



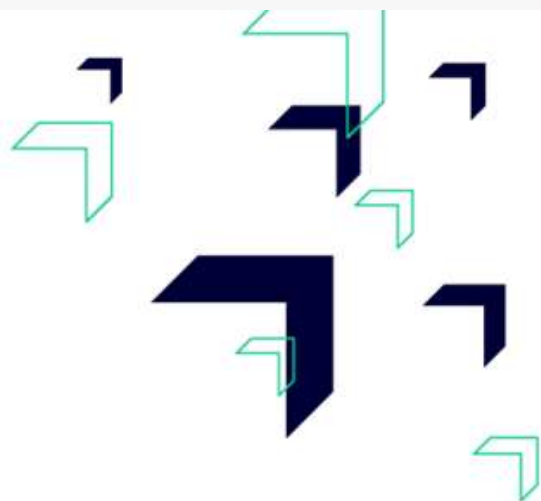
**GOVERNMENT
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Update on Specific Actions

3rd July 2026



Unclassified



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What are Specific Actions?



The Fund-specific Regulations for AMIF, ISF, and BMVI allow Member States to receive from the Commission additional funding beyond their initial programme allocations for the implementation of Specific Actions.



Specific Actions support national or transnational projects that deliver clear Union added value, in line with the objectives of each Fund. These are financed through the Thematic Facility, as set out in the respective Regulations and Commission work programmes.



Funding is integrated into the National Programme through a programme amendment and is strictly earmarked for the approved Specific Action. Its use for other actions is only permitted in duly justified cases and subject to Commission approval.



Specific Actions typically benefit from a higher co-financing rate, generally up to 90%.

Specific Actions approved to date

To date, the Managing Authority, in collaboration with project beneficiaries, has successfully secured four applications and the corresponding funding, as outlined below.

Fund	Specific Action Reference and Title	Funding (EU Share)
BMVI	BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - “Support to comply with the implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework”	EUR 561.818,87
BMVI	BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1 – “Support to Member States for Smart Borders”	EUR 2,012,578.30
ISF	ISF/2025/SA/1.1.1 - “Support to Member States for European Police Record Index System – EPRIS”	EUR 584,905.66
ISF	ISF/2026/SA/1.1.2 – “Support to Member States for the roll-out of SIENA”	EUR 153,223.47

Moreover, in mid-June, the Managing Authority submitted an application under BMVI/2026/SA/1.5.2 – “Support to Member States to enhance their biometric capabilities in relation to the Schengen Information System (SIS)”. The requested total budget is of EUR 500,000 and the application is currently pending assessment by the Commission.

Update on Specific Actions projects

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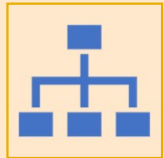
**BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - Support to
comply with the Implementation of the
relevant interoperability legal framework**

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BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - Support to comply with the Implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework



This project is divided into two phases:

Phase 1 - *Creation & adaptation of business processes supported by handbooks, SOPs and training abroad*

Phase 2 - *The evolvement of a service that allows the competent authorities (mainly SIRENE) to perform manual verification when the yellow links are signaled by the Central Authority.*



Phase 1 – To date, CEPOL (the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training) delivered training to Malta Police Force Officers in Malta in November 2024. Further capacity-building activities are planned, including study visits for Maltese officers to their German counterparts, envisaged for Q4 2026. All expenditure associated with this phase will be financed through national funding.



Phase 2 - This involves the implementation of the Central System for Yellow Link Resolution (CSLR) as one of the major components of the EU interoperability of large – scale IT system, aimed at managing, flagging and resolving discrepancies concerning personal data which is stored in the Schengen Information System (SIS), alongside the Multiple Identity Detector (MID).



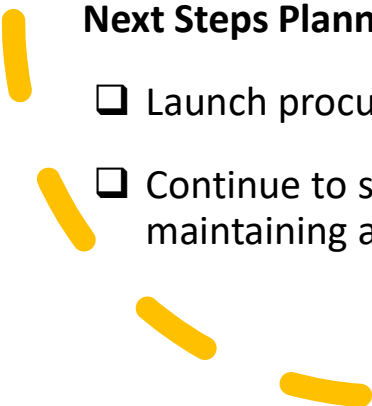
BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - Support to comply with the Implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework

• Planned Disbursements Overview

Software (CSLR integration – €159,425 excl. VAT):	Hardware (€350,000 excl. VAT):
60% (€95,655) – Q4 2026	60% (€210,000) – Q4 2026
30% (€47,827.50) – Q1 2027	30% (€105,000) – Q1 2027
10% (€15,942.50) – Q2 2027	10% (€35,000) – Q2 2027

Next Steps Planned:

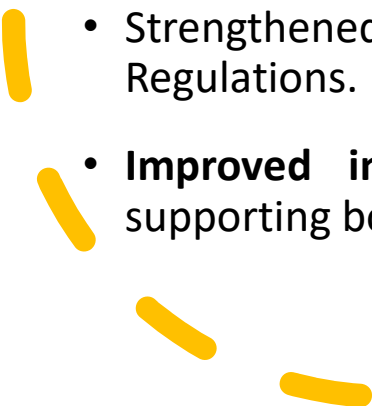
- ☐ Launch procurement processes for Phase 2
- ☐ Continue to strengthen coordination through regular internal meetings within the Malta Police Force, while maintaining active participation and alignment with EU-level discussions on the development of the tool.





BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4 - Support to comply with the Implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework

Tangible Project Impacts

- **20 Malta Police Force officers** trained in interoperability processes and yellow link management, with acquired competencies applied in operational duties (O.1.8, O.1.8.1, R.1.19).
 - **Integration of the CSLR within the SIRENE Case Management System**, enabling the management and resolution of yellow links generated by the Multiple Identity Detector (MID).
 - **Enhanced detection and resolution** of multiple identities and data discrepancies, improving data quality across EU information systems.
 - Strengthened compliance with the **EU interoperability framework** under the applicable EU Regulations.
 - **Improved interoperability, information exchange and identity management** capabilities supporting border management, migration management and law enforcement cooperation.
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BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1- Support to Member States for Smart Borders

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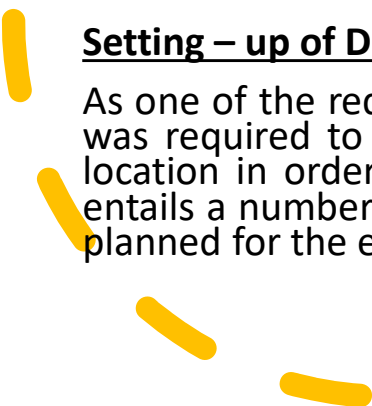
BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1- Support to Member States for Smart Borders

Entry-Exit System

Connectivity Services:

Services were carried out to ensure compliance with the EU EES by implementing a solution for the recording, management and analysis of border crossings of third-country nationals, with the aim of enhancing border control, security and the monitoring of overstays. This was achieved through an Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) integration approach, enabling the interconnection of national systems, such as border control and police databases, with the EU central EES, via the National Uniform Interface (NUI).

Biometric and travel data is captured at border points, transmitted through the ESB to the EES central system for validation and processing and subsequently returned with operational outputs, including alerts and verification results. These services have been fully completed and finalised.



Setting – up of Data Centre as a disaster recovery site:

As one of the requirements identified by the MPF during the 2014–2020 programming period, the beneficiary was required to relocate its Disaster Recovery site from within the Malta International Airport to a nearby location in order to support the growing number of IT systems. The establishment of the new data centre entails a number of works and supplies. Works are currently ongoing and the completion of the data centre is planned for the end of the current year.

ETIAS

Environmentally Friendly Security Features at the ETIAS National Office

A National Unit for the ETIAS was required to be established in line with the relevant EU Regulation. The premises identified to host this unit were accordingly refurbished during the 2014-2020 programming period. Through this project, the Malta Police Force procured the necessary security equipment and installed the required network infrastructure to enhance the security of the premises. All works have been completed.

Connectivity Services

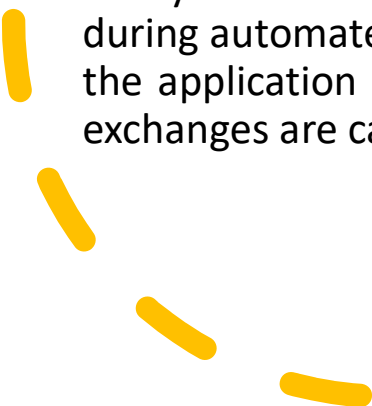
Similar to the EES, services are being carried out to implement and integrate the ETIAS at national level, allowing authorities to assess whether visa-exempt third-country nationals may pose certain risks before travelling to the Schengen area. This is also being achieved through the Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) integration approach, which will connect national systems to the EU ETIAS central system, via the National Uniform Interface (NUI), enabling the exchange of data and services through standardised protocols. Services are still ongoing.



BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1- Support to Member States for Smart Borders

SIS4ETIAS

Development works are being undertaken to update the SIRENE module within the existing Case Management System, enabling the processing of the new “U form” and facilitating communication between the SIRENE Bureau and the competent authorities responsible for issuing or requesting Schengen Information System (SIS) alerts.

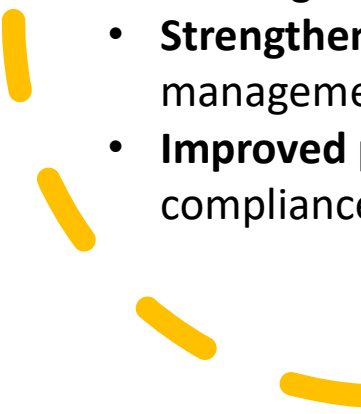


In line with the ETIAS Regulation, this enhancement will allow the ETIAS Central System to automatically notify the SIRENE Bureau of the Member State that entered the alert when a hit against SIS is identified during automated processing. Where, following verification by the ETIAS Central Unit, such a hit results in the application being subject to manual processing, the updated system will ensure that the necessary exchanges are carried out. Testing on this enhancement is also currently underway.



BMVI/2024/SA/1.5.1- Support to Member States for Smart Borders

Tangible Project Outputs and Expected Impact

- Implementation of the Smart Borders architecture, **including the deployment of EES and ETIAS national components** and supporting ICT infrastructure.
 - Establishment of a **National Uniform Interface (NUI)** enabling secure connectivity with EU central systems.
 - Enhanced **automated border management processes**, facilitating faster and more secure checks at external borders.
 - **Improved collection and exchange of traveller data**, supporting more effective border surveillance and migration management.
 - **Strengthened interoperability** between EU large-scale IT systems, contributing to improved identity management and data accuracy.
 - **Improved preparedness** for the entry into operation of EES and ETIAS, enhancing Malta's compliance with EU border management requirements.
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**ISF/2025/SA/1.1.1 –Implementation of
Malta's EPRIS Infrastructure
(ISF.SO1.416)**

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ISF/2025/SA/1.1.1 –Implementation of Malta's EPRIS Infrastructure (ISF.SO1.416)

Activities carried out to date: Following the submission of the project application to the Managing Authority and its subsequent approval, the MA drafted the Grant Agreement, which is currently at the beneficiary for signature.

Furthermore, approval in principle for a negotiated procedure without prior publication, concerning the software works to be carried out by the contractor, was obtained in September last year. On the other hand, the required hardware as part of the project will be procured through an open tender procedure.

Disbursements made and/or foreseen: The disbursement plan of the allocated under this project are;

A.Software development: 60% of budget in Q3 2026; 30% of budget in Q2 2027 and the remaining 10% in Q4 2027.

B.Hardware equipment: 60% of budget in Q4 2026, 30% in Q2 2027 and the remaining 10% in Q4 2027.

Planned next steps:

Building on the approval in principle obtained in September for the use of a negotiated procedure without prior publication, the Malta Police Force will proceed with the drafting and finalisation of the Contract Agreement for the software development works.

In parallel, the MPF will prepare the tender documentation for the procurement of hardware, with the publication of the open tender currently envisaged for Q3 2026.



ISF/2025/SA/1.1.1 –Implementation of Malta's EPRIS Infrastructure (ISF.SO1.416)

Tangible outcome and expected impact

- **1 interoperable ICT system** established and connected to the European Police Records Index System (EPRIS), enabling secure and automated police record searches across Member States (O.1.3, R.1.5).
- **9 equipment items purchased**, including servers, firewalls, switches, storage and software licences required to operate the national EPRIS infrastructure (O.1.4).
- **70 Malta Police Force officers** trained in the use of EPRIS and police information exchange procedures (O.1.1).
- **Deployment of a national police records index** synchronised with national databases and integrated with Europol routing and EPRIS micro-services, supporting automated information exchange across the EU.
- **Implementation of automated 'hit/no-hit' verification capabilities**, enabling investigators to rapidly determine whether relevant police records exist in other Member States.
- **Enhanced access to criminal intelligence and police information**, supporting more targeted investigations and reducing delays in cross-border enquiries.
- **Strengthened police cooperation**, information exchange and crime prevention capabilities, contributing to more effective investigations of cross-border crime and terrorism.
- **Improved operational cooperation** between Malta and other EU Member States through faster, more secure and more efficient access to police records, enhancing the prevention, detection and investigation of cross-border criminal activity.

ISF/2026/SA/1.1.2 - Requirements
Analysis for the SIENA - SIRENE CMS
Integration as per Directive (EU)
2023/977 (ISF.SO1.429)

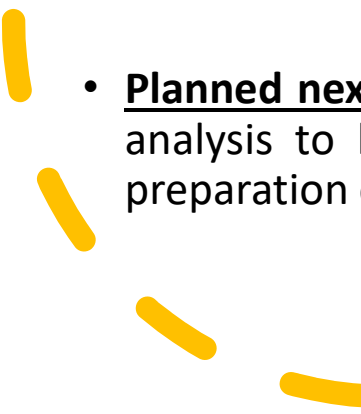
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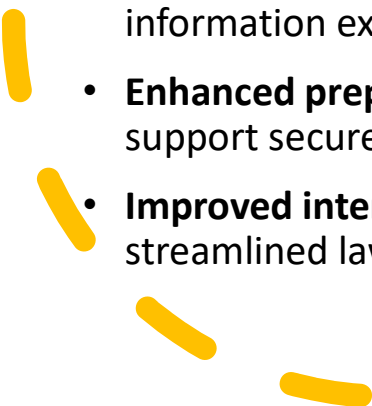
ISF/2026/SA/1.1.2 - Requirements Analysis for the SIENA - SIRENE CMS Integration as per Directive (EU) 2023/977 (ISF.SO1.429)

- **Activities carried out to date:** The Malta Police Force submitted the project application to the Managing Authority, and an approval letter has subsequently been issued. The next step is the drafting of the Grant Agreement.
 - **Disbursements made and/or foreseen:** Disbursements are planned in two tranches, with 60% scheduled for Q3 2026 and the remaining 40% for Q4 2026.
 - **Planned next steps:** The procurement process is to be initiated, including a direct order for the analysis to be carried out by the SIRENE CMS supplier, followed by a gap analysis and the preparation of a list of deliverables.
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ISF/2026/SA/1.1.2 - Requirements Analysis for the SIENA - SIRENE CMS Integration as per Directive (EU) 2023/977 (ISF.SO1.429)

Tangible Outcomes

- **Comprehensive gap analysis and requirements study** completed to identify the functional, technical and security requirements for integrating SIENA with the national SIRENE Case Management System.
 - **Technical specifications, interface requirements, security controls and workflow definitions** produced, providing the blueprint for full SIENA–SIRENE interoperability.
 - **Foundations established for EU RESTRICTED information exchange**, including requirements for encryption, authentication, audit logging and secure message handling.
 - **Identification and elimination of process gaps**, bottlenecks and manual workflows currently affecting information exchange between the SPOC, SIENA and SIRENE environments.
 - **Enhanced preparedness** for the implementation of Directive (EU) 2023/977, ensuring Malta is ready to support secure and efficient cross-border information exchange
 - **Improved interoperability** between SIENA and the SIRENE Case Management System, enabling more streamlined law enforcement cooperation across the EU.
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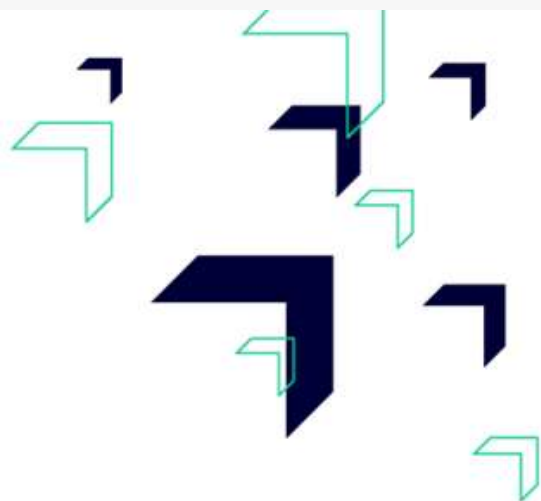


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Thank You !



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