

NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMMES

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF EU MEMBER STATES' ALLOCATIONS IN SUPPORT OF
STRENGTHENING THE ASYLUM SYSTEM, IMPROVING RECEPTION CAPACITY AND EXPANDING
ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES

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ECRE Working Papers present research and analysis on asylum and migration. Their purpose is to stimulate debate by showcasing emerging ideas. Working Papers are commissioned by ECRE; the views they contain are those of their authors and do not necessarily represent ECRE's positions.

INTRODUCTION

This research report is a comparative analysis of the EU Member States' allocations of the financial resources, mix of grants and loans, they receive from the European Commission to support the COVID-19 recovery (via the so-called Next Generation EU).

While the European Commission has clarified that Next Generation EU (NGEU) should not include allocations for migration and border management, interventions to provide support to inter alia cohesion provide an opportunity to support activities that involve refugees and migrants through e.g. support of strengthening the asylum system, improving reception capacity, expanding access to social services. The report looks at which kind of actions will be funded and whether this responds to previous recommendations of the European Commission.

The research process essentially consisted of checking the country needs identified in the European Semester report and then comparing the findings with the resources allocated in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans of EU Member States; to see how they are planning to use the money and filter out the issues related to migrants and refugees.

The research covered the following 10 countries, ensuring geographical diversity: Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Poland and Czech Republic.

Each country has 5 sections as follows:

- » General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees
- » Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration
- » Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups
- » European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals
- » NRRP allocation to other areas related to migration and asylum

This research is coordinated within the Voicify Project. Voicify aims at building an inclusive Europe where young refugees, exiled, migrants, asylum seekers and undocumented, Y.R.E.M.A.S.U.D, can shape policies and decisions that affect them.

With Voicify, Y.R.E.M.A.S.U.D self-led organizations work to advance their political participation in the European Union and build the first European umbrella organization that represents them. Voicify is a partnership between The Young Republic and Voices of Young Refugees in Europe, and funded by EPIM (European Program for Integration and Migration).

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SUMMARY TABLE

Country	Resources received	Amount Spent in Social Inclusion	Is the allocation responding to previous needs (YES/NO)	Amount spent in reception/asylum
Greece	€30.5 billion	€740 million	Yes	The NRRP will include investments for the promotion of the integration of refugees in the labour market. The NRRP plans to invest in the digitalization of the migration and asylum system.
Italy	€24.9 billion	€22.4 billion	Yes	<p>The NRRP will invest in social housing ,strengthening local social services to support families, improving life of persons of disabilities</p> <p>The NRRP will include in its plan the reform of the judicial system which has a direct link to the processing of asylum cases.</p>
Spain	€69,5 billion	€2,5 billion	Yes	€190 million (this total corresponds only to the investment to Increased capacity and system efficiency of reception of asylum seekers; it does not include investments for new public policies for a dynamic, resilient, and inclusive labour market because there is no disaggregation between migrants and vulnerable natives).
Portugal	€16,6 billion	€833 million	Yes	<p>The NRRP will include investments in adequate housing for migrants and refugees population.</p> <p>The NRRP plans to invest in the digitalization of border management and control, and of police and of judicial cooperation and asylum. This is likely to impact the asylum system in general.</p>
Germany	€2,25 billion		Yes	The NRRP will include investments in adequate integration measures to the labor markets and educational facilities. The NRRP plans to invest in the digitalization of border management and control, and of police and of judicial cooperation and asylum.
France	€39.4 billion	€494 million	Yes	There is no mention on that in the plan

Belgium	€5,925 billion	€494 million	Yes	<p>The Belgian NRRP addresses migrants under the bigger umbrella category of the vulnerable group. The actions that can affect migrants, asylum seekers and refugees indirectly are the ones addressing economic empowerment through training, and accessibility to the job market.</p> <p>There is no particular mention in actions addressing social integration, housing or healthcare access.</p>
Poland	€36. billion	Not determinable in the current NRRP proposal. Social inclusion is scattered through the plan. Component A (where migrant workers are mentioned) adds to 13.1% of all allocated funds (total of €4.7 billion).	No	There is no funding planned to be spent in reception/asylum.
Czech	€7.1 billion	Not determinable.	Yes in regards to overall recommendations and reports from 2019 and 2020, but no in regards to Easo reports.	No funding is allocated for reception or asylum.
Sweden	€3.2 billion	€930 million	Yes	The NRRP will include investments in education to prepare for better adaptation for the labour market.

GREECE

Member state	Greece
Amount of resources received	€30.5 billion (€17.8 billion in grants and €12.7 billion in loans)
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 13 July 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	YES
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	YES

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country report of 2019 concludes that priority investment needs are identified to enhance access to inclusive quality education and training, in particular for persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees.

The country report of 2020 highlights the challenges in the integration of third-country nationals, including recently arrived refugees, having lower employment rates (especially women) and worse educational outcomes than native born population. Moreover, access to medical care also appears to be lower for third-country nationals and there are concerns that it may affect migrants, and in particular, asylum seekers and refugees.

The country-specific recommendations of 2019 and 2020 suggest that investments should focus on enhancing access to inclusive, affordable and high quality social services, as well as on developing day-care centres, supporting migrants and refugees amongst others. The recommendations of 2020 additionally highlight the importance for people from disadvantaged backgrounds, including refugees and asylum seekers to receive particular attention as far as deployment of digital tools and services are concerned.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan of Greece - "Greece 2.0" (Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ανάκαμψης και Ανθεκτικότητας) was submitted to the European Union on 27 April 2021, was endorsed by the European Commission on 17 June 2021 and was finally approved by ECOFIN on 13 July 2021.

The "Greece 2.0" plan aspires to help the country's economic recovery and growth by introducing a set of economic and social reforms structured in four pillars. Green Transition, Digital Transformation, Employment skills and social cohesion, Private Investments and Transformation of the economy.

Overall the plan includes 106 investments and 68 reforms, utilizing investment resources of €30.5 billion European funds (€17.8 billion in grants and €12.73 billion in loans) in the country over the next five years (2021-2025).

Component 4 within Pillar 3 (Employment skills and social cohesion) explicitly mentions investments on migrants, refugees and asylum. More specifically one of them is the digitalization of the migration and asylum system, with an objective to create a unified management of the whole life cycle of the procedures related to refugee flows, from the first reception to the completion of the examination of an asylum case as well as giving citizens of third countries access to a range of services such as access to accommodation and reception facilities and various services (medical care, meals, etc.)

Another investment within Component 4 will be the promotion of integration of the refugee population into the labour market aiming to further develop and sustain a lasting, effective mechanism of job integration, in order to promote integration of the refugee population into the labour market, tailored to the needs of beneficiaries and enterprises, flexible enough to be adapted in changing conditions.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable groups or marginalised groups

A key component of Pillar 3 revolves around social inclusion. Besides explicit mentions of migrant and refugees with regards to enhancing participation in the labour market and digitalization of migration and asylum system, there are a number of reforms whose target is to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare, social structures and social services and to promote economic activation of vulnerable population groups.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

In the assessment of the NRRP by the European Commission, it is acknowledged that the plan contains a series of measures that are expected to address challenges in the area of gender equality and equal opportunities for all, by including targeted reforms and investments in the areas of employment, skills, health and social cohesion. Long-term unemployed, persons with disabilities and homeless people, persons with a minority ethnic background, migrants and asylum seekers, and people living in extreme poverty will be among the beneficiaries.

5. NRRP allocation to other areas related to migration and asylum

As far as migration and asylum is concerned, Component 4 of Pillar 3 envisages the digitalization of the immigration and asylum system, with an estimated cost of €42 million. However there is neither any further development or reform with regards to the asylum system per se, nor investments nor reforms around migration facilities and infrastructure.

- » Development/reform of the asylum system - No
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc) - Yes
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc. - No

ITALY

Member state	Italy
Amount of resource received	€24.9 billion
Approved of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved June 22 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum and migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalization, borders	YES

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country report has in it the key priority areas as a national program and this is intended to promote inclusion and ensure worker employability, support for women and people who are more vulnerable, non-self-sufficient or living with disabilities. The plan would address the damages caused by the pandemic which had more impact on the economy and social life of the people and investments for special economic zones like in the southern part of the country.

There has not been specific mention of migrants and refugees in the reports of 2020.

2. Short description of NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan (Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza, PNRR) was submitted to the European commission on the 30th of April 2021 Italy been the most hit European country of the Covid pandemic, It received the largest share of the recovery fund.

The Italian NRRP is developed around three strategic axes shared at a European level: digitisation and innovation, ecological transition, and social inclusion. It is an intervention that aims at repairing the economic and social damage caused by the pandemic crisis, contributing to addressing the structural weaknesses of the Italian economy, and leading the country along a path of ecological and environmental transition. The NRRP will substantially contribute to reducing territorial, generational and gender gaps.

The plan is allocating € 68.6 billion to green-related investment and initiatives and that accounts for 40% of the total, € 31.4 billion in transportation infrastructure improvement and €31.9 billion in education and research while € 18.5 billion will be invested in healthcare.

The three strategic axes maximize the impact on gender equality, young people and southern Italy. These axes comprise of 6 missions and 16 components and 48 lines of intervention.

Migrants and refugees are not specifically mentioned in any of these components, however, they may benefit from any of these programs particularly component 5; inclusion and cohesion.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Social inclusion can be found in component 5 in which it is stated that the program will ensure that adequate support will be given to women enterprises, the vulnerable and this includes the people with disabilities and infrastructural investments for special economic zones. However there is no specific mention of migrants and refugees .

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The assessment of the NRRP outlined the important areas in order to address some of the outstanding challenges the country is facing as mentioned in the country recommendations. The assessment elaborates on gender equality, young people and southern Italy which need significant improvements in terms of infrastructural development and other social services. It also focused on strengthening competitiveness, reduction of bureaucratic burdens and reform of justice and public administration system and this will have an impact on the life and livelihood of migrants and refugees as well.

5. NRRP allocation to other areas related to migration and asylum

There is no inclusion or clear target of asylum and migration in allocations made in Italy's NRRP. However, there are areas of investments that might have a significant impact on asylum and migration such as the public administration reform to provide better services and allocation of € 82 billion to the southern Italy (Salerno-Reggio Calabria, Naples-Bari, Palermo-Catania-Messina and Taranto-Potenza Battipaglia) to increase the regional rebalancing, and the explicit aim is to accompany a new season of convergence between southern and northern regions to address issues of country's development. Some of the objectives that are targeted are connectivity between the rural and so-called inner areas, waste management, strengthening infrastructure starting with high-speed trains, creation of new centres of research excellence through innovation ecosystems and bridging the gap between the different regional healthcare systems. Justice reforms to reduce the length of legal proceedings that have been a concern for migrants and refugees as well when it comes to their asylum procedures.

- » Development/reform of the Asylum system/of the reception system, etc. - NO
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalization of the system, etc.) - YES
- » Migration facilities, infrastructure at the border, border control etc. - NO

SPAIN

Member state	Spain
Amount of resources received	€69.5 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 16 June 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	YES
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	YES

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The Country Reports of 2019 and 2020 discuss that there are gaps between non-EU migrants and natives regarding educational performance among students, and employment and in-work poverty among adults. Priority investments in education and training, employment services and social inclusion policies are pointed as important to improve the productivity and long-term inclusive growth of Spain. The Country Specific Recommendations of 2019 and 2020 do not mention migrants, refugees or asylum seekers in them.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) of Spain- Plan de Recuperación, Transformación y Resiliencia was submitted to the European Commission on 30 April 2021.

The Spanish NRRP foresees the mobilization of public investment until 2026, with investments and reforms mostly concentrated in the first phase of the Next Generation EU (2021-2023). The NRRP has four transversal axes: Ecological transition, Digital transformation, Social and territorial cohesion, and Gender equality. These four axes comprise 10 policy levers which, in turn, comprise 30 components that articulate coherent investment projects and reforms. A total of € 69,528 million will be distributed among these policy levers and components. The NRRP includes a total of 212 measures (110 are investments and 102 reforms) for the period 2021-2023.

Two components of the NRRP explicitly address social needs with regards to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers identified in the Country Reports, namely the social inclusion of migrants and asylum seekers, and the inequalities in education and labour market.

Migrants, Refugees and Asylum seekers are mentioned in Component 22- Shock plan for the health care economy and reinforcement of inclusion policies. Component 22.C foresees the improvement of the reception system in Spain. The number of asylum requests received increased from 6,000 in 2014 to over 100,000 in 2020, creating great pressure on the system. This Component aims to adjust the capacity of the reception system to the current demand, as well as reinforcing its efficiency by adapting the services and support offered according to the profile of applicants. These objectives are aligned to the New Pact on Migration and Asylum. The reform C22.R4 proposes a basic level of services to all applicants lacking enough financial resources, and enhanced protection for more vulnerable applicants, which will be determined with a system of objective indicators on the context of the country of origin, the expected acceptance rate of the request, and individual circumstances.

The total investment for increasing capacity and efficiency of the reception system amounts to €190 million. The investment's implementation encompasses: estimates of the needs for reception places, by type and location; evaluation of the digital architecture and current information system, and design of new system; comprehensive renovation of existing centres and places; digitization of centres in accordance with management requirements; administrative procedures for the acquisition and rehabilitation of public property buildings adaptable to the purposes of reception; and implementation of new digital architecture.

Regarding the adaptation of services to the profile of applicants, the NRRP defines as essential to adopt a gender approach that is systematically incorporated both in the examination of vulnerabilities, as well as in the planning and designing of new reception centres and in the itineraries that are offered to both women and men during their stay. This focus is important as vulnerabilities can often be gender-specific. Overall, all components of the NRRP that target disadvantaged and vulnerable groups will adopt an intersectional gender perspective to include vulnerable groups of women such as women with disabilities, long-term unemployed, mothers who raise their children alone, older women in one-person households, immigrants, refugees and those belonging to minorities.

Migrants are also mentioned in Component 23- New public policies for a dynamic, resilient and inclusive labour market. Foreign-born students and those coming from households with lower income have higher chances of dropping out of school and having lower performance scores, and Component 23 aims to reduce school failure and dropout and to eliminate school segregation due to conditions regarding the origin of the students. This reform consists of programmes or similar agreements with educational centres whose students have special educational difficulties. The final target is 3,000 centres and the investment amounts to € 320 million.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Component 22 groups several reforms and investments for social inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups besides migrants and refugees, for instance: improvement of social services and benefits, such as equality of opportunities in entering the labour market and throughout the life cycle; improvement of the healthcare system; equality policies, namely protection against sexist violence, protection of families and recognition of their diversity, and investment in childhood and; and accessibility for all citizens, including those with disabilities. Overall, the NRRP develops specific measures to tackle inequalities, as each of the components includes in its description the approach of gender and equal opportunities applicable to the different sectors.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The European Commission's assessment of the NRRP reinforces the need of a reform of the reception system for migrants and applicants of international protection, with policies tailored to the needs of vulnerable people and asylum seekers. The implementation of this reform shall be completed by March 2022. The assessment recognizes the need to increase the capacity and efficiency of the reception system for migrants and applicants of international protection, highlighting the importance of investments also covering digitalisation of centres and the development of a new digital architecture to improve their management. The implementation of this measure shall be completed by December 2024.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

- » Development/reform of the asylum system - YES
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc) - YES
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- YES

PORTUGAL

Member state	Portugal
Amount of resources received	€16.64 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 16 June 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	YES

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country report of 2019 concludes that priority investment needs have been identified to foster active inclusion and address material deprivation, and to enhance equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services and modernise social protection systems for specific populations, including migrants, as well as marginalised communities and disadvantaged groups.

The Country Report 2020 and the Country Specific Recommendations 2019 and 2020 do not mention migrants, refugees or asylum seekers.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan of Portugal- Plano de Recuperação e Resiliência (PRR), was submitted to the European Commission on 22 April 2021, making Portugal the first Member State to deliver the final version.

The Portuguese NRRP's execution period is until 2026, in which it will implement a set of reforms and investments to allow the country to resume sustained economic growth. In total, the value allocated for the reforms and investments will be €16,644 million of RRP financing, distributed as €13,944 million in grants (84% of the total) and €2,700 million in loans (16% of the total). In the second half of 2022, national authorities will reassess the need for additional resources (up to €2,300 million in loans). The NRRP has three structural dimensions: Resilience, Climate Transition and Digital Transition. These dimensions comprise 20 Components which, in turn, comprise a total of 37 Reforms and 83 Investments.

Migrants, refugees and asylum are explicitly mentioned in two components: Component 2: Housing, and Component 19: Public Administration - Training, Digitization and Interoperability and Cybersecurity.

Within Component 2, the investment with the highest value associated is the Housing Access Support Program (€1,211 million). This program will address housing shortage, absence of infrastructure and basic equipment, unhealthy and insecure place of residence, precariousness or lack of contractual relationship, overcrowding or inadequate housing for the special needs of residents with disability or reduced mobility. The program seeks to help up to 26,000 households until 2026: the vulnerable populations this program seeks to assist

includes refugees, migrants and asylum seekers (around 140,000 people), as well as homeless (7,100 in 2019) and victims of domestic violence (around 10,000 people per year). There is no disaggregation among these vulnerable groups in the Housing Access Support Program.

Within Component 19, one of the investments is in Efficient, secure and shared critical digital infrastructures (€83 million). One of the goals of this investment is to renew the architecture of information systems and processes associated with border management and control, police and judicial cooperation and asylum, allowing for a reduction in the bureaucratic burden of the Foreigners and Borders Service (SEF - Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras). There is no disaggregation of values among this and the other goals that compose this investment.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Social inclusion is particularly included in Component 3: Social Responses. This component aims at strengthening, adapting, re-qualifying and innovating the social responses to vulnerable groups (migrants and refugees are not explicitly mentioned). Other components also contribute to social responses, such as housing, the fight against energy poverty or access to digital communications.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The assessment of the NRRP concluded the plan includes significant measures to address long-standing social challenges, as identified in Country Specific Recommendations. The assessment discussed that social vulnerabilities should also be addressed through provision of a wide range of social services focusing on vulnerable groups, including ethnic minorities and migrants, and through integrated programmes to support disadvantaged communities in deprived metropolitan areas. The lack of specific spending is not acknowledged or criticised.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

Home affairs, including asylum and migration are targeted by the resources allocated by the NRRP of Portugal, however, no reform of the asylum or the reception system is mentioned in the document. Nevertheless, other investments might lead to a potential impact on asylum and migration. As above mentioned, Component 19 of the NRRP foresee a considerable investment (€ 83 million) in digitalisation of infrastructures, associated with border management and control, police and judicial cooperation and asylum, allowing for a reduction in the bureaucratic burden of the Foreigners and Borders Service (SEF - Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras). Investments will not concern buildings and physical infrastructures.

- » Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- No
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- Yes (Component 19, see above)
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- No

GERMANY

Member state	Germany
Amount of resources received	€2,25 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 13 July 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalization, borders)	NO

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

Although both country reports 2019 and 2020 refer to “people with migration background” several times, there is no significance to migrants, refugees or asylum seekers in both reports. The recommendations do not specifically mention any of those groups.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The German plan (Deutscher Aufbau- und Resilienzplan (DARP)) forms part of an unprecedented coordinated EU response to the COVID-19 crisis, to address common European challenges by embracing the green and digital transitions, to strengthen economic and social resilience and the cohesion of the Single Market. In particular, Germany’s plan will support large-scale energy-efficiency renovations, digitalize the public administration and improve education and training across the country.

The NRRP consists of 40 measures in six focus areas. They are in line with the goals of the recovery and resilience and address the challenges in the areas of climate policy and energy transition, digitalization of the economy and infrastructure, digitalization of education, strengthening social participation, strengthening a pandemic-resistant healthcare system, as well as modern administration and reducing barriers to investment.

The proposed plan addresses issues related to refugees, persons with migration background and their integration in the labor market, university and schools. The plan shows that there are barriers to reach those goals and those barriers must be addressed.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

There are no specific groups mentioned, reference to vulnerable and marginalised groups is made a few times throughout the document.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The Commission is assessing the recovery and resilience plans based on eleven criteria set out in the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) Regulation. The 11 criteria require an assessment of whether: the measures have a lasting impact; the measures address the challenges identified in the country specific recommendations or a significant subset of it; the milestones and targets which allow for monitoring the progress with the reforms

and investments are clear and realistic; the plans meet the 37% climate expenditure target and the 20% digital expenditure target; the plans respect the do no significant harm principle; the plans provide an adequate control and audit mechanism and set out the plausibility of the costing information.

It finds that the plan contributes to addressing all or a significant subset of the economic and social challenges outlined in the country-specific recommendations of the 2019 and 2020 European Semester.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

- » Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- No
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- Yes
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- No

FRANCE

Member state	France
Amount of resources received	€39.4 Billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 23 June 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	NO

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country specific recommendations and European Semester recommendations have identified issues such as unemployment, integration of vulnerable groups in the labor market and education for vulnerable groups as challenges that the French plan addressed through diverse actions. However, migrants and refugees are not mainly addressed as a category in itself, rather under the vulnerable groups umbrella which identifies low-skilled, young people, people with a migrant background (especially women), and persons with disabilities in all its references.

The challenges identified in the European Semester recommendations regarding vulnerable groups socially and economically are directly addressed by component 8 of the plan on “Job protection, Youth, Disability, Vocational training”. The component with an estimated budget of 11.3 Billion Euros aims to support employment; limit the effects of the economic crisis on vulnerable groups and facilitate the integration of people with disability as well as providing training support to vulnerable groups to facilitate their integration in the labor market.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The French NRRP “plan national de relance et de résilience (PNRR)” focuses on three key pillars: environment, competitiveness and social and territorial cohesion. The 9th component of the plan comes with the largest budget allocation of 7.9 billion euros for territorial cohesion, public healthcare systems and research. The 8th component focusing on job protection and integration of vulnerable groups in the labor market comes with a budget of 2.34 billion Euros. Both components of the plan are deliberately addressing the category of vulnerable groups economically and socially. While migrants fall under this category, there is no particular emphasis on solutions for asylum and migration issues, nor on integration of migrants and 3rd state nationals.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

The youth employment policy is foreseen to have a direct effect on social and economic inclusion of young people through training, capacity building and enhancing vocational training policies. The plan connects component 7 on digital upgrading of the state, territories and companies, to enhancing the digital infrastructure of France which will facilitate the economic and social integration of vulnerable groups namely “immigrants” into the society and the job market.

Another measure of component 7 focuses on programming education and enhancing the continuity, which follows the CSR 2019/2020 on improving the effectiveness of public aid mechanisms, including knowledge transfer systems and to promote immigrants’ integration in the labour market and support the vulnerable groups harmed due to the COVID-19 crisis socially and economically. Therefore, the measure will open 30,000

additional places in higher education to support young people and vulnerable groups facing the COVID-19 crisis.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals.

The EC's assessment highlights that the exposure to social risks of some vulnerable groups is not directly addressed in the plan, nor is its potential impact on child poverty. This concerns the low-skilled, people with a migrant background (particularly women) and single parent households, workers on temporary contracts and atypical workers. The challenge of access to affordable housing in the context of an above-average level of severe housing deprivation is not directly addressed either.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

Acknowledging that non-EU nationals and immigrants being the most affected with the post pandemic unemployment wave, component 8 include a measure to extend the employment support schemes to cover vulnerable groups and support their resilience during and after the pandemic. 250 million euros are to be added to support Pole Emploi¹, to make it possible to temporarily strengthen the workforce to cope with the increased expenses in connection with the support of job seekers.

- » Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- NO
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- YES
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- No

1. Pole Emploi is the French public support system for job seekers

BELGIUM

Member state	Belgium
Amount of resources received	€5,9 Billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 23 June 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	NO

The NRRP of Belgium states that the integration of the new local arrivals is being done on a step by step process starting with traumas and medical assessment to social integration then to labor market integration. None of the NRRP plan actions directly addresses integration of migrants and refugees, therefore, there is no particular allocation of funds towards that. The NRRP and country assessment includes migrants under the category of vulnerable groups, defined accordingly as (people from immigrant backgrounds, women, young people, people with disabilities, detainees, people at risk of digital exclusion) which are addressed in the plan through unemployment and economic empowerment action. Therefore, inclusivity of the job market is addressed through a project that targets vulnerable groups in particular. The project plans to connect diverse Belgian development agencies to make sure refugees receive integration income, language learning support; assistance in deciding on job path, and to create integrated services to support the newcomers to Belgium. Given that migrants fall under the category of the vulnerable groups in the Belgian plan, the allocation of 100 million Euros for “Training and Employment for Vulnerable Groups» (Skills qualification strategy, E-inclusion for Belgium) and 165.80 million Euros for New housing solutions for vulnerable groups will be addressing them rather indirectly. The “Reskilling and upskilling: improving and expanding training to facilitate the integration of vulnerable groups» < measure targets people with a migrant background, the low-skilled, people with disabilities and has an allocation of 450 million Euros.

Regarding strengthening the asylum and migration systems, the digitalization of federal public service project will target the creation of digital numeric systems that facilitates and modernizes the administrative and data collection processes for migration and asylum matters, it falls under the digital transformation component (2.2) of the plan which has an allocation of 17.70 million Euros. The digitalization of asylum and immigration system is to be implemented by the government home affairs with the objectives to modernize digital infrastructure to allow much better and controlled integration with internal and public front offices; modernize and develop migration services by focusing on the user experience; to standardize and secure mutual exchange of data and documents; maximum use research authentic sources (Only-Once) in the migration chain, and to develop a comprehensive approach to privacy by design.

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country challenges identified in CSR 2019-20 and the social scoreboard of Belgium highlighted “Strengthen effectiveness of active labor market policies in particular for the low skilled, older workers and people with a migrant background’ as a challenge, especially due to covid-19 influence socially and economically on these vulnerable groups. Correspondingly, the NRRP of Belgium addressed the challenge through the 4th axis on social and territorial cohesion. It notably aims at the inclusion and integration of vulnerable groups, mainly identified and repeatedly addressed as “migrants”.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Plan for Recovery and Resilience of Belgium aims to accelerate the transition towards a more

sustainable, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy, to maximize the benefits of the digital transformation and to ensure social cohesion and a high level of wellbeing for citizens. The plan also intends to improve connectivity within the country, boost labor market performance, innovation capacity of the economy and to improve the composition of public finances. Throughout the plan, migration is not addressed directly as an independent challenge, rather addressed across several components that aim at the empowerment of vulnerable groups economically and socially. Furthermore, the digitalization component focused on improving the documentation and processing systems for foreigners and migrants to facilitate and enhance their administrative processes.

The plan is structured into six strategic axes and 17 components. The six strategic axes are (1) climate, sustainability and innovation, (2) digital transformation, (3) mobility (4) social and living together, (5) economy of the future and productivity and (6) public finances. Under the different axes, the plan presents a total of 17 components combining reform and investment measures.

The 4th pillar of the plan covers a majority of components directly related to 'social and territorial cohesion'. Strengthening social cohesion is one of the key objectives of the plan.² Component 4.1 intends to improve the overall performance and inclusiveness of education systems in Belgium. Component 4.2 includes measures to increase 34 participation of vulnerable groups in the labor market (low-skilled, women, people with a migrant background, people with disabilities). Component 4.3 contributes to addressing the lack of social housing for vulnerable groups in early childhood care, in particular for vulnerable households.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Support for the vulnerable groups in the country assessment and resilience plan explicitly mentions migrants only in the category of vulnerable groups along with persons with disabilities, and older people. Furthermore, it is implied from the analysis of the support measures that a special focus on women with a migration background is essential due to their higher vulnerability socially and economically.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The plan contains measures intended to promote more effective active labor market policies and to improve the labor market performance (CSR 2.1 2019 and 2.1 2020). Labor market participation is low for low-skilled, people with a migrant background, older workers and people with disabilities in Belgium. This suggests that both structural and group specific factors hinder their integration, while existing activation measures are not equally effective for all population groups. The employment rate of people with a migrant background is below the EU average, in particular women, who remain underrepresented on the labor market. The plan includes a reform of the public employment services of Wallonia (R-5.05) to strengthen employment guidance for those the furthest from the labor market. The investments included in component 4.2 focus on strengthening social and labor market integration of people with a migrant background, women, people with disabilities, prisoners and people at risk of digital exclusion. Moreover, some reforms aim at tackling discrimination on the labor market. Specific measures aiming at fostering the employability of older workers are foreseen to be included in the reform under component 4.4.

The overall plan falls short of presenting a holistic and integrated approach to support social and labor market inclusion for vulnerable groups. The EC assessment highlights a lack of commitment and timeline for the adoption of the announced tax reform risks limiting the effectiveness of the measures taken to reinforce the activation of vulnerable groups. The assessment also highlights that the plan includes a reform at the federal level that is to monitor diversity and discrimination in the labor market at the sectoral level and also improve the regulatory framework of discrimination tests and the available tools and knowledge in administration, which could contribute to a higher employment rate of people with a migrant background. However, while several measures can contribute directly or indirectly to reducing the existing inequalities in the labor market and society, the interventions are fragmented and fall short of setting out a comprehensive strategy for addressing inequalities of opportunities.³

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

2. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52021SC0172&from=EN>

3. <https://dermine.belgium.be/sites/default/files/articles/FR%20-%20Plan%20national%20pour%20la%20reprise%20et%20la%20re%CC%81silience.pdf>

The plan's component number 7 focusing on Digitalization of federal public services contains a project focusing mainly on the digitalization of asylum and immigration processes. The actions under this component focus mainly on creating digital platforms for documentation, sharing data across government services and the optimization of citizen's services such as obtaining a single permit. It also aims to create digital counters for administrative and documentation services for immigrants and foreigners in Belgium. Other project proposals aim to allocate effort in developing trainings for economically vulnerable groups which migrants are included under, the strategies will aim to create trainings to elevate the job seekers skills and will offer personalized training, with particular emphasis on filling the gaps in terms of digital skills and mastery of technologies.

» Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- NO

» Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- YES

» Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- NO

POLAND

Member state	Poland
Amount of resources received	€35.970 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Submitted to the EC 3 May 2021.
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES ⁴
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	YES ⁵

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

Overall, both 2019 and 2020 reports and recommendations focus on the socio-economic conditions in regards to the migrant labour workers, particularly focusing on migrants from Ukraine and specifically related to the utilization of skills and competences. Adopting policies to increase the attractiveness of the Polish labour market to migrants and returning Poles are in the spotlight of both reports and one of the key components of the future labour supply. The integration of migrant workers is identified as an increasingly important challenge in the 2020 report. Priority investment needs have been identified to foster active inclusion, to address material deprivation, to promote socio-economic integration of third country nationals, and in particular to support integrated active inclusion measures aimed at increasing an individualised outreach to disadvantaged people, and develop and implement a framework for the integration of third country nationals.

The 2019 report addressed the lack of comprehensive approach to the active inclusion of vulnerable people with no indication on what is specifically being understood under the term ‘vulnerable people’. The government has initiated work on a migration strategy, but its content still remains unknown.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The preparation of the “Krajowy Plan Odbudowy” was coordinated by the Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy that first collected proposals from ministries, regions and other institutions (over 1,200 investment proposals) in various areas including economy, green transformation, mobility, health and digital transformation. In the next stages, individual ministries were invited to prepare proposals for economic reforms. In addition to this, public consultations were held from 26 February to 2 April 2021; public entities, local governments, entrepreneurs, academic representatives and civic society were invited to participate. The draft document, together with an online comment form, was made available on www.kpo.gov.pl and www.funduszeuropejskie.gov.pl on 26 February 2021. Comments on the NRRP could be submitted in two forms - to the whole document or to individual components. A total of 5,275 comments were submitted through the dedicated form on the website. In addition, comments, remarks and proposals were submitted during debates and public hearings.

The NRRP was adopted by the Polish government on 30 April 2021 at a special session of the Council of Ministers that also gave the authorization to the Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy to introduce further changes to the document. The Commission received the NRRP from Poland on 3 May 2021.

4. It is to be noted that it is limited to the migrant labour, specifically concentrated on competencies development and skills utilization for returning Poles and Ukrainian migrants.

5. To be noted that it is only mentioned in relation to the digitalisation of procedures related to obtaining work permits for foreigners.

At the date of writing this report (August 2021) the NRRP has not yet been approved by the EC.

The plan proposes projects in six European flagship areas and is structured around five pillars of resilience of the economy, including business environment, innovation and labour market policy; green energy; digital transformation; sustainable transport and the health system. The plan includes measures in improving air quality, energy-efficiency in buildings, the development of renewable energy sources, zero-emission transport and access to broadband internet. Projects in the plan cover the entire lifetime of the RRF until 2026.

Poland allocated €23.9 billion in grants under the RRF and €12.1 billion in loans (which will be mainly used for actions and policies related to climate changes and digitalisation). From five proposed components the most funds are allocated to Component B – green energy and reduction of energy intensity (€5.7 billion from grants, €8.6 billion from loans), and Component E – green, intelligent mobility (€6.8 billion from grants, 0.7 billion from loans). This represents 39.8% and 20.9% of the total funds planned for spending under the NRRP.

Migrants (and returning Poles) are mentioned in Component A: Resilience and competitiveness of the economy that is orientated around access to employment, and more specifically on strengthening the quality and adequacy of institutions in the labour market. The work of public service is planned to be shifted more to the implementation of active politics on labour market focused on individuals with low competences, women, young people (up till 29 years old), elderly, people with disabilities, individuals unemployed for a longer period of time, and migrants, in this, returning migrants. The same component also addresses the support for employment of foreigners, in this creating specialised centres that will support foreigners in the labour market, and specifically in developing new tools to fight against social rights violation and protection of working migrants. Synchronously with the policies aimed to sort the issues arising in the labour market, a new migration strategy is being developed that is prone to be holistically orientated towards the social-economic inclusion of migrants. In line with the current restrictions, only foreigners protected by the international treaties in Poland and their family members can seek help of integration programmes initiated by voivodeship and non-governmental organisations and supported by the grants from Fundusz Azylu, Migracji i Integracji, (Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund), Europejski Fundusz Społeczny (European Social Fund) or state budget. The new proposed strategy aims to address also the broader possibility to use support of public institutions, such as language classes or development of competencies, as well as vocational training. While the NRRP acknowledges the need for fair pay and adequate administration procedures, quality cultural and educational programmes, legal counselling and health security, it solely focuses on investments regarding development of competences and skills.

In regards to the employment of foreigners under Component A “Resilience and competitiveness of the economy” commencing work in Poland through employment of foreigners is planned to be regulated through: a) creation of specialised points of support for foreigners in the labour market both those with unemployed status and those currently working, b) reduction of the currently dominant short-term and circular migration in favour of medium/long-term and continuous migration, c) increasing the role of the PES in the process of issuing work permits for foreigners, d) organisational changes in the system of legalisation of work of foreigners that will increase its effectiveness and shorten the time needed to obtain the permit, e) limiting the number of procedures for access of foreigners to the labour market and formalities within them, f) full electronication of procedures related to obtaining work permits for foreigners, g) better tools to combat abuses, protect the domestic labour market and migrants.

Except for already described Component A, there is no other pillar under which migration and asylum would be addressed.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Elements of social inclusion could be found scattered throughout the whole NRRP; however it is not specifically included in any of the pillars. In addition to the already mentioned policies that improve the quality and adequacy of labour market institutions focused on persons professionally passive or with low(er) qualifications, women, young persons up to 29 years of age, elderly, persons with disabilities as well as migrants and returning migrants, it briefly also covers measures in the area of education and primarily focused on the financial support of the projects aiming to develop e-competences among the employees of the central and local administration, pre-school education teachers and citizens from the excluded social groups, i.e. the disabled and their carers, seniors, young people on the threshold of adulthood including those from orphanages, women in a difficult life situation, etc.

Point/Chapter 3 in the NRRP mentions that the plan will be implemented on the principle of gender equality and equal opportunities for all regardless of their sex, race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. It is also added that observance of this principle is a legal obligation, therefore projects implemented within the NRRP will contribute to creation of equal access to education, information and employment and other areas of life for all persons, including persons with special needs or in exceptionally difficult life situation, which will be covered by NRRP reforms and interventions. It addressed the importance of mainstreaming of gender equality⁶ and non-discrimination perspective in planning anti-crisis measures in the context of strengthening social cohesion, as a prevention measures against the widening of inequalities.

4. European Commissions assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The plan has not been approved yet.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

- » Development/reform of the asylum system: No
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc) No
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.: No

6. Needs to be noted that gender equality in the report does not go beyond the gender binary.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Member state	Czech
Amount of resources received	€7.1 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	19 July 2021 (positive assessment of EC)
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	NO

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

While Czechia performs relatively well on the indicators of the Social Scoreboard supporting the European Pillar of Social Rights, it is visible from the reports that the country has made limited progress in addressing the country-specific recommendations and still needs to address persistent structural issues, especially in its labor market. Throughout the 2019 report there are mentions of specific risks that vulnerable groups face in accessing social rights, however there is no specific mention of migrants or refugees throughout the whole document. The 2020 report focuses specifically on the diversification of Czechia's economy, strengthening of its social protection system and transitioning from solid fossil fuels. Under point 3.4 regarding the competitiveness, reforms and investment the lack of dedicated entrepreneurship support for migrants is mentioned together with young people, women and the unemployed. 2020 report highlights the need for strengthening social protection and inclusion mechanisms, as poverty remains concentrated in localities and in regards to some groups (notably single parents, the elderly, people with disabilities and Roma). It should be noted that the new Social Inclusion Strategy for 2021–2030 prepared to underpin the investment projects in the next programming period of EU funds focuses on issues such as indebtedness, access to housing and social exclusion.

There is no other mention of needs identified with regards to migrants and refugees in either of the reports or specific recommendations.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

On 2 June 2021, Czechia submitted an official recovery and resilience plan requesting €7.1 billion in grants under the RRF. "Národní plán obnovy" proposes projects in all seven European flagship areas and is built around six pillars: digital transformation, green transformation and physical infrastructure, education and the labor market, research and development and innovation, public administration and health. 42% of the plan's total allocation for reforms and investments supports climate objectives, in this energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, sustainable mobility and circular economy. 22% is planned to be spent on reforms and investments that support digital skills for the digital age, e-services (focused on the digital transformation and cyber-security of public administration, justice system and health care), and fostering the digital transition of the economy. The rest focuses on reinforcing Czechia's economic and social resilience through ensuring equal access to education, increasing the resilience of healthcare services and improving the business environment.

The Czechia NRRP does not include any reference to asylum and migration and does not refer to third country nationals' in any of the areas, such as inclusion, unemployment, education, health etc.

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

As described in Part IV: Overall Impact in the NRRP, together with the Netherlands, Czechia is among the best in 9 key indicators of the Social Scorecard (labour market, health care, education, income equality). The employment rate is among the highest and the unemployment among the lowest in the EU. However, there is room for improvement in several aspects of the situation in Czechia, in particular in increasing the employment of vulnerable groups (e.g. people with disabilities, people with lower education, older people) and women (especially women with young children). However, the situation in Czechia in the area of the supply of childcare services for children up to 3 years of age is repeatedly critically assessed, which is linked to the high gender employment gap, where the country shows below-average results - the employment rate of women is 15.2% lower than that of men, while the EU average is 11.5%. It is therefore desirable to make more progress in the area of gender equality, promoting measures to reconcile work and family life, together with ensuring a greater supply of quality and affordable childcare.

Czechia also shows below-average results in the indicators of net income of a full-time self-employed worker and the impact of social transfers on poverty reduction. There is therefore still room for strengthening social protection and inclusion mechanisms. While the share of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion is relatively low (12.2% compared to the EU average of 21.9%), poverty is still concentrated in certain localities and among certain vulnerable groups (e.g. single parents, elderly, people with disabilities, unemployed and Roma). In terms of the effectiveness of access to social rights, Czechia's situation has deteriorated compared to 2019, when it was among the better than the EU average. Czechia is also facing challenges in terms of the increase in the number of homeless people and those at risk of homelessness, which is caused, among other things, by the lack of affordable and social housing, as well as the high indebtedness of some people. The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights is related to the actions of the other components, in particular components 3.1 and 3.2 on education.

While the NRRP clearly describes the potential impact on social and territorial cohesion and mentions vulnerable groups as final beneficiaries specifically of component 3.3 on economic, social and institutional resilience, the document does not thoroughly specify concrete measures to address the challenges mentioned above.

4. European Commissions assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regard to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals

The Commission considers that Czechia's plan effectively addresses all or a significant subset of the economic and social challenges outlined in the country-specific recommendations addressed to Czechia by the Council in the European Semester in 2019 and in 2020. The Commission's assessment does not involve any mention regarding the lack of measures in regards to the inclusion of migrants and refugees.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

- » Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- No
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- No
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- No

SWEDEN

Member state	Sweden
Amount of resources received	€ 3.3 billion
Approval of the NRRP (date, yes/no, possible EU changes)	Approved on 28 May 2021, no changes
NRRP Resources are allocated to inclusion of third country nationals	NO
NRRP Resources are allocated (more broadly) to social inclusion	YES
NRRP Resources are used for other asylum/migration-related objectives (reform of asylum system, digitalisation, borders)	NO

1. General social needs identified in the European Semester regarding migrants and refugees

The country report of 2019 concludes that priority investment needs have been identified to foster active inclusion and address material deprivation, and to enhance equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services and modernise social protection systems for specific populations, including migrants, as well as marginalised communities and disadvantaged groups. The Country Report 2020 and the Country Specific Recommendations 2019 and 2020 do not mention migrants, refugees or asylum seekers in them.

2. Short description of the NRRP and reference to asylum, migration and integration

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan of Sweden- Återhämtningsplan 2021 (RRF), was submitted to the European Commission on 28 May 2021⁷.

The Swedish NRRP's execution period is until 2026, in which it will implement a set of reforms and investments to allow the country to resume sustained economic growth. In total, the value allocated for the reforms and investments will be €3,344 billions of RRF financing.

Migrants, refugees and asylum are explicitly mentioned when it comes to challenges to access the labour market and difference in education. If you are born outside of the EU, your chances to be able to get a job is decreasing in Sweden. Especially if you also are a woman. The long-term unemployment is increasing because of the pandemic and in the RRF they are pointing out that women born outside of the EU are a big risk category.

The statement most worthy to note in the RRF is that the seize and combination of the refugees that came late 2015 is influencing long-term unemployment and is going to make it even harder for women born outside of the EU. They claim that intervention has been done to improve their employability but the waning economy is aggravating their chances to match on the labour market.

The results from school are getting better in the OECDs ranking, but between students the gap is growing. The biggest difference is between interiorly borned students and students with a migration background.

7. <https://www.regeringen.se/rappporter/2021/05/sveriges-aterhamtningsplan/>

3. Other mentions of social inclusion and vulnerable or marginalised groups

Social inclusion is important in the RRF. It is more focused on economic equality than other categories. They are lifting the right to be able to live anywhere in the country, not only in the cities. Digital equality represents a big part of the investments in the RRF.

It is also a big focus on elder people as a consequence of the pandemic and the challenges it showed us and our system.

4. European Commission assessment of the recovery and resilience plan with regards to social inclusion, and more specifically, third country nationals.

The plan does not mention third country nationals.

5. NRRP allocations to other areas related to migration and asylum

- » Development/reform of the asylum system/of the reception system, etc- NO
- » Other expenditures related to asylum (digitalisation of the system, etc)- NO
- » Migration facilities, infrastructures at the border, border control, etc.- NO



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