelines (e.g. on representation of unaccompanied minors, case management).

The sub-objective of the Internal Security Development Plan for 2021-2030 connected with **migration policy sets two international protection policy goals which comply with the implementation measures of the specific objective:**

- ensure effective and high-quality process of international protection applications;
- ensure reception conditions and support services for applicants and for beneficiaries of

international protection based on the persons' cultural, gender, religious, language and other background.

Until the beginning of 2022, the number of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection in Estonia, remained relatively low. A sharp increase in applications of international protection occurred during 2015–2016 as a result of the occupation of the Crimean Peninsula of Ukraine by Russian Federation and particularly since 2022, after the Russian Federation's war of aggression in Ukraine. As a result, instead of the usual 100 applications per year, nearly 3,000 applications were submitted in 2022 and nearly 4,000 applications in 2023. International protection was granted to nearly 4,000 people in 2023, instead of the usual 50 persons. In 2024, 1,328 foreigners submitted applications, and international protection was granted to 1,369 persons. Top 5 nationalities applying for international protection in Estonia in 2024 were Ukrainian, Russian, Belarussian, Indian and Georgian. A total of 434 new applications for international protection have been submitted in the first four months of 2025, with Ukrainian citizens accounting for 92% of the total number of applicants. These are mainly individuals who were residing in Estonia already before the war and who therefore are not in the scope of temporary protection.

Additionally, 41,871 Ukrainian war refugees applied for temporary protection in 2022, 8,782 in 2023 and 6,096 in 2024. This sharp increase created a huge administrative burden resulting in urgent upscaling of proceeding and reception capacities of the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board and the Social Insurance Board. During the first four months of 2025 a total of 1,811 new applications for temporary protection have been registered, resulting in a total of 33,961 persons having a valid temporary residence permit based on temporary protection. That makes Estonia one of top countries hosting the most Ukrainian war refugees per capita. The number of new applications for temporary protection ranges from 85 to 140 applications per week. We expect this trend to continue in the coming months.

Historically, the countries of origin of applicants have been diverse with recognition rates around 48-53%. Nevertheless, since 2022, majority of applicants are from Ukraine, which has increased the recognition rate.

An asylum application may be lodged either at the border (initial border crossing point or to the migration surveillance official) or at the PBGB service bureau. Applications are typically registered and lodged within 8 hours by the responsible unit, but no later than 3 working days. The quality of the infrastructure is high since a common service standard is applied to every service point of the PBGB. These service places also serve foremost as initial points of accepting (registering and lodging) the applications for international protection. Substantial procedures such as interviews are being conducted by specialized asylum case workers at the headquarters of the PBGB. As of June 2026, Estonia must implement asylum border procedure (up to 12 weeks) and return border procedure (up to 12 weeks).

Despite of the historically low number of asylum seekers, Estonia has always aimed to offer the high-quality reception services and to be prepared for sudden massive influx. Therefore, the quality of the infrastructure and service should be maintained and further developed.

To participate in the EU relocation and resettlement activities, Estonia created in 2015 the intergovernmental coordination board and adopted a national action plan. Additionally the board of social partners was convened, where various aspects and developments of relocation and resettlement were discussed. Both cooperation forms are still in operation. In parallel, a wide awareness raising campaign and dialogues on local governments' level were conducted during the years of 2015 and 2016 throughout Estonia where resettlement and relocation related topics were explained. In 2015-2019, Estonia resettled and relocated a total of 213 beneficiaries of international protection.

Coordination for preparing to implement the reformed EU common asylum and migration management system is led by the Ministry of the Interior and operates on several levels (please see section 6. Partnership).

Asylum applicants are accommodated at the Accommodation Centre. The centre provides a range of adaptation support activities and can provide additional support according to the needs of the individual. It is still important to ensure leisure activities for those staying in the centre and also to provide self-sustaining measures in Estonian society, including taking into account that six months after applying for protection, a person has the right to enter the labour market.

There is only one detention centre in Estonia and the decision to detain is made by the Administrative Court only. An asylum seeker may be detained if the efficient application of the surveillance measures are impossible and at least one of the detention grounds provided by the national law occurs. Detention is in accordance with the principle of proportionality and upon detention the circumstances of the asylum seeker are taken into account in every single case. Surveillance measures may be applied as an alternative to detention for the purposeful and efficient, simple and expedient conduct of asylum procedures and AMIF SA funding may be used to cover the subsistence costs for those residing in alternatives for detention. This practice will be continued in the future. In synergy with BMVI SA allocation, the multipurpose infrastructure will serve as an alternative to detention and may accommodate individuals undergoing screening and border procedures, with associated costs covered by AMIF.

The wide range of services provided by NGOs, international organisations and the state to asylum seekers and the beneficiaries of international protection (health and psychological care, material aid, interpretation, language training, recreation activities etc) will continue to be provided and developed. Estonia will ensure the early identification and provide the necessary conditions and services for vulnerable persons.

The goals that are foreseen by EU by the ongoing CEAS reform will be met. By June 2025, the draft of the Amendment Act (draft law) was composed, and the consultation process with partners is ongoing through the Draft Legislation Information System (EIS). By June 2026, the Amendment Act is passed and in force, the implementing acts of the Amendment Act are in force.

Goal 1: To ensure effective and high-quality process of international protection applications.

Though the number of asylum seekers is relatively low, Estonia will continually enhance the conditions and focus on rapid access to the asylum procedures.

Goal 2: To ensure reception conditions and support services for applicants and for beneficiaries of international protection based on the persons' cultural, gender, religious, language and other background.

For Estonia, the reception conditions will stay the priority with the aim of ensuring high-quality reception conditions. The conditions will be in compliance with the Reception Conditions Directive.

(c) Enhancing cooperation and partnership with third countries for the purpose of managing migration including by enhancing their capacities to improve protection of people in need of international protection in the context of the global cooperation efforts.

When relevant actions are undertaken at the EU level, Estonia is prepared to provide support to the cooperation. At the moment, there are no specific actions foreseen.

(d) Implementing technical and operational assistance to one or several other Member States, including in cooperation with EUAA.

Estonia implements the technical and operational assistance. In 2022, the PBGB had 5 asylum case officials and approximately 200 trained asylum reserve officials covering 13 different EUAA profiles out of 20 profiles. In 2025, the PBGB has 7 asylum case officials and approximately 750 asylum reserve officials. Some experts cover multiple profiles. All reserve officials are trained to register applications and perform initial proceedings and some officials are trained to conduct substantial proceedings and to make decisions. PBGB has provided yearly 3–4 officials for 1,5 months (6 weeks) to the EUAA asylum support teams. PBGB has also provided yearly approximately 60 units of technical equipment of support. Estonia is committed to continue providing support at least in the same capacity.

Operating support:

Estonia plans to use operating support to better contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF programme. The use of operating support enables to maintain capabilities which are crucial to the Union as a whole.

Asylum related IT systems and equipment maintenance as well as repair costs would be covered by operating support. Developing the system of processing of applicants for international protection ensures a high-quality and fast process and ensures the exchange of data with other relevant IT systems in the

processing of applications for international protection and in decision-making.

The PBGB is the main authority responsible for the implementation of the asylum policy and procedures in Estonia. Depending on national arrangements, funding related to the maintenance of IT systems may be directed to the Development and IT Centre of the Ministry of the Interior (SMIT) who is responsible of all IT systems development and maintenance in the domain of asylum.

Financial instruments: Not applicable.

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	455	9,835
O.1.1.1	of which number of participants who received legal assistance	number	0	1,800
O.1.1.2	of which number of participants benefiting from other types of support, including information and assistance throughout the asylum procedure	number	455	8,035
O.1.1.3	of which number of vulnerable participants assisted	number	0	0
O.1.2	Number of participants in training activities	number	278	1,308
O.1.3	Number of newly created places in reception infrastructure in line with Union acquis	number	20	120
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	23	130
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	2021-2027	1,034	number	Project reports	
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	2021-2027	570	number	Project reports	
R.1.7	Number of persons placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021-2027	180	number	Project reports	
R.1.7.1	of which number of unaccompanied minors placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021-2027	0	number	NA	
R.1.7.2	of which number of families placed in alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021-2027	0	number	NA	

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	3,307,333.89
Intervention field	002.Asylum procedures	22,349,242.50
Intervention field	003.Implementation of the Union acquis	150,750.00
Intervention field	004.Children in migration	0.00
Intervention field	005.Persons with special reception and procedural needs	0.00
Intervention field	006.Union resettlement programmes or national resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes (Annex III, point 2(g))	0.00
Intervention field	007.Operating support	232,091.37

2.1. Specific objective: 2. Legal migration and integration

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

The AMIF programme contributes to the specific objective by focusing on the following implementation measures in Annex II and in connection with Annex III:

(b) supporting measures to facilitate regular entry into and residence in the Union;

The indicative action in connection with Annex III:

- migration counselling services;

(d) 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.

The indicative list of actions in connection with Annex III:

- awareness raising and information sharing to TCNs and host society;
- participation and exchanges between the members of the host society and TCN's, civics and other trainings, orientation courses, one stop shops etc;
- language training;
- cooperation activities, e.g. raising of active participation in society, developing social entrepreneurship etc;
- pre-departure measures;
- support services;
- developing and involving of civil society organisations;
- capacity building and trainings for officials, experts etc;
- interpretation and translation services;
- studies, analyses etc.

During the financing period 2021-2027, Estonia plans to continue with the initial language and cultural adaptation/integration activities and introduce new pre-departure and post-arrival measures (including mental health issues etc) to ensure initial integration and prepare TCNs to join the labour market. The activities will be financed from AMIF mostly in accordance with the Internal Security Development Plan 2021-2030 and Cohesive Estonia 2030 Development Plan.

Based on studies, e.g. the EIM 2020, the Estonian Human Development Report (HDR 2016/2017), Statistics Estonia data and other research, it is important to focus on the following challenges:

Migration to Estonia has steadily increased during previous programming period due to labour shortage, return migration, and more favorable economic development. Increasing migration requires efficient and effective adaptation and integration measures. There is a need to develop new innovative approaches in adaptation and integration policies as the current measures do not entirely meet the challenges that the mobility and diversity of migrant groups require.

Therefore, there is a need to pay more attention to improving and delivering adaptation and integration services in a customer-centric and target-oriented manner, raising awareness and facilitating the transition between services and activities and avoiding duplication.

Much of adaptation and integration takes place at the local level and, to be successful, there is a need to support local authorities with a larger population of foreign origin and public, private and civil society

institutions including at local level that encounter with TCNs and provide (public) services. The aim is to increase the capacity of adaptation and integration partners to effectively provide adaptation and integration services for migrants. Thereby it is important to support the host communities' capability and readiness in a wider context. Integration happens in all places where migrants live, work and go to school or to a sports club. The local level plays a key role in welcoming and guiding newcomers when they first arrive in their new country. In addition, civil society organisations, educational institutions, employers and socio-economic partners and organisations, churches, religious and other philosophical communities, youth and students' organisations, diaspora organisations as well as migrants themselves play a key role in achieving a truly effective and comprehensive integration policy. Empowering both migrants and host communities to actively engage in the integration process is essential to achieve sustainable and successful integration.

According to EIM 2020, approximately 32% of newly arrived migrants actively communicate with Estonians on a daily basis. However, approximately 60% of newly arrived migrants lack active communication with Estonians. In addition, according to the survey "Adaptation of New Immigrants in Estonia" (2019), spouses of a foreign worker (65% of whom according to the survey are women) have become more socially isolated with because they lack the support and network of the employer. EIM 2020 demonstrates that for people of other nationalities living in Estonia for a long time, having a common language of communication and contact with other Estonian residents is important for integration into society. Positive contacts between people of different nationalities improve mutual understanding, reduce fears and prejudices, and create preconditions for appreciating cultural diversity in society. It is important to design and facilitate common points of contact and social networks that create social capital between different population groups. Empowerment of local authorities and the development of partnerships also contributes to meeting the challenge.

Knowledge of the Estonian language will increase people's active participation in social life and increase their competitiveness in the labor market, expand their opportunities for participation in lifelong learning and support the progression to education. Lack of knowledge of Estonian is one of the reasons why people of other nationalities are not actively involved in social and political life, and their trust in state institutions is lower than that of Estonians.

The results of EIM 2020 and other surveys including the data from Statistics Estonia show that migrants, including beneficiaries of international protection, international students and spouses, have a weaker position in the Estonian labor market: they have lower employment rates and they underestimate their security in the labor market. To improve the employment rates and active participation of non-ethnic Estonian residents additional measures besides traditional language courses, such as creating opportunities and platforms of social networks and contacts between different resident groups, are needed. Affordable and accessible cultural activities and services to all target groups and common media space also contributes to this goal.

The number of learners whose mother tongue is not Estonian (Russian, Ukrainian, English or any other language) is growing every year in Estonian education system, so an increasing number of educational institutions need help to support the full integration of multilingual and ethnic learners into Estonian society, to ensure the acquisition of the Estonian language and provide opportunities for the development of pupils' mother tongue and cultural knowledge.

IT solutions aimed at the public are accessible to people with special needs, algorithmic systems are implemented in a way that respects fundamental rights, prejudices, stereotyped and biased decisions are avoided in algorithmic assessments.

The synergy between AMIF and other funds (e.g. ESF+, ERDF, external instruments) will be ensured. AMIF complements mainly with the ESF+. In general, both AMIF and ESF+ will support migrants and third-country nationals but with a different scope of activities and measures. AMIF will support measures implemented in the early phases of integration, meaning adaptation. Measures will be tailor-made to address the needs of the third-country nationals. The ESF+ will complement AMIF with longer term measures related to integration in several fields: the formal and informal educational system, language learning, employment and labour market, actions to support social inclusion etc.

Operating support: Not applicable

Financial instruments: Not applicable

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	15	15
O.2.3	Number of participants supported	number	608	4,590
O.2.3.1	of which number of participants in a language course	number	70	2,240
O.2.3.2	of which number of participants in a civic orientation course	number	48	2,600
O.2.3.3	of which number of participants who received personal professional guidance	number	0	0
O.2.4	Number of information packages and campaigns to raise awareness of legal migration channels to the Union	number	2	3
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	0	0

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	2021-2027	1,120	number	Project reports	
R.2.9	Number of participants who report that the activity was helpful for their integration	number	0	share	2021-2027	3,052	number	Project reports	
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	2021-2027	0	number	NA	
R.2.11	Number of participants who applied for a long-term residence status	number	0	number	2021-2027	0	number	NA	

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	0.00
Intervention field	002.Victims of trafficking in human beings	0.00
Intervention field	003.Integration measures – information and orientation, one stop shops	1,687,500.00
Intervention field	004.Integration measures – language training	1,792,500.00
Intervention field	005.Integration measures – civics and other training	3,203,100.00
Intervention field	006.Integration measures – Introduction, participation, exchanges host society	1,432,500.00
Intervention field	007.Integration measures – basic needs	0.00
Intervention field	008.Pre-departure measures	0.00
Intervention field	009.Mobility schemes	0.00
Intervention field	010.Acquisition of legal residence	900,000.00
Intervention field	011.Vulnerable persons, including unaccompanied minors	0.00
Intervention field	012.Operating support	0.00

2.1. Specific objective: 3. Return

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

The AMIF programme contributes to the specific objective, by focusing on the following implementation measures in Annex II:

(a) Ensuring a uniform application of the Union *acquis* and policy priorities regarding infrastructure, procedures and services;

The indicative list of actions in connection with Annex III:

- developing IT-systems;
- providing translation and interpretation service;
- improving the capacity to resolve the crisis in mass migration situation.

(b) Supporting an integrated and coordinated approach to return management at the Union and Member State level, to the development of capacities for effective, dignified and sustainable return and reducing incentives for irregular migration;

The indicative list of actions in connection with Annex III:

- forced returns;
- providing accommodation for vulnerable persons and persons subject to return border procedure;
- providing return counselling and raise awareness of possibilities to apply for state legal aid;
- providing medical and psychological assistance;
- providing translation and interpretation service;
- improving conditions in the detention centre with provision of services;
- implementing a monitoring system of forced return.

(c) Supporting assisted voluntary return, family tracing and reintegration, while respecting the best interests of the child;

An indicative action in connection with Annex III:

- maintaining and developing assisted voluntary return and reintegration programme.

(d) Strengthening cooperation with third countries and their capacity, with respect to readmission and sustainable return.

An indicative action in connection with Annex III:

- improving cooperation on readmission and return with third countries.

Efficient return of TCNs who received a return decision or removal order remains of major importance in the Internal Security Development Plan for 2021-2030. The main focus will be laid on the development of national IT-systems, pre-return and post return/ post-arrival services and cooperation with third countries.

The goal is to offer returnees broad range of services and advice, including special assistance to vulnerable persons. Estonia will ensure the early identification and provide the necessary conditions and services for vulnerable persons. Following activities are covered by AMIF and the state budget: investments in the detention of irregular migrants (incl. maintenance of detention centre, costs for migrants in the detention centre), salaries for staff engaged in the return process, development and management of IT-systems, preparation of return, translation costs, implementing the requirements of the Return Directive etc.

In accordance with Estonian law the detention of a person is an extreme measure, which may be applied only as a last resort, when other surveillance measures do not ensure the enforcement of the return decision. Upon detention the circumstances of the returnee are taken into account in each case. The

detention of a person for more than 48 hours is decided by an administrative court (in a court ruling).

The Estonian return management system should be further developed in line with RECAMAS model to enable speedy return proceedings (e.g. issue return decisions together with a decision on ending of a legal stay in a single administrative act) and exchange of data and information (e.g. increase interoperability with SIS and other EU IT-systems and IT-solutions developed by Frontex). In 2024 Estonia utilises the Readmission Case Management System (RCMS) with Armenia, Bangladesh, Georgia, and Pakistan. In addition, the goal is to increase the capacity of authorities and organisations engaged in return related matters.

Estonia will prioritize voluntary return and reintegration of TCN in the country of origin as the most humane and cost-effective method of return. The voluntary return of TCN's is organised through state budget, assisted voluntary return and reintegration is financed by AMIF.

Since 2009, the voluntary assisted return and reintegration programme was financed from either the European Return Fund or AMIF. It is necessary to further develop the existing programme and broaden the range of services offered. It is of primary importance to be able to offer relevant and high-quality services to returnees, including counselling on voluntary return and reintegration opportunities, medical care, special support for vulnerable persons, assistance in preparation of travel and obtaining necessary documents, limited financial assistance (cash incentives), accommodation before and after return etc. To provide for sustainability of return it is necessary to help people to reintegrate in the country of origin. Where necessary, returnees are provided with family tracing and other required services. Another important subject is providing information on voluntary return to the potential target groups and to staff of competent authorities.

In 2019, Estonia issued 1208 return decisions of which voluntary returns were provided to 1000 migrants and 208 return decisions were enforced immediately. 132 TCN participated in the assisted voluntary and reintegration programme (AVR). The voluntary return statistics have had a positive trajectory, for instance in 2014 there were 313 forced, 174 voluntary and 23 AVR cases. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected some return activities in 2020-2021. In some cases it has been more difficult to organize returns of the TCN's e.g. due to shortage or cancellation of flights, unclear quarantine measures etc. The continuation of the pandemic may affect return activities also in the coming programming period, but the PBGB and international organizations dealing with return activities in Estonia are more prepared.

Although Estonia plans to implement activities under Annex IV (Assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes and related activities) we do not plan to apply for higher co-financing.

Forced return is a part of an effective return policy. Under the AMIF, forced return operations will be financed in part, also from the state budget and Frontex. In addition to the organisation of travel for forced return operations, it is important to offer necessary assistance to the target group, including limited financial assistance to cover primary expenses after the return as well as to provide special support to vulnerable persons. Where necessary, the target group is provided with other services (e.g. medical aid etc.). Additional assistance is offered to vulnerable persons. Actions under the AMIF are additional to those financed under the state budget. The forced return monitoring system will be further developed with the support of AMIF and will cover all the phases of removal processes.

In 2018 a new immigration detention centre was opened and can accommodate up to 123 returnees and asylum seekers, the previous center had places for 80 persons. Although the new centre has more comfortable living conditions compared to the old centre, it is still important to develop the detention conditions and provide services (e.g. healthcare services, counselling, leisure time activities etc) taking into account recommendations of Chancellor of Justice as well as resulting from the 2018 evaluations of Estonia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of return.

Following activities are covered under the state budget and in complement to AMIF (the list is non-exhaustive): preparation of return operations (identification of TCN, procurement of travel documents, partly removal operations, assistance for TCN who return voluntarily beyond of the assisted voluntary return programme etc).

The number of irregular migrants subject to return decisions has been increasing year by year. The number of return decisions has increased significantly from 2016 to 2020. In 2016 the Police and Border

Guard Board issued 507 return decisions and in 2020 more than twice, 1232. Through the years the number of irregular TCN detained in Estonia has been affected by the closeness of the Russian Federation and Ukraine which remain the main countries of origin or transit to Estonia. The visa waiver agreements concluded by the European Union have increased immigration from Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova, and thus the number of violations of the stay of citizens of these countries. In recent years there was also notable increase in number of irregular TCN from Asia (Vietnam, Bangladesh, Afghanistan) and Africa (Nigeria, Cameroon). As the number of irregular TCN is increasing with more different countries of origin, return processes will be more complex and increase in numbers, and hence become more costly.

Irregular migration flows are expected to intensify in the coming years due to the political and economic situation in the EU neighboring countries. As an additional risk, Estonia must be prepared for situations where immigrants are exploited for the purpose of destabilizing the member states of the European Union. The refugee crisis caused by Russia's aggression against Ukraine is also a challenge.

In 2019 the enforcement rate of return decisions was 96%, in 2020 it fell initially due to COVID travel restrictions to 83% (data from May 2020) but increased to 94% (data from October 2021). It is common that enforcement rate of a particular year increases in time. To detect illegally staying or working TCNs Estonian Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) works in close cooperation with Estonian Tax and Customs Board and Labour Inspectorate. Based on the joint risk assessment the PBGB establishes an annual work plan which includes specific targeted actions as well as joint inspections with the Labour Inspectorate and Tax and Customs Board.

Among the prerequisites of efficient return policy is a swift cooperation with the EU Member States and third countries. Return process can be accelerated and its success can be ensured through efficient cooperation with countries of origin. To achieve the goal it is necessary to create new and strengthen the existing contacts in both the EU Member States and third countries.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior and Police and Border Guard Board have mapped the most relevant countries on readmission cooperation with third countries. The aim is to improve bilateral cooperation with these countries from which illegal immigrants are most likely to come to Estonia.

The goal is to share experience and best practices, simplify information exchange between competent authorities, assist in obtaining travel documents and ensure proper reception of the removed person in the country of origin. Possible actions are: negotiations of bilateral readmission agreements/ arrangements, joint seminars, visits, etc. Necessary studies are performed to ensure further development of return policies, if needed. Under the state budget following actions are covered fully or in assistance to AMIF: cooperation activities between the Estonian and Russian border guard representatives to carry out return procedures under the accelerated procedure, and bilateral cooperation with third countries to facilitate the implementation of the readmission agreements and implementing protocols.

Operating support:

Estonia plans to use operating support to better contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the AMIF programme. The use of operating support enables to maintain capabilities which are crucial to the Union as a whole.

Return related IT systems and equipment maintenance as well as repair costs would be covered by operating support. Further developing of the quick and effective return procedures IT system is a necessity. Ensuring the exchange of data with other relevant IT systems is also of major importance.

For those areas, the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) is the main authority responsible for the development and implementation of the return policy and procedures in Estonia. Depending on national arrangements, funding related to the maintenance of IT systems may be directed to the Development and IT Centre of the Ministry of the Interior (SMIT) who is responsible of all IT systems development and maintenance in the domain of return.

Financial instruments: Not applicable.

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	124	1,000
O.3.2	Number of equipment purchased, including number of ICT systems purchased / updated	number	2	3
O.3.3	Number of returnees who received re-integration assistance	number	190	975
O.3.4	Number of places in detention centres created	number	0	0
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	2021-2027	560	number	Project reports	
R.3.7	Number of returnees who were removed	number	0	number	2021-2027	1,190	number	Project reports	
R.3.8	Number of returnees subject to alternatives to detention	number	0	number	2021-2027	180	number	Project reports	

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	900,000.00
Intervention field	002.Reception/detention conditions	1,430,080.20
Intervention field	003.Return procedures	745,755.15
Intervention field	004.Assisted voluntary return	771,131.25
Intervention field	005.Reintegration assistance	225,000.00
Intervention field	006.Removal/Return operations	2,316,516.11
Intervention field	007.Forced-return monitoring system	332,325.00
Intervention field	008.Vulnerable persons/UAMs	0.00
Intervention field	009.Measures addressing incentives for irregular migration	607,050.15
Intervention field	010.Operating support	232,091.37

2.1. Specific objective: 4. Solidarity

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

NA

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	0	0
O.4.2	Number of participants who received pre-departure support	number	0	0

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	2021-2027	0	number	NA	
R.4.4	Number of persons resettled	number	0	number	2021-2027	0	number	NA	
R.4.5	Number of persons admitted through humanitarian admission	number	0	number	2021-2027	0	number	NA	

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)	0.00
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)	0.00
Intervention field	004.Humanitarian admission (Article 19)	0.00
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

Technical assistance (TA) is the precondition that sufficient means and resources are available to achieve the objectives and indicators set in the AMIF programme.

According to the Article 36 (5) CPR TA is used for

- Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control;
- Capacity building;
- Evaluation and studies, data collection;
- Information and communication.

Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control

TA is used by the competent officials of Responsible Authority (RA) and Audit Authority (AA). In the Ministry of the Interior there are approximately 10 RA officials responsible for implementation of HOME funds and 2 AA auditors. The TA is used for the RA and AA personnel costs, training, participation in workshops and meetings, etc.

Capacity building

Consultation and sharing of best practices are key factors in successful implementation so that applicants and beneficiaries have the ability to prepare and implement projects. Therefore, the RA also ensures continuous training, counseling and guidance of applicants and beneficiaries funded by the TA.

To reduce the burden on applicants and beneficiaries, the TA is used for novel IT solutions of application, reporting and reimbursement. The SFOS information system will be introduced to simplify the technical procedures, reduce the workload of applicants, beneficiaries and administration, and thus contribute more to substantive activities. The principle of single entry is used as far as possible for electronic applications. In addition, the information system enables the RA to monitor the achievement of results, the progress of commitments and disbursements, the volumes and results of audits, administrative, financial and on-the-spot controls, irregularities and recoveries.

Evaluation and studies, data collection

It is important to ensure that objectives are met in time and resources are used efficiently. Therefore two evaluations are foreseen: the mid-term evaluation in 2024 and final evaluation in 2030. If needed, resources could be used for studies and data collection.

Information and communication

The TA is also used for communication and publication activities (see p 7.)

Estonia is not planning to use technical assistance not linked to costs (Article 37 CPR).

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	25,568.98
Intervention field	002.Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control	2,173,363.31
Intervention field	003.Evaluation and studies, data collection	178,982.86
Intervention field	004.Capacity building	178,982.86

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
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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	7,015,653.75	2,338,551.25	2,338,551.25	0.00	9,354,205.00	75.0000000000%
CEAS	Annex IV actions	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
CEAS	Operating support	Total	232,091.37	77,363.79	77,363.79		309,455.16	75.0000000000%
CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action	Total	18,791,672.64	2,087,963.63	2,087,963.63	0.00	20,879,636.27	89.999999856%
Total CEAS			26,039,417.76	4,503,878.67	4,503,878.67	0.00	30,543,296.43	85.2541172813%
Legal migration and integration	Regular actions	Total	6,037,500.00	2,012,500.00	2,012,500.00	0.00	8,050,000.00	75.0000000000%
Legal migration and integration	Annex IV actions	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Legal migration and integration	Operating support	Total						
Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action	Total	2,978,100.00	330,900.00	330,900.00	0.00	3,309,000.00	90.0000000000%
Total Legal migration and integration			9,015,600.00	2,343,400.00	2,343,400.00	0.00	11,359,000.00	79.3696628224%
Return	Regular actions	Total	5,431,726.61	1,810,575.54	1,810,575.54	0.00	7,242,302.15	74.9999999655%
Return	Annex IV actions	Total	996,131.25	332,043.75	332,043.75	0.00	1,328,175.00	75.0000000000%
Return	Operating support	Total	232,091.37	77,363.79	77,363.79	0.00	309,455.16	75.0000000000%
Return	Pact and Ukraine specific action	Total	900,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	1,000,000.00	90.0000000000%
Total Return			7,559,949.23	2,319,983.08	2,319,983.08	0.00	9,879,932.31	76.5182289999%
Solidarity	Regular actions	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Solidarity	Annex IV actions	Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Solidarity	Operating support	Total						
Total Solidarity			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			2,556,898.01				2,556,898.01	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)		
Grand total			45,171,865.00	9,167,261.75	9,167,261.75	0.00	54,339,126.75	83.1295379623%

3.3. Transfers

Table 7: Transfers between shared management funds¹

Transferring fund	Receiving fund						
	ISF	BMVI	ERDF	ESF+	CF	EMFAF	Total
AMIF		1,112,731.00					1,112,731.00

¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

Table 8: Transfers to instruments under direct or indirect management¹

Instrument	Transfer Amount
	0.00

¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

4. Enabling conditions

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

Table 9: Horizontal enabling conditions

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
1. Effective monitoring mechanisms of the public procurement market	Yes	Monitoring mechanisms are in place that cover all public contracts and their procurement under the Funds in line with Union procurement legislation. That requirement includes: 1. Arrangements to ensure compilation of effective and reliable data on public procurement procedures above the Union thresholds in accordance with reporting obligations under Articles 83 and 84 of Directive 2014/24/EU and Articles 99 and 100 of Directive 2014/25/EU.	Yes	Public Procurement Register https://riigihanked.riik.ee ; Public Procurement Act www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/505092017003/consolide/current ; Competition Act www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/519012015013/consolide/current ; Information from the MoF https://www.fin.ee/riigihanked-riigiabi-osalused-kinnisvara/riigihanked	Public contracts above the national threshold and procurement under EU procurement law are published and executed on the central e-procurement portal “Public Procurement Register” managed by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in accordance with Reg (EU) 2019/1780. MoF is responsible for monitoring, reporting and consulting pursuant to Art 83 and 84 of EU 2014/24 and Art 99 and 100 of EU 2014/25. Monitoring and reporting are based on data retrieved from the Central Public Procurement Register.
		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	Public Procurement Register (PPR) https://riigihanked.riik.ee ; Information from the MoF https://www.fin.ee/riigihanked-riigiabi-osalused-kinnisvara/riigihanked	a. the names of the successful tenderers, the indicative number of tenderers and the contract value shall be published in the public procurement register in the form of a contract award notice in accordance with Commission Reg EU 2019/1780. b. After completion of procurement, the contracting authority will publish the contract-specific information on the final price in the public procurement register. Information on the participation of SMEs as direct tenderers is published in the scheme award notice – 100 % of e-procurement is carried out in a central procurement register.

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		3. Arrangements to ensure monitoring and analysis of the data by the competent national authorities in accordance with article 83 (2) of directive 2014/24/EU and article 99 (2) of directive 2014/25/EU.	Yes	Public Procurement Register (PPR) https://riigihanked.riik.ee ; Public Procurement Act www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/505092017003/consolide/current Information form the MoF https://www.fin.ee/en/public-procurement-state-aid-and-assets/public-procurement-policy/state-supervision	The authority responsible for state supervision (monitoring) and analysis is the Ministry of Finance. Monitoring obligations are laid down in the Public Procurement Act. 4 people are responsible for monitoring and 1 person is responsible for the overall analysis of public procurement data.
		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	Public Procurement Register (PPR) https://riigihanked.riik.ee Public Procurement and State Aid Department of the MoF https://www.fin.ee/riigihanked-riigiabi-osalused-kinnisvara/riigihanked Reports, data https://fin.ee/riigihanked-riigiabi-osalused/riigihanked#riigihangete-valdkon	The yearly overview is published at website of Ministry of Finance.
		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	Public Procurement Register (PPR) https://riigihanked.riik.ee ; Public Procurement and State Aid Department of the MoF https://www.fin.ee/riigihanked-riigiabi-osalused-kinnisvara/riigihanked ; Information form the MoF - https://www.fin.ee/en/public-procurement-state-aid-and-assets/public-procurement-	The Public Procurement Act provides that if circumstances that become known during supervision may give rise to suspicion of an offense that is not a misdemeanor as provided for in § 213–215 of the Public Procurement Act, or if the circumstances have the characteristics of a possible corruption case, the Ministry of Finance shall notify the investigating authority or the prosecutor's office of the circumstances known to it. In this sense, the Competition Authority is also an investigating authority and the competent

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
				policy/state-supervision	authority for supervising compliance with the Competition Act (see § 54), which must be notified of violations. The website of the Ministry of Finance contains information that in the event of suspicion of possible cooperation between undertakings that harms competition, the Competition Authority must be notified.
3. Effective application and implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights	Yes	<p>Effective mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union ('the Charter') which include:</p> <p>1. Arrangements to ensure compliance of the programmes supported by the Funds and their implementation with the relevant provisions of the Charter.</p>	Yes	<p>Constitution https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/530122020003/consolide/current;</p> <p>Act on the Implementation of ESI and HOME Funds (ÜSS) https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/505012024005/consolide</p> <p>UN Reports – Estonia - https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=HRI%2fCORE%2fEST%2f2015&Lang=en)</p> <p>Gender Equality Act - https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/106072012022?leiaKehtiv</p> <p>Equal Treatment Act - https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/126042013009?leiaKehtiv</p> <p>Chancellor of Justice - https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/126042013009?leiaKehtiv</p>	To ensure consistency with the Charter Estonia has a mechanism established through national law and international agreements. Among others Section I of the Charter (dignity, § 1-5) in the Constitution § 10, 17, 18, 20, 29. Section II (freedoms, § 6-19) Constitution § 20, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 36-38, 40, 41, 43, 47, the Personal Data Protection Act and the Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens. Section III (equality, § 20-26) § 12 and 28 of the Constitution, the Equal Treatment Act, the Gender Equality Act. Title IV (solidarity, § 27-38), § 27-29 of the Constitution, Employment Contracts Act. Title V (citizens' rights, § 39-46), § 3, 12, 34, 44, 46 of the Constitution, Administrative Procedure Act. According to § 7 (3) of the ÜSS, each Implementing Body centrally coordinates and monitors in its field how the support enables to maintain the base principles of the strategy "Estonia 2035" (including the values of the Charter) and contributing to the achievement of goals. The requirement of compliance with the Charter is foreseen in the horizontal project selection criteria. MA provides trainings on fundamental rights.
		2. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of	Yes	Monitoring Committee - https://siseministeerium.ee/seirekomisjon	The monitoring committee includes partners who monitor the implementation

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the Charter and complaints regarding the Charter submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7).			<p>of the Charter and whose task is to present the consolidated vision and, if necessary, problems in their field to the monitoring committee (e.g. the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment, the Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, the Estonian Human Rights Centre).</p> <p>Upon request of the partner overseeing the implementation of the Charter, discussion point is added to the agenda. In accordance with the working procedures of the monitoring committee, which were approved at the first meeting, the representative of the Chancellor of Justice gives, if necessary, an overview of complaints submitted to him/her where the activities supported by the funds did not comply with the Charter or the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Secretariat of the Monitoring Committee makes a request to the Chancellor of Justice before the meeting and, in the case, there are complaints, the discussion point is added to the agenda. The monitoring committee has an e-mail address through which all members of the monitoring committee can open a discussion or propose agenda points.</p>
4. Implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) in	Yes	<p>A national framework to ensure implementation of the UNCRPD is in place that includes:</p> <p>1. Objectives with measurable goals, data collection and monitoring mechanisms.</p>	Yes	<p>Welfare Development Plan - https://www.sm.ee/et/heaolu-arengukava-2023-2030</p> <p>Estonia 2035 - https://valitsus.ee/strateegia-eeesti-2035-arengukavad-ja-planeering/strateegia/materjalid</p>	Ensuring the protection of the rights of people with disabilities is divided between different strategies. The policy strategy for the protection of the rights of people with disabilities is set out in the “Welfare Development Plan 2023–2030”. The challenges of the target group, policy measures and relevant indicators are

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC					described in the programmes of the same development plan. The umbrella strategy “Estonia 2035” also covers requirements of the UNCRPD. Statistics on the situation of people with disabilities are collected by Statistics Estonia through the Estonian Social Survey, the Estonian Labour Force Survey, the Working Life Survey and the Household Budget Survey, as well as relevant health, ageing and pension surveys. The Ministry of Social Affairs publishes regular social welfare statistics and, where necessary, conducts specific surveys.
		2. Arrangements to ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards are properly reflected in the preparation and implementation of the programmes.	Yes	Advisory Board for Persons with Disabilities - https://www.oiguskantsler.ee/et/puuetega-inimeste-n%C3%B5ukoda Consumer Protection and Technical Surveillance Authority (CPTSA) (https://www.ttja.ee/ariklient/ehitised-ehitamine/ligipaasetavus) Requirements for buildings arising from the special needs of people with disabilities (https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/131052018055) Requirements for living space (https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/103072015034?leiaKehtiv)	Accessibility is a strategic goal and fundamental principle of "Estonia 2035" within the meaning of Article 9 of the UNCRPD. In order to develop a comprehensive accessibility policy, the Government established an accessibility task force in 2019. The Equality Competence Centre provides advice to MA and beneficiaries on accessibility and equal opportunities and approves conditions of giving support and monitors the fulfillment of UNCRPD requirements. In 2018, the regulations “Requirements for buildings arising from the special needs of people with disabilities” and “Requirements for living space” entered into force. Since 1 January 2019, the Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
					Authority (CPTRA) monitors the implementation of respective legislation on accessibility of the physical environment and the EU Accessibility Directive (EU) 2019/882.
		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	<p>Monitoring Committee - https://siseministeerium.ee/seirekomisjon</p> <p>Advisory Board for Persons with Disabilities - https://www.oiguskantsler.ee/et/puuetega-inimeste-n%C3%B5ukoda</p> <p>Chancellor of Justice - https://www.oiguskantsler.ee/</p> <p>Act of Chancellor of Justice - https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/%C3%95KS</p>	<p>As of 1 January 2019, the Chancellor of Justice (CJ) is responsible for promoting, protecting and monitoring the implementation of the UNCRPD. In 2019, the Advisory Board for Persons with Disabilities was established under the CJ, with the aim of advising the CJ on the promotion, protection and monitoring of the rights of persons with disabilities. The Advisory Board is established under Article 33(3) of the UNCRPD.</p> <p>For AMIF projects, the contact point is the monitoring committee (MC), which consists of the relevant umbrella organizations and, if necessary, the MA expands the list of partners. The Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, the CJ and the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment are invited to the meetings of the monitoring committee.</p> <p>Representative of the CJ provides, if necessary, an overview of the complaints at the MC meeting.</p> <p>Members of the MC may propose additional meetings or an additional agenda item if a case arises in which an activity supported by the funds does not comply with the UNCRPD.</p>

5. Programme authorities

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

Table 10: Programme authorities

Programme Authority	Name of the institution	Contact name	Position	Email
Managing authority	Estonian Ministry of the Interior	Tarmo Miilits	Permanent Secretary	info@moi.ee
Audit authority	Internal Audit Department of the Estonian Ministry of the Interior	Tarmo Olgo	Head of Department	tarmo.olgo@moi.ee
Body which receives payments from the Commission	Estonian Ministry of the Finance	Marge Kaljas	Adviser of the Treasury Department	marge.kaljas@fin.ee

6. Partnership

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

Preparation of the AMIF programme is based on the principle of transparency. All relevant stakeholders were given an opportunity to contribute to resolving Estonia's current and future challenges in implementing asylum, integration and return policy.

In Estonia all strategic planning of the national needs and their financing is central. There is no separate process (incl. involvement of partners and stakeholders) for programming the EU funds. The planning is source-neutral; the mapping of important strategic goals is done in the process of developing national strategies.

Programming of the 2021-2027 AMIF has been conducted hand in hand with preparing the long-term national umbrella strategy "Estonia 2035", the "Internal Security Development Plan" (ISDP) and the Cohesive Estonia 2030 Development Plan (CEDP). An overview of compiling the strategies is found on following websites: <https://valitsus.ee/strateegia-eeesti-2035-arengukavad-ja-planeering/strateegia>, <https://siseministeerium.ee/ministeerium-ja-kontaktid/kaasamine-osalemine/siseturvalisuse-arengukava-2020-2030> and <https://www.kul.ee/siduseesti2030>.

The process of defining the ISDP started in 2018. At the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, consultations with other ministries and umbrella organizations took place. Additionally, discussions were held in all counties. County Security Councils, other institutions related to internal security in the county, interest groups and representatives of civil society organizations, urban and rural municipality leaders, and the county development centers were invited to the discussions. In total, more than 100 stakeholders contributed to preparing the long-term strategy. The discussions were summarized and used in the preparation of the "Internal Security Development Plan 2020–2030". Through dedicated web platform, the development plan was submitted for public consultation and for getting an opinion of the Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities, also for approval to all ministries and the Government Office. The financing for meeting the goals set in strategies are decided during the annual discussions of national budget strategy for four years, which guarantees synergy with national and other resources and enables to avoid double financing. The implementation of the Internal Security Development Plan is monitored by the sectoral committee which consists of representatives from relevant authorities, intermediate bodies and partners.

The process of compilation of the CEDP also started in 2018. As a preliminary work on the preparation of the development plan, experts from the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Culture prepared analyses to identify main problems and opportunities in the field. Several seminars, workshops, and other involvement events were held in 2019-2020 in different regions with researchers, experts, and stakeholders to prepare the development plan. The objectives of the development plan, the main problems, and the most important interventions and courses of action were discussed with ministries, other state organizations, and all relevant social partners (e.g. interest groups and representatives of civil society organizations, etc) in more detail. Through dedicated web platform, the development plan was submitted for public consultation and for getting an opinion of the Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities. The financing for meeting the goals set in strategies are decided during the annual discussions of national budget strategy for four years, which guarantees synergy with national and EU resources and enables to avoid double financing.

For the Pact National Implementation Plan, an interministerial working group was established in June 2024 by the decree of the Minister of the Interior. All ministries were responsible for involving relevant stakeholders in their field. The working Group meetings took place once a month, resulting in prioritized list of actions and financial needs regarding the Pact. In addition, a webinar for stakeholders was held in April 2025.

Coordination for preparing to implement the reformed EU common asylum and migration management system is led by the Ministry of the Interior and operates on several levels. The management and monitoring of implementation at the national level is facilitated by the interministerial working group. This working group brings together all key stakeholders involved in asylum and migration management in

Estonia. Regular members are the Ministry of the Interior, the Government Office, the Police and Border Guard Board, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and Research, the State Shared Service Centre, the Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs, the Ministry of Social Affairs, and the Social Insurance Board. Other relevant stakeholders are involved as necessary. Social partners from the third sector and international organizations, such as the IOM and UNHCR are included in the coordination process and informed through regular meetings.

There is a common committee to monitor the implementation of the AMIF, BMVI and ISF. This monitoring committee consists of the same parties which are members of the sectoral committees of the Internal Security Development Plan. In addition, bodies responsible for promoting social inclusion, fundamental rights, rights of persons with disabilities, gender equality and non-discrimination are involved.

7. Communication and visibility

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

The communication of EU funds aims to ensure target group awareness of EU support through comprehensive, open and relevant communication.

A single website portal providing access to all programmes covered by CPR will be established by the State Shared Service Centre (SSSC). The website portal will be made available in English and Russian as well, since surveys show that the Russian-speaking population is less aware of support measures.

The Ministry of the Interior ensures the continuation of dedicated website for the HOME funds covering the programmes' objectives, activities, available funding opportunities and achievements. Estonia will ensure transparency on the implementation of the national programme and publishes a list of actions supported by each programme.

Both the single website portal as well as HOME funds website are designed and constructed to comply with the WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines. This means that certain technical tools and content creation principles have been used to help consumers with visual, hearing, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning, and neurological disabilities use the content of the website.

A Facebook page is used to communicate HOME funds' calls for proposals and achievements of projects.

The communication coordinator in the SSSC will lead the national communication network to ensure central visibility, transparency and communication activities. Furthermore, it will hold a yearly national Europe Day in association with the European Commission Representation in Estonia.

A dedicated HOME funds communication officer is appointed within the Ministry of the Interior.

Technical Assistance is used for communication activities.

Indicators:

1. Audio storytelling through five (5) podcasts to rise awareness of the projects financed from the HOME funds during the new period. Podcasts will be part of the regular podcasts published by the Ministry of the Interior.
2. At least four (4) major information activities during the new period to present the achievements for the target audience.
3. At least four (4) digital media content created, including visual content such as photos and video materials, to introduce the HOME funds in Estonia.
4. New social media channels (e.g. Facebook, X and Youtube) developed for the HOME funds in Estonia to engage a broader audience. Creating original content and cross-referencing on other similar social media accounts to grow follower base.

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

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 CPR

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

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

A. Summary of the main elements

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

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

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

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

B. Details by type of operation

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

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

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

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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.

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

A. Summary of the main elements

Specific objective	The amount covered by the financing not linked to costs	Type(s) of operation covered		Conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursesment 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)8340 - 23 Nov 2022 - 1		1.2		Accepted	15 Jul 2025	
Specific objective	Modality	Type of intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate	Description of the action	
1. CEAS	Pact and Ukraine specific action		18,791,672.64		<p>Under this Specific Action, and in relation to SO1, funding will contribute to several building blocks of the Common Implementation Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum, notably:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building Block 2 ‘A new system to manage migration flows at the EU external borders’, by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o hiring personnel of the PBGB and training the personnel of relevant authorities concerned with the border procedures; o providing support to applicants, mostly in the border procedure, including subsistence (e.g. accommodation, food and non-food items) and services (e.g. interpretation, translation, essential medical care). - Building Block 3 ‘Rethinking reception’, by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o upgrading the Vao accommodation centre (and its relevant units) to improve living conditions primarily for families with children and unaccompanied migrant children (UAMCs); o supporting measures for local municipalities, to increase their capacity and involvement in the area of guardianship and other reception services (e.g. service design for guardianship and child protection services, improvement of child crises homes, trainings, and the development of contingency); o developing IT systems for integrated case management in reception; o developing standard operating procedures and guidelines (e.g. on withdrawal of reception conditions, improved case management, representation of UAMCs), etc; o training personnel of the PBGB and other relevant authorities for services related to reception - Building Block 4 ‘Fair, efficient, and convergent asylum procedures’, by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o hiring and training of personnel of the PBGB (including other relevant authorities) on asylum procedures o training personnel of the judiciary (judges, legal advisors, court clerks, attorneys, etc) o streamlining court procedures to manage workload and enhance access to court procedure (e.g. by purchasing videoconferencing and other relevant equipment). - Building Block 6 ‘A fair and efficient system: making the new responsibility rules work’ by creating a unit of the PBGB in charge of ‘transfers to the responsible Member State’ and recruiting and training its personnel - Building Block 7 ‘Making solidarity work’ by hiring and training personnel of the PBGB (including other relevant 	

					<p>authorities) involved in solidarity measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building Block 8 ‘Preparedness, Contingency Planning and Crisis response’, by providing trainings to relevant authorities, increasing awareness related to contingency planning - Building Block 9 ‘New safeguards for applicants for international protection and vulnerable persons, and increased monitoring of fundamental rights’ by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Providing free legal counselling in the administrative procedure. o Providing free legal assistance and representation in the judicial procedure. o Training of personnel of the PBGB, the judiciary and other relevant authorities. - Building Block 10 ‘Resettlement, Inclusion and Integration’ by training personnel of relevant authorities to increase capacity in this area.
2. Legal migration and integration	Pact and Ukraine specific action		2,978,100.00		<p>Activities under this specific action in relation to specific objective 2 will contribute to Building Block 3 ‘Rethinking reception’ and Building Block 10 ‘Resettlement, Inclusion and Integration’ of the Commission Implementing Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum.</p> <p>Support is specifically aimed at the provision of early integration measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - civic orientation course and language course (A1-level) for applicants of international protection. - development of a database to refer the applicants to the courses and exchanging relevant information between the service providers and PBGB.
3. Return	Pact and Ukraine specific action		900,000.00		<p>Activities under this specific action in relation to specific objective 3 will contribute to ‘Building Block 5 ‘Efficient and fair return procedures’ of the Commission Implementation Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum.</p> <p>It is planned to provide support to returnees, mostly in the border procedures, including subsistence (e.g. accommodation, food and non-food items) and services (e.g. interpretation and translation, essential medical care).</p>
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			1,360,186.36		Technical assistance in connection with the specific action to support Member States in the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum

DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent by
Summary of the proposed amendments of AMIF 2021-2027 (2.0) programme	Supplementary Information	28 Aug 2025			Summary of the proposed amendments of AMIF 2021-2027 (2.0) programme		
Horizontal Enabling Conditions - long version	Supplementary Information	28 Aug 2025			Horizontal Enabling Conditions - long version		
AMIF programme 2021-2027 (version 2.0 in Estonian)	Supplementary Information	28 Aug 2025			AMIF programme 2021-2027 (version 2.0 in Estonian)		
AMIF Monitoring Framework	Supplementary Information	28 Aug 2025			AMIF Monitoring Framework_28.08.2025		
sfc2021-PRG-2021EE65AMPR001-2.0_ENG-TRACKED	Supplementary Information	28 Aug 2025			sfc2021-PRG-2021EE65AMPR001-2.0_ENG-TRACKED		