

FAQs about Specific Actions under the Thematic Facility Work Programmes AMIF, BMVI, ISF 2023-2027

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❖ ISF/2025/SA/1.1.2 - “Roll-out of the Secure Information Exchange Network Application -SIENA”

Topic classification	Question	Reply
Eligibility of activities	If a Member State has already integrated SIENA (BPL) with its CMS, could the SIENA SA funding be used in a broader sense – adapting the CMS to be further in line with the IED. Specifically, technological upgrade of the CMS, workflows handling IED-related communication (e.g. the new Nexus communication scheme of Interpol) and SIRENE (SIS)-related upgrades? Would this be in line with the specific action’s scope?	<p>The scope of implementation activities eligible under the SIENA SA are those falling under Article 13, 15(3)(a) and 16(1)(f) of the Directive, the list being exhaustive. Adaptation of the CMS to be further in line with the IED can therefore be funded under such conditions. More specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technological upgrade of the CMS: only parts related to SIENA use by law enforcement authorities, CMS interoperability with SIENA, and training of SPOC staff for using the upgraded CMS when carrying out exchanges under the Directive. - Workflows handling IED-related communication (e.g. the new Nexus communication scheme of Interpol): only the parts of the SPOC staff training on Nexus’ use specific to the exchange of information under the Directive - SIRENE (SIS)-related upgrades: only the parts of the SPOC staff training on SIRENE related functions specific to the exchange of information under the Directive (e.g. consultation of the national SIRENE activity log when being requested information under Art 4).
Eligibility of activities and project implementation dates	<p>1) Can the funding cover existing Europol/SIENA Support & Maintenance works (we already have inbound connection between SIENA and Irelands Europol National Units, Case File Management System (GIBS) i.e. under O.I.3., as opposed to a new project.</p> <p>2) Is there any flexibility regarding start/finish dates for any potential project work to be undertaken e.g. could there be a Project stood up/mobilised with project phases in flight by June 2027 but entry into operation is thereafter etc.</p>	<p>1) Yes, the funding can cover existing works related to SIENA rollout. The aim is not to create a new project but to accelerate SIENA rollout to law enforcement authorities. However, activities funded through the SIENA Specific Action should be clearly differentiated from other SIENA-related activities funded through the ISF national programme.</p> <p>2) There is no flexibility regarding the date of entry into operation. As stated in the call, the connection to SIENA of the competent law enforcement authorities exchanging under the</p>

		Directive shall be carried out by 12 June 2027. This is a legal requirement established by the Directive (EU).
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❖ ISF/2025/SA/3.4.3- “Uptake of innovative digital technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, by Law Enforcement Authorities (INNO)”

Topic classification	Question	Reply
Mandatory uptake of EU-funded security research and innovation	There is a potential project idea which is not linked to previous Horizon projects but is instead based on other promising R&I results which are funded by ERDF. Would this be considered eligible?	<p>Your question is very similar to a question to which the COM responded on 22 December 2025 via the Note to the Committee HOME-Funds/2025/48 Ares(2025)11426680.</p> <p>This Specific Action is explicitly designed to support the operational uptake, testing, validation, piloting and deployment of innovative digital technologies developed through EU-funded security research and innovation projects.</p> <p>In this context, the call specifically refers to projects funded under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, which constitute the primary research and innovation framework for EU-level security research. Accordingly, the capitalisation of results stemming from EU-funded security research and innovation projects under Horizon 2020 and/or Horizon Europe is a core eligibility condition of this Specific Action.</p> <p>The objective of the Specific Action INNO is to ensure the transition from research results from such projects to operational use by law enforcement authorities, in line with the applicable interoperability, data protection and ethical requirements.</p> <p>While results developed under other EU programmes, such as the ERDF, may potentially complement an application, they cannot, on their own, fulfil the requirement to build on results of EU-funded security research and innovation projects as defined in the call.</p>