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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 28.1.2026**

**on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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## **on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>1</sup> ('the Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 110(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, and in particular Article 11(8) and Article 26(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to support the European Migration Network ('EMN'), established by Council Decision 2008/381/EC<sup>2</sup>, and to provide the financial assistance necessary for its activities and its development, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2026-2027 in accordance with Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('the Financial Regulation').
- (2) In line with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147, it is necessary to adopt this work programme separately from the work programme for other components of the AMIF thematic facility, to ensure consistency with the previous EMN work programmes and to provide a reference text that can be clearly linked to the programme of activities adopted by the EMN Steering Board.
- (3) The envisaged financial assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (4) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (5) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.09.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>).

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2008/381/EC of 14 May 2008 establishing a European Migration Network (OJ L 131, 21.5.2008, p. 7).

- (6) Pursuant to Article 62(1), first subparagraph, point (c) of the Financial Regulation indirect management is also to be used for the implementation of the work programme.
- (7) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 157(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 157(4) of the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (8) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants in accordance with Article 198(d) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark did not take part in the adoption of Regulation (EU) No 2021/1147 and is not bound by it or subject to its application. Denmark is therefore not bound by this Decision or subject to its application.
- (10) In accordance with Article 4 of Protocol No 21 on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in respect of the area of freedom, security and justice, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Ireland has notified, by letter of 8 February 2022, its wish to accept and be bound by Regulation (EU)2021/1147. Commission Decision C(2022)1822 confirmed such participation. Ireland is therefore taking part in the adoption of this Implementing Decision
- (11) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Steering Board of the European Migration Network established by Article 4 of Decision 2008/381/EC.
- (12) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Home Affairs Funds, referred to in Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The work programme*

The financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund for years 2026-2027, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the work programme for the years 2026-2027 is set at EUR 28 200 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations

entered in the budget line 10 02 01 Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the general budget of the Union, as follows:

- (a) EUR 25 450 000 for 2026;
- (b) EUR 2 750 000 for 2027.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations:

- (a) as provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2026, following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.
- (b) as provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2027 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

### *Article 3* *Flexibility clause*

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

### *Article 4* *Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in that Annex.

### *Article 5* *Grants awarded without a call for proposals*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex to the bodies referred to in the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 28.1.2026

*For the Commission*  
*Magnus BRUNNER*  
*Member of the Commission*



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ANNEX

**ANNEX**

**to the**

**Commission Implementing Decision**

**on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the Thematic Facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027**

## ANNEX

### **to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the European Migration Network as a component of the thematic facility under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027**

#### 1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives set out in Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund<sup>1</sup>, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for years 2026-2027 as follows:

- for grants implemented under direct management (point 2),
- for procurement implemented under direct management (point 3),
- for actions implemented under indirect management (point 4),
- for other actions or expenditure (point 5).

#### (a) Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Detailed priorities of the European Migration Network (EMN) for 2026–2027 and indicative grant allocations for the EMN National Contact Points ('EMN NCPs') were discussed in the EMN Extraordinary Steering Board meeting of 13 May 2025 and subsequently endorsed at the 41<sup>st</sup> EMN Steering Board meeting of 20 May 2025.

#### Budget line

10 02 01

<b>Implementation arrangements</b>	<b>Amounts in EUR</b>
Grants:	19 105 100
Procurement:	4 664 900
Indirect management:	2 930 000
Other actions or expenditures:	1 500 000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>28 200 000</b>

#### Objectives pursued and expected results

As stated in Article 1 of Council Decision 2008/381/EC establishing a European Migration Network<sup>2</sup>, the objective of the EMN shall be to meet the information needs of Union institutions and of Member States' authorities and institutions on migration and asylum, by providing up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 271, 15.07.2021, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 131, 21.5.2008, p. 7.

asylum, with a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in these areas. The EMN shall also serve to provide the wider public with such information.

In accordance with Article 2 of Council Decision 2008/381/EC, these objectives should be achieved by:

- collecting and exchanging up-to-date and reliable data and information from a wide range of sources;
- analysing such data and information and provide it in a readily accessible format;
- in collaboration with other relevant EU bodies, contributing to the development of indicators and criteria that will improve the consistency of information and helping in the development of Union activities related to migratory statistics;
- producing and publishing periodic reports on the migration and asylum situation in the Union and the Member States;
- maintaining the existing Internet-based information exchange system which provides access to relevant documents and publications in the area of migration and asylum;
- raising awareness of the EMN, by providing access to the information it gathers and disseminating the output of the EMN, unless this information is of a sensitive nature as per EMN internal rules and procedures;
- co-ordinating information and cooperating with other relevant European, national and international bodies.

The EMN brings a unique added value to the realisation of the above-mentioned objectives, due to the presence of a national contact point in each Member State and through the quality of its outputs shared under an EU-wide coverage, with a strong focus on analysis and the public availability of its outputs.

The EMN shall continue to enhance cooperation while avoiding duplicating the work of existing EU bodies or structures (e.g. European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX), EUROPOL)), European External Action Service (EAAS), other European Commission departments and services (e.g. DG Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL), DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), DG Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood (DG ENEST), DG Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf (DG MENA), DG International Partnerships (DG INTPA), DG Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD), DG Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), DG Joint Research Centre (DG JRC), DG Eurostat (DG ESTAT), Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD), Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI)), Migration Policy Centre (MPC) at the European University Institute (EUI) and networks (e.g. General Directors of Immigration Services Conference (GDISC), European Network on Integration, Prague Process, Budapest Process) as well as with international organisations (e.g. International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), International Labour Organization (ILO), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Centre for Migration Policy Development. (ICMPD), World health organization (WHO), Council of Europe, the World Bank) and civil society (e.g., European Network on Statelessness, Missing Children

Europe, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, International Committee of the Red Cross, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)) etc.

An external evaluation of the EMN will be undertaken in 2026.

The work programme for the EMN for the period 2026-2027 includes the action grants to the EMN NCPs of the Member States participating in the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), actions implemented through procurement and other actions or expenditures including a co-delegation with the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (JUST).

Consistency and co-ordination with the relevant Union instrument (including the European Social Fund Plus and the European Regional Development Fund) and Union structures in the area of migration and asylum will be ensured.

## 2. Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 19 105 100.

### 2.1. Direct Awards of Action grants to EMN National Contact Points

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Entities appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for 2026-2027 as main applicants and possibly other entities, only as co-applicants, belonging to the national administration to be identified in the grant agreement.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 198(d) of the Financial Regulation

To pursue the main objective of the EMN Work Programme 2026-2027: to provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information to meet the information needs of the Union as well as of authorities and institutions in the Member States and of the EMN Observer Countries,<sup>3</sup> in a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in the area of migration and asylum, the EMN will focus on the priority activities stated below.

The implementation of the **EU's Pact on Migration and Asylum** and other aspects of the EU migration policy increasingly requires comparative, up-to-date, factual information in order to develop and inform policy approaches based on reliable evidence and analysis covering a wide range of perspectives. Key EMN priorities among others will be geared to **support** the EU and its Member States to effectively prepare for and implement the Pact while strengthening partnerships with countries of origin and neighbouring countries.

An important part of the Pact's implementation is about **preparedness and contingency planning**, which entails situational awareness, early warning and forecasting. The EMN can support preparedness with dedicated information collection and synthesis and with capacity building by facilitating dedicated exchanges on good practices, expertise sharing, and

<sup>3</sup> Norway, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Montenegro, Armenia, Serbia, North Macedonia and Albania are EMN Observer Countries.

workshops. The EMN can also provide support in relation to contingency planning, complementary to the role of the competent EU agencies.

The EMN will have a role in creating a space for exchange of information and ideas on the use of AI to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of migration management on an operational level, with appropriate safeguards and in compliance with the AI Act <sup>4</sup> and other relevant EU acquis.

The EMN will support return through its core activities of information collection and analysis. Specifically, the EMN provides a dedicated forum for exchange among return practitioners via the **Return Expert Group (REG)**.

The **EMN Working Group on information campaigns (EMN INFO WG)** will continue providing a platform for the Commission and Member States to coordinate the development and implementation of information campaigns, exchange best practices, and strengthen cooperation on migrant smuggling prevention.

Priorities for the EMN will also reflect Member States' **legal migration** needs in attracting migrants at various skill levels, including students and researchers from non-EU countries. These efforts should help in addressing labour and skills shortages, thus strengthening the EU's competitiveness and economic growth. Integration of non-EU nationals – including labour market integration – is key to making migration a benefit for the economy and cohesion of our societies. It should support measures tailored to the needs of third-country nationals that are generally implemented in the early stages of integration, while enhancing coordination with the authorities managing other relevant EU funds contributing to the integration of third-country nationals. The EMN will mainly focus on policies and practices for attracting and retaining skills and talents from non-EU countries, looking also into the main visa difficulties experienced by students and researchers as well as best practices to address such difficulties. With regard to the integration of non-EU nationals, the EMN will focus on approaches including linguistic diversity and language learning, measures to promote labour market integration, as well as predeparture measures.

The EMN will continue to monitor and improve the relevance and way in which it provides information. The **relevance, quality and added value of EMN outputs** will continue to be a main focus. Studies and informs as key outputs will aim to be analytical, contain key messages and have clearly highlighted policy implications. Flexibility to be able to select a topic for a study/inform during a year or to prioritise a specific output, in light of topical political developments, is also important.

The capacity of EMN Observer Countries regarding data gathering and statistics will be further enhanced to provide more reliable and comparable data. The EMN will contribute to this by providing data and developing good practices in close cooperation with Eurostat.

The EMN's impact and effectiveness should be enhanced by **communicating** its work results in a targeted way, disseminating them strategically in appropriate formats both at the EU and the national level.

- Where deemed relevant and endorsed by the EMN Steering Board, the EMN will **reprioritise activities to be able to respond to emerging migration policy needs**

<sup>4</sup> Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Artificial Intelligence Act) - OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024

ensuring a balanced use of **EMN resources**. Notably, the EMN would:

- where requested by the Commission, and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share qualitative information useful to contribute to the Commission **reporting processes on the implementation of EU legislation and policies**.
- Ensure that the European Migration Network Information Exchange System can adequately respond to and facilitate exchanges among national authorities, while hosting and maintaining migration related **IT-tools at the EU level useful for migration management purposes** (e.g., tools seeking to provide technical solutions to facilitate reporting, operational cooperation or collect migration data).

The EMN annual report - Asylum and Migration Overview (EMN AMO) will continue to objectively document legal and policy developments and their drivers for an audience of policymakers and the general public and will not assess the migratory situation or evaluate developments. Avoiding duplication with other reporting obligations in the asylum and migration area will remain a priority, and the EMN will also clearly communicate its areas of difference and added value to its audience to avoid confusion with the European Annual Asylum Migration Report (EAAMR) and other annual reports in the field of migration and asylum.

**The EMN will continue to contribute to the improvement of comparability of statistics** including through reinforced cooperation with EUROSTAT on harmonising the use of statistics across the EU and for preparation of the statistical annex of the EMN AMO and of the EMN country factsheets.

**The EMN will continue to foster a common understanding and use of terms on migration and asylum** based on agreed definitions including through the further development and dissemination of the EMN glossary.

The EMN will systematically consider **cooperation with relevant EU institutions, agencies, international and non-governmental organisations exchange and engage with experts from the public or private sector and academia** to increase the quality and relevance of the information produced.

The EMN will share **good practices and contribute to the development of practical cooperation** and knowledge building on migration and asylum at both EU and national levels to overcome identified challenges and barriers, including the pooling of resources and expertise. This includes gathering information on Member States' practices and facilitating practitioner cooperation with Member States on specific aspects of migration including identifying and sharing innovative best practices as well as promising and innovative ideas and proposals to the challenges faced by policy makers and practitioners.

The EMN will ensure effective collaboration with new EMN Observer Countries from **EU candidate countries and partnership countries**, to ensure their inputs are usefully evaluated and integrated in EMN publications, workshops, and events.

**The EMN will continue engaging with third countries** within the EU enlargement, neighbourhood and Eastern partnership policies with the aim to share information and improve mutual understanding on asylum and migration issues.

To share and exchange **Commission and Member States migration narratives**, the EMN will be used as a platform for targeted dialogue on migration topics to better inform the public and to disseminate information to policy makers at EU and national level. Moreover, the EMN

will complement this outreach by organising dedicated webinars, conferences, capacity buildings, workshops etc. on specific migration topics of interest to the Commission and the Member States.

Actions shall be implemented in line with the detailed priorities and objectives for the EMN for 2026–2027 as endorsed on 20 May 2025 at the 41<sup>st</sup> EMN Steering Board meeting.

#### Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

#### Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main applicants must be the entities appointed by each Member State participating in AMIF as EMN NCPs for 2026-2027.

#### Indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs

In accordance with Article 4(5) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC the indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs in the Member States have been endorsed by the EMN Steering Board at its meeting on 20 May 2025.

### 3. Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in the period 2026-2027 is EUR 4 664 900.

#### 3.1. Actions implemented by procurement contracts

##### General description of the contracts envisaged

The Commission intends to undertake actions through contracts following public procurement (calls for tenders as well as specific contracts under existing framework contracts, with the possibility to launch calls for the award of new framework contracts).

These procurement activities will cover the following:

- Technical assistance: service provider activities to assist the Commission in the organisation of the work of the EMN
- Communication services: organisation of EU level events for the dissemination of the main results of the EMN activities
- Studies: evaluation study of the EMN

These activities will aim to support the Commission in the implementation, evaluation and dissemination of the work of the EMN

#### Implementation

These actions will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

#### 4. Actions implemented in indirect management

The global budgetary envelope reserved for actions implemented in indirect management under this work programme is EUR 2 930 000.

##### 4.1. Contribution agreements with EMN National Contact Points

###### Implementing entities

International organisations and entities assimilated to international organisations in accordance with Article 159 of the Financial Regulation, which are appointed, by each Member State participating in AMIF, as EMN NCPs for the period 2026-2027 as main applicants, and in particular the International Organization for Migration.

This concerns in particular organisations which have been subject to an ex ante assessment pursuant to Article 157 of the Financial Regulation, including those that are signatories of a framework partnership agreement in force concluded with the Commission pursuant to Council Regulation (EU) 2016/369<sup>5</sup>, or those that are covered by the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement concluded with the United Nations.

In case it is not possible to sign a contribution agreement with the selected participants, the Commission reserves the right to sign a grant agreement under the same conditions provided for in point 2.1.

###### Description of the activities to be funded by the contribution agreements.

To pursue the main objective of the EMN Work Programme 2026-2027: to provide up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information to meet the information needs of EU as well as of authorities and institutions in the Member States and of EMN Observer Countries,<sup>6</sup> in a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in the area of migration and asylum, the EMN will focus on the priority activities stated below.

The implementation of the **EU's Pact on Migration and Asylum** and other aspects of the EU migration policy increasingly requires comparative, up-to-date, factual information in order to develop and inform policy approaches based on reliable evidence and analysis covering a wide range of perspectives. Key EMN priorities among others will be geared to **support** the EU and its Member States to effectively prepare for and implement the Pact while strengthening partnerships with countries of origin and neighbouring countries.

An important part of the Pact's implementation is about **preparedness and contingency planning**, which entails situational awareness, early warning and forecasting. The EMN can support preparedness with dedicated information collection and synthesis and with capacity building by facilitating dedicated exchanges on good practices, expertise sharing, and workshops. The EMN can also provide support in relation to contingency planning, complementary to the role of the competent EU agencies.

The EMN will have a role in creating a space for exchange of information and ideas on the use of AI to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of migration management on an operational level, with appropriate safeguards and in compliance with the AI Act and other relevant EU

<sup>5</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2016/369 of 15 March 2016 on the provision of emergency support within the Union - OJ L 70, 16.3.2016, pp. 1–6

<sup>6</sup> Norway, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Montenegro, Armenia, Serbia, North Macedonia and Albania are EMN Observer Countries.

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The EMN will support return through its core activities of information collection and analysis. Specifically, the EMN provides a dedicated forum for exchange among return practitioners via the **Return Expert Group (REG)**.

The **EMN Working Group on information campaigns (EMN INFO WG)** will continue providing a platform for the Commission and Member States to coordinate the development and implementation of information campaigns, exchange best practices, and strengthen cooperation on migrant smuggling prevention.

Priorities for the EMN will also reflect Member States' **legal migration** needs in attracting migrants at various skill levels, including students and researchers from non-EU countries. These efforts should help in addressing labour and skills shortages, thus strengthening the EU's competitiveness and economic growth. Integration of non-EU nationals – including labour market integration – is key to making migration a benefit for the economy and cohesion of our societies. It should support measures tailored to the needs of third-country nationals that are generally implemented in the early stages of integration, while enhancing coordination with the authorities managing other relevant EU funds contributing to the integration of third-country nationals. The EMN will mainly focus on policies and practices for attracting and retaining skills and talents from non-EU countries. With regard to the integration of non-EU nationals, the EMN will focus on approaches including linguistic diversity and language learning, measures to promote labour market integration, as well as predeparture measures.

The EMN will continue to monitor and improve the relevance and way in which it provides information. The **relevance, quality and added value of EMN outputs** will continue to be a main focus. Studies and informs as key outputs will aim to be analytical, contain key messages and have clearly highlighted policy implications. Flexibility to be able to select a topic for a study/inform during a year or to prioritise a specific output, in light of topical political developments, is also important.

The capacity of EMN Observer Countries regarding data gathering and statistics will be further enhanced to provide more reliable and comparable data. The EMN will, contribute to this by providing data and developing good practices in close cooperation with Eurostat.

The EMN's impact and effectiveness should be enhanced by **communicating** its work results in a targeted way, disseminating them strategically in appropriate formats both at the EU and the national level.

- Where deemed relevant and endorsed by the EMN Steering Board, the EMN will **reprioritise activities to be able to respond to emerging migration policy needs** ensuring a balanced use of **EMN resources**. Notably, the EMN would:
  - where requested by the Commission, and where endorsed by the EMN Steering Board collect and share qualitative information useful to contribute to the Commission **reporting processes on the implementation of EU legislation and policies**.
  - Ensure that the European Migration Network Information Exchange System can adequately respond to and facilitate exchanges among national authorities, while hosting and maintaining migration related **IT-tools at the EU level useful for migration management purposes** (e.g., tools seeking to provide technical solutions to facilitate reporting, operational cooperation or collect migration data).

The EMN annual report - Asylum and Migration Overview (EMN AMO) will continue to

objectively document legal and policy developments and their drivers for an audience of policymakers and the general public and will not assess the migratory situation or evaluate developments. Avoiding duplication with other reporting obligations in the asylum and migration area will remain a priority, and the EMN will also clearly communicate its areas of difference and added value to its audience to avoid confusion with the European Annual Asylum Migration Report (EAAMR) and other annual reports in the field of migration and asylum.

**The EMN will continue to contribute to the improvement of comparability of statistics** including through reinforced cooperation with EUROSTAT on harmonising the use of statistics across the EU and for preparation of the statistical annex of the EMN AMO and of the EMN country factsheets.

**The EMN will continue to foster a common understanding and use of terms on migration and asylum** based on agreed definitions including through the further development and dissemination of the EMN glossary.

The EMN will systematically consider **cooperation with relevant EU institutions, agencies, international and non-governmental organisations exchange and engage with experts from the public or private sector and academia** to increase the quality and relevance of the information produced.

The EMN will share **good practices and contribute to the development of practical cooperation** and knowledge building on migration and asylum at both EU and national levels to overcome identified challenges and barriers, including the pooling of resources and expertise. This includes gathering information on Member States' practices and facilitating practitioner cooperation with Member States on specific aspects of migration including identifying and sharing innovative best practices as well as promising and innovative ideas and proposals to the challenges faced by policy makers and practitioners.

The EMN will ensure effective collaboration with new EMN Observer Countries from **EU candidate countries and partnership countries**, to ensure their inputs are usefully evaluated and integrated in EMN publications, workshops, and events.

**The EMN will continue engaging with third countries** within the EU enlargement, neighbourhood and Eastern partnership policies with the aim to share information and improve mutual understanding on asylum and migration issues.

To share and exchange **Commission and Member States migration narratives**, the EMN will be used as a platform for targeted dialogue on migration topics to better inform the public and to disseminate information to policy makers at EU and national level. Moreover, the EMN will complement this outreach by organising dedicated webinars, conferences, capacity buildings, workshops etc. on specific migration topics of interest to the Commission and the MS.

Actions shall be implemented in line with the detailed priorities and objectives for the EMN for 2026–2027 as endorsed on 20 May 2025 at the 41<sup>st</sup> EMN Steering Board meeting.

## Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main applicants must be pillar assessed entities appointed by each Member State participating in AMIF as EMN NCPs for 2026-2027.

#### Indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs

In accordance with Article 4(5) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC the indicative budgetary allocations for the EMN NCPs in the EU Member States have been endorsed by the EMN Steering Board at its meeting on 20 May 2025.

#### 5. Other actions or expenditure

##### 5.1. IT services provided by the Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers

#### Amount

The global budgetary envelope reserved for other actions or expenditure under this work programme is EUR 1 500 000.

#### Description

This action allows further development of IT migration management tools for the Member States and the Commission. The action will also help the EMN in meeting information needs on migration and asylum, through the EMN Information Exchange System (EMN IES).