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

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❖ **AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.1 – "Protecting third-country workers' rights while fighting against illegal employment of irregularly staying third-country nationals"**

no	Topic classification	Question	Reply
1	**Request for extension of deadline for MS applications' submission** **Use of the annexes of the call for expression of interest** **Formalisation of partnership** **Eligibility and indicators**	We would like to submit the following questions regarding the Specific Action "Protecting third-country workers' rights": 1. Would it be possible to extend the deadline for project submission? The current deadline at the end of August presents challenges, as many colleagues and partner organisations are on leave during July and August. 2. How should cooperation with potential partners be formalised? To what extent are signatures required at the time of submission and/or after submission? In other words, at what stage is a formal cooperation agreement between partners expected? 3. Third-country nationals (TCNs) legally staying in the EU are defined as the target group under SO2. However, this Specific Action aims to combat illegal employment of irregularly staying TCNs. We would like to clarify whether TCNs without a legal stay in the EU are eligible under this Specific Action. Can they be counted under the indicator AMIF-SO2-3 "Number of participants supported"? For example, in the context of providing legal support to TCNs without a legal stay. 4. For the budget, is the "summary" template sufficient, or is it also required to submit a detailed Excel file outlining the budget distribution among partners?	1. We have acknowledged the challenge of applying at the end of August while having to work together with partner organisations for its preparation. Consequently, by note issued on 1 July this year, the deadline was extended to 11 September 2026. 2. The cooperation with potential partners should be formalised before submission of your application and presented in the application form. 3. Illegally staying TCNs (ISTCNs) are within the scope of the action and they should thus be addressed, including for the purpose of providing legal - and other types of - support and be counted accordingly for the purposes of the results, indicators and all other relevant purposes under this Action. The reason is that ISTCNs have the right to report claims, lodge complaints, have access to complaints' mechanisms and receive back-payments - as well as, where/if applicable temporary residence permits - so they should also have access to information and support in the same way as legally staying TCN workers. 4. As indicated in the Budget form attached to the launch of the call for expression of interest (annex 2) Member States may provide an additional budget form to complement their application. Therefore, while the budget form has to be completed, additional information complementing your application is an option.

❖ <u>AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.2</u> – **"Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities"**

no	Topic classification	Question	Reply
1.	**Clarification on the specification of the project beneficiaries**	We would appreciate a clarification regarding the requirements for the identification of project beneficiaries under the Call for Expression of Interest AMIF/2026/SA/2.4.2 – Support to the implementation of integration measures by Local and Regional Authorities. Section 4.1 of the Call states that each project proposal shall identify a project beneficiary among the entities listed in section 3.3.3 that will be responsible for the implementation of the specific action. At the same time, the Application Form requests applicants to indicate the lead project beneficiary and other project beneficiaries. Considering the specific context of Italy, where a very large number of local and regional authorities are potentially eligible under the call, the Managing Authority intends to carry out the selection of the final beneficiaries through the procedures provided for in the national Management and Control System, ensuring transparency, equal treatment and sound financial management principles. In this regard, could the Commission please clarify whether: 1. the application submitted by the Member State must already identify the specific beneficiary entities (lead beneficiary and any other project beneficiaries) that will implement the project; or 2. it would be considered admissible for the application to identify only the category/type of eligible beneficiaries (among those listed in section 3.3.3 of the Call), while specifying that the individual	As indicated in the call for expression of interest, the application must identify a specific lead beneficiary at submission AND associated beneficiaries. On top of this, the applicant should demonstrate that beneficiaries (and implementing partners, if applicable) possess the necessary competencies, qualifications and resources to effectively execute the proposed actions as indicated in section 3.3.3.

		beneficiary entities will be selected and formally designated at a later stage through the national selection procedures established under the AMIF Management and Control System. We would be grateful for any guidance on the level of detail expected at application stage regarding the identification of beneficiaries and implementing partners.	
2.	**Clarifications on funding eligibility**	We would appreciate clarification on the following questions related to the Call for the expression of interest "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) Are purely virtual one-stop shop models/ digital services, e. g. online platforms, also eligible for funding? 2) Are one-stop shops that are primarily aimed at providing counselling for skilled workers eligible for funding? 3) When several authorities, that were previously located in different places, relocate to one location/ property in order to form a one-stop-shop, relocation costs incur. Are these relocation costs eligible for funding? 4) Are costs for the rent and renovation of the premises of one-stop-shops eligible for funding?	For the purpose of this call for expression of interest 1) Purely virtual one-stop-shop models (e.g., online platforms, digital services) are eligible if they align with the goal of reducing administrative complexity and improving access to services (e.g., employment, education, healthcare) for third-country nationals. 2) One-stop shops primarily aimed at counselling skilled workers are eligible if they support broader integration objectives (e.g., employment, housing, or social services). 3) Relocation costs for authorities forming a one-stop shop are not eligible. The call explicitly excludes costs related to "construction or renovation works, purchase of land or buildings, rent, utilities, or accommodation-related costs" 4) Rent and renovation costs for one-stop-shop are not under the remit of this call, because the call is focused on supporting integration measures by local and regional authorities through service provision, coordination, pilot operation and support measures, rather than financing premises-related expenditure.

❖ <u>**BMVI/2026/SA/1.3.2**</u> **- “Support for national Schengen governance frameworks”**

no	Topic classification	Question	Reply
1.	**Eligibility of Recruitment costs**	On reviewing further the call documentation, we note that the objective of the action is to strengthen national Schengen governance structures, operational coordination, monitoring capacities and effective implementation of the Schengen acquis. In particular, Activity 3 refers to the possibility of piloting structural improvements, including measures to “strengthen human resource capacities”. Against this background, could you please clarify whether the Specific Action may support the recruitment or engagement of officials/national experts tasked with developing and implementing a national border management and/or Schengen governance quality framework, conducting audits, and carrying out related activities? Any guidance you could provide on the eligibility of personnel-related expenditure under this Specific Action would be highly appreciated and would assist us in shaping a potential application.	These costs may be covered by the call insofar as they relate to Schengen governance aspects, that is, for coordination and implementation of the Schengen acquis as a whole. Sectoral human resources costs dedicated to a single policy area are not eligible for financing under this specific action.