



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate E – HOME Affairs Funds
E.3 – North, West & Central Europe (II)

Brussels
HOME.E.3/DA

Mr Tarmo Miilits
Secretary General
Ministry of the Interior
Pikk 61, 15065 Tallinn,
Estonia
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Subject: Notification letter - Your proposal for the Specific Action “Support to Member States for Smart Borders”- BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1

Dear Mr Miilits,

I have the pleasure to inform you that your application BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1/001 - Smart Borders 2024+, has been **selected, with the following recommendation:**

- You are invited to describe in your future Annual Performance Reports ⁽¹⁾ how the activities carried out under this specific action complement those carried out under the 2014-2020 ISF Borders and Visa programme (including top-ups) and under the 2021-2027 BMVI programme (including Specific Action BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - “Support to comply with the implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework”).

Funding for the specific action as set out in Annex 1 of this letter will be added to your programme 2021EE65BVPR001 via an amendment.

Annex 1 gives you general guidance on which sections of the programme will need to be adjusted to incorporate the specific action.

Annex 2 provides information on the distribution of the additional allocation per year.

The Commission services will make the necessary changes in SFC to enable the generation of *Appendix 3 - Thematic facility* in the programme template, in line with the **information on the specific action as set out in Annex 1.**

⁽¹⁾ Section 1.5 of the template for the report, established in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/168 of 25 January 2023.

You are invited to liaise with the responsible desk officer before the submission of the new version of your programme incorporating the specific action, notably on the output and results indicators.

The specific action must be implemented in accordance with the BMVI Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2021/1148) and the Common Provisions Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2021/1060). As the specific action aims to support readiness for the implementation of the EES and the ETIAS, the timeline for its implementation should, in general, be in line with the date of the start of operations of these systems as determined by the Commission.

Finally, I would like to recall the requirements set out in the note on the closure for the 2014-2020 Home Affairs Funds ⁽²⁾ on the definition of relevant milestones in the development at national level of the EES and, respectively, the ETIAS, for the closure of the projects financed from the top-ups with a view to continue those activities under the BMVI programme, should the case arise.

Yours sincerely,

Doede Ackers
Head of Unit

c.c.: Ms Aivi KUIVONEN, Adviser, Foreign Financing Department,
aivi.kuivonen@siseministerium.ee;

Desk Officer: Ms Silvia ORRU, Silvia.ORRU@ec.europa.eu

Enclosures: Annex 1 – Model Appendix 3 including information on the allocated funding and general guidance

Annex 2 - Total distribution of the additional allocation per year – for information

⁽²⁾ Note AMIF-ISF/2023/03: Preliminary overview of elements in the closure procedure for the 2014- 2020 Home Affairs Funds.

Annex 1 – Model Appendix 3 - and general guidance

The below table is the model of the Appendix 3 that will be included in your BMVI programme. It will be generated in SFC by the desk officer for your country who will be in touch with you regarding this.

Appendix 3 - to the BMVI programme of Estonia Procedure reference: C(2022) 8993 final – 12.12.2022 THEMATIC FACILITY DETAIL				
Specific objective	Modality	Type of intervention	Union contribution	Pre-financing rate
SO 1. European integrated border management	Specific Action	<i>Will not be filled in SFC</i>	EUR 2,012,578.30	<i>Will not be filled in SFC</i>
TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)	<i>Will not be filled in SFC</i>	<i>Will not be filled in SFC</i>	EUR 120,754.70	<i>Will not be filled in SFC</i>
<p>Description of the action: BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1 supports:</p> <p>Under Lot 1: the preparation at the national level for the entry into operation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) and the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS). This includes adaptations to the national systems connected to or used in relation with the EES and/or the ETIAS, adaptation to infrastructure or premises related to the EES and/or the ETIAS operation, the procurement of material and equipment, and services.</p> <p>Under Lot 2: changes to the SIRENE Bureaux Case management system related to the implementation and operation of ETIAS. This includes the development and implementation of national processes and IT solutions, as well as national procedures, handbooks, and training.</p> <p>The specific action provides a flexibility option that consists in the possibility to transfer all or part of the allocation for Lot 2 (EUR 500,000.00, including Technical Assistance) to Lot 1, on condition that the Member State confirms that activities under Lot 2 will be fully carried out and that the costs will be covered by the national budget or other actions financed from the BMVI programme. Estonia has decided not to make use of this possibility.</p>				

Once the Appendix 3 becomes available and you accept the Thematic Facility proposal in SFC, you will have the opportunity to create a new programme version to include the information and data related to the specific action, i.e.:

1. a brief reference to the specific action (i.e., the reference number of the project) in the **narrative description of the relevant Specific Objective (SO 1)**.

2. **the adjusted output and result indicators** (Section 2.1.2, **Tables 1 and 2** of SO 1); where needed you should revise the performance methodology paper to align its content with the indicators as amended.
3. the additional amount linked to the specific action broken down by type of intervention (Section 2.1.3, **Table 3** of SO 1).
4. the additional amount linked to Technical Assistance broken down by type of intervention (Section 2.2.2, **Table 4**).
5. the Union contribution and national contribution to the specific action under the relevant SO in **Table 6** (the Union contribution to the Technical Assistance will be added automatically).

As indicated in guidance note HOME-Funds/2023/12 [ref. Ares(2023)2447967 of 04/04/2023], when sending the new programme version you are invited to **add a short document in SFC providing an overview of the changes introduced and their expected impact on the programme's specific objectives.**

Annex 2

Total distribution of the additional allocation per year

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Amount of additional appropriations per year in EUR (will be added to the initial allocation in Table 5 by the desk officer in SFC prior to programme approval).				2,133,333.00			