

**FAQs about Specific Actions under the Thematic Facility Work Programmes AMIF, BMVI, ISF 2023-2025**

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**BMVI/2023/SA/1.2.3 - “Specific Action to support Member States' national strategies for a European integrated border management”**

Topic classification	Question	Reply
Eligible activities	<p>We are currently reviewing the conditions of the project call “Specific Action to support Member States' national strategies for a European integrated border management”. And our organization would like to clarify your opinion: Are there any activities ( that are very important to us) could be supported within the project in scope this call? We would like to implement the following:</p> <p>1) Activities aimed at strengthening the supervision of the external borders of the EU.</p> <p>For example. purchase or rental of special equipment - for detection and tracking of border violators or drones (UAV).</p> <p>2) Ordering a particular service that would allow obtaining data from sensors - to analyze a significant number of images.</p> <p>For example, with existing equipment, many border surveillance units of the State Border Guard can receive up to 400 photos per day. The mentioned service would support faster and more efficient actions of border guards at the local level to select/mark sensor/detector</p>	<p>The scope of the BMVI Specific Action to “Support to Member States' national strategies for European integrated border management’ (ref. no. BMVI/2022/SA/1.2.3), as per the call document, is: ‘to provide support to Member States and SAC in the establishment of their national strategies for the implementation of EIBM, specifically with a view to the setting up or the enhancing of a national centralised governance function’.</p> <p>The focus is the cooperation and information exchange component of EIBM: proposals should aim at strengthening coordination between national authorities having competences in the management of external borders (see examples provided under section 3.3. of the call document).</p> <p>The purchase of the border surveillance equipment and services mentioned in the question does not fall within the scope of the call.</p>

	<p>images containing people, vehicles or animals illegally crossing the external border of the EU. Question (general formulation)</p> <p>Are eligible under BMVI SA call registered under the ref. no BMVI/2022/SA/1.2.3 activities aimed at strengthening the supervision of the external borders of the EU (e.g. purchase or rental of special equipment - for detection and tracking of border violators or drones (UAV)) or of ordering a particular service that would allow obtaining data from sensors to analyse a significant number of images? Such service would support faster and more efficient actions of border guards at the local level to select/mark sensor/detector images containing people, vehicles or animals illegally crossing the external border of the EU.</p>	
	<p>According to the point 3.3 of the call document to strengthen coordination between national authorities having competences in the management of external borders, in line with the EIBM and by means of the specific national strategies projects may include implementation or improvement of information management systems to ensure timely and efficient inter-agency information sharing. <b>Please confirm that in case at national level various tasks</b> (border management, migration management, etc) <b>are carried out by the same authority</b> (Police and Border Guard Board) <b>using different IT-systems, the improvement of information management systems is eligible under this call.</b></p> <p>Background information: For more effective data exchange in the field of SIS/SIRENE with border and migration officers the Estonian Police and Border Guard is planning the development of automatic data exchange between the</p>	<p>The new IT functionality mentioned in the question would only benefit the same national authority. As such, it is not considered eligible under this call.</p> <p>The focus should be on proposals improving inter-agency cooperation specifically in respect of IT, to ensure timely and efficient inter-agency information sharing.</p>

	<p>relevant applications which is also foreseen with Council implementing Decision 05.12.2019 ST14872/19 setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2018 on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the Schengen Information System. In particular its point 17. introduce harmonised SIS hit reporting forms and consider implementing automated hit reporting to the SIRENE Bureau directly from the applications.</p> <p>To comply with the cited decision and best practices, we are planning to take SIRENE application (ISPOC) to a new technology (project period 2024-2026/2027). <b>There we would like to develop a new functionality, a HIT reporting notification to SIRENE for the end users of information system PIKO (border control information system) and ILLEGAAL (immigration information system).</b></p> <p>As a result of the development if the system (PIKO or ILLEGAL) detects a match with an alert in the Schengen Information System (SIS), the end user can choose a pre-filled hit notification to the SIRENE Bureau. The structure of the mentioned pre-filled form corresponds to the Commission's implementing decisions (SIRENE Manual) and its technical description Data Exchange Between SIRENE's (DEBS). Such a formatted exchange of information allows the aforementioned officers to effectively ensure data quality, maintain confidentiality, and speeds up the processing and transmission of information to relevant countries and organizations.</p>	
	<p>A project in the restructuring of the National Frontex Point of Contact in the context of consolidation of</p>	<p>This specific action aims at contributing to the inter-agency cooperation at national level, as well as to enhance internal</p>

	<p>different units within the Federal Police would be still eligible in the scope of the call?</p> <p>The project would focus on the establishment of stronger relations with other authorities involved in border guarding, but within the limits of a closer and better coordination for example through meetings and related to Frontex subjects.</p> <p>In summary, the core idea of our project would not be exclusively aimed on the overall coordination in sense of the IBM concept, but initially on the points under which the NFPoC is in contact with different stakeholders within the Federal Police, on national level and in cooperation with Frontex.</p> <p>The initial project „Coordination Centre - Frontex“ would become a larger coordination office in the sense of the IBM at a later stage.</p>	<p>coordination and centralised governance of authorities with tasks at external borders.</p> <p>A proposal like the one described in the question, contributing to the establishment of stronger relations with other national authorities with responsibilities at external borders, for a closer and better coordination, falls within the scope of the call.</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Could you explain what did you mean to wrote about writing about the creation of a national IT tool, i.e. a common portal?</li> <li>2. What purchases could be included in this point and are there any percentage limits on purchases?</li> <li>3. Is the project focused only on cooperation and activities based on meetings, seminars, etc, whether the Border Guard can focus on purchasing communication an IT equipment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The setting up of a national IT tool aims at contributing to the implementation of the EIBM concept, i.e. a shared portal or platform, website falls under the scope of this call as long as it is encompassing the different areas of border management or contributing to the communication of different authorities with responsibilities at external borders.</li> <li>2. Costs incurred for setting up a national IT tool are eligible (e.g. IT devices and software licences, its maintenance and upgrade, etc.) and purchases shall be made in line with the applicable national and EU rules, within the available budget set for the project proposal.</li> <li>3. The proposal may include one or several activities, as per the examples on pages 5-6 of the call document, contributing to the objective, notably of setting up or the enhancing of a national centralised governance function for the implementation of EIBM.</li> </ol>
	<p>Is the posting of a liaison officer to Frontex eligible under this call?</p>	<p>The main objective of this specific action is setting up or enhancing a national centralised governance function, encompassing coordination among all relevant national authorities with competences in the</p>

	<p>The tasks of this position will entail close cooperation with other national authorities participating in Frontex activities, in particular the defence, immigration and return authorities, who are responsible for implementing IBM functions. It will thus support and strengthen the development and implementation of EIBM at national level.</p>	<p>European Integrated Border Management (EIBM). The posting of a liaison officer to the Frontex headquarters would facilitate the communication between the national contact point and the Agency, but it has no direct effect on the inter-agency cooperation among the national authorities. Therefore, as such it is not considered eligible under this call.</p> <p>Proposals should aim at setting up or enhancing the national centralised governance function, by clearly focusing on improving the inter-agency cooperation among the national authorities in each Member State that are responsible for border control/other tasks carried out at the border. See in particular the examples mentioned on pages 5 and 6 of the call document.</p>
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