



Brussels
HOME.E.2/JG

NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HOME AFFAIRS FUNDS

Ref.: HOME-Funds/2026/23

Subject: Launch of the call for expression of interest under the “Specific Action Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities” under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) – Reference AMIF / 2026 / SA / 2.4.2.

1. INTRODUCTION

Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund ⁽¹⁾ provides that Member States may receive funding for specific actions in addition to their initial allocations in their respective programmes.

Specific actions aim to fund transnational or national projects that bring Union added value in accordance with the objectives of the Fund for which one, several or all Member States may receive an additional allocation to their programmes.

They will be implemented as one of the components of the Thematic Facility in line with Art. 11 AMIF of the above-mentioned Regulation and in accordance with the relevant financing decisions and work programmes for the Fund ⁽²⁾.

By the present note, the Commission launches a call for expression of interest for the Specific Action ‘Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities’, in line with the actions listed in the above-mentioned Commission financing decision and work programme.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 : <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1147/oj/eng>

⁽²⁾ Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (2021-2027): <https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/funding/asylum-migration-and-integration-funds/asylum-migration-and-integration-fund-2021-2027>

2. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Specific actions will be implemented by one or more Member States participating in the Fund via funding received in addition to the allocation under their Fund programmes.

Funding for specific actions is added to the Member States' programme allocations at the time of the approval of the initial programme or by means of a programme amendment. That additional funding is earmarked for the specific action concerned and shall not be used for other actions in the Member State's programme, except in duly justified circumstances and as approved by the Commission through the amendment of the programme.

Whereas the regular EU co-financing rate under the Member States' programmes will not exceed 75% of total eligible expenditure, projects implemented under specific actions may benefit from an increased co-financing rate of up to 90% of total eligible expenditure.

The specific action must be implemented by the Member States in accordance with the AMIF Regulation ⁽³⁾ and the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 ⁽⁴⁾ ('CPR'). This includes compliance with fundamental rights.

Your attention is drawn to one provision of the CPR. As regard the value added tax ('VAT') eligibility regime, Article 64 (1)(c) of the CPR provides that VAT is not eligible, except:

- (i) "for operations the total cost of which is below EUR 5 000 000 (including VAT);
- (ii) for operations the total cost of which is at least EUR 5 000 000 (including VAT) where it is non-recoverable under national VAT legislation".

3. CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

3.1. Indicative Budget available

The indicative amount envisaged for this call AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.2 is **EUR 77 million**.

Each Member State may submit **only one application with a maximum of two project proposals**. Member States are invited to identify the project(s) submitted are part of their application in accordance with section 3.3.3 of this call.

The Commission will select the projects to be co-financed based on an assessment of each project separately, to a maximum of two projects per Member State.

The amount requested per Member State for each project submitted as part of their application:

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.

- should not be lower than EUR 800 000 per project, and
- should not be higher than EUR 7.5 million per project.

3.2. Background for the specific action

Local and regional authorities (LRAs) are at the forefront of delivering public services and responding to the evolving needs of third-country nationals. LRAs are often responsible for delivering essential services such as housing, education, employment support, healthcare, and social assistance, all of which are critical to successful integration processes of third-country nationals. Moreover, most challenges and solutions emerge at the local level and must ultimately be addressed by LRAs. Supporting LRAs in these roles is therefore not only vital for integration purposes, but also to strengthen broader migration management.

3.2.1. EU legal and policy framework

The EU legal and policy framework on integration and migration management recognises the important role of LRAs and the need to ensure their involvement in multi-level partnerships. The **European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy** ⁽⁵⁾ adopted in January 2026 sets out the EU's political objectives on asylum and migration and will serve as a compass with concrete priorities for the next five years. It indicates the importance of integration policies for the overall social cohesion, competitiveness, and economic dynamism of the EU, and the need to continue providing funding opportunities to support LRAs' efforts - in line with the comprehensive and cross-sectoral approach established in the **Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027**. The Action Plan sets the strategic framework to promote the integration and inclusion of migrants and people with a migrant background across key areas such as education, employment, health, and housing. It recognises that integration and inclusion occur across multiple levels of governance, and it seeks to mobilise partnerships with all relevant actors: from national, regional, and local authorities, civil society, to social partners, and private stakeholders, in order to support and implement integration measures with a whole-society approach. In June 2025, the Commission published a **mid-term review of the Action Plan** confirming the important role of LRAs, and the need to continue facilitating access to funding and cooperation with the central authorities.

Moreover, the legislative acts adopted as part of the **Pact on Migration and Asylum** in 2024 contain provisions relating to the integration of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection ⁽⁶⁾. Effective implementation of these provisions also depends on strong support for LRAs, which are responsible for delivering many of these services on the ground; empowering LRAs is therefore essential not only for successful integration, but also for broader management of migration.

The Commission is supporting this approach with the **Cities and Regions for Integration of Migrants Network** ⁽⁷⁾ and working with the **Urban Agenda for the EU Partnership**

⁽⁵⁾ European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/european-asylum-and-migration-management-strategy_en.

⁽⁶⁾ The **Reception Conditions Directive** and **Qualification Regulation** reinforce access to employment, education, health care, social security benefits and integration measures. Implementation measures, including those in the **Common Implementation Plan**, support Member States in applying the Pact and fostering effective and sustainable integration.

⁽⁷⁾ Cities and Regions for Integration of Third-country nationals: <https://cor.europa.eu/en/our-work/cooperations-and-networks/cities-and-regions-integration-migrants>

on Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees ⁽⁸⁾. These actions are also part of the broader EU efforts to support on local and regional development, such as the **EU Agenda for Cities** ⁽⁹⁾, and the **Rural Action Plan** ⁽¹⁰⁾.

Moreover, under the 2021–2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, the European Commission seeks to make EU funding more accessible by improving information and increasing the involvement of LRAs in national programmes. The current AMIF reflects this approach by strengthening the role of LRAs and civil societies: Member States are encouraged to include integration measures led by these actors in their programmes, with a higher EU co-financing rate of up to 90% as an incentive. In parallel, the Commission has directly supported such actions through the Thematic Facility, including with the allocation of EUR 12.47 million to various transnational projects funded as AMIF Union Actions as part of the 2023 call for proposals **AMIF-2023-TF2-AG-CALL-02 - Integration and inclusion at regional and local level**.

The call for this specific action will aim to support the implementation of integration measures by LRAs, in line with the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion ⁽¹¹⁾ and with the findings of its mid-term review ⁽¹²⁾. This will contribute to addressing **migration management needs more broadly**, to supporting LRAs **in implementing relevant Pact on Migration and Asylum** ⁽¹³⁾ provisions, as well as enhancing LRAs' **talent retention capabilities**.

Moreover, the call will contribute to the implementation of Article 11(9) of the AMIF Regulation ⁽¹⁴⁾ which provides that *“the thematic facility shall, in particular, support actions falling under implementation measure 2(d) of Annex II that are implemented by national, regional and local authorities or civil society organisations. In that regard, a minimum of 5% of the initial allocation to the thematic facility shall target the implementation of integration measures by local and regional authorities.”*

3.2.2. Current challenges and gaps

While the European Union has established comprehensive frameworks to support integration, effective implementation largely depends on the administrative, technical, and financial capacities of the different authorities. In many cases, LRAs face structural constraints that limit their ability to translate strategic objectives into coordinated local measures. Although Member States remain primarily responsible for designing integration policies, the **mid-term review of the Action Plan** highlights that **coordination among central authorities, LRAs, civil society and migrant-led organisations remains weak**, with LRAs often reporting issues in accessing the necessary EU funding. The review, namely, encourages Member States to further leverage AMIF and EU funding to enhance the availability of data and knowledge across EU, national, regional, and local levels, with

⁽⁸⁾ Urban Agenda Partnership: <https://www.urbanagenda.urban-initiative.eu/>

⁽⁹⁾ EU Agenda for Cities 2025: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information-sources/publications/communications/2025/eu-agenda-for-cities-2025_en

⁽¹⁰⁾ Rural Action Plan: https://rural-vision.europa.eu/action-plan_en

⁽¹¹⁾ Action Plan for Integration and inclusion 2021-2027: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52020DC0758>.

⁽¹²⁾ Mid-term review of the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025SC0162>.

⁽¹³⁾ Pact on Migration and Asylum: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/pact-migration-and-asylum_en

⁽¹⁴⁾ [Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund \(2021-2027\) \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/efsd/efsd-fund_en)

a particular focus on addressing the challenges at the local level and developing expertise in this area.

Moreover, Member States continue to face persistent pressure on their public services and housing, and at the local level, migrants often continue to experience **unequal access to essential services** such as employment support, education, and healthcare, which undermines socio-economic inclusion at local levels. OECD integration indicators show that across the EU, migrants are still more likely than the native-born to face socio-economic disadvantages: for example, migrants in many Member States continue to show **lower access to education, and healthcare, and a higher risk of poverty compared with nationals**, pointing to persistent barriers in accessing services that support integration ⁽¹⁵⁾.

In some Member States, the implementation of **integrated service models** (e.g. one-stop-shop models) has been introduced to improve integration outcomes ⁽¹⁶⁾. These models consist in coordinating education, employment, healthcare, and social support in a single accessible framework. By streamlining service delivery and reducing fragmentation, these models can ensure that migrants have access to the assistance they need more efficiently, and reduce challenges at the local level, therefore improving outcomes for both individuals and the broader community.

Access to **affordable and adequate housing** remains one of the most acute local challenges, while it is at the same time a key determinant of the successful integration of migrants. The ongoing housing crisis is affecting the EU as a whole, with rising rents and property prices making affordable housing increasingly inaccessible, and public investment in social and affordable housing remaining insufficient in many Member States ⁽¹⁷⁾. To address this, the Commission has adopted the first-ever European Affordable Housing Plan ⁽¹⁸⁾, and it is preparing the Affordable Housing Act, which aims to provide tools for Member States, regions and local authorities that they can apply to ease housing pressure in their local context.

In this context, migrants are disproportionately affected by housing cost burdens and inadequate housing conditions: in 2024, only about **23% of third-country nationals owned a home in the EU compared with nearly 74% of EU nationals**, and around **19% of third-country nationals were overburdened by housing costs, compared with about 8% of nationals** ⁽¹⁹⁾. In addition, migrants face a higher risk of exclusion in the housing

⁽¹⁵⁾ OECD/European Commission (2023), Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling In, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/1d5020a6-en> .

⁽¹⁶⁾ See for instance examples from Portugal: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/portugal-new-migrant-integration-centres-extension-residence-permits-and-increased-hiring-cultural-2025-07-16_en; and Poland https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/poland-new-integration-centres-established-nationwide-2024-10-07_en, as well as TSI: https://reforms-investments.ec.europa.eu/technical-support-instrument-0_en

⁽¹⁷⁾ Understanding the housing crisis, Commission Staff Working Document SDW(2025) 1053/2: [2ad4c9f2-602b-43ba-9ed9-ef2ee059cf97_en](https://ec.europa.eu/economic-affairs/working-documents/2025/1053-2-2ad4c9f2-602b-43ba-9ed9-ef2ee059cf97_en).

⁽¹⁸⁾ European Affordable Housing Plan: https://housing.ec.europa.eu/document/756915b5-d1b1-4bde-ac82-03532d2d3d90_en .

⁽¹⁹⁾ Eurostat, Migrant integration and inclusion dashboard: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/dashboard/migrant-integration-inclusion/>

market due to language barriers, and a growing risk of discrimination ⁽²⁰⁾. Finally, limited or lack of social housing alternatives and a shortage of low-cost housing in local markets often create impediments for beneficiaries of international protection to find accommodation, with recognised beneficiaries having difficulties to transferring from reception facilities ⁽²¹⁾.

While housing policy remains primarily a national and local competence, the EU can support LRAs through guidance, funding, and sharing of good practices to foster inclusive and sustainable housing solutions. In recent years, many innovative housing solutions have been developed in several EU countries, including through EU funding ⁽²²⁾. Supporting LRAs is essential to promote housing solutions, such as mixed-use developments, co-housing, or shared social spaces that foster interaction between migrants and local communities. By encouraging inclusive and creative approaches, LRAs can help ensure that housing not only meets basic needs but also strengthens social cohesion and integration at the local level, while, at the same time, reducing pressure over the reception systems.

3.3. Scope and purpose of the specific action

3.3.1. Objectives of the specific action

The purpose of this specific action is to address Member States' migration management needs **by supporting LRA with integration measures** for third-country nationals ⁽²³⁾ through:

- Objective 1: the provision of integrated basic services ⁽²⁴⁾ and/or;
- Objective 2: projects to support access to housing, easing pressure on reception systems and promoting inclusive integration opportunities across different communities, including rural areas.

3.3.2. Indicative activities under the specific action

To achieve the two objectives, the specific action proposed can support the following activities (within the limits of the AMIF Regulation):

- Objective 1: developing and implementing **cross-sector initiatives to address service gaps** in areas like healthcare (including psychosocial support), education/vocational training, and employment, particularly in underserved areas,

⁽²⁰⁾ OECD/European Commission (2023), Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling In, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/1d5020a6-en> and European Commission: Eurostat, EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC): 'Severe housing deprivation rate by age, sex and poverty status': <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/microdata/european-union-statistics-on-income-and-living-conditions>

⁽²¹⁾ 2025 EUAA Asylum report: [https://www.euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publications/2025-06/2025 Asylum Report EN 0.pdf](https://www.euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publications/2025-06/2025%20Asylum%20Report%20EN%200.pdf)

⁽²²⁾ See for example the projects financed under the Urban Innovative Actions, <https://www.uia-initiative.eu/en> .

⁽²³⁾ Third-country nationals identified by the call include third country-nationals including (but not limited to) displaced persons from Ukraine.

⁽²⁴⁾ integrated provision of services such as access to healthcare (including psychosocial support), education/vocational training, provision of housing, and employment.

through the setting up and/or reinforcement of centres for third country-nationals' integration services. Examples of projects can include **one-stop-shop models** for the provision of integration services: such models enable third country-nationals to apply for documentation, access integration courses, receive career guidance, and obtain information on housing and community services **in one place**.

- **Objective 2:** developing and testing **housing solution strategies and pilot integration actions aimed to facilitate access to housing** for third country-nationals, including in remote or rural areas. The proposed models should offer new approaches to access to housing to facilitate accessible, safe, dignified and appropriate housing⁽²⁵⁾ to third country-nationals, including people with special needs, unaccompanied minors and young adults. Examples of projects could include development of modular housing plans at design and feasibility level linked with concrete implementation strategies; the integration of essential infrastructure and services (such as transport, healthcare, childcare, and community facilities) organised around a housing system or arrangement, ensuring that residents can effectively access essential services; launching and running of housing pilots and co-living open to both EU citizens and third country-nationals to foster mixed communities and facilitate integration as well as “housing first” solutions⁽²⁶⁾ when applicable.

The specific action proposed should not include activities that fall outside the core scope of supporting local and regional authorities in integration efforts. This would include for instance the provision of food, emergency shelter, first-aid and medical support, as connected with first reception needs. The provision of emergency habitable solutions (e.g. containers, tents) is equally excluded from the scope of this call.

Activities must be aimed to deliver service provision, coordination, pilot operation and support measures, and not to pay for construction or renovation works, purchase of land or buildings, rent, utilities or accommodation-related costs.

Profit-oriented activities or speculative financial operations are excluded from this call.

3.3.3. *Minimum requirements for the proposals*

Applicants (Member States) will be asked to pre-identify a **maximum of two project proposals targeting LRAs** and are allowed to **submit one application only**⁽²⁷⁾.

The Commission will evaluate and select each project separately, to a maximum of two projects per applicant, based on the criteria indicated in section

⁽²⁵⁾ Essential aspects of housing facilities include effective geographic access to relevant services, sufficient security measures, sanitation, maintenance, accessibility including for people with reduced mobility and other needs, and compliance of the housing with relevant national and local regulations. Examples of guidance are provided by the EUAA: <https://www.euaa.europa.eu/guidance-reception/1-housing>.

⁽²⁶⁾ Housing First solutions offer unconditional housing to homeless people, together with other supportive services around. Examples are available here: <https://housingfirsteuropa.eu/publications/>

⁽²⁷⁾ LRAs and possible project beneficiaries as listed in this section are welcome to design their projects proposal independently and submit them to the Member State, or co-design them with the national authorities. Member States are responsible for the modalities and pre-selection of the projects proposals.

Member States are responsible for the selection of the project proposals they intend to submit in their application. This selection should take place in a transparent manner and with the direct involvement of LRAs.

The following criteria on the nature of the project beneficiaries and the scope of the activities should be applied for the pre-selection of projects by the applicants:

First, the **project beneficiary/beneficiaries must be:**

- Cities, municipalities, and towns;
- Local agencies defined as public or semi-public organisations, responsible for the design and implementation of specific policies (economic development, energy supply, health services, transport, etc.);
- Infra-municipal tiers of government such as city districts and boroughs in cases where they are represented by a politico-administrative institution having competencies for policymaking and implementation in the integration of third country-nationals;
- Metropolitan authorities and organised agglomerations in cases where they are represented by a politico-administrative institution having delegated competencies for policy-making and implementation in the policy area covered by the Call;
- Regional authorities ⁽²⁸⁾.

Projects proposals can include **additional implementing partners** (e.g. civil society organisations, migrant-led organisations are encouraged to be part of the projects).

Second, the **project proposals** should contain the following elements:

- a clear justification demonstrating that there is a need to strengthen integration services for third country-nationals in the identified area (e.g. due to current pressures on the systems or an increase in arrivals)
- a detailed and realistic timeline of the proposed actions
- support measures that are in line with EU law and standards and, where appropriate, build on relevant guidance documents and recommendations as well as good practices in other Member States ⁽²⁹⁾.

Third, in terms of capacity, the project proposals should demonstrate that beneficiaries (and implementing partners, if applicable) possess the necessary **competencies, qualifications, and resources** to effectively execute the proposed actions. Applicants are responsible for assessing these capabilities, ensuring that partners, such as those with expertise in housing, are appropriately involved in projects focused on housing and reception solutions.

Finally, applicants should explain the expected complementarity with actions financed under the Member States' programmes in accordance with the basic act, and /or actions managed by the Commission under Union actions or other relevant ongoing actions/initiatives.

⁽²⁸⁾ As identified and recognised at national level.

⁽²⁹⁾ As described in section 3.2.1.

3.3.4. Additional guidance for applicants

DG HOME strongly encourages Member States to engage with the local and regional authorities at the earliest opportunity to ensure alignment and support for their proposals.

In their submission, applicants (Member States) will need to clearly indicate how the project proposal(s) identified meet the criteria listed in section 3.3.3.

Applicants are advised to prioritise project proposals that incorporate a blend of (i) urban areas and (ii) rural areas or less-developed regions ⁽³⁰⁾, contingent upon the specific context and identified needs.

Applicants' proposals should explain how the selected project(s) are expected to have a **long-term impact**, thus ensuring **sustainability and replicability/scalability of the activities**.

DG HOME will prioritise proposals that include the involvement of civil society organisations and migrant-led organisations as implementing partners.

We will also prioritise proposals which will specify how the project(s) integrate within the existing local socio-economic environment, fostering positive interactions with the community, as well as promote social and communal cohesion and enhance the overall quality of life in the area.

For proposals selected, applicants are expected to participate in **monitoring and dissemination activities**, such as:

- Collection of information and data on project activities (participation of project beneficiaries in questionnaires, information and awareness-raising campaigns, studies).
- Workshops where Member States' projects would be presented and discussed with the aim of disseminating best practices in the Member States.
- Reports on the implementation of the project and discussion of the outputs in relevant fora e.g. the **European Integration Network**, or the **EU Partnership on Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees**.
- Member States should complement these actions with activities to support knowledge capitalisation and mutual learning, for instance through **Mutual Assistance Projects (MAPs)** ⁽³¹⁾.

3.4. Expected results following the call

Strengthening support to LRAs is expected to reinforce their administrative, technical, and financial capacities, enabling them to translate strategic integration frameworks into coordinated and operational local measures. This should result in more effective absorption and use of EU funding, alongside improved alignment between EU, national, and local

⁽³⁰⁾ See the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics as reference: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/maps#expand-eu-20696703>

⁽³¹⁾ MAPs are a key instrument used by the European Commission, particularly within the **European Integration Network (EIN)**, to foster cooperation, share good practices, and build capacity among EU Member States regarding the integration of migrants and refugees. These projects are part of the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027.

priorities through stronger multi-level governance. In addition, enhanced support is expected to improve coordination of funding streams with central authorities, reducing fragmentation, avoiding overlaps, and ensuring that resources are allocated more strategically to address local integration needs.

Addressing unequal access to essential services through support for integrated service delivery models is expected to reduce fragmentation and administrative complexity. The development and/or reinforcement of “one-stop-shop” approaches should enable third country-nationals to access employment support, education, healthcare, and social services through a single, coordinated entry point, thereby lowering barriers linked to administrative procedures, language, and lack of information. This is expected to lead to more equitable and timely access to services, improved socio-economic inclusion, and more efficient service provision overall, ultimately contributing to more resilient, inclusive, and well-functioning local communities.

In the area of access to housing, increased support is expected to facilitate access to adequate housing, particularly in local contexts experiencing issues with their reception capability. Promoting solutions such as “housing first” solutions, mixed-use developments, co-housing, and shared social spaces should not only improve housing conditions for third-country nationals but also facilitate interaction with local populations, thereby strengthening social cohesion. Improved access to housing is also expected to reduce pressure on reception systems and support the effective implementation of the Pact, given that access to housing/accommodation can constitute a precondition for accessing employment, education, and other essential services. As such, enhanced access to housing support should generate positive spillovers across all integration outcomes, enabling more sustainable and long-term inclusion.

In the long term, these measures are expected also to ease pressure on reception systems and promote inclusive integration opportunities across different communities, including rural areas.

4. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

4.1. Admissibility and assessment aspects

All EU Member States participating in the AMIF are eligible.

The Specific Action’s activities proposed should not be concluded before the submission of the notification letter for selection by DG HOME.

Considering the approaching end of the 2021-2027 financial period and the nature of the projects involving partnerships and potentially public procurement procedures, we draw the attention of the Managing Authorities to the need to ensure close supervision of the activities by the beneficiaries so that the timeline in the applications is respected, in line with the eligibility rules, and the selected projects will be concluded before 31 December 2029.

DG HOME will assess the proposals submitted by the Member States.

To be considered admissible a proposal must:

1. be submitted within the deadline (see below) to the AMIF specific actions functional mailbox HOME-AMIF-SPECIFIC-ACTIONS@ec.europa.eu,
2. consist of the official AMIF / 2026 / SA / 2.4.2. Application Form attached to this note together with its annexes, which must be readable and complete (all fields necessary for assessment are filled in),
3. be submitted by the Managing Authority on behalf of the entity/ies in the Member State that will be responsible for the implementation of the specific action,
4. identify per project a project beneficiary (an entity) among those listed in section 3.3.3. of the call that will be responsible for the implementation of the specific action in the Member State.

DG HOME will assess the individual projects of each admissible proposal based on the following criteria:

A. Relevance (45 points –minimum score 30 points):

1. Challenges and needs of the selected LRAs
2. Clarity and consistency with the objectives and scope of the call (sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2)
3. Alignment with EU legal and policy framework (section 3.2.1)

B. Quality and content (30 points):

1. Maturity of the proposal; appropriateness of the design and planned implementation, considering the activities envisaged; methodology (including operational and financial management); organisation of work and strategy for project management and monitoring, measures undertaken or envisaged to mitigate the identified risks; beneficiary's capacity to implement the project; indicative timing
2. Cost-effectiveness of the proposal
3. Type of partnership
4. Procedure applied in the Member State to select the proposals

C. Impact (25 points):

1. Impact or effect of the proposal based on concrete and measurable targets (section 3.4), as well the extent it is fostering mixed communities and facilitating integration
2. Sustainability, scalability and replicability of the proposal.

Member States must ensure respect for the horizontal principles described in Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, including respect for fundamental rights and compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Moreover, Member States must ensure that the envisaged actions are not affected by a reasoned opinion delivered by the Commission in respect of infringement proceedings under Article 258 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) that put in doubt the legality and regularity of expenditure or the performance of the actions (Article 11(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147).

4.2. Application procedure

Deadline for the application: Member States are invited to submit their proposals by **02/10/2026** at the latest, using the official AMIF / 2026 / SA / 2.4.2. Application Form attached to this Note, together with its annexes.

The Member State can submit an application in any official EU language (project abstract/summary should however always be in English). For reasons of efficiency, it is strongly advised to use English for the entire application.

In line with the Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001⁽³²⁾, any document held by the Commission, including documents containing sensitive information, may be subject to a request for public access. Therefore, if relevant, the Managing Authorities should submit each application in a separate email. Likewise, clarifications where needed/required per application should be sent in separate emails.

To ensure equal and fair treatment of the proposals and allow the Commission to allocate on the same date all the available funding, DG HOME will assess all proposals simultaneously. Therefore, proposals submitted after the deadline will not be admissible.

The Members of the Committee for the Home Affairs Funds will be informed at the latest 10 working days before the deadline for the submission of the proposals in case the deadline for the submission of proposals is extended.

E-mail address for the application: The proposals should be submitted to the AMIF specific actions functional mailbox HOME-AMIF-SPECIFIC-ACTIONS@ec.europa.eu. Member States may submit additional documentation if necessary.

No modification to the application is allowed once the deadline for submission has elapsed. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or to correct clerical mistakes, the Commission may contact the applicant during the evaluation process. A reply should be provided by the Member State within 3 working days from the request date.

Any requests for clarification of the Member States on this call for the expression of interest may be sent by 01/08/2026 at the latest, to the same AMIF specific actions functional mailbox HOME-AMIF-SPECIFIC-ACTIONS@ec.europa.eu.

Requests should only be sent **by the Managing Authority**. The Managing Authority has an important role to explain to the potential beneficiaries the applicable rules and specificities of the programmes and of a specific action, and to help prepare applications for a specific action. The Managing Authority should be the contact point and take the responsibility to review questions from potential beneficiaries and raise questions to or request clarifications from the Commission services where necessary. As projects under specific actions are managed at national level, according to national rules, specific questions on eligibility of costs should be addressed first to the Managing Authority.

To respect the equal treatment and transparency, the replies to the written requests for clarification received will be sent to all Member States, via HOME-AFFAIRS-FUNDS-COMMITTEE@ec.europa.eu

DG HOME will inform Member States of the outcome of the assessment of the proposals towards November 2026.

⁽³²⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents

5. AMENDMENT OF THE AMIF PROGRAMMES AND ELIGIBILITY OF EXPENDITURE

After having been informed of the outcome of the call for expression of interest, each successful Member State should submit to the Commission a request to amend its AMIF programme via SFC. The amended programme should include a short description of the specific action, adjust the output and result indicators, and include the costs and codes linked to this specific action (respectively in the description and under tables 1, 2 and 3 of the relevant specific objective, and table 6 of the programme).

When amending an AMIF programme of a Member State, two situations may arise regarding the eligibility of expenditure:

1. For Member States that have included all the types of interventions listed in Annex VI table 1 of the AMIF Regulation that are relevant for the Specific Action “Specific Action Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities” in table(s) 2.1.3 of the relevant specific objective in their *initially approved* AMIF programme: expenditure for the Specific Action will be eligible as of 01/01/2021.
2. For Member States that have *not* included all the types of interventions listed in Annex VI table 1 of the AMIF Regulation that are relevant for the Specific Action “Specific Action Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities” in the table(s) 2.1.3 of the relevant specific objective(s) in their initially approved AMIF programme: expenditure for the Specific Action will be eligible from the date of submission by the Member State of its request for amendment of the AMIF programme that will add the respective types of interventions to the programme.

Yours faithfully,

Silvia MICHELINI

Enclosure: Annex 1 – Application form AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.2
 Annex 2 – Budget form AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.2