

FOLLOW THE MONEY - LAUNCH EVENT

Thursday 31th January 2019 in L42, Rue de la Loi 42, 1040 Brussels

Background

The Asylum, Migration & Integration Fund (AMIF) 2014-20 aims to contribute, via financial assistance, to the effective management of migration flows and to the implementation and development of a common EU approach to asylum and migration. The AMIF reflects efforts to simplify and streamline the implementation of the European Union budget in the area of home affairs. For the 2014-2020 period, approximately 88% (€2.39bn) of the total AMIF resources of €3.1bn were allocated to Member States that adopted multiannual national programmes.

On 12 June 2018, the European Commission submitted an interim evaluation of the AMIF to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, the conclusions of which drew on interim evaluation reports prepared by Member States on the implementation of their AMIF national programmes during the period 1 January 2014 to 30 June 2017.

Also on 12 June 2018, in the context of the new Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-27, the European Commission published its *Proposal for a Regulation to establish the Asylum and Migration Fund*, the successor Fund to the current AMIF¹.

The first ['Follow the Money: Assessing the use of AMIF funding at the national level' study](#), published in January 2018, assessed the programming and design of national AMIF funds from a civil society perspective. This second 'Follow the Money' study presents:

- A comparative critical analysis of the use of AMIF funding at national level during 2014-18, drawing on the outcomes of national and European interim evaluations of the Fund and the perspectives of civil society and other actors involved in national AMIF implementation.
- Detailed case studies assessing national AMIF implementation in four Member States (Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany and Spain).
- A critical overview of the use of AMIF emergency assistance to implement actions in Member States during 2014-17.

Based on this analysis, this report presents:

- Recommendations on the implementation of the proposed Asylum and Migration Fund for 2021-27 at national level, addressed to Member States.
- Recommendations on programming, monitoring and evaluating national implementation of the proposed Asylum and Migration Fund for 2021-27, addressed to the European Commission.

¹ See UNHCR's [Recommendations](#) to the EU. EU Multiannual Financial Framework 201-2027: Addressing Forced Displacement Effectively, April 2018; ECRE [Comments](#) on the Asylum and Migration Proposal, September 2018 ; see ECRE/UNHCR [The Way Forward](#): A Comprehensive Study of the new Proposals for EU funds on Asylum, Migration and Integration, October 2018 ; [Expert Paper](#) commissioned by ECRE /UNHCR on the new proposals for EU funds on Asylum, Migration and Integration 2021-2027, October 2018

This report is produced in the framework of the strategic partnership of the European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), established in 2016 to develop and promote discussions on the future of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS).

Objectives

The launch event will present the Follow the Money (2)'s findings and recommendations, followed by a panel discussion that will look both at the current AMIF and at the future financial instruments on asylum, migration and integration.

During the panel debate, key stakeholders will discuss how the future financial instruments may fill existing gaps and strengthen the development of a Common European Asylum System in the coming years.

Agenda

9.15 – 9.45 **Registration and welcome coffee**

9.45 – 9.55.00 **Welcome Remarks**

Catherine Woollard, Secretary General, ECRE

Annabelle Roig-Granjon, Deputy Head of Unit Global Issues at the Regional Representation for EU Affairs, UNHCR

9.55 – 10.00 Video recorded message from Ms Miriam Dalli, Member of the European Parliament, rapporteur on the Asylum and Migration Fund Proposal

10.00 - 10.45 **Presentation of the key findings of the Follow the Money II Report**

Speaker: Ms Rachel Westerby, consultant

Moderator: Daphné Bouteillet-Paquet, Senior Legal Officer, ECRE

Questions & Answers

10.45 - 12.25 **Panel Debate : “From AMIF to AMF – the impact of the future financial instruments on asylum migration and integration in Europe ”**

Moderator : Hanne Beirens, Acting Director MPI Europe

Jasminka D'Souza, Programme Manager, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, Unit E.3 National programmes for north and west Europe; budget; MFF; agencies

Shane Murphy, political adviser, S&D, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Annabelle Roig-Granjon, Deputy Head of Unit Global Issues, RREUA, UNHCR ,
Catherine Woollard, Secretary General, ECRE

Questions & Answers