Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI)

Programming Fiche

The Netherlands

ANNEX I

Future priorities

Specific Objective 1 - Supporting effective European integrated border management at the external borders implemented by the European Border and Coast Guard as a shared responsibility of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and of the national authorities responsible for border management, to facilitate legitimate border crossings, to prevent and detect illegal immigration and cross-border crime and to effectively manage migratory flows

__Please see below the suggested funding priorities under this specific objective__

Address and remedy all weaknesses and recommendations identified by the Vulnerability Assessments and Schengen Evaluations (*Please see Annex II*).

Integrated Border Management (IBM) - In the area of Integrated Border Management, the Member States shall ensure consistency between the national programming documents of IBM and the national IBM strategy (Article 8 of EBCG 2.0) and the national capability development plan (Article 9) [current legal obligation enshrined in Art. 3(3) Reg. 1624/2016]. The latter shall clarify the articulation between the capabilities funded under national budget and those which will be supported by BMVI and when relevant by the EBCGA as part of the support to the deployment of the standing corps. Member States shall also ensure **training in the field of European integrated border management.**

Actions aiming at the development of the national components of **European Border and Coast Guard (EBCG)** such as:

• Actions supporting **national efforts for setting up of the Standing Corps**, especially as regards national information campaigns for mobilising officers from different national relevant authorities to be available to the Agency under Category 2, 3 and 4 of the standing corps and their subsequent training.

• The further development of national components of EBCG could also involve **the provision of harmonised training** of border guards in accordance with the Common Core Curricula for Border Guards. The activities could also focus on developing the related training infrastructure that would allow provision of relevant training, especially of the more specialized ones that could address e.g the integration and use of new technologies to ensure a modern and up to standard European Border and Coast Guard.

• Member States should ensure **consistency between the BMVI national programmes and national capability development plans** which will be developed as part of the implementation of the new EBCG Regulation. FRONTEX is currently preparing the methodology and procedure for the establishment of the national capability development plans. When drafting the BMVI national programmes Member States are encouraged to liaise with the experts involved in capability

development planning for IBM at national level. This process may result in different projects aiming at the common capacity-building or joint procurement between the Agency and Member States and/or between Member States.

• Member States should also consider measures related to the **implementation of updated Common Integrated Risk Analysis Model** and the enhancement of the collection and exchange of data for the purpose of risks analysis as required in the EBCG 2.0 Regulation. This may include the general roll out of CIRAM, training programs as well as IT-solutions for Risk Analysis like Risk Analysis Applications for big data. In the view of this, establishment on automatized data collection on cross-border crime and other risk indicators to upload the data into a Frontex database with the view of achieving a near to real time and valid data collection could be considered. This area may also involve actions aiming at the enhancement of reporting mechanisms on cross-border crime, FTFs and hybrid threats as well as the establishment of remote stations for the communication network to feed to the Agency's databases.

EUROSUR - The EBCG2.0 will have a very big impact on **EUROSUR** since the EUROSUR Regulation has been encompassed into the EBCG2.0 Regulation and the scope of EUROSUR will considerably evolve to cover all aspects related to information exchange. That will require several adaptations by the Member States, in addition to the expanded activities to be also supported. Through the National programme support should also be provided to concrete technical priorities such as investments in physical infrastructure, investments in operating and IT equipment, ,implementation of new software solution in NCC premises and installation of a communication link between the NCC and local and regional coordination centres and BCPs, as well as the development of cooperation and information exchange for the reception and analysis of aggregated data from large-scale information systems.

Interoperability package and development of large-scale IT systems , notably:

- Entry-exit System (EES): Priorities are the responsibilities derived from Articles 38 and 39 of Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 and the bearing of costs as established in Article 64. The MS is expected to integrate its existing national border infrastructure and to connect it to the NUI (National Uniform Interface), which will be provided by eu-LISA. It must organise, manage, operate and maintain its existing national border infrastructure and connect it to EES. Furthermore, it has to organise Central Access Points and their connection to the NUI for the purpose of law enforcement. Moreover, it has to manage and arrange the access by the duly authorised staff and by the duly empowered staff of their competent authorities to EES.

- European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS): Priorities are established taking into account the responsibilities derived from Article 76 of Reg (EU) 2018/1240 and the bearing of costs as established by Article 85. The MS is expected to connect to the NUI (National Uniform Interface), which will be provided by eu-LISA; organise, manage, operate and maintain its ETIAS National Unit for the manual processing of applications for travel authorisation where the automated processing has reported a hit and to set up and operate this National Unit; organise Central Access Points and their connection to this NUI for the purpose of preventing, detecting and investigating terrorist or other serious criminal offences; manage and arrange the access of duly authorised staff of the competent national authorities to the ETIAS information system in accordance with the ETIAS Regulation and to establish and regularly update a list of such staff and their profiles; enter data into the ETIAS watchlist related to terrorist offences or other serious criminal offences; ensure that each of its authorities entitled to access the ETIAS information system takes the measures necessary to comply with the ETIAS Regulation, including fundamental rights and data security.

- Schengen Information System (SISII): By 28 December 2021, the new SIS Regulations (see

'legal base' below) will be applicable in their entirety and the existing legal framework will be repealed. By that date, the MS shall take all the necessary steps in order to adapt all national procedures to the implementation of all the changes introduced by the new legislation.

The Schengen Information System Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is expected to be rolled-out in all Member States by the end of 2020. By the end of 2021, the new SIS AFIS should also be able to store latent marks and palm prints. Once AFIS is fully rolled-out, the European Commission plans to start the development of the so-called Automatic Biometrics Identification System (ABIS) allowing the identification of persons on the basis of their facial image stored in SIS.

During this time framework, SIS will have to be included into the interoperability network. In this context, from 2021 onwards, the biometric matching systems within SIS will need to be integrated into the shared Biometric Matching Service (sBMS). In addition, SIS will need to be connected to the interoperability components. Procedures will need to be established concerning the tasks of the SIRENE Bureaux related to the verification of multiple identities.

- **Interoperability:** Design and develop the technical components: a European search portal, a shared biometric matching service, a common identity repository, a multiple-identity detector. The MS should undertake all the necessary preparations to ensure that it will have the means in place to use these components to access EU information systems as soon as they go live. This is of utmost importance, considering also that any delays from a MS might have an impact on the project at the global level.

As regards the interoperability package and the development of large-scale IT systems, due attention must be paid to ensuring effective coordination between different national agencies and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. international and domestic carriers), and allocation of adequate human and financial resources, as well as a timely execution of procurement and other administrative procedures. The MS needs to adjust its workflows and requirement for providing specific training programmes, as the proper implementation of the IT systems alone is not enough to ensure the success of the new information architecture of the EU. Also, governance structures need to be in place, national implementation programmes adopted and working procedures changed.

Other priorities

Border checks, Border surveillance - Technical and operational measures within the Schengen area which are related to border control. Adapt overall capacity (including adequate staff) to ensure adequate border checks, including **systematic checks against SIS** and other relevant databases at the borders.

Joint deployments and actions supporting Immigration Liaison Officers in third countries: Use funding to strengthen network, in particular through deployment of joint liaison officers (including the sub-type of document verification officers to help visa issuance process and avoid visa fraud).

Increase national capacities to **detect document fraud**. When prioritising future activities under BMVI in order to improve capacities to detect document fraud, Member States are encouraged to take into account the support that can be provided by the HOME Agencies (e.g. EBCGA, CEPOL, EUROPOL, etc.) under their mandate, in particular through trainings.

Increase the capacity of border control authorities to collaborate with investigative authorities on **migrant smuggling cases**, and to collect information (through debriefing activities) at the border

in support of investigations on migrant smuggling cases. **Address language barriers, by** increasing the number of interpreters for the support to investigative activities related to migrant smuggling.

Situational awareness and exchange of information, risk analysis - Develop **risk analysis** at central level and conduct tailored risk analysis. **Processing of data and information. Inter-agency cooperation (national level).**

Test, validate and exploit the outcome of Union-funded **security research projects** in developing and procuring state of the art tools and instruments for Border Guards, in particular where such deployment has been identified by the EBCGA as contributing to the development of operational capabilities of the EBCG.

External dimension - Cooperation with third countries on border control activities (including EUROSUR and search and rescue activities in the framework of border surveillance activities), capacity building (trainings, language courses, exchange of best practices), interoperability of communication and IT systems, exchange of information in real time, and joint operations.

Specific Objective 2 - Supporting the common visa policy to facilitate legitimate travel and prevent migratory and security risks

---

Please see below the suggested funding priorities under this specific objective

Implementation of **Schengen evaluation recommendations** in the field of the common visa policy.

Improving **visa application processing**.

Training of consular staff to ensure harmonised application of the Visa Code, the VIS Regulation and other legislation, to the extent that it affects the visa procedure.

Reinforcement of staff resources dedicated to examining visa applications, especially in locations where waiting or processing times exceed the permitted maxima.

Consular cooperation between MS through co-location/joint use of infrastructure, in particular in locations where such cooperation enhances consular presence.

Ensuring **consular presence or representation** in all visa-required third countries worldwide, particularly in locations where no Member State is present. (including opening a visa section in German embassy in Freetown, Sierra Leone, where currently no MS is present)

Large-scale IT systems - Visa Information System (VIS): IT system modifications and upgrades to implement the revised VIS Regulation and other legislation such as the EES Regulation, to the extent that it affects the visa procedure.

Digitalisation of the visa policy: pilot projects (e.g. online applications) in coordination with the Commission; implementation of legislative changes (e.g. digital visa) if adopted before the end of the MFF (2027).

Document security / document advisors: Document experts / advisors on document fraud in critical locations, especially when expertise is shared between all MS through Local Schengen Cooperation.

Enhancing the efficiency, client-friendly environment and security at consulates: to the extent that deficiencies exist in individual consulates.
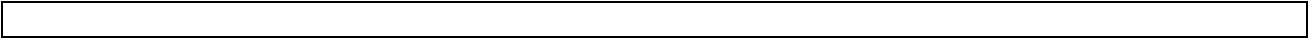
ANNEX II

Recommendations identified by the Vulnerability Assessments and Schengen Evaluations as regards Specific Objective 1 (Border Management)

Schengen Evaluation recommendations

- Ensure and guarantee sufficient number of specialised trained staff for border control, in particular to be able to ensure that border checks are systematically performed;
- Implement the Eurosur system and set up the National Coordination Centre;
- Develop the infrastructure for border checks;
- Ensure efficient implementation of the Common Integrated Risk Analysis Model (CIRAM);
- Establish a national training system for border guards;
- Develop the sea border surveillance system and ensure comprehensive national situational picture.

ANNEX III

Synergies with other Funds

Asylum and Migration Fund

Actions related to the development of Eurodac system could be financed under AMF, for example when the fingerprinting identification system could be used for the identification of a migrant's status.

Actions related to improving visa application processing could be combined with actions linked to promoting legal migration pathways.

Internal Security Fund

Synergies between the BMVI and the ISF exist in relation to border surveillance systems which can contribute to security purposes, fighting migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings and fighting serious and organised crime.

Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI)

Most customs control equipment may be equally or incidentally fit for controls of compliance with other legislation, such as provisions on border management, visa or police cooperation. That is why it is important to establish synergies between the CCEI and the BMVI, to ensure that authorities responsible for border management and customs control have the necessary equipment and expertise at their disposal and that they work together in a seamless manner.

The Customs Control Equipment Instrument will finance equipment for the control of goods as the main purpose. An indicative list is included in Annex I of the CCEI Regulation, and includes scanners and automated plate recognition systems. It excludes IT, infrastructure and means of transport that will be financed by other means. The custom control equipment financed under CCEI can be used both for controls of goods and for controls of persons, thus setting up the conditions for synergies and economies of scale between the various departments in charge of the control of goods and persons at the external border is important.

The Border Management and Visa Instrument will instead finance operating equipment, including means of transport, document scanners, fingerprinting devices, IT equipment and communication systems required for effective and secure border control (checks on persons). Actions having as the main purpose to control goods will not be eligible under the Border Management and Visa Instrument. However, BMVI will allow the use of operating equipment, including means of transport, and infrastructure for dual use (border management and customs control) provided that the main scope of use is integrated border management.

COHESION FUNDS (ESF+, ERDF, ETC.)

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF):
ERDF through its Interreg programme, will be able to support a safer and more secure Europe, in particular by providing support to actions in the field of border crossing management and mobility and migration management, including the protection of migrants.

European Social Fund (ESF+):
Under its specific objective I*mproving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including digital skills,* ESF+ could support activities aiming at the development of digital skills of border guards.

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF):
National authorities carrying out coast guard functions are responsible for a wide range of tasks, which may include maritime safety, security, search and rescue, border control, fisheries control, customs control, general law enforcement and environmental protection. The broad scope of coast guard functions brings them under the remit of different Union policies, which should seek synergies to achieve more effective and efficient results. In addition to the Union cooperation on coast guard functions through the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the European Maritime Safety Agency and the European Fisheries Control Agency, improved coherence of the activities in the maritime domain should also be achieved at national level. Synergies between the various actors in the maritime environment should be in line with European integrated border management and maritime security strategies. To strengthen the complementarity and to reinforce the consistency of maritime activities, as well as to avoid duplication of efforts and to alleviate budgetary constraints in an area of costly activities such as the maritime domain, the Border Management and Visa Instrument will support maritime operations of multipurpose character where the main objective is border surveillance but other objectives could additionally be pursued simultaneously. This mostly relates to multipurpose equipment purchased with the support of the BMVI (vessels, aircraft, etc.) that could also be used for other actions in the maritime domain.

EXTERNAL INSTRUMENTS (NDICI AND IPA)

The external actions will continue to be implemented in complementarity to the NDICI and IPA that are and will remain the primary tools to support the external dimension of the Union's migration and security policy. Member States through their national programmes are more adequate to promote and deliver on cooperation initiatives that complement and reinforce actions taken at the EU level. For example, when Member States have good bilateral relations with third countries, specific interests and expertise or networks in a given third country, or when the nature of a specific policy has a direct impact on the MS and might require bilateral cooperation.

Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI):
NDICI will allow for making best use of geographic programmes, supplemented by the Global Challenges thematic programme and the rapid reaction response pillar. The measures supported aim at addressing all aspects of migration and forced displacement. This includes stepping up cooperation on integrated border management such structural support to setting up Integrated Border Management (IBM) systems and capacity building activities in third countries as part of wider state building exercise/policy development cross-border cooperation, pursuing efforts in the fight against irregular migration.
The Border Management and Visa Instrument will continue to support the sharing of information and best practices with third countries, improving operational cooperation, including through joint operations, immigration liaison officers, support capacity building of third countries to protect their borders through training and the purchase of equipment as well as other operational necessities.

Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA):
The Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance will support enlargement countries in preventing and tackling organised crime and corruption and in strengthening their law enforcement and migration management capabilities, including border management. It will support cooperation on migration, including border management, ensuring access to international protection, sharing relevant information, strengthening the development benefits of migration, facilitating legal and labour migration, enhancing border control and pursuing our effort in the fight against irregular migration, trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling.

OTHER FUNDS

Testing, validating and exploiting the outcome of Union-funded (in the framework of past and current Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation) security research projects in developing and procuring state of the art tools and instruments for Border Guards, in particular where such deployment has been identified by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency as contributing to the development of operational capabilities of the European Border and Coast Guard.