

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 2021- 2027

Questions and Answers – version 1

An information session was held by the Managing Authority at Servizzi Ewropej f' Malta, Valletta on Tuesday 12th December, during which various questions and answers were raised on the open call for applications (AMIF – Integration – Call No. 9) launched on 13th November 2023. A summary of the list of Q&A delivered throughout the sessions can be found below:

Q: At which point should the applicant upload the supporting documentation since neither the checklist included within the application form nor the eligibility guidelines specify what documentation is required with submission?

A: As part of the simplification process, not all documentation is being requested but only those that are pertinent for the assessment. It is recommended to review the list of documents as mentioned within the eligibility guidelines to assist in preparing the necessary documentation. All documents have to be scanned together in one document and uploaded.

Q: As explained during the presentation, indirect costs will now include also administrative expenses to run the actual project. As part of the first Work Package, is it therefore necessary to list down the actual number of people engaged on the project provided that no costings will be attributed to this work package?

A: Yes, it is recommended to still include them as these will form part of the organigram but no costs will be added to such expenses. Their expenses are covered under the indirect cost of the project.

Q: The first Work package should feature only the staff component of the project?

A: Yes, only staff related expenses together with a description of their role and function within the project. Other expenses need to be listed in separate work packages.

Q: In instances where other personnel are engaged on the project should these still feature under the work package supporting administrative personnel?

A: It really depends on the type of tasks undertaken within the project. In those circumstances where staff are engaged purely for administrative purposes then their role will be covered through indirect costs. Otherwise, staff engaged for their professional services such as consultants, architect fees, engineers, technicians etc. shall be considered as direct eligible costs.

Q: With regards to the type of intervention codes as listed in AMIF Regulation, how is it determined the code for each activity? Can there be multiple codes attributed to each activity?

A: It is recommended to review Annex VI of the AMIF Regulation, tables 2 and 3 which include generic codes that can be associated with each work package, depending on the activities foreseen. Ideally, one work package is linked with one code especially for financial purposes. The codes are replicated hereunder for ease of reference:

TABLE 2: CODES FOR THE TYPE OF ACTION DIMENSION

001	Development of national strategies
002	Capacity building
003	Education and training for third-country nationals
004	Development of statistical tools, methods and indicators
005	Exchange of information and best practices
006	Joint actions/operations between Member States
007	Campaigns and information
008	Exchange and secondment of experts
009	Studies, pilot projects, risk assessments
010	Preparatory, monitoring, administrative and technical activities
011	Provision of assistance and support services to third-country nationals
012	Infrastructure
013	Equipment

TABLE 3: CODES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION DIMENSION

001	Actions covered by Article 15(1)
002	Specific actions
003	Actions listed in Annex IV
004	Operating support
005	Emergency assistance

Remark: During the presentation, the Managing Authority clarified that in section 2.3 Project Implementation Status of the application form the state of play of any form of procurement shall be included in the same table. Hence, the procurement table is not only limited to tenders, as erroneously indicated in the application form.

Q: What is the co-financing rate attributed to such proposals?

A: The AMIF Regulation enables the possibility to support normal activities at a co-financing rate of 75% EU Share - 25% MT Share. The co-financing rate can increase up to 90% EU share in instances where foreseen investments contribute to any of the activities listed in Annex IV of the AMIF Regulation. For the purpose of this call, as per Annex IV of the AMIF Regulation, *Integration measures implemented by local and regional authorities and civil society organisations, including refugee organisations and migrant-led organisation*. However, it is at the discretion of the PSC to determine the co-financing rate.

Q: Do we have to justify why the project falls under the intervention code 003?

A: In the project summary the Beneficiary has to clearly explain the project's contribution to the development needs and challenges identified in the Programme, including the way integration will be maintained.

Q: One of the types of intervention code refers to 'Civics' however such term is not defined in the application form.

A: These codes are generic and can encompass various attributes to the notion of integration

Q: Is there a definition which explains the moment from when pre-Integration starts and ends and the moment when ESF+ kicks in?

A: It is up to the applicant to explain the way the project applies for third country nationals through pre integration services. Since there is no clear definition of the timeframes dictating pre-integration and long-term integration, the applicant shall define such stages according to the type of services that will be offered.

Q: Since the codes in annex 6 of the AMIF Regulation are associated with the budget, are there any thresholds that need to be followed for each code?

A: No, the Regulation does not stipulate such thresholds. However, the amounts associated with each code will be derived from the budgets allocated to each activity in the work package.

Q: How is it envisaged the budget to be broken down?

A: It is up to the applicant to determine the way the budget will be broken down per work package. The more detail there is the less clarifications there will be. Part of the marks are given on the quality of the application. Hence, a high level of detail is expected.

Q: Applicants were encouraged to include asylum seekers who are in the process of getting a decision on their application and protection. However, previously under the 14-20 AMIF Programme, such target groups were not eligible. Will there be the same distinction?

A: The previous Programme was subject to a different regulation which included certain limitations. The target group of the new programme is broader. In fact, in line with Article 5 of the AMIF Regulation, the objectives of the fund *shall support actions focusing on one or more target groups within the scope of Articles 78 and 79 TFEU.*

Q: In the presentation specific amounts have already been attributed to the pre-selected indicators. On the basis of what were these calculated?

A: Those were decided at programme level based on the interventions that were identified within the AMIF Programme. All project proposals shall collectively contribute to the amounts allocated to each indicator, as included within the Programme.

Q: Can it be explained further the applicable co-financing rates?

A: Expenses can be split either 75% EU share and 25% MT share or 90% EU share and 10% MT share. This depends on the type of actions addressed by the project proposal. In terms on NGO there needs to be a proof of co-finance or else percentage needs to be determined at the Project Selection Committee level. Those 90% and 10% are related to Annex 4.

Q: In view of the co-financing element (MT share) that is required, is it necessary to partner up with a government entity?

A: There is no obligation to partner up with a government entity, however such partnership enables the possibility to broaden concepts and reduce duplication of work. In terms of co-financing, one may wish to get in contact with the Malta Council for Voluntary Sector to assist further on the guidelines required for applying for the NGO/VO Co-financing Fund.

Q: With regards to the output indicators, more specifically Output Indicator 0.2.7, how come the rest of the indicators are indicated as optional but this one is not?

A: The others are optional because they have not been programmed and included in the AMIF Programme. The applicant is to be guided by the eligibility guidelines, which stipulate that at least one of the indicators has to be addressed. It is not mandatory for each of indicators to be reached however as previously explained a collective effort is required to reach the targeted amounts. Output indicators O.2.3.1 and O.2.3.2 are optional because Malta does not have to report on them.

Q: What kind of proof of co-financing is required?

A: Bank statements that show the cashflow of the organisation are sufficient.

Q: Who is the appointed member in the Monitoring Committee which represents civil society on the monitoring committee?

A: A representative from the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD) is nominated as part of the Monitoring Committee. Another representative of the civil society committee within MCESD is also appointed as a member of the Committee.



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