



Synergies between the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and other EU funding instruments in relation to reception and integration of asylum seekers and other migrants

Introduction

In the State of the Union speech delivered on 9 September 2015 in Strasbourg, President Juncker stated that migration should not be considered as a problem to be tackled but as a resource which has to be well managed. In this context, the integration and social inclusion of the growing number of refugees settling in Europe will be key to demonstrate that these people should not be considered as a threat but as an opportunity. All means at European level should be mobilised to support Member States efforts in that area.

Moreover, the Leaders' statement made on 25 October 2015 at the Meeting on refugee flows along the Western Balkans Route stresses the need for strengthening efforts to jointly manage the migration flows together.

The importance of synergies and complementarities between EU funding instruments is highlighted in the basic acts establishing the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)¹ and other EU funding instruments.

In order to follow this up, this overview aims at providing a comprehensive overview of the relevant priorities for actions that may support migration challenges, under shared management of AMIF and ESI funds:

- European Social Fund (ESF)
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)² and, additionally,
- Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

Information on the role of International Financial Institutions is also included.

The aim is to enhance the adequate use of the different EU funds for providing reception conditions and integrating asylum seekers and other migrants. Ensuring substantial progress in developing synergies and complementarities between the different EU funding instruments is another important aim of this note. Monitoring and evaluation processes should contribute to assess the outputs, results and impact of the actions and funding instruments.

Specific coordination mechanisms, arrangements and procedures between different services and administrations should also contribute to an effective and efficient monitoring of synergies and complementarities. The Common Strategic Framework, which is included in the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR)³, provides useful guidance on how this can be achieved⁴.

¹ Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of 16 April 2014

² Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1)

³ Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional

Comparable overview of eligible actions/objectives related to reception and integration under AMIF, ESF, FEAD, ERDF, EAFRD, EMFF and EIB facilitates.

Priority fields of action under AMIF⁵	FEAD	ESF	ERDF	EAFRD	EMFF
Reception of asylum seekers and asylum systems ⁶ (material aid, education, training, infrastructure, support services etc)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, under CLLD (with the exception of infrastructure)
Setting up and developing integration strategies, including needs analysis, improvement of integration indicators, evaluation	No	Yes	No	No	No
Advice and assistance in areas such as housing, means of subsistence, administrative and legal guidance, health, psychological and social care, child care and family reunification	Yes (OP II) with a view to their inclusion in society	Partly	Partially since the ERDF can invest in the construction/renovation of social infrastructures for migrants	No	No
Actions introducing migrants to the receiving society and enabling them to adapt to it, to inform them about their rights and obligations, to participate in civil and cultural life and to share values enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union	Yes (OP II) with a view to their inclusion in society	Yes, in case these measures are part of an integrated set of measures to help the asylum seekers integrate into the labour market	No	No	No
Education and training, including language training and preparatory actions to facilitate access to the labour market	No	Yes	Partially since ERDF can invest in education infrastructure	Yes	Yes
Self-empowerment actions including to enable migrants to provide for themselves	Yes (OP II) with a view to their inclusion in society	Yes, in case these measures are part of an integrated set	Partially, i.e through business start-ups, microenterpris	Partially	Partially, if the support is linked to start-up

Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320.

⁴ See in particular section 4 on coordination and synergies between ESI Funds and other union policies and instruments.

⁵ Article 9 of the Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

⁶ Article 5 of the Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

	(outside active labour market measures)	of measures to help the asylum seekers integrate into the labour market	es, support to self-employment		
Actions to promote meaningful contact and constructive dialogue between migrants and the receiving society, and actions to promote acceptance by the receiving society	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes, under CLLD
Equal access and equal outcomes in dealings with public and private services, including adaptation to those services to dealing with migrants	Yes (OP II) with a view to their inclusion in society	Yes	Yes, in particular by investments in infrastructural developments of public services	Yes	No
Capacity-building of beneficiaries	Yes for partner organisations	Yes	Yes	No	No

Glossary – main terms

Applicant for international protection/Asylum seeker: a third-country national or stateless person who has made an application for international protection in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken;

[Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council](#)

Beneficiary of international protection: a person who has been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection status as defined in points

[Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council](#)

Migrant: A broader-term of an immigrant and emigrant, referring to a person who leaves one country or region to settle in another, often in search of a better life.

Source: [European Migration Network](#)

Minor: 'minor' means a third-country national or a stateless person below the age of 18 years;.

[Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council](#)

Refugee: means a third-country national who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country, or a stateless person, who, being outside of the country of former habitual residence for the same reasons as mentioned above, is unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to return to it.

[Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council](#)

Third-country national means any person who is not a citizen of the Union within the meaning of Article 20(1) TFEU. Reference to third-country nationals shall be understood to include stateless persons and persons with undetermined nationality.

For more definitions refer to the **EMN glossary** which draws on a variety of sources, but primarily on the legislation of the EU asylum and immigration acquis.

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/glossary/index_a_en.htm

Eligible actions/objectives relevant to asylum seekers and other migrants under the specific EU funding instruments

Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of 16 April 2014

Global budget - € 3.1 billion + additional funding⁷: emergency assistance for 2015 and 2016 (194 mln€); relocation (110 mln€); national programmes of MS the most affected by the crisis (310 mln€)

The general objective of the Fund is to contribute to the efficient management of migration flows and to the implementation, strengthening and development of the common policy on asylum, subsidiary protection and temporary protection and the common immigration policy, while fully respecting the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental rights of the EU.

Management modes – shared management (€ 2.392 billion), centralised management - Union actions and emergency actions (€ 385 million), other including Union resettlement programme (€ 360 million)

Coordination mechanisms – National programmes contain specific provisions on the administrative arrangements, procedures and processes between the Monitoring and Management Authorities to ensure synergies and complementarities especially in relation to ESF.

Thresholds - 20% of the basic national allocations should be allocated to the specific objective 2 on legal migration and integration

Relevant specific objectives of the Fund	Relevant priority areas and eligible actions	Target groups/beneficiaries	Target values/common indicators
SO 1 - Strengthen and develop all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension	<p>(a) the provision of material aid, including assistance at the border, education, training, support services, health and psychological care;</p> <p>(b) the provision of support services such as translation and interpretation, education, training, including language training, and other initiatives which are consistent with the status of the person concerned;</p> <p>(c) the setting-up and improvement of administrative structures, systems and training for staff and relevant authorities to ensure effective and easy access to asylum procedures for asylum seekers and efficient and high-quality asylum procedures, in particular, where necessary, to support the development of the Union <i>acquis</i>;</p> <p>(d) the provision of social assistance, information or help with administrative and/or judicial formalities and information or counselling on the possible outcomes of the asylum procedure, including on aspects such as return procedures;</p> <p>(f) the identification of vulnerable groups and specific assistance for</p>	<p>(a) those who enjoy refugee status or subsidiary protection status within the meaning of Directive 2011/95/EU;</p> <p>(b) those who have applied for one of the forms of international protection referred to in point (a) and have not yet received a final decision;</p> <p>(c) those who enjoy temporary protection within the meaning of Directive 2001/55/EC;</p> <p>(d) those who are being or have been resettled in or transferred from a Member State.</p>	<p>C1 - Number of target group persons provided with assistance through projects in the field of reception and asylum systems supported under this Fund</p> <p>- C2.1 - Capacity (i.e. number of places) of new reception accommodation infrastructure set up in line with the minimum requirements for reception conditions set out in the EU <i>acquis</i> and of existing reception accommodation infrastructure improved in line with the same requirements as a result of the projects supported under this Fund</p> <p>- C2.2 - The</p>

⁷ Communication COM (2015) 510 – Managing the refugee crisis – State of play of the implementation of the priority actions under the European Agenda on Migration

	vulnerable persons, in particular in accordance with points (a) to (e);		percentage in the total reception accommodation capacity - C5 - Number of projects supported under this Fund to develop, monitor and evaluate asylum policies in Member States
SO 2 - Support legal migration to the Member States in accordance with their economic and social needs, such as labour market needs, while safeguarding the integrity of the immigration systems of Member States, and to promote the effective integration of third-country nationals;	<p>(a) information packages and campaigns to raise awareness and promote intercultural dialogue, including via user- friendly communication and information technology and websites;</p> <p>(b) the assessment of skills and qualifications, as well as enhancement of transparency and compatibility of skills and qualifications in a third country with those of a Member State;</p> <p>(c) training enhancing employability in a Member State;</p> <p>(d) comprehensive civic orientation courses and language tuition;</p> <p>(e) assistance in the context of applications for family reunification within the meaning of Council Directive 2003/86/EC (1).</p> <p>(a) setting up and developing such integration strategies with the participation of local or regional actors, where appropriate, including needs analysis, the improvement of integration indicators, and evaluation, including participatory assessments, in order to identify best practices;</p> <p>(b) providing advice and assistance in areas such as housing, means of subsistence, administrative and legal guidance, health, psychological and social care, child care and family reunification;</p> <p>(c) actions introducing third-country nationals to the receiving society and actions enabling them to adapt to it, to inform them about their rights and obligations, to participate in civil and cultural life and to share the values enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;</p> <p>(d) measures focusing on education and training, including language training and preparatory actions to facilitate access to the labour market;</p>	Asylum seekers and other migrants in regular residence situation in MS	<p>- Number of target group persons assisted by this Fund through integration measures in the framework of national, local and regional strategies</p> <p>- Number of local, regional and national policy frameworks/measures/tools in place for the integration of third country nationals and involving civil society, migrant communities as well as all other relevant stakeholders, as a result of the measures supported under this Fund</p>

	<p>(e) actions designed to promote self-empowerment and to enable third-country nationals to provide for themselves;</p> <p>(f) actions that promote meaningful contact and constructive dialogue between third-country nationals and the receiving society, and actions to promote acceptance by the receiving society, including through the involvement of the media;</p> <p>(g) actions promoting both equality of access and equality of outcomes in relation to third-country nationals' dealings with public and private services, including adaptation of those services to dealing with third-country nationals;</p> <p>(h) capacity-building of beneficiaries, as defined in point (g) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 514/2014, including through exchanges of experience and best practices, and networking.</p>		
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Emergency assistance

1. Financial assistance can be provided under AMIF to address urgent and specific needs in the event of an emergency situation resulting from:

(i) heavy migratory pressure in one or more Member States characterised by a large and disproportionate inflow of third-country nationals, which places significant and urgent demands on their reception and detention facilities, asylum systems and procedures;

(ii) the implementation of temporary protection mechanisms within the meaning of Directive 2001/55/EC; or

(iii) heavy migratory pressure in third countries where refugees are stranded due to events such as political developments or conflicts.

2. Financial assistance can be provided under the Internal Security Fund (ISF) – borders⁸ to address urgent and specific needs in the event of an emergency situation resulting from an urgent and exceptional pressure where a large or disproportionate number of third-country nationals are crossing or are expected to cross the external border of one or more Member States or any other duly substantiated emergency situation requiring urgent action at the external borders.

⁸ Article 2 of the Regulation (EU) 515/2014 of 16 April 2014 establishing, as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for external borders and visa

European Social Fund (ESF)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of 17 December 2013

Global budget - € 86 billion

The main mission of the Fund

It shall promote high levels of employment and job quality, improve access to the labour market, support the geographical and occupational mobility of workers and facilitate their adaptation to industrial change and to changes in production systems needed for sustainable developments, encourage a high level of education and training for all and support the transition between education and employment for young people, combat poverty, enhance social inclusion, and promote gender equality, non-discrimination and equal opportunities, thereby contributing to the priorities of the Union as regards strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion.

The ESF shall benefit people, including disadvantaged people such as the long-term unemployed, people with disabilities, migrants, ethnic minorities, marginalised communities and people of all ages facing poverty and social exclusion.

Management modes – shared management

Coordination administrative mechanisms on synergies in relation to migrants

There are no specific provisions for the coordination of actions for migrants. However, the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) establishes a Common Strategic Framework with guiding principles for ensuring coordination and synergies between the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI funds) and other Union policies and instruments. Moreover, the CPR also requires that the national strategic and programme documents governing the intervention of the funds in Member States (Partnership Agreement and Operational Programmes) include information on the mechanisms for ensuring the coordination of intervention of the between the different EU funding instruments.

Scope of support to asylum seekers

Taking into account the mission of the ESF as set out in the Treaty, the support by the ESF must always aim for, even if indirectly, the integration of the asylum seekers into the labour market. To this purpose, asylum seekers can only be supported by the ESF provided they are legally able to participate in the labour market. The extent to which asylum seekers have access to the labour market varies across Member States.

In this regard, it should be noted that in accordance with Article 15 of Directive 2013/33/EU, Member States, by 20 July 2015 at the latest, must have ensured that third-country nationals or stateless persons who have made an application for international protection in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken ('applicants') have access to the labour market no later than 9 months⁹ from the date when they apply for international protection within the meaning of Article 2 (h) of Directive 2011/95/EU. Member States may have decided to grant access to the labour market before the expiry of the 9-month period.

Directive 2013/33/EU (Article 16) also establishes that Member States may allow applicants access to vocational training irrespective of whether they have access to the labour market¹⁰. Therefore, in case the national legislation provides that these asylum seekers (who applied for international protection in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken) have access to vocational training, these asylum seekers are also eligible in case the ESF supports vocational training.

Finally, as regards minor children of applicants and applicants who are minors, Directive 2013/33/EU (Article 14) provides that Member States are to grant access to the education system under similar conditions as their own nationals for so long as an expulsion measure against them or their parents is not actually enforced. Therefore, minor children of asylum seekers or asylum seekers who are minor are eligible for ESF support under the ESF investment priorities on education which address minors (e.g. access to primary and secondary education, tackling early school leaving).

⁹ 12 months in the case of the UK. No access in the case of IE, 6 months in the case of DK.

¹⁰ Access to vocational training relating to an employment contract shall depend on the extent to which the migrant (who has made an application for international protection in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken) has access to the labour market in accordance with Article 15 of Directive 2013/33/EU.

Relevant Thematic Objectives of the Fund	Investments priorities that may benefit migrants	Expected results/target values/common indicators
<p>TO 8 - Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility</p>	<p>(i) Access to employment for job-seekers and inactive people, including the long-term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;</p> <p>(ii) Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people, in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee;</p> <p>(iii) Self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation including innovative micro, small and medium sized enterprises;</p> <p>(iv) Equality between men and women in all areas, including in access to employment, career progression, reconciliation of work and private life and promotion of equal pay for equal work;</p> <p>(v) Adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change;</p> <p>(vi) Active and healthy ageing;</p> <p>(vii) Modernisation of labour market institutions, such as public and private employment services, and improving the matching of labour market needs, including through actions that enhance transnational labour mobility as well as through mobility schemes and better cooperation between institutions and relevant stakeholders;</p>	<p>Member States have to report on a set of common output and result indicators which is set out in Annexes I and II to the ESF Regulation.</p> <p>Besides the common indicators, which have to be reported by Member States in relation to all Operational Programmes supported by the ESF, Member States may also define and report on programme-specific indicators.</p> <p>The ESF Regulation does not foresee a dedicated common indicator for migrants, however, migrants are covered by a broader common indicator - "migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)"</p> <p>The first reporting on common and programme-specific indicators will be made by 31 May 2016 in the Annual Implementation Reports.</p>
<p>TO 9 - promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination</p>	<p>(i) Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability;</p> <p>(ii) Socio-economic integration of marginalised communities such as the Roma;</p> <p>(iii) Combating all forms of discrimination and promoting equal opportunities;</p> <p>(iv) Enhancing access to affordable, sustainable and high- quality services, including health care and social services of general interest;</p> <p>(v) Promoting social entrepreneurship and vocational integration in social enterprises and the social and solidarity economy in order to facilitate access to employment;</p> <p>(vi) Community-led local development strategies;</p>	<p>See explanation above</p>

<p>TO 10 - 'investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and life-long learning'</p>	<p>(i) Reducing and preventing early school-leaving and promoting equal access to good quality early-childhood, primary and secondary education including formal, non-formal and informal learning pathways for reintegrating into education and training;</p> <p>(ii) Improving the quality and efficiency of, and access to, tertiary and equivalent education with a view to increasing participation and attainment levels, especially for disadvantaged groups;</p> <p>(iii) Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning for all age groups in formal, non-formal and informal settings, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce, and promoting flexible learning pathways including through career guidance and validation of acquired competences;</p> <p>(iv) Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, facilitating the transition from education to work, and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality, including through mechanisms for skills anticipation, adaptation of curricula and the establishment and development of work-based learning systems, including dual learning systems and apprenticeship schemes;</p>	<p>See explanation above</p>
<p>TO 11 - Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration</p>	<p>(i) Investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance;</p> <p>This investment priority is applicable only in Member States eligible for support from the Cohesion Fund, or in Member States that have one or more NUTS level 2 regions referred to in Article 90(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.</p> <p>(ii) Capacity building for all stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies, including through sectoral and territorial pacts to mobilise for reform at the national, regional and local levels.</p>	<p>See explanation above</p>
<p>Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)</p>	<p>The YEI shall support the fight against youth unemployment in eligible regions of the Union through providing support to actions under Article 3(1)(a)(ii) of the Regulation.</p> <p>The YEI may only provide support to a limited target group – young people not in employment, education or training below 25 or 30 years old. The definition of the age group is set out by Member States in their Operational Programmes.</p>	<p>The ESF Regulation provides for a list of common result indicators that have to be reported by Operational Programmes supported by the YEI.</p> <p>The first reporting on the YEI was received in April 2015 (structured data). Subsequent reporting will be made in the Annual Implementation reports. The first upcoming report is to be submitted by 31 May 2016.</p>

Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 223/2014¹¹

Global budget for 2014-2020- approximately €3.8 billion

The specific objective of the Fund is to alleviate the worst forms of poverty in the EU such as homelessness, child poverty and food deprivation and in this way contribute to eradicating poverty in the Union in line with the Europe 2020 strategy.

Management modes – shared management

Administrative coordination mechanisms on synergies in relation to migrants

There are no specific provisions for the coordination of actions for migrants.

Scope of support to asylum seekers

The eligibility of asylum seekers under the FEAD depends on the way Member States define the type of assistance and who may benefit from this fund. The assistance to be provided by the FEAD may take the form of a food and/or basic material assistance operational programme or a social inclusion operational programme. The exact group or groups of people to be targeted by the FEAD is identified at national level. Depending on the criteria used to identify the FEAD recipients, it is possible for asylum seekers to receive assistance.

If the OP contains a precise definition of the target group, which excludes the possibility for asylum seekers to receive support, then an amendment of the OP would be necessary. In addition, the national criteria for the most deprived and how they are identified should allow for asylum seekers to actually be targeted.

Type of support	Target groups/beneficiaries	Categories/examples of actions that may be related to migrants	Expected results/target values
Food and/or basic assistance operational programme (OP I)	'most deprived persons' as identified by the Member State	OP I provides food support and/or other types of material assistance Examples of support include: - food support (commonly takes the form of food packages or meals); - basic material assistance (basic consumer goods of a limited value and for the personal use of the most deprived, e.g. clothing, footwear, hygiene goods, school material, sleeping bags).	All Member States report annually on a set of common output and result indicators, set out in Annex I of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1255/2014 ¹² . Migrants are covered by a broader common indicator -"migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)"
Social inclusion operational programme (OP II)	'most deprived persons' as identified by the Member State	OP II finances social inclusion activities outside active labour market measures. Examples of activities include bringing recipients to other existing services, language courses, civic orientation operations (information on conditions, rights and obligations), basic language support and training, health promotion activities.	For OP II Member States also have to define and report on programme-specific indicators.

¹¹ Regulation (EU) No 223/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (OJ L 72, 12.3.2014, p. 1)

¹² Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1255/2014 of 17 July 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 223/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived by laying down the content of the annual and final implementation reports, including the list of common indicators (OJ L 337, 25.11.2014, p. 46)

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013 of 17 December 2013

Global budget – € 183 billion

The legal framework

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) provides financial support which aims to reinforce economic, social and territorial cohesion by redressing the main regional imbalances in the Union. It covers a wide range of measures which are outlined in eleven investment priorities. Three thematic objectives are especially relevant for the support of migrants by a) promoting employment, b) promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination and c) investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning.

The ERDF does not focus on specific target groups. However, in order to promote social inclusion and combat poverty, marginalised communities, such as migrants, are highlighted in the ERDF regulation¹³.

In addition, territorial cooperation programmes through INTERREG and macro-regional strategies can contribute to address migration problems and trafficking of human beings by fostering institutional and administrative cooperation between EU and non-EU countries across the Mediterranean Sea and with neighbouring countries.

Furthermore, the ERDF regulation requires that at least 5% of the ERDF resources allocated at national level under the Investment for growth and jobs goal should be allocated to integrated actions (covering economic, climate, demographic and social challenges affecting urban areas) for sustainable urban development. Operations, selected and implemented by cities, sub-regional or local bodies may support the integration of migrants.

In order to guarantee the most effective use of ERDF it is important that it should be coordinated both with the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) as well as with measures financed by the European Social Fund (ESF). Although each of the funds has its own focus and offers different type of support coordination at Member States level is needed in order to avoid overlaps and to ensure complementarities.

What type of support migrants may receive?

The European Regional Development Fund can co-finance a wide range of measures to support the effective integration of migrants and refugees. Following areas of actions under the ERDF programmes may reinforce the integration of legal migrants, such as:

- Urban regeneration: physical and social regeneration of deprived neighbourhoods
- Investments in education infrastructure: kindergarten, schools, vocational schools, etc.
- Investments in social and health infrastructure: community-based social care, community centres, shelters, prevention and primary care health services, etc.
- Housing infrastructure: social housing
- Some other fields of intervention may fall under the scope of support from the ERDF, such as business start-ups, cross-border cooperation, URBACT, etc.

Investments may cover mobile hospitals, infrastructural developments in hot spots, sanitation, water, infrastructure development for vocational training, extension of basic social and healthcare services, etc.

In addition, territorial cooperation through Interreg programmes and macro-regional strategies can contribute to addressing migration problems and trafficking of human beings by fostering institutional and administrative cooperation between EU and non-EU countries across the Mediterranean Sea.

In general, ERDF is focusing on structural, medium and long-term measures rather than on emergency actions. However, it may on a case-by-case basis support emergency measures related to the reception of migrants and refugees complementing the support from AMIF. This may include building or extending the capacities of reception centres, shelters, tents, containers.

Member States are encouraged to submit proposals to modify the 2014-2020 programmes, if necessary to enhance support for integration measures, following the Communication presented in September 2015. Member States are invited to have a second look at the programming to see whether measures aimed at integrating refugees and migrants require a more explicit and stronger place. REGIO stands ready to rapidly examine and adopt programmes modifications.

¹³<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R1301&from=EN>

Finally, ERDF can be used in order to strengthen the institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF (including public authorities dealing with the integration of migration).¹⁴

Urban Innovative Actions

Based on art 8 of the ERDF Regulation, a budget of 371 MEUR is allocated for the Urban Innovative Actions. The themes of the calls will be aligned to the ones of the EU Urban Agenda. The first call (€80M) should be launched by the end of 2015 and will cover a limited number of themes (to be chosen by REGIO Board), including the "inclusion of migrants and refugees".

Addressing potential constraints in the implementation of actions to migrants under ERDF

The scope of support from the European Regional Development Fund covers infrastructure developments in different fields, such as small and medium size enterprises, energy, environment, transport, social and health services, urban regeneration, education, etc. It can't specify support for target groups like legal migrants, disabled and minorities but for example it can directly help to reduce spatial isolation or it can also respond to the needs of vulnerable groups, for example to improve the access to basic services by marginalised communities (including legal migrants and others).

Because of the scope of the support from the European Regional Development Fund it is not possible to quantify the amount allocated to social integration of legal migrants. We can present some good project examples which show actions implemented in different fields, such as urban regeneration, support for small and medium size enterprises, education. Allocation to inclusive growth priorities consists of 17,9 billion EUR in the 2007-2013 period and based on the current state of play of negotiations it is about 20 billion EUR in the 2014-2020 period.

Examples of ERDF support for legal migrants

Examples of ERDF support for migrants in the 2007-2013 programming period

- The National Operational Programme 'Sicurezza' has so far financed 99 projects for setting up multifunctional centres for legal migrants in the four regions covered by the programme (Sicily, Campania, Calabria and Puglia). The ERDF allocation for the programme is EUR 79 million. The actions supported by the programme include the setting up of areas for temporary accommodation of immigrants (including canteens), language labs and spaces activities aiming at integration and social inclusion of immigrants, recreational and sports areas (music hall, theatre). Accompanying services also include healthcare and psychological support provided through special arrangements with local health centres.
- The Succes project (Cross Border Cooperation) aimed at enhancing the employment possibilities for those who are most excluded from the labour market, such as legal migrants. The project is the result of cooperation between five agencies in Belgium, France and the UK.
- The URBACT programme facilitates the establishment of networks of cities in different Member States around a specific topic. The OPEN Cities project brought together cities that explored how the right type of environment can be built to attract and retain the pool of talent that is available in migrant communities.
- The urban regeneration of the district 2 of Terrassa (ES) aimed to promote coexistence in a multicultural neighbourhood. For many years the neighbourhood was an area of tension and had a high potential for conflict, in part owing to the high influx of migrants from Morocco over a short period of time. The plan for the district combined physical renovation with conflict management. Its mixture in measures of structural improvement and mediation between native population and new-comers made a real difference for the people living in the neighbourhood of Terrassa. The plan, supported by the regional urban regeneration programme, integrated social actions and urban renewal in a single transformation process, reducing the district's segregation from the rest of the city and improving its reputation for tension and conflict. The plan was carried out with high level of citizen participation and adopted a transversal approach among different municipal services.
- In Malburgen (NL) ERDF co-funded the establishment of a multi-functional educational and care centre (MOZC). Malburgen is an urban district in the Southern part of Arnhem being characterised by a population of approximately 17,000 inhabitants and a percentage of migrant population between over 15% to more than 35% for different parts of the district. The aim of MOZC is to provide neighbourhood facilities to children and their families. More specifically the project consisted of the construction of a classroom for adult education, facility for day care, ICT classroom, main hall, meeting room, entrance hall, and kitchen and storage space.

¹⁴ ERDF can support also actions under the ESF to strengthen the institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration. (Article 5 of the ERDF Regulation)

- Socially Integrative City is a German national programme that aims to support participation and empowerment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. The programme is partially financed from the ERDF and promotes participatory sustainable urban development at neighbourhood level, using a design that combines a tight spatial focus, local participation, and the integration of policies and human and financial resources.
- Mingo – ‘Move in and grow’ (AT) offers integrated start-up support for company founders, coaching for existing small businesses, networking events and business awards, multilingual services for firms and a neighbourhood scheme which helps to market local shopping streets and bring local consumer markets up to standard. One of the five integrated sub-projects focus on migrant enterprises.
- Robinsbalje (DE) a former car park in a deprived neighbourhood, was transformed into a centre which offers education, health and employment services in one facility. It opened in 2010, with financial support from the ERDF. Many public and non-governmental institutions have joined forces in the new premises to give the neighbourhood’s residents better prospects for the future. Locating a grammar school and kindergarten along with easy-to-access healthcare, social welfare services and sports clubs in one place means that disadvantaged and migrant families, when they bring their children to school, can learn more about other services and take German classes.

Examples of ERDF support for migrants in the 2014-2020 programming period

Italy 2014-2020

In line with the provisions of Italy's Partnership Agreement, the ERDF can co-finance measures in favour of legal immigrants and asylum seekers in synergy with the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF). Support from the ERDF should always be accompanied by other social integration measures, funded by the ESF. The National Programme "Legalità" focussing on the promotion of legality in the less developed regions, includes specific actions in favour of legal immigrants and/or asylum seekers, while in other programmes these target groups are mentioned as possible beneficiaries of measures targeting marginalised groups:

- The National OP "Legalità" will allocate around EUR 41 million for the restructuring and rehabilitation of assets confiscated from the mafia, with a view to using them primarily as centres for the accommodation of legal immigrants, asylum seekers and holders of international and humanitarian assistance. In these centres, regular immigrants will be accompanied with social and working inclusion support measures to be funded by the ESF.
- The National OP "Metropolitan areas" will support the physical regeneration of social housing in favour of marginalised communities, including legal immigrants and asylum seekers, provided they are regularly registered in the lists for the allocation of social housing. The action of the ERDF will be part of integrated social inclusion measures supported together with the ESF in order to promote active inclusion of the marginalised groups. The overall allocation is around EUR 88 million.
- The Regional OP in "Puglia" will support the rehabilitation of social infrastructures in favour of marginalised communities including, inter alia, immigrants. The overall allocation is EUR 88,50 million. These actions will be complemented by the ESF that will support active inclusion measures.
- The Regional OP in "Calabria" will support the rehabilitation of social housing in favour of marginalised communities, including immigrants and asylum seekers (total allocation: EUR 11 million). The ERDF will also support the rehabilitation of social infrastructures in favour of marginalised communities including immigrants (total allocation EUR 64,7 million). This action includes the creation and rehabilitation of first aid and sanitary services for specific target groups including asylum seekers and the rehabilitation of confiscated assets that can be used, inter alia, as centres for the accommodation of legal immigrants.
- Four other Regional OPs will support the rehabilitation of social housing targeting, in general, deprived communities, including immigrants. The overall allocation for this action is around EUR 25 million in "Lombardia", around EUR 14,5 million in "Veneto", in around EUR 10,2 million in "Sardegna" and around EUR 7 million in "Basilicata".

Other Italian OPs contain actions in favour of social housing for marginalised communities that might include immigrants and asylum seekers, even though they are not explicitly mentioned.

Greece 2014- 2020

All the 13 regional programmes include ERDF support for building/refurbishment open reception centres for migrants. Other ERDF interventions may be envisaged, in all Regional OPs in the framework of the mainstream interventions under TO9, such as inclusive start-ups, social enterprises, social housing, childcare infrastructure, regeneration of deprived urban areas etc. These interventions may be targeted at all vulnerable groups under TO9, including also migrants (even in case migrants are not mentioned expressi

verbis). Under the regional programmes, there is no earmarked amount for migrants; thus, we cannot provide at this stage specific amounts.

According to information received from the Greek authorities an action to upgrade the existing shelter for migrants with a budget of €300 000 (AMIF) is planned in Epirus. In Central Macedonia, the OP provides ERDF support for building open centres for migrants and refurbishment of housing for migrants, however, as these actions are not yet specialised, there is no earmarked budget. As regards ESF type of actions, most OPs plan to include some social integration type of actions for the migrants (as part of the mainstream social inclusion actions), but there is no earmarked amount for these actions yet.

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of 17 December 2013

Global budget – € 95 billion

The specific objective of the Fund - Within the overall framework of the CAP, support for rural development, including for activities in the food and non- food sector and in forestry, shall contribute to achieving the following objectives:

- (a) fostering the competitiveness of agriculture;
- (b) ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources, and climate action;
- (c) achieving a balanced territorial development of rural economies and communities including the creation and maintenance of employment.

Management modes – shared management

Administrative coordination mechanisms on synergies in relation to migrants -

Available budget on the relevant objectives (on the basis of the adopted OP) – N/A

Relevant Objectives of the Fund	Thematic of the Fund	Target groups/beneficiaries	Categories/examples of actions that may be related to migrants
Priority 6 - Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas, with a focus on the following areas: (a) facilitating diversification, creation and development of small enterprises, as well as job creation; (b) fostering local development in rural areas; (c) enhancing the accessibility, use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT) in rural areas.		The EAFRD Regulation does not foresee specific support for minorities or disadvantaged groups, or actions/measures specifically targeted on such groups. However, within the objective of combating poverty and social exclusion in rural areas, the rural development policy may contribute to empower these groups, facilitating their access to rural development measures, and promoting their integration in the local/rural economy and population.	The rural development policy can contribute to address the current situation with migrants mainly in the medium term assistance, which covers the help in 2-3 year perspective in the key life-influencing factors: housing, health care, education and employment (the same used for other marginalised communities like Roma, but taking into account specific needs of refugees relating to language, jobs adapted to their competences, etc). "LEADER" Under M19 (LEADER), local development strategies offer an important instrument to foster local development in rural areas and create jobs. LAGs have a broad margin to develop specific actions addressing the local problems or targeting particular needs. Measure 7 "Basic services and village renewal in rural areas" Measure 7 offers support for investments in the creation, improvement or expansion of small scale infrastructure; investments in the setting up, improvement or expansion of local basic services for the rural population and related infrastructure. Rural municipalities in Member States may target these investments in areas where groups of refugees are concentrated, in order to provide basic infrastructure or services related to education (kindergartens, schools, buses, etc), healthcare, social housing, essential services and utilities such as water, waste, electricity and gas. Measures 1 and 2 (Knowledge transfer and information actions) and 15 (Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services" Measures 1 and 2 providing support for vocational

		<p>training, skills acquisition actions, demonstration activities, information actions, as well as advisory services may contribute to improve the levels of skills/knowledge of these groups in the different sectors of activity in rural areas focusing on skills acquisition in agriculture, food and forestry sector and SMEs operating in rural areas.</p> <p>"Farm and business development"</p> <p>Measure 6 can provide start-up aid for investments in creation & development of non-agricultural activities (i.e. crafts, handicrafts, traditional products, etc.). Starting-up aid for young farmers and the development of small farm would also be possible under the measure, but only if refugees fulfil the necessary legal provisions of the MS for setting up as a farmer, which seems difficult, at least in the short term.</p> <p>Measure 16 "Cooperation" - Support for diversification of farming activities into activities concerning health care, social integration, community-supported agriculture and education about the environment and food. (M16.9)</p>
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European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

Legal basis – Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of 15 May 2014

Global budget – € 6.4 billion (€ 5.75 billion under shared management + € 0.65 billion under direct management)

The specific objective of the Fund – Support under the EMFF shall contribute to achieving the following objectives:

- (a) promoting competitive, environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible fisheries and aquaculture;
- (b) fostering the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP);
- (c) promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries and aquaculture areas;
- (d) fostering the development and implementation of the Union's Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in a manner complementary to cohesion policy and to the CFP.

Management modes – shared and direct management

Administrative coordination mechanisms on synergies in relation to migrants

There are no specific provisions for the coordination of actions for migrants. However, the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) establishes a Common Strategic Framework with guiding principles for ensuring coordination and synergies between the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI funds) and other Union policies and instruments. Moreover, the CPR also requires that the national strategic and programme documents governing the intervention of the funds in Member States (Partnership Agreement and Operational Programmes) include information on the mechanisms for ensuring the coordination of intervention between the different EU funding instruments.

Scope of support to asylum seekers

The EMFF may contribute to the social integration of migrants by providing them professional training and education as well as start-up support so that they could better integrate into the labour market or if they wish to become self-employed.

Further to that, the implementation of integrated local development strategies may also provide wide range of services, including reception of asylum-seekers, not only within but also beyond the fisheries and aquaculture sector. Most of the Fisheries Local Action Groups are established along the coastline and are at the front-line of the arrival of asylum-seekers, for example on the island of Lesbos.

Relevant Union priorities	Relevant specific objectives	Relevant measures
1. Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	1.4 Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	Article 31 - Start-up support for young fishermen (+ art. 44.2 Inland fishing)
	1.6 Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	Article 29.1 + 29.2 - Promoting human capital and social dialogue - training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ art. 44.1.a Inland fishing)
2. Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	2.2 Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of aquaculture enterprises, including improvement of safety or working conditions, in particular of SMEs	Article 52 - Encouraging new sustainable aquaculture farmers practising sustainable aquaculture
	2.5 Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	Article 50 - Promoting human capital and networking
4. Increasing employment and territorial cohesion	Promotion of economic growth, social inclusion and job creation, and providing support to employability and labour mobility	Article 62.1.a - Preparatory support
		Article 63 - Implementation of local development strategies (incl.

Migration and Home Affairs

Synergies between the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund and other EU financial instruments in relation to asylum seekers and other migrants



	in coastal and inland communities which depend on fishing and aquaculture, including the diversification of activities within fisheries and into other sectors of maritime economy	running costs and animation) Article 64 - Cooperation activities
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International Financial Institutions

Role of FIs in response to the refugee crisis

The Commission's main partner international financial institutions (IFIs), including the EIB, EBRD and the World Bank, are all preparing initiatives in support of refugees. They are mostly based on existing loan programmes and can thus be implemented relatively quickly. In addition, the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) has launched an emergency facility providing grants and technical assistance, to which EIB has pledged EUR 5 million. While not a multilateral organisation, Germany's KfW has also launched initiatives in support of refugees.

The FIs' initiatives fall mainly in four broad areas:

Refugee accommodation and other infrastructure, based on existing lending products in local and municipal infrastructure;

SMEs and micro-enterprises, also drawing on existing programmes;

Lending to MSMEs and infrastructure projects outside the EU aimed at improving economic conditions in origin countries and thus limiting the incentives for migration in the longer term;

Grant-based support to host countries in areas such as education, skills, banking, employment and asylum applications, as well as loans to sovereigns hosting refugees.

Many of the immediate support measures for refugees, such as refugee and transit camps, are non-cash flow generating. The repayment of the loans will thus ultimately have to be borne by governments. In this regard, debt sustainability needs to be ensured. Grant-loan blending has been raised (eg. by EIB and EBRD) as a way of leveraging grant resources, making them more specifically targeted, and making debt financing more attractive to recipient states.

The current FI efforts are fairly complementary, targeting different regions and support types:

European Investment Bank (EIB)

The EIB is the only IFI capable to finance refugee-related accommodation and infrastructure expenditures (including containers, temporary accommodation, and start-up costs for refugee centres such as tents, equipment, training as well as education, health, transport and social infrastructures) and programs for integration of refugees (microfinance, etc) throughout countries of origin, of transit and of destination (inside and outside EU) and along all migration/refugee transit routes towards Europe. EIB financing may be provided through long-term loans and potentially facilities blended with grant co-funding. EIB has already developed a clear eligibility matrix and is in coordination with EU (DG Home) regarding the application of EU standards, and may offer guidance or advisory support to enable projects to align to EU or international standards if needed.

As an emergency short-term measure, EIB has approved a EUR 5m contribution to the CEB Migrant and Refugee Fund (see below). First EIB loan-funded projects for temporary housing for refugees have been appraised in October 2015 in Germany (eg Brandenburg) and France (Adoma), for the financing of investments already underway. On 17 November the Bank should approve special windows for funding immediately available at special conditions for refugee-related expenditures in countries ranging from Greece, Italy to France and Germany including Slovenia and Croatia as well as countries outside EU, by expanding existing financial frameworks to cover refugee-related expenditure. DG ECFIN has been in close contact with the Bank to ensure a swift conclusion of the necessary EU approvals prior to approval by EIB's Board of Directors. For example, a municipal infrastructure loan programme could be re-focused towards accommodation for refugees or intermediary banks could be incentivised to grant favourable conditions to SMEs employing refugees. The EIB has initially identified some twenty-two loans and loan programmes inside and outside the EU that could potentially benefit refugees in this way. The EIB would fund up to 100% of project costs (instead of max. 50% for regular loans) to further accelerate disbursements.

Outside Europe, the EIB is considering extending its microfinance facilities to the countries of origin of refugees as well as increasing access to finance in affected regions, particularly in support of SMEs and to finance health and education infrastructure. Furthermore, the EIB is conducting a needs assessment for lending or blending to private and public sector counterparts in order to put forward long term solutions inside and outside the EU.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The EBRD has also announced that it will contribute to the response to the refugee crisis. It will outline its first considerations for an EBRD response to the Bank's Board on 28 October. EBRD operates in Europe and the EU Neighbourhood, including 11 Member States. Its initial response is expected to be in Jordan and Turkey on the basis of a substantial pipeline of projects. The EBRD could provide support to the provision of municipal services in those countries and regions hosting significant numbers of refugees. Examples include engaging with local authorities in Jordan to design a series of investments to support critical improvements

to water infrastructure, or facilitating direct investment answering the needs of municipal entities in Turkey. The EBRD would also be able to support existing and new economic activity by both refugee and host communities in affected areas, possibly in combination with inclusion and gender programmes in support of integration. EBRD support to micro, small and medium enterprises and to entrepreneurial activity could be channelled through the Small Business Initiative, adapting it to the needs in this context.

Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)

The CEB has established a new facility called the Migrant and Refugee Fund, with a target amount of EUR 25 million, in order to provide emergency assistance to tackle the refugee crisis inside and outside the EU. It will provide grant financing and technical assistance for reception and transit centres to be built over the next six months as well as for integration projects. The fund will finance around ten operations in CEB member states and there are currently nine projects in the pipeline. The October Board of EIB Directors approved an exceptional charitable contribution of EUR 5 million from EIB's administrative budget to this fund.

World Bank Group (WBG)

The WBG has for some time been running refugee-related programmes in countries near conflict zones. It has been assisting the host communities of refugees in Jordan and Lebanon in the past years and is exploring other ways in which they can help Syria's neighbouring countries. As early as 2013, the Bank approved an emergency US\$150 million "cash injection" loan to Jordan to offset the fiscal impact of the crisis on the country's budget as a result of extending subsidies and health services to refugees. In Lebanon and Jordan, the Bank is addressing the impact of the refugee influx on local service delivery through a municipality-based development operation, with two multi-donor trust funds that leveraged grant financing from the Bank's State- and Peace-building Fund. In addition, the Bank is supporting the health, education, and social protection sectors in Lebanon to ensure a balance in the benefits to vulnerable communities of both Syrians and Lebanese.

Activities in the EU and its neighbourhood have focused on working with governments to help them to plan, implement, and monitor responses to displacement and to identify the socioeconomic impacts of displacement. The WBG also provides analytical support to inform policy responses, and is the main source of data and expertise on remittances, migration, and diaspora bonds. It has had initial contacts with the EIB and EBRD during the Annual Meetings in Lima about deepening cooperation.

Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)

Germany has been particularly exposed to migration streams, and its KfW Development Bank has taken initiatives on a sizeable scale to provide assistance. At the beginning of September, it launched the "refugee accommodation" extraordinary promotion as part of its existing Investment Loans for Municipalities programme. The Bank is providing German cities and municipalities with interest-free loans with terms up to 30 years and fixed interest rates for 10 years in order to finance investments in the new construction, conversion, renovation or acquisition of accommodation for refugees. The initial volume of EUR 300 million was increased to a total of EUR 1 billion. Furthermore, KfW manages the Syria Recovery Trust Fund that was set up in September 2013 by Germany, the United Arab Emirates and the USA, with Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Japan, the UK, Kuwait, France and Turkey joining later. The fund now has more than EUR 90 million to finance the supply of water, energy, medicine and food for refugee camps and their neighbouring communities.

Further details on the actions of IFIs are indicated below.

European Investment Bank (EIB)

EIB funding is part of the concerted action by EU institutions in the EU response to the refugee crisis in order to tackle it both inside and outside the EU. EIB builds on its capacity as the only IFI capable to finance refugee-related accommodation and infrastructure expenditures throughout countries of origin, of transit and of destination (inside and outside EU) of all migration/refugee routes towards Europe. The EIB has mapped the type of refugee-related expenditure which it can finance, which is broad and includes containers, temporary accommodation, and start-up costs for refugee centres (such as but not tents, equipment, training) as well as education, health, transport and social infrastructures, and programs for integration of refugees (microfinance, etc). The EIB operational plan for refugees of the EIB comprises several elements.

Firstly, as an immediate short term measure, the EIB has approved a EUR 5m contribution to the CEB-managed Migrant and Refugee Fund which comprises grant and TA emergency support focused on rapid investment in reception centres and related costs.

Secondly, EIB has responded rapidly to requests for long-term loan financing for refugee-related investment in Germany and France, and the first projects in Germany (eg Brandenburg) and France (Adoma) were already appraised by October 2015 and finance, via financial intermediaries/housing agencies, construction activity already under-way. Further loans are under appraisal in November 2015.

Thirdly, on 17 November the Bank should approve special windows for funding immediately available at special conditions for refugee-related expenditures in countries ranging from Greece, Italy to France and Germany including Slovenia and Croatia as well as countries outside EU, by expanding existing financial frameworks to cover refugee-related expenditure. The EIB will offer special favourable conditions to refugee-related projects: funding 100% of eligible costs, derogation from EIB-EC funding cumulative caps, extension of maturities, smaller mark-ups and suppression of the contractual amendment fees if needed. This will include the following:

- Regarding the public sector, funds for refugees will be opened in existing operations entered into with Sovereign Counterparts, Local Authorities, National Promotional Banks and connected entities.
- Regarding the private sector, the European Fund for South East Europe, which provides financing to micro and small enterprises (MSMEs), will benefit from more favourable conditions.
- Regarding the Western Balkans, the EIB will deploy the Western Balkans Youth Employment Initiative.
- In the West Africa and the Sahel region, the EIB approved operations focused on MSMEs and job creation, the eligibility of which could be enlarged to include measures which improve economic conditions in the area and reduce the incentives to migrate. These operations could benefit from blending of the resources available under the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa.

Fourthly, EIB is conducting a needs assessment which will be completed by end November 2015 in order to determine its key counterparts' short and long-term needs in terms of direct funding or blending of resources made available by the European Commission and/or other bilateral grants.

Based on the outcome of the needs assessment and the long-term funding requirements of sovereign counterparts, the EIB may separately propose a Pan-EU28 Framework Facility to address the investment needs in transit and host EU Member States for up to 1 billion. Furthermore, the EIB is coordinating with other financial institutions to put forward initiatives, such as widening the coverage of loans agreed with German promotional banks which target municipal infrastructure to cover refugee accommodation. The EIB may propose a Pan-Non-EU Framework Facility to address the investment needs in the Western Balkans, Southern Neighbours, Eastern Neighbours and Sub Saharan Africa for up to EUR 0.5 billion.

Regarding the private sector, both within and outside the EU the EIB is considering initiatives to blend grant financing to soften or complement the funding of the EIB. For example it shall aim at blending a portion of the EUR 1.8 billion of the announced Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. Specifically in North Africa, the EIB is considering expanding its programmes in microfinance, SME loan portfolio guarantees, support to rural economic development and food security and trade support. In the Middle East and North Africa region, there are three relevant initiatives currently being set up by the EIB, which involve the European Commission through the mobilisation of its blending capabilities. These initiatives include the fund of funds "Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship Finance", "Boost Africa", a joint initiative of the EIB and the African Development Bank to support the emergence of sustainable investors and capacity builders, and the ACP "Impact Financing Envelope", which addresses social challenges including migration.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The EBRD will provide their operational support in two main areas, considering needs and EBRD capabilities, though they are conducting more detailed needs assessments. In the first place, they will support the provision of municipal services in those countries and regions most affected by refugee flows. Their initial response is thus expected to be in Jordan and Turkey, with activities in Lebanon possible later. The EBRD will provide support for the rehabilitation or upgrading infrastructure and improvements in public services for water, waste water, solid waste and urban transport. For larger municipal entities or larger investments, this could take the form of discrete investments or sector investment programmes. They are also considering frameworks through banks for batches of smaller investments in smaller municipal entities. In Jordan, the EIB has designed investments which seek to address institutional and sector performance challenges in the water, wastewater and solid waste sector.

Furthermore, the EBRD will support micro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurial activity through the provision of credit lines for local banks and microfinance institutions, technical assistance, direct finance with risk-sharing and post-investment support, local consultancy and international advisory projects, the creation of business resource centres to provide information and training, engagement with local community-based organisations and civil society organisations regarding inclusion and income-generating activities for refugees and finally promotion of youth and gender inclusion via improved access to training.

These targeted operations are expected to be grant intensive, which includes grant-funded SBS activities, a higher degree of risk coverage for products offered through financial intermediaries, grant-funded technical assistance and capacity building and the need to take into account affordability and environmental issues for affected municipalities.

In Jordan for example, the EBRD has engaged with local authorities in designing a series of investments to support critical improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure and solid waste services, with a EUR 18 million project in 2015 and a pipeline of potential projects for the period 2016-2018 which amounts to EUR 200 million. In Turkey, the EBRD is setting up an Infrastructure Development Programme, focusing on the needs of municipal entities and accompanying direct investment or an intermediated facility with local banks with technical assistance and capacity building. The programme is still under development, but it could be in the region of EUR 40 million, of which around EUR 10 million would be required in grant funding for technical cooperation and/or first loss support. The EBRD would also be able to support existing and new economic activity by both refugee and host communities in affected areas, where opportune in combination with drawing from inclusion and gender programmes in support of integration. Their support to micro, small and medium enterprises and to entrepreneurial activity could be channelled through the Small Business Initiative, adapting it to the needs in this context. In general, the activities targeted by the Bank will likely be grant intensive, which implies that the EBRD will require grant funding to mitigate risks and make these projects bankable in line with the EBRD business model.

Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)

The Council of Europe Development Bank is a multilateral development bank with an exclusively social mandate. It promotes social cohesion and strengthens social integration in Europe through the provision of financing and technical expertise for projects with a high social impact in its member states. It participates in financing social projects, responds to emergency situations and contributes to improving the living conditions of the most disadvantaged population groups. The CEB has decided to scale up its support to its member states dealing with migrant and refugee flows in line with its mandate and given that it has developed expertise in funding and in implementing projects in favour of migrants and refugees.

The CEB has established a new facility called the Migrant and Refugee Fund in order to provide emergency assistance with the goal of tackling the refugee crisis inside and outside the EU. It will mainly provide grant financing and technical assistance for reception and transit centres to be built over the next six months as well as other projects to integrate refugees and migrants in society.

Grants from the Fund will be disbursed to and may be implemented by national, regional or local authorities or international institutions. Around ten projects are envisaged, each with an individual cost of between EUR 1.5 million and EUR 2.5 million, and there are currently nine projects in the pipeline. The CEB has partially capitalised the Fund but is inviting other donors to participate since it does not have the financial capacity to provide more funding and, moreover, it wishes to politically mutualise the efforts to face this crisis. The CEB will capitalise the Fund for 5 million and the EIB will make a contribution of 5 million from its 2015 administrative budget, with a total target amount for the Fund of 25 million.

In addition to this initiative, it is funding other projects focused on refugees, migrants or internally displaced persons within a member state. For example, the CEB has provided loan financing amounting to EUR 100 million to Adoma, the leading social housing provider in France. This programme helps retired migrant workers to stay in their homes and will also provide housing for asylum-seekers.

World Bank Group (WBG)

The WBG is working with humanitarian and other development partners to help displaced people build self-reliance, through: (i) a flagship report on forced displacement; (ii) a call for the end of 'camp' mentality; (iii) a rethink of risks faced by the displaced in MICs and LICs.; (iv) greater use of indexed cash payments; (v) transferring up to 75 percent of the displacement caseload to national social protection systems; (vi) working with the private sector and entrepreneurs to allow refugees and IDPs to access mobile phones and internet. Working in countries of origin to address the root causes of refugee flows, including conflict and poverty; the WBG is especially addressing challenges presented by internally displaced people (IDPs), who otherwise may become international refugees.

The World Bank Group is increasing its engagement in forced displacement. Displacement is central to regional initiatives in a.o. Africa and the European neighbourhood. Forced displacement projects in the relevant regions include: (i) a \$75m MDTF in Lebanon which finances projects to assist hosting communities in the provision of health, education and municipal services; (ii) a grant-financed municipal services project (\$50m) supported by contributions from the UK, Sweden, Canada and Switzerland; and (iii) a fast disbursing operation (\$150m) to help the country manage the additional expenditures on healthcare services and basic household needs as a result of the Syrian refugee influx. WBG also supports host countries in education, skills, banking, employment, and asylum applications (e.g., Lebanon Syria Conflict TF and Jordan resilience project to mobilize grants).

Key analytical work on forced displacement includes: (i) Economic and Social Impact Assessments in Lebanon and Iraq; (ii) a number of political economy analyses on forced displacement; (iii) a welfare and needs assessment of Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon; and (iv) a multi-country survey of refugees and host communities, (v) Turkey, assessment of the impact of Syrian refugees on host communities and labor market; (vi) Italy/Greece – Analysis of profile/motivation of migrants (expected 2015/2016). At the Annual Meetings in Lima, the UN/WBG/Islamic Development Bank announced initiatives to issue new bonds for displaced people, and to buy down interest rates for IBRD countries hosting refugees. The WBG is also exploring financing for LICs hosting refugees, including within the context of IDA 18 replenishment. The WBG has a strong technical partnership with the UNHCR in countries such as Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, and Lebanon. A recent joint work plan centers on: (i) strategic cooperation; (ii) thematic brainstorming; (iii) a facility for technical assistance; (iv) collaboration on WBG projects; and (v) analytics for the EU crisis. WBG also provides analytical support to inform policy responses, and is the main source of data and expertise on remittances, migration, and diaspora bonds.