SFC2021 programme for AMIF, ISF and BMVI funds

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# 1. Programme strategy: main challenges and policy options

Reference: Article 22(3)(a)(iii), (iv), (v) and (ix) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR)

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| **Current situation:** Latvia (LV) shares borders with four countries: two EU/Schengen member states - Estonia to the north-east (343 km) and Lithuania (LT) to the south (588 km) - as well as Russia (RU) to the east (276 km) and Belarus (BY) to the south-east (161 km), which is an external border under the Schengen acquis. To the west and north-west, Latvia borders the Baltic Sea, which is an external maritime border under the Schengen acquis (498 km). The total length of Latvia's borders is 1,866 km, including 1,368 km of land borders. The EU's external land border to be strengthened under the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy (IGFV) is the "green" border, mainly comprising forests and marshes, less frequently grasslands and other areas, as well as rivers and lakes directly on the LV-BY border; the border area is generally sparsely populated and remote outside some cities, including the second largest city of LV - Daugavpils (close to the LV-LT and LV-BY borders). The poor state of the road infrastructure near the LV-RU and LV-BY borders and harsh natural conditions, including cold weather, make border surveillance difficult and contribute to the deterioration of border surveillance equipment. Accordingly, the management of an integrated border in LV is hampered by limited technical capacity and the high obsolescence of other equipment and facilities, which contributes to the idleness of border surveillance work and institutional synergies. Given the higher level of activity and the assessment of the LV authorities, historically the strengthening of the LV-RU border has been a higher priority than the LV-BY border, however, in the geopolitical circumstances of 2022, the additional funding needed for the LV-BY border surveillance will be partly provided by the LV under the IGFV Thematic Mechanism Specific Actions BMVI/2022/SA/1.5.4, which includes the purchase of border surveillance equipment, such as vehicles, drone neutralisation equipment, mobile temporary accommodation for State Border Guard (SBG) officers, etc., and other, immovable surveillance measures - infrastructure (senors, cameras, etc.) for LV-BY border surveillance automation. Added value of the action: it will both ensure continuous surveillance of the LV-BY border and facilitate the practical implementation of surveillance, given the limited availability of human resources, the threat nature of hybrid operations and the increasing volume and severity of border infringements.Since July 2021, LV is experiencing an increase in migration pressure at its borders. Third-country migrants (TCM) from Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan arrive via BY in large groups, suggesting an organised process. Many of the TCMs are convinced that they have arrived in Germany, which indicates that LV is not the destination of these TCMs. To address the deteriorating security situation at the LV-BY border, the LV CoM has declared a state of emergency since August 2021, which has been extended several times until November 2022 in the municipalities along the LV-BY border. With the continued destabilisation of the geopolitical and humanitarian situation in Europe following the RU invasion of Ukraine (UA), the flow of TCMs from the UA, who are predominantly UA nationals, has also increased sharply in LV after February 2022; therefore, the measures planned in this programme will also support victims of the RU war against the UA who have arrived in LV. The LV fully respects and will continue to respect, including in the framework of the implementation of the IGFV 2021-2027 and border control activities, EU fundamental rights and other international instruments, including the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the obligations of access to international protection, the principle of non-refoulement, the fundamental rights of the TCMs and the fundamental rights referred to in Regulation 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) and other EU legislation. In 2021, 4,045 persons were prevented, and in 2022, by 30.08.2022, another 3,040 persons will be prevented from unauthorised crossing of the LV-BY border into the EU. LV suspects that they have been smuggled to the LV-BY border under the facilitation of BY, thus reinforcing the activities of criminal organisations, with the highest number of apprehensions recorded in winter - December 2021 (1,392 persons) and January 2022 (1,461 persons). In addition to the persons refused, in 2021, a total of 446 persons were admitted by LV at the LV-BY border, and in 2022, until 30.08.2022, a further 82 persons for humanitarian reasons (mainly to prevent deaths). Compared to 2020, when 4 persons were detected and apprehended, in 2021 the number of recorded unauthorised attempts to cross the LV-BY border has increased by 1,123 times. The number of migrants and refugees is expected to increase with the growing popularity of the "northern route" of irregular immigration via BY and RU to Finland, Norway, LT, LV and Estonia, given the changing intensity of RU resistance to this route, influenced by the political situation and the reaction of RU border guards to it. The irregular transit of certain groups of TCMs, such as Vietnamese nationals, through RU, LV and on to PL, CZ, DE is affected by stricter requirements for residence and work permits.Crossing of the external border by UA nationals is basically carried out on a regular basis, taking into account Annex 2 of the EPC Regulation No 2018/1806 of 28 November 2018, however, document checks and other initial actions of these persons also require increased LV resources. LV will address the growing demand for reception capacity through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 2021-2027, as well as by requesting support under the AMIF Thematic Mechanism.On 18.12.2019, LV adopted the LV Integrated Border Management Plan (IBMP) 2019-2020. The LV IBMP 2021-2023 has not yet been adopted, but overall the IBMP remains unchanged, addressing the challenges previously identified by the SBG with additional measures to strengthen national security, improve border control (and customs) procedures and ensure an integrated approach to border management. The above challenges are in line with the new security situation at the EU's external borders.The principles of integrated border management planning stem from LV's location at the crossroads of transit routes, influenced by political processes both far from LV, such as the increasing number of refugees/asylum seekers due to the change of political regime in Afghanistan, and close by, such as the war of the RU against the UA. Trafficking organisations are constantly adapting in response to immigration checks and control policies.Border crossers/vehicles/cargo should be screened to identify high-risk travellers, forged/stolen documents, stolen vehicles and high-risk goods. To control cross-border flows in a sound manner, LV implements an integrated border security policy based on risk analysis.The Ministry of the Interior (MoI) is developing the LV visa policy, based on the common EU visa policy, to use common criteria for issuing visas, while he practical implementation (preventing the entry of persons who could pose a threat to national security or violate the conditions of residence) is the responsibility of the SBG, the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (OCMA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and the diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Latvia. Against this background, integrated management of the EN national border is implemented at five levels (including the requirements of the Schengen acquis):1: Border control (**checks and surveillance**) as defined in the Schengen Borders Code and customs supervision and control under the EU Customs Code, including relevant risk analysis and criminal intelligence;2: **Detection and investigation of cross-border crime**3: A 4-step approach to control (**measures in third countries;** cooperation with neighbouring countries; border and customs controls; controls in the free movement area, including **return**);4: Interinstitutional cooperation in border management and **international cooperation;**5: Coordination of integrated border management, legislative development, **human resources management** and anti-corruption measures.The objectives of the SBG 2019-2020 are also supported by the measures set out in the LV National Development Plan 2021-2027, adopted by the Saeima on 02.07.2020:[429] "Ensuring the efficiency of the judiciary and law enforcement. Capacity building, improving cooperation, simplifying legal processes (through digital cooperation between authorities, exchange of best practices, joint training, research and expertise). Implementation of solutions in all pre-trial investigation institutions. Improving support and protection systems for vulnerable people and victims";[440] "Strengthening the Response Capacity of Public Security and Law Enforcement Services. Maintaining the infrastructure and capacity of law enforcement, security and border control services. Capacity building, physical training, fighting crime, joint training, new competences to meet new challenges, use of modern technologies, civil-military cooperation and cooperation for comprehensive national defence".Based on the SBG 2019-2020 and SBG 2021-2023 draft, the MoI Operational Strategy 2020-2022 has been developed and the **following strategic priorities of the** MoI Operational Strategy 2020-2022 **in the field of border management and visa policy will be addressed under the IGFV Operational Programme 2021-2027:**· **Information systems (IS) development (including equipment),** IS user support/communications systems development;· Physical surveillance of the EN border, **border control, i**ncluding technical checks of documents, and immigration control;· **Professional training of officials:** border and immigration control, border control and visa policy (including **consular officers);**·     **national image** (image of the situation as a whole)·  **Liaison officers** in Eastern and Central European countries;·      combating and i**nvestigating cross-border crime**The results of the Internal Security Fund (ISF)-Border/Visa 2014-2020 have been taken into account for the development of the IGFV Work Programme 2021-2027 and some of the actions will be continued.Achievements of the ISF-Border/Visa Programme 2014-2020:**Border management:****building a national image**·The land border video surveillance infrastructure, monitoring and control system has been developed, and the land border has been equipped with sensors for future connection to EUROSUR.·a land/sea border situational picture is established in accordance with EUROSUR requirements, a national information exchange network and a common situational picture, and the National Coordination Centre is operational 24/7·  the maritime surveillance system is partially modernised.**information systems (IS)**·the new national border control IS REIS (part of the Entry/Exit and ETIAS) will be developed by the end of ISF 2014-2020.·improved N.SIS and SIRENE functionality.**border checks:**·improved quality of surveillance/control of foreigners in the border area and border territory,·special equipment for the Biometric Data Processing System (BDAS) is purchased.**activities of liaison officers (LA)**· In Georgia, Georgia and Belarus, the SBG LA sent tactical alerts on fake travel documents. Due to the emergency situation, the SBG LA were relocated to Kiev, UA to provide advice to UA, BY and Moldova.**Visa policy:****IS:**The functionality of the National Visa Information System (NVIS) has been improved, including facilitating the exchange of data between EU Member States on visa applications and related decisions, and checks on persons at external border checkpoints have been improved - **professional training of officials:**63 consular officers are trained and able to apply the Visa Code to identify the risk of irregular migration, employees involved in the visa process at the MoFA, OCMA, SBG have been trained on the use of the IS and downstream processes.**In the course of implementing the EU acquis and EU action plans:**Measures have been taken to improve and maximise the benefits of existing IS and the national REIS-2002 **entry/exit** IS is used by the SBG border control. The LV will continue to work on the efficiency of the management of traveller/goods flows, including the development of the national entry/exit IS, including the preparation of the interface between the national REIS-2002 system and the IS/ETIAS. The European Semester (2019) recommendations highlight the need to improve public sector accountability and efficiency, in particular for local governments and state-owned enterprises, as well as the conflict of interest regime (2019; 4). The recommendations will be incorporated into the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism (RRM) roadmap.**The IGFV 2021-2027** will also be used to further improve the results of the ISF-Borders/Visa 2014-2020, to meet the recommendations of the Schengen evaluation and to achieve new results:***Results of 2021-2027:******(KM) 1:***·a cynology centre/infrastructure established,·a border surveillance and control system (BCS) developed,· a secure information exchange network to build up a national (global) picture and ensure the functioning of EUROSUR established,·improved physical border control capacity,·improved effectiveness of border checks to identify fraudulent documents and border checks in general,·increased efficiency of vehicle checks, reducing the risk of illegal migration linked to the carriage of persons concealed in secret compartments,·improving the professional skills of border guards in the management of external borders, including sea/air borders,·improved task capabilities of special units of the SBG in the fight against crime, provision of operational support and participation in special operational activities using specialised equipment/technical resources,·increasing the technical/mobile capacity of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the SBG and of the criminal investigation units of the regional divisions to ensure operational measures and pre-trial investigations,·improved data management (borders/security/migration) with which all centralised EU IS for security, border and migration management are compatible,·continue the operation of the SBG Liaison Offices in the UK, Moldova and Georgia, with temporary deployment of Liaison Officers in Central Asia and other Eastern European countries as needed.***KM 2:***·further development of visa issuance/control procedures·ensuring further uniform Schengen visa issuance practices in all diplomatic/consular missions of LV, strictly applying the requirements of the Schengen acquis, paying particular attention to the specificities of certain regions (e.g. increased risk of illegal migration).**Complementarity** of the above results with the EU Structural Funds will be ensured, as well as with possible instruments of the Civil Protection Mechanism. A Joint Committee has been set up to ensure complementarity, as well as a double funding file currently used for ERDF and ESF (see section 6).**Complementarity with the AMIF 2021-2027 is ensured:**Combating illegal migration and ensuring effective return to third countries under the AMIF, the SBG will ensure the reception of detained foreigners and the organisation of return measures. Complementarity with the Customs Equipment Instrument will be ensured where appropriate.ISF-Border/Visa 2014-2020 funds helped prepare for Schengen evaluations on EU external border control and the effective management of migration flows. **The problems identified in the recommendations of the Schengen evaluation and the Frontex vulnerability report** pertaining to LV:·authorities involved in border control/migration control lack the necessary capacity,·insufficient technical equipment to control external borders/migrant flows,·the EU uses outdated IT technologies for external border control and visas,·lack of a common approach to the application of EU law (Visa Code),·lack of mobility of the SBG (SBG transport, working dogs, etc.) to carry out routine tasks (physical border control),·Insufficient cross-border, international cooperation, capacity building (expertise),·The Institute of Liaison Officers will help develop cooperation between border guard agencies of LV, BY, Georgia (for now) (integrated border management, information exchange, migration flows, working with dogs, training, etc.) and contribute to capacity building. The new period will be used to prepare for the 2023 evaluations and to implement action plans to address the flow gaps identified in the Schengen evaluations:·Improving the REIS system,·assessing the feasibility of continuing/renewing the deployment of liaison officers in the third countries concerned, based on a risk analysis and the situation on the ground, making sure that the necessary financial resources are available,·Upgrading EUROSUR's IT infrastructure to ensure automated information management of the EUROSUR application,·Integration of the marine situational picture into the NCC national situational picture, including other relevant data to facilitate national situational awareness, as well as management functions where appropriate.The actions identified in the LV Action Plan to address the shortcomings and implement the recommendations received following the 2018 Schengen visa evaluation have been implemented, but possible improvements to the NVIS after the next Schengen visa evaluation, foreseen for 2022, should be envisaged. There are also plans to digitise visas and introduce a digital visa stamp to combat visa fraud.The management and control system will be reviewed to maximise administrative capacity and efficiency and to introduce simplification measures. Good governance is ensured by the RA and the Monitoring Committee. |

# 2. Specific objectives and technical assistance

Reference: Article 22(2) and (4) of the CPR

|  Selected | Specific objective or technical assistance | Type of activities |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [x]   | 1. European integrated border management | Regular activities |
| [x]   | 1. European integrated border management | Special activities |
| [x]   | 1. European integrated border management | Annex IV activities |
| [ ]   | 1. European integrated border management | Activity support |
| [ ]   | 1. European integrated border management | VPS |
| [ ]   | 1. European integrated border management | Emergency assistance |
| [x]   | 1. European integrated border management | Article 85(2) of the ETIAS Regulation |
| [x]   | 1. European integrated border management | Article 85(3) of the ETIAS Regulation |
| [x]   | 2. Common visa policy | Regular activities |
| [ ]   | 2. Common visa policy | Special activities |
| [x]   | 2. Common visa policy | Annex IV activities |
| [ ]   | 2. Common visa policy | Activity support |
| [ ]   | 2. Common visa policy | Emergency assistance |
| [x]   | TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR) |  |
| [ ]   | TA.37. Technical assistance - not cost-related (Article 37 of the CPR) |  |

## 2.1. Specific objective: 1. European integrated border management

### 2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

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| The border situation (see section 1) remains fragile and the number of migrants and refugees is expected to increase at any moment. Before the LV-BY border crisis and the RU's war against the UA, LV was able to provide the basic conditions for guaranteeing border security. However, in the event of a rapidly escalating border situation, additional resources would be needed to ensure an adequate response and action at the border.Situation LV Implementation of Regulation No 1052/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 establishing the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) and of Regulation No 2019/1896 of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624:·The SBG has set up a National Coordination Centre (NCC) with "command and control" functions;·Representatives from other national authorities may be deployed in the NCC in cases of emergency related to irregular border crossings (up to 10 positions available);·The NCC operates 24/7;·The NCC is a single point of contact in cooperation with other NCCs;·The NCC and the SBG units, as well as other national authorities upon request, shall exchange information on land and maritime border surveillance at national and regional level; in case of emergency, the NCC shall ensure coordination of the SBG units, their resources and activities;·The NCC is responsible for the exchange of information on border checks between SBG units and national and international organisations;·The NCC's responsibilities include most of the tasks mentioned in Regulation 1052/2013, including the implementation of border surveillance operations, the coordination of Frontex joint operations, the production of national situational pictures; the NCC shares near real-time information with the ESP;·The NCC handles classified information up to "Top Secret" level at national level and up to "EU Confidential" at European Union level, and in some cases up to "NATO Secret".Currently, the NCC does not have the capability to collect data and/or transfer data to the national maritime situational picture, nor to report the national situational picture and the ESP to the relevant national cooperation bodies within EUROSUR; the national situational picture is not fully established and maintained. Therefore, activities are included that will lead to:·Redirecting information flows on the maritime sector to the NCC for processing;·Link between competent national authorities to create a complete EUROSUR picture of the national situation;·Equipment and IT infrastructure for future reporting needs of RCC and LCC SBG structures upgraded;·More detailed national picture created and processing capacity maintained for ESP.The National Integrated Border Management Strategy allows for the implementation of the updated Common Integrated Risk Analysis Model and the improvement of data collection and sharing for risk analysis purposes in line with the requirements of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation 2.0.**LV plans for integrated border management** at the external borders: adequate technical resources for border checks (air, land, sea border checks), professional training of officials, ensuring technical adequacy in the performance of the tasks assigned, development of IT systems. The implementation of this specific objective is ensured in line with the concept of Integrated Border Management, which emphasises the importance of inter-institutional cooperation in border management and international cooperation.In order to ensure the above and **to achieve the objectives of KM 1 (as set out in Section 1), LV shall take the following Implementing Measures:**·1.(a)(i) capacity building for checks and surveillance at external borders, including measures to facilitate the lawful crossing of borders and, where appropriate, measures related to:- preventing and detecting cross-border crime at external borders, in particular migrant smuggling, human trafficking and terrorism- Managing a consistently high level of migration at external borders, including through technical and operational reinforcement and mechanisms and procedures for the identification of vulnerable persons and unaccompanied minors, as well as for the identification of persons in need of international protection or seeking to apply for such protection, the provision of information to such persons, and the return of such persons;·1.e) the establishment, operation and maintenance of large-scale IT systems in accordance with Union legislation in the field of border management, in particular SIS II, ETIAS, EES and Eurodac for border management purposes, including the interoperability of these large-scale IT systems and their communication infrastructure, as well as measures to improve data quality and the provision of information:**Implementation measures include actions/projects** concerning:**IT systems:** to ensure effective data management in the area of borders, security and migration, whereby all centralised EU IS for security, border and migration management are interoperable, it is necessary to develop large-scale IT systems - EURODAC for border management purposes, Entry/Exit Systems (EES), ETIAS, SIS II, interoperability and other information systems. REIS will be aligned with EU decisions on interoperability (IIS, ETIAS, ESP, CIR, BMS, etc.). Measures related to EU interoperability also need to be implemented, not only IT systems, but also harmonisation of border control procedures, training in the use of the ESP, CIR, MID and related procedures.**Image of the national situation:** Maritime surveillance at operational level is carried out in cooperation with the Armed Forces (LV Maritime and Coastal Surveillance System (LMCSS) and Automatic Identification System), as well as with the State Environmental Service and the Customs Department of the State Revenue Service. The main objective of the LMCSS system is to provide the LV coastline with maritime surveillance information through a radar system and an optical system based on remote sensing, which itself includes day and night video sensors and a long-range radar system. In the future, IT systems will be at the heart of land and sea border surveillance. The management and operation of EUROSUR shall be carried out by the SBG in cooperation with the other co-responsible authorities. It is important to continue the gradual expansion of EUROSUR capabilities to build up a national (overall) picture, to further develop the SBG BSCS and establish a secure network for information exchange between competent national authorities, and to ensure the functioning of EUROSUR. Riga International Airport is planning development works to ensure safer and more efficient automated border control for passengers.Border checks**:** The Green Border is monitored by 15 SBG units. The surveillance of the State border is carried out by mobile (using patrol vehicles, shortage noted) and small patrols (teams) using different tactical means, based on a risk analysis. **Professional preparedness of officers:** In 2008, aerial surveillance of the national border was entrusted to the Aviation Section of the SBG. Taking into account the increase in the number of helicopters and the development of the required skills of pilots and operators of special equipment, the need to increase the professionalism of these personnel (pilots, operators) was identified in order to improve the results of border surveillance and thus increase the mobility of the tactical force.**Investigating cross-border crime:** the rapid development of technology and the technical equipment available to organised crime groups have reduced both the capabilities of analytical software and the technical facilities of the SBG criminal investigation units. Some of the equipment/analytical software at the disposal of the SBG is outdated or not available at all. The lack of technical and mobility capacity of the Criminal Investigation Division of the VRS Criminal Investigation Department (SBG CID) and of the territorial administrations prevents it from fulfilling its functions: to ensure operational measures and the pre-trial investigation process, including operational measures and criminal investigative actions in pre-trial proceedings for border crimes.**Technology renewal/acquisition of new technologies:** increase crime prevention, speed up detection. In addition, the average age of the fleet is more than 10 years - some of the vehicles are no longer roadworthy - and this has reduced the capacity of the SBG to respond quickly to the detection and prevention of crime at the border. The lack of vehicles is also a problem that prevents the special operations service "Sigma" of the SBG and the special units of the State Police from providing an operational response while ensuring the performance of tasks related to combating crime and participating in special operational measures using special equipment and technical means. The provision of vehicles would ensure a rapid response and the successful prevention and combating of threats to the national border. The material and technical support base of the SBG Sigma and the State Police is also outdated. Technical support would increase the prevention of crime at the border.**Liaison officers:** to ensure that cooperation with neighbouring countries and other foreign countries in specific areas of activity is improved, the activities of **SBG liaison officers** abroad (SBG liaison officers in BY and Georgia) will be continued.**Implementation of Schengen evaluation recommendations**: actions necessary to implement the recommendations of the future Schengen evaluation identified during the implementation of the programme and to address shortcomings.**Expected results and outcomes:****Building a picture of the national situation, by:** ·Improved SBG BSCS,·A secure information exchange network between competent national authorities has been set up to build up a national situational picture and ensure the functioning of EUROSUR.**Improved technical capacity of the SBG:**·Improved physical border control and capacity building, e.g. capabilities of the cynological services for border surveillance,·Improved effectiveness of border checks to identify forged documents and of border checks in general,·Improved efficiency of vehicle checks, reducing the risk of illegal migration associated with the carriage of persons concealed in secret compartments.**Lessons learned:** Increased capacity and professional skills of border guards in the Ventspils and Aviation branches of the SBG**Strengthening the capacity of special intervention units in the fight against terrorism** to ensure the quality performance of the tasks assigned to the special intervention units of the SBG related to the fight against cross-border crime, providing operational support in the prevention and detection of cross-border crime and participating in special operational activities using specialised equipment and technical resources for combating cross-border crime.**Technical and mobile capacity of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID**) **of the SBG** and of the criminal investigation units of the regional divisions was increased **by acquiring specialised technical equipment and vehicles** for operational measures to combat cross-border crime and for pre-trial investigations of border crimes, inter alia by ensuring the performance of the functions of the CID in preventing and combating cross-border crime. Due to the rapid development of technology and the technical support available to organised criminal groups, the analytical software capabilities and the technical base of the SBG have been reduced.**There is a need to develop large-scale IT systems - EURODAC for border management, the Entry/Exit System (EES), ETIAS, SIS II, interoperability and other information systems.****The establishment of Liaison Offices in Eastern Europe (UA, Moldova, BY) and Georgia continues, with Liaison Officers temporarily deployed to Central Asia and other Eastern European countries as needed.****Operation and maintenance of the ETIAS (Article 85(2) and (3) of the ETIAS Regulation - Costs).****﻿Actions to ensure equality, inclusion and non-discrimination:**The management and implementation of projects under the measure will ensure respect for the principles of non-discrimination and the set of actions implemented under the measure will focus on accessibility to information and the environment, non-discrimination based on age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, etc. and equal opportunities for all groups of people.The development and improvement of the accommodation infrastructure and equipment for asylum seekers will take into account accessibility requirements and good practices, in particular promoting accessibility of the environment and information for persons with reduced mobility, visual, hearing or mental disabilities, the elderly and parents with young children.The training activities will ensure equal participation opportunities for participants: accessible infrastructure, adapted information and communication technologies, childcare services, and the integration of equal opportunities and non-discrimination issues into the training content.Providing information in the public domain, including on the web, will ensure that its content is accessible to people with functional disabilities through multiple sensory (sight, hearing, touch) channels, as well as to seniors and people of different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds.In line with the provisions of the BMVI Regulation, all actions described in the programme aimed at combating cross-border crime will be limited to crime occurring at the external border. |

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

### 2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: Article 22(4)(e) of the CPR

#### Table 1 Outcome indicators

| ID | Indicator | Unit of measurement | Milestone indicator (2024) | Target indicator (2029) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| O.1.1 | Number of items of equipment purchased for border crossing points | number | 818 | 1 760 |
| O.1.1.1 | incl. number of automated border control gates, self-service systems and e-gates purchased | number | 12 | 12 |
| O.1.2 | Number of infrastructure facilities maintained/repaired | number | 122 | 159 |
| O.1.3 | Number of hotspot areas supported | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.4 | Number of border crossing point buildings constructed/upgraded | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.5 | Number of aircraft purchased | number | 0 | 39 |
| O.1.5.1 | incl. number of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles purchased | number | 0 | 39 |
| O.1.6 | Number of marine vehicles purchased | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.7 | Number of marine vehicles purchased | number | 137 | 925 |
| O.1.8 | Number of participants supported | number | 60 | 123 |
| O.1.8.1 | t. incl. number of participants in training activities | number | 60 | 123 |
| O.1.9 | Number of Joint Liaison Officers posted in third countries | number | 4 | 8 |
| O.1.10 | Number of IT functions developed/maintained/upgraded | number | 33 | 35 |
| O.1.11 | Number of large-scale IT systems developed/maintained/upgraded | number | 4 | 4 |
| O.1.11.1 | incl. number of large-scale IT systems developed | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.12 | Number of cooperation projects with third countries | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.1.13 | Number of persons who have applied for international protection at border crossing points | number | 172 | 387 |

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: Article 22(4)(e) of the CPR

#### 2. tabula. Result indicators

| ID | Indicator | Unit of measurement | Reference value | Units for baseline | Reference year(s) | Target indicator (2029) | Unit of measurement of the target indicator | Data source | Notes |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| R.1.14 | Number of equipment registered in the European Border and Coastguard Agency's technical equipment reserve | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 314 | number | project data |  |
| R.1.15 | Number of equipment placed at the disposal of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 275 | number | project data |  |
| R.1.16 | Number of types of cooperation initiated/improved by national authorities with the Eurosur National Coordination Centre (NCC) | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | project data |  |
| R.1.17 | Number of border crossings via automated border crossing gates and e-gates | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 475 578 | number | project data |  |
| R.1.18 | Number of recommendations made under the Schengen evaluation mechanism and vulnerability assessments in the area of border management | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 100 | percentage | project data |  |
| R.1.19 | Number of participants who report using the skills and competences acquired in the learning activity three months after the learning activity | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 123 | number | project data |  |
| R.1.20 | Number of persons refused entry by border control authorities | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 7 749 | number | project data |  |

2.1. Specific objective 1. European integrated border management

### 2.1.3. Preliminary breakdown of programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

Reference: Article 22(5) of the CPR; Article 16(12) of the AMIF Regulation, Article 13(12) of the ISF Regulation or Article 13(18) of the BMVI Regulation

#### Table 3. Preliminary breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Preliminary amount (EUR) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Area of intervention | 001.Border checks  | 1 723 425,00 |
| Area of intervention | 002.Border surveillance - aerial equipment | 675 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 003.Border surveillance - ground equipment | 13 475 084,92 |
| Area of intervention | 004.Border surveillance - marine equipment | 600 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 005.Border surveillance - automated border surveillance systems | 51 555 117,00 |
| Area of intervention | 006.Border surveillance - other measures | 6 118 044,74 |
| Area of intervention | 007.Technical and operational measures in the Schengen area related to border controls | 1 725 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 008.Situational awareness and information exchange | 3 101 250,00 |
| Area of intervention | 009.Risk analysis | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 010.Data and information processing  | 547 500,00 |
| Area of intervention | 011.Hotspot areas | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 012.Measures relating to the identification and referral of vulnerable persons | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 013.Measures relating to the identification and referral of persons in need of international protection or seeking to apply for it  | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 014 Development of the European Border and Coast Guard | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 015.Inter-agency cooperation - national level | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 016.Inter-agency cooperation - European Union level | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 017.Cooperation between agencies - with third countries | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 018.Joint deployment of immigration liaison officers | 750 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 019.Large-scale IT systems - EURODAC for border management purposes | 375 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 020.Large-scale IT systems - Entry/Exit System (EES) | 1 474 913,25 |
| Area of intervention | 021.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) | 112 500,00 |
| Area of intervention | 022.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) - Article 85(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 | 150 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 023.Large-scale IT systems - European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) - Article 85(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 | 187 500,00 |
| Area of intervention | 024.Large-scale IT systems - Schengen Information System (SIS)  | 1 350 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 025.Large-scale IT systems - interoperability | 1 312 500,00 |
| Area of intervention | 026.Operational support - Integrated border management | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 027.Operational support - large-scale IT systems for border management | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 028.Operating aid - Special Transit Scheme | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 029.Data quality and the right of data subjects to information about, access, rectification, erasure and restriction of processing of their personal data | 0,00 |

## 2.1. Specific objective: 2. Common visa policy

### 2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

|  |
| --- |
| The border situation (see section 1) remains fragile and the number of migrants and refugees is expected to increase at any moment. Before the LV-BY border crisis and the RU war, LV was able to ensure the full implementation of migration and asylum policies and the framework conditions for coordinated cooperation with LV services and EU institutions involved in the implementation of migration processes. The EU legal framework is constantly evolving, making it possible to monitor compliance with the conditions of residence of foreigners, developing a common EU visa policy to facilitate travel and prevent illegal migration. However, in the event of a rapidly escalating border situation, additional resources would be needed to ensure an adequate response and action at the border, as well as **in the area of the LV common visa policy.**The implementation of this specific objective is ensured in line with the concept of Integrated Border Management, which emphasises the importance of inter-institutional cooperation in border management and international cooperation.**In order to achieve the objectives of KM 2, LV shall take the following implementing measures:*** 2.c) strengthening inter-agency cooperation at national level between national authorities responsible for border control or for tasks carried out at the border and strengthening cooperation at Union level between Member States
* 2.e) the establishment, operation and maintenance of large-scale IT systems in accordance with Union legislation on the common visa policy, in particular the VIS, including the interoperability of these large-scale IT systems and their communication infrastructure, as well as measures to improve data quality and the provision of information.

**Implementation measures include actions/projects concerning:*** **the professional training of officials:** currently, in the field of Schengen visa issuance, Latvia is represented by 13 Schengen member states in 91 locations worldwide[VS1] , and by 16 Schengen member states in 83 locations worldwide. Latvia plans to continue to conclude such agreements, which do not require additional funding. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and Latvian diplomatic and consular missions abroad are responsible for the practical implementation of the visa policy (uniform Schengen visa issuance practices in all Latvian diplomatic and consular missions, strictly applying the requirements of the Schengen acquis, paying special attention to the specificities of certain regions (e.g. increased risk of illegal migration)). When examining visa applications, consular officers must refuse entry to persons who could endanger national security or violate the rules of residence. Given the specific nature of the work of consular officers and the regular rotation of assignments, it is important that all consular officers are informed about specific visa issues and the amendments to the Schengen acquis in general. Comprehensive and high-quality **training of consular officers** for persons working in missions will ensure effective implementation of the Visa Code (as demonstrated by the ISF Border 2014-2020 training). Annual regional exercises on Schengen visa issues should continue to be organised, thus improving the security of the EU's external borders.
* **IS:** In Latvia, the leading authority in visa policy-making is the MoIA and the MoFA. In 2019, the total number of visas issued rose to 171 670 (compared to 164 771 the year before), while the number of long-stay visas issued also increased. Of the total number of visas issued, 163 948 were Schengen visas and 7 722 were long-stay (D) visas. As the number of NVIS users increases, the need to improve the skills of NVIS users (the skills of the OCMA, the SBG and the aforementioned MoFA officials) is regularly identified. In addition, the Central Visa Information System (CVIS), the main repository of Schengen visa data, regularly undergoes functional changes which have a direct impact on the functionality of the NVIS and are related to changes in the working procedures of users. Although the technical equipment for the operation of the NVIS has been purchased under previous projects, it will wear out over time and needs to be renewed, while ensuring that all institutions using the NVIS in the visa issuing process (e.g. the MoFA, the SBG, the OCMA) are equipped with the same, interoperable technical and biometric equipment.
* **Implementation of the Schengen evaluation recommendations:** actions needed to implement the future Schengen evaluation recommendations identified during the programme implementation process and to address shortcomings.

**Expected results and outcomes:*** Developed the functionality of the NVIS, purchased technical equipment for the visa process and trained NVIS users to ensure the development of a quality visa issuance and control procedure;
* Regional training on the uniform visa policy in accordance with the European Visa Code (training courses for consular officers, regional training courses abroad for consular officers and contract officials in LV) provided to LV consular officers.

 A digital visa stamp is currently being introduced to fight visa fraud. The OCMA has developed an e-service "Visa Application" where foreigners can apply for both Schengen and long-stay visas, as well as request a reception time in person at the representation. The e-service "Visa App" has been in use since 2012 and is regularly updated. Currently, more than 90% of visa forms are filled in and submitted electronically. Currently, the inviting party only submits the documents for the approval of the invitation electronically: 1) Legal entity or employer - by sending the application and attached documents electronically to the OCMA, certified by a secure electronic signature (Each attached document must be certified by an electronic signature); 2) Natural person - using a specific invitation e-service available on the state-level e-services portal Latvija.lv. In addition, Latvia supports the Commission's proposal, the introduction and use of e-visas, an EU-level visa application platform, if the solution developed is compatible with a national IT solution, for unified data access and processing. Latvia plans to use funding from the BMVI primarily to implement the Commission's proposal. **Actions to ensure equality, inclusion and non-discrimination:**The management and implementation of projects under the measure will ensure respect for the principles of non-discrimination and the set of actions implemented under the measure will focus on accessibility to information and the environment, non-discrimination based on age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, etc. and equal opportunities for all groups of people.The development and improvement of the accommodation infrastructure and equipment for asylum seekers will take into account accessibility requirements and good practices, in particular promoting accessibility of the environment and information for persons with reduced mobility, visual, hearing or mental disabilities, the elderly and parents with young children.The training activities will ensure equal participation opportunities for participants: accessible infrastructure, adapted information and communication technologies, childcare services, and the integration of equal opportunities and non-discrimination issues into the training content.Providing information in the public domain, including on the web, will ensure that its content is accessible to people with functional disabilities through multiple sensory (sight, hearing, touch) channels, as well as to seniors and people of different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds. |

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

### 2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: Article 22(4)(e) of the CPR

#### Table 1 Outcome indicators

| ID | Indicator | Unit of measurement | Milestone indicator (2024) | Target indicator (2029) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| O.2.1 | Number of projects supporting the digitisation of visa application processing | number | 0 | 2 |
| O.2.2 | Number of participants supported | number | 239 | 1 152 |
| O.2.2.1 | of which number of participants receiving training | number | 239 | 1 152 |
| O.2.3 | Number of staff posted to consulates in third countries | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.2.3.1 | of which the number of staff assigned to the processing of visa applications  | number | 0 | 0 |
| O.2.4 | Number of IT functions developed/maintained/upgraded | number | 0 | 2 |
| O.2.5 | Number of large-scale IT systems developed/maintained/upgraded | number | 0 | 1 |
| O.2.5.1 | of which number of large-scale IT systems developed  | number | 0 | 1 |
| O.2.6 | Number of infrastructure facilities maintained/repaired | number | 0 | 79 |
| O.2.7 | Number of rented/amortised properties | number | 0 | 0 |

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

2.1.2. Indicators

Reference: Article 22(4)(e) of the CPR

#### Table 2. Result indicators

| ID | Indicator | Unit of measurement | Reference value | Units for baseline | Reference year(s) | Target indicator (2029) | Unit of measurement of the target indicator | Data source | Notes |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| R.2.8 | Number of new/upgraded consulates outside the Schengen area | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | not applicable |  |
| R.2.8.1 | incl. number of consulates upgraded to improve a customer-friendly environment for visa applicants | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | not applicable |  |
| R.2.9 | Number of recommendations addressed by Schengen evaluations in the area of common visa policy | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 100 | percentage | not applicable |  |
| R.2.10 | Number of visa applications submitted by digital means | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 80 | number | not applicable |  |
| R.2.11 | Number of forms of cooperation initiated/improved by national authorities in the processing of visa applications | number | 0 | number | 2021 | 0 | number | not applicable |  |
| R.2.12 | Number of participants who reported using the skills and competences acquired three months after the training | number | 0 | share | 2021 | 982 | number | not applicable |  |

2.1. Specific objective 2. Common visa policy

### 2.1.3. Preliminary breakdown of programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

Reference: Article 22(5) of the CPR; Article 16(12) of the AMIF Regulation, Article 13(12) of the ISF Regulation or Article 13(18) of the BMVI Regulation

#### Table 3. Preliminary breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Preliminary amount (EUR) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Area of intervention | 001.Improving the processing of visa applications | 525 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 002.Improving efficiency, customer-friendly environment and security in consulates | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 003.Document security / document advisors | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 004.Consular cooperation | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 005.Consular scope | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 006.Large-scale IT systems - Visa Information System (VIS) | 3 000 000,00 |
| Area of intervention | 007.Other ICT systems for processing visa applications | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 008.Activity support - Common visa policy | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 009.Operational support - large-scale IT systems for processing visa applications | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 010.Activity aid - Special Transit Scheme | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 011.Issuing visas with limited territorial validity | 0,00 |
| Area of intervention | 012.Data quality and the right of data subjects to information about, access, rectification, erasure and restriction of processing of their personal data | 0,00 |

## 2.2. Technical assistance: TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR)

Reference: Articles 22(3)(f), 36(5), 37 and 95 of the CRR

### 2.2.1. Description

|  |
| --- |
| The objective of the technical assistance is to ensure efficient, transparent and sound implementation of the European Union funds in Latvia by co-financing the following supported actions, as well as to build the capacity of institutions involved in the administration of the European Union funds. Actions to be supported:a. Administration of European Union funds;b. Programming European Union funds;c. Providing evaluation, research on EU funds;d. Publicity and information measures for EU funds;e. Selecting and evaluating project proposals for European Union funds;f. Monitoring European Union funds;g. Ensuring post-monitoring of programming periods for European Union funds;h. Ensuring financial control and audit of European Union funds;i. Design, development, interconnection and maintenance of the electronic data interchange system, security measures and functionality;j. Providing policy coordination functions for horizontal principlesk. Training, conferences, seminars, committees, working groups and other events aimed at improving the professional competence of staff involved in the management of European Union funds;l. Other actions. |

2.2. Technical assistance TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR)

### 2.2.2. Preliminary allocation of technical assistance under Article 37 of the CPR

#### Table 4. Preliminary breakdown

| Type of intervention | Code | Preliminary amount (EUR) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Area of intervention | 001.Information and communication | 17 594,32 |
| Area of intervention | 002.Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control | 2 645 140,72 |
| Area of intervention | 003.Evaluation and research, data collection | 17 594,33 |
| Area of intervention | 004.Capacity building | 2 645 140,72 |

# 3. Financing plan

Reference: Article 22(3)(g) of the CPR

## 3.1. Financial appropriations by year

#### Table 5. Financial appropriations by year

| Type of allocation | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | Total |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Initial allocation |  | 4 988 306,00 | 6 060 830,00 | 6 536 716,00 | 5 061 299,00 | 4 189 535,00 | 4 246 619,00 | 31 083 305,00 |
| Mid-term review |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thematic mechanism WPI |  | 63 000 000,00 |  |  |  |  |  | 63 000 000,00 |
| Thematic mechanism WPII |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thematic mechanism WPIII |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Move (inwards) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Move (outwards) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 67 988 306,00 | 6 060 830,00 | 6 536 716,00 | 5 061 299,00 | 4 189 535,00 | 4 246 619,00 | 94 083 305,00 |

## 3.2. Total financial allocations

#### 6. tabula. Total financial allocation by Fund and national contribution

| Specific objective (KM) | Type of activity | Calculation basis for Union aid (total or public) | Union contribution (a) | National contribution (b)=(c)+(d) | Indicative breakdown of the national contribution | Total (e)=(a)+(b) | Co-financing rate (f)=(a)/(e) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Public (c) | Private (d) |
| European integrated border management | Regular activities | Total | 25 461 372,65 | 8 487 124,22 | 8 487 124,22 |  | 33 948 496,87 | 74,9999999926% |
| European integrated border management | Special activities | Total | 59 433 962,26 | 19 811 320,76 | 19 811 320,76 |  | 79 245 283,02 | 74,9999999937% |
| European integrated border management | Annex IV activities | Total | 0.00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |  | 0,00 |  |
| European integrated border management | Article 85(2) of the ETIAS Regulation | Total | 150 000,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |  | 150 000,00 | 100,0000000000% |
| European integrated border management | Article 85(3) of the ETIAS Regulation | Total | 187 500,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |  | 187 500,00 | 100,0000000000% |
| Total European integrated border management |  |  | 85 232 834,91 | 28 298 444,98 | 28 298 444,98 |  | 113 531 279,89 | 75,0743187187% |
| Common visa policy | Regular activities | Total | 3 525 000,00 | 1 175 000,00 | 1 175 000,00 |  | 4 700 000,00 | 75,0000000000% |
| Common visa policy | Annex IV activities | Total | 0.00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |  | 0,00 |  |
| Total Common Visa Policy |  |  | 3 525 000,00 | 1 175 000,00 | 1 175 000,00 |  | 4 700 000,00 | 75,0000000000% |
| Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR) |  |  | 5 325 470,09 |  |  |  | 5 325 470,09 | 100,0000000000% |
| Grand total |  |  | 94 083 305,00 | 29 473 444,98 | 29 473 444,98 |  | 123 556 749,98 | 76,1458236925% |

## 3.3. Transfers

### 7. tabula. Transfers between shared management funds 1

| Resettlement Fund | Beneficiary fund |
| --- | --- |
| AMIF | ISF | ERAF | ESF+ | KF | EMFAF | Total |
| BMVI |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1 Cumulative amounts of all transfers made during the programming period

### Table 8. Transfers to instruments subject to direct or indirect management1

| Instruments | Amount to be transferred |
| --- | --- |

1 Cumulative amounts of all transfers made during the programming period

# 4. Enabling conditions

Reference: Article 22(3)(i) of the CPR

## Table 9 Horizontal enabling conditions

| Enabling conditions | Fulfilling the enabling condition | Criteria | Meeting the criteria | Reference to the relevant documents | Justification |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Effective public procurement market monitoring mechanisms | Yes | Monitoring mechanisms are in place covering all public procurement contracts under the Funds, in line with Union public procurement law. This requirement includes:1. arrangements to ensure the efficient and reliable collection of data relating to procurement procedures exceeding the Union thresholds, in accordance with the reporting obligations laid down in Articles 83 and 84 of Directive 2014/24/EU and Articles 99 and 100 of Directive 2014/25/EU; | Yes | 1) PPL (01.03.2017.)2) PSPPL (01.04.2017.)3) CoMR 28.02.2017. No 107 "Procedures for the conduct of procurement procedures and design contests"4) CoMR 28.03.2017. No 187 "Procedures for the Course of Procurement Procedures and Design Contests of Public Service Provide"5) CoM 28.02.2017 Regulations No 103 "Public Procurement Notices and the Procedure for Their Preparation"6) CoMR 28.03.2017. No 182 "Procurement notices of public service providers and the procedure for their preparation" 7) CoMR 28.02.2017. No 102 "Regulation on model forms for official statistics in the field of procurement and submission of forms " | Public procurement supervision is exercised by the PSB in accordance with the competences and supervision mechanisms set out in Chapters VIII, IX, XIV of the PPL; Chapters XI, XII, XVIII of the PSPPL ensuring:- monitoring of procurement in general (handling of administrative offence cases on the initiative of the PSB or on receipt of information),- monitoring individual procurement procedures (dealing with complaints about irregularities in procurement procedures)PSB collects statistics on procurement.Article 34 of the PPL, Article 40 of the PSPPL , CoMR No 103, CoMR No 182 regulate public procurement notices, their publication, content and the obligation of the PSB to verify the information contained therein. The notices are publicly available on the PSB website and the information contained therein is used to perform PSB functions and to compile statistics.Article 40(2) of the PPL, Article 45(2) of the PSPPL, CoMR No.107, CoMR No.187 require the publication of a procurement procedure report with certain content in the EIS after the award of the contract. Article 77 of the PPL, Article 83(1) of the PSPPL, and CoMR No.102 require the submission of statistical reports with certain content to the PSB.  |
| 2. procedures to ensure that the data cover at least the following elements: (a) the quality and intensity of competition: the names of the successful and original tenderers, the number of original tenderers and the value of the contract;(b) information on the final price on completion and on the participation of SMEs as direct tenderers, where national systems provide such information; | Yes | 1) CoMR 28.02.2017. No 103 "Public procurement notices and the procedure for their preparation"2) CoMR 28.03.2017. No 182 "Procurement notices of public service providers and the procedure for their preparation"3) CoMR 28.02.2017. No 107 "Procedures for the conduct of procurement procedures and design contests"4) CoMR 28.03.2017. No 187 "Procedures for the Course of Procurement Procedures and Design Contests of Public Service Provide" | CoMR No 107 and CoMR No 187 provide that the content of the report on the procurement procedure shall include information on the tenderer or tenderers who have been awarded the contract and information on the suppliers who have submitted tenders and their quotations. CoMR No 103, Annex 4 "Contract award notice" and CoMR No 182, Annex 10 "Contract award notice (public services)" include in the content of the notices a heading requiring information on the successful tenderer, the contract price, as well as information on the number of tenders submitted. The content of the notifications under CoMR No 103 and CoMR No 182 is intended to provide information on the number of offers received from SMEs. |
| 3. arrangements for the monitoring and analysis of data by competent national authorities in accordance with Article 83(2) of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 99(2) of Directive 2014/25/EU; | Yes | 1) PPL (01.03.2017.) 2) PSPPL (01.04.2017.)3) CoM 28.02.2017 Regulations No 103 "Public Procurement Notices and the Procedure for Their Preparation"4) CoMR No 182 of 28.03.2017 "Procurement notices of public service providers and the procedure for their preparation"5) CoMR No 102 of 28.02.2017 "Regulations on the models of official statistical forms in the field of procurement and the procedure for submitting and filling in the forms" | See the table under point 1 for the monitoring mechanisms exercised by the PSB in accordance with the competences laid down in Chapters VIII, IX, XIV of the PPL and Chapters XI, XII, XVIII of the PSPPL.The PSB collects information from procurement notices published by the contracting authorities, annual reports on public procurement provided by the contracting authorities in accordance with CoMR No 102, quarterly reports on concluded food supply contracts, information provided by PSB departments on procurement supervision, obtaining information on procurements and concessions in the country, applications on violations of procurement procedures, executed deposit payments and administrative fines imposed for violations of procurement activities in accordance with the regulatory enactments on public procurement issued in the Republic of Latvia.This information, summarised by the PSB, is also used to prepare the monitoring report to be submitted to the European Commission and to perform other functions as required. |
| 4. arrangements for making the results of the analysis available to the public in accordance with Article 83(3) of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 99(3) of Directive 2014/25/EU; | Yes | 1) PPL (01.03.2017.)2) PSPPL (01.04.2017.)3) CoM 28.02.2017 Regulations No 103 "Public Procurement Notices and the Procedure for Their Preparation"4) CoMR No 182 of 28.03.2017 "Procurement notices of public service providers and the procedure for their preparation"5) CoMR No 102 of 28.02.2017 "Regulations on the models of official statistical forms in the field of procurement and the procedure for submitting and filling in the forms" | The PSB website provides public access to "Open Data" (https://www.iub.gov.lv/lv/atvertie-dati ), which is based on procurement notices published by contracting authorities, annual reports on public procurement provided by contracting authorities in accordance with Cabinet Regulation No 102, quarterly reports on concluded food supply contracts, and information on procurement monitoring collected by PSB departments. The data contain information on procurements and concessions in the country, applications for breaches of procurement procedures, executed deposit payments and administrative fines imposed for breaches of procurement activities in accordance with the regulatory enactments on public procurement issued in the territory of the Republic of Latvia.In the future, it is planned to publish the monitoring reports submitted to the European Commission on the PSB website. |
| 5. procedures to ensure that any information indicating possible bid rigging is notified to the competent national authorities in accordance with Article 83(2) of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 99(2) of Directive 2014/25/EU. | Yes | 1) PPL (01.03.2017.),2) PSPPL (01.04.2017.)3) Competition Law (01.01.2002.)4)Whistleblowing Law (01.05.2019.) | Article 6 of the Competition Law provides a general right for any subject (including, for example, the PSB, if necessary) to refer infringements of competition law to the Competition Council. Both the PSB and the Competition Council websites also publish guidelines on how to identify prohibited agreements and how to act and report suspected infringements of competition law. Available here:1) https://www.iub.gov.lv/lv/konkurences-tiesibas 2)https://www.kp.gov.lv/lv/iepirkumu-rikotajiem Section 3(1)(13) and (15) of the Whistleblowing Law provides for the right of a whistleblower to raise an alarm on infringements in the field of public procurement and on infringements of competition law. |
| 3. Effective application and implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights | Yes | Effective mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union ("the Charter"), including: 1. arrangements to ensure that programmes supported by the Funds and their implementation comply with the relevant provisions of the Charter; | Yes | a) Law on the management of the Internal Security Fund, the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund and the Instrument for financial support for border management and visa policy for the programming period 2021-2027b) Submissions Law;c) Law on the Ombudsman;d) Whistleblowing Law ;e) Guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination and respect for fundamental rights" (2021-2027).f) Procedures for the Management of the Implementation of the ISF, AMIF and IFSBMVP Policies for the 2021-2027 Planning Period (Draft Cabinet of Ministers Regulation) | During the implementation phase, with the support of MoW:1) specific HP criteria set for the selection of project proposals;2) assessed compliance of the regulatory framework for the implementation of the programme with the HP, UNCRPD and the Charter;3) assessed compliance of the open call for tenders with the HP, the UNCRPD and the Charter;3) organised consultations, methodological support and information events for institutions, project evaluators, applicants and implementers.4) representative of the MoW responsible for coordinating the HP.The MoI will carry out checks on projects' compliance with the HP implementation conditions and will apply financial corrections or withdraw from the contract in case of non-compliance.Any person has the right to submit an application to the competent authorities concerning non-compliance with equal opportunities related to the implementation of projects, including the Ombudsman. |
| 2. the procedure for reporting to the Monitoring Committee on non-compliance with the Charter of actions supported by the Funds and on complaints concerning the Charter lodged in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 69(7). | Yes | a) Procedures for handling applications, complaints and proposals in state and local government institutionsb) Management Procedure for the Implementation of the Internal Security Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Instrument of Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy for the programming period 2021-2027 (Draft Cabinet of Ministers Regulation);c) Guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination and respect for fundamental rights" (2021-2027). | Obligation by interinstitutional agreement:1) Institutions involved in the implementation of the IFSBMVP to report to the MoI on complaints and non-compliance in IFSBMVP projects regarding HP, UNCRPD or the Charter;2) The MoI organises the examination of complaints and reports of possible non-compliance of IFSBMVP projects with the HP, UNCRPD or the Charter, with the involvement of the MoW;3) MoW to provide information to the IFSBMVP MC on complaints and non-compliance with HP, UNCRPD and the Charter on an annual basis.The reporting procedure, scope and content of the information are contained in (a) the Cabinet Regulations and (b) the Guidelines (the Report includes:1) the beneficiary whose project is the subject of the alleged non-compliance/complaint;2) project number and title;3. description of the possible non-compliance found;4. manner in which the alleged non-compliance was discovered;5) information on the rectification of the alleged non-compliance or the outcome of the complaint (fully rectified (indicating how rectified), partially rectified (indicating what is/is not rectified, reason), not rectified (indicating the reasons).)An agreement is reached with the Ombudsman on cooperation in the assessment of complaints and non-compliance with HP, UNCRPD and the Charter. |
| 4. Implementation and application of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC | Yes | A national framework is in place to ensure implementation of the UNCRPD, including: 1. objectives with measurable milestones; data collection and monitoring mechanisms; | Yes | 1. meeting criteria:1. Plan for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities 2021-2023 (approved by Cabinet Order of 17.08.2021, No 577) 2. Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 381 of 20.08.2019 "Disability Information System Regulations" | 1) CoM 17.08.2021. The Plan for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities 2021-2023 (the Plan), which continues the gradual implementation of the principles set out in the UNCRPD, providing for the improvement of the disability determination system, the promotion of employment, measures to reduce the effects of disability, promote environmental accessibility and reduce stereotypes, as well as measures at intersectoral level to strengthen equal opportunities. The Plan has policy outcomes and performance indicators:expenditure on disability-related expenses; proportion of disabled adults diagnosed with a disability after a functional capacity assessment; employment rate of disabled people.2) CoM Regulation No 381 "Disability Information System Regulations". The aim of the Disability Information System is to keep records of persons with foreseeable disabilities and persons with disabilities, which are necessary for granting social security payments and other state benefits, providing assistance to persons with disabilities, reducing the risk of disability and the consequences of disability, as well as to produce statistics |
| 2. arrangements to ensure that accessibility policies, legislation and standards are adequately reflected in the preparation and implementation of programmes; | Yes | 1)Plan for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities 2021-2023 (approved by Cabinet Order 17.08.2021, No.577);2)Construction Law3)CoM Regulation No 693 of 19.10.21 "Construction standard LBN 200-21 for general requirements for buildings"4)Standard LVS EN 17210:2021 L Accessibility standard for the built environment of the European Member States. Accessibility and usability of the built environment. Functional requirements.5)Website assessment against the accessibility requirements for the digital environment (WCAG 2.1 AA) https://pieklustamiba.varam.gov.lv/. | Accessibility requirements are set out in Latvian legislation, guidelines and standards. In 2022, the Latvian national standard LVS EN 17210:2021 L was approved to help understand the functional requirements for accessibility. MoW, as the responsible authority for disability policy, makes recommendations to public authorities on creating accessible and inclusive environments. At the planning stage, the MoW/MoI assesses the relevance of the programme to the HP, the UNCRPD and the Charter, where appropriate, encouraging the addition of actions reflecting the preparation and implementation of the programme.MoW provides seminars for beneficiaries of EU funding on environmental and information accessibility. MoW has developed an environmental accessibility assessment questionnaire, which is mandatory for public infrastructure projects.The MoEPRD is developing legislation and guidelines on web and information accessibility.The Plan for Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities 2021-2023 sets out measures to make cultural life, electronic media content and multimedia content accessible to persons with disabilities. |
| 3. the procedure for reporting to the Monitoring Committee on non-compliance with the UNCRPD of activities supported by the Funds and on complaints concerning the UNCRPD submitted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 69(7). | Yes | a) Management Procedure for the Implementation of the Internal Security Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Instrument of Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy for the programming period 2021-2027 (Draft Cabinet of Ministers Regulation);b) Guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination and respect for fundamental rights" (2021-2027);According to the Law "On the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" of 17 February 2010, the implementation of the Convention is coordinated by the MoW and supervised by the Ombudsman's Office. | See the explanation to criteria 1) and 2) of precondition 3. |

# 5. Programme authorities

Reference: Article 22(3)(k) and Articles 71 and 84 of the CPR

## Table 10 Programme authorities

| Programme authorities | Name of authority | Contact person | Position | E-mail |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Managing Authority | Ministry of the Interior | Dimitrijs Trofimovs | State Police Central Criminal Police Department | pasts@iem.gov.lv |
| Audit authority | Ministry of Finance | Nata Lasmane | Director, EU Funds Department | pasts@fm.gov.lv |
| Entity receiving payments from the Commission | State Treasury | Kaspars Āboliņš | Treasury manager | pasts@kase.gov.lv |

# 6. Partnership

Reference: Article 22(3)(h) of the CPR

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| In December 2021, the Fund's Monitoring Committee (MC) was established, including representatives of the national institutions involved in the implementation of the Fund. The MC also ensures the implementation of the AMIF 2014-2020 programming period. The main task of the MC is to ensure coordinated implementation and monitoring of the Funds.In accordance with the conditions set out in the preamble and in Article 38 of the Common Provisions Regulation, the Managing Authority will, after the programming documents have been approved, complement the MC of the Funds under its responsibility by involving, where appropriate, representatives of public authorities, representatives of cooperation partners and representatives of non-governmental organisations, covering the widest possible range of partners and identifying this as the main form of involvement of partners. The rules of procedure of the MC will be updated accordingly.In order to ensure greater public representation and closer involvement in the development of the Fund's national programme, a public consultation on the Fund's national programme was organised - in November 2020, April 2021 and October 2021, the Ministry of the Interior as the Fund's managing authority organised a public consultation on the Fund's national programme, inviting representatives of both public (non-governmental) organisations and economic partners to participate. The public consultation was attended by the Latvian Red Cross, the Latvian Trade Union of Internal Affairs Employees, the Latvian Federation of Security and Defence Industries, the Centre MARTA, society “I want to help refugees”, the Shelter "Safe House", the Public Policy Centre PROVIDUS, the Latvian Centre for Human Rights, the Latvian Association for Information and Communication Technologies and several economic partners - traders.Coordination with each other and with EU and other foreign financial instruments is essential for the implementation of the Fund in order to ensure synergies and non-overlapping, therefore, both at the planning and implementation stages, coordination will be ensured in cooperation with line ministries, assessing the content and synergies of planned investments in order to avoid possible overlaps and, in case of complementary investments, to avoid the risk of duplication of funding.For the coordination and monitoring of complementary activities, it is planned to use the double financing matrix, which already covers information on financial investments from foreign instruments available to Latvia in several programming periods and is regularly updated and supplemented, while internal procedures at different levels need to check whether the same or similar supported activities are not planned to be financed from several financial sources.Given the scale of the objectives and the need to mobilise funding from a wide range of available sources, demarcation of investments and avoidance of overlapping risks are essential. Monitoring of demarcation is already ensured at the programming stage, taking into account the parallel orientation of the Funds' programming documents, and will be further ensured at the implementation conditionality stage. |

# 7. Communication and visibility

Reference: Article 22(3)(j) of the CPR

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| *Planning, monitoring and evaluation of Fund communication*Strategic communication objectives will be defined on the basis of past experience and EC recommendations.Based on the objectives defined in the strategy, the MoI as the Fund's managing authority and the MoC as the Fund's delegated authority will develop communication plans with specific measures to inform target groups and raise awareness of the Fund's investments, in line with the guidance of the MoF as the national communication coordinator for the EU Funds.In the new programming period, it is planned to introduce an evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the strategy and of the achievement of performance indicators for communication activities. The performance indicators to be achieved will be defined in the communication strategy and communication plans.Communication objectives of the FundsThe overarching aim of the Funds' communication is to raise public awareness of the importance of the investments made by the projects implemented by the Funds.*Target audience for Fund communication*Ensuring quality and timely information for beneficiaries, the institutions involved in managing the Funds and the public at large is essential.The communication of the Funds is based on three main target audiences and sub-groups of target audiences:a) Specific target audiences:- Beneficiaries of EU projects;- Potential applicants and beneficiaries of EU funding projects;- Social and cooperation partners;- Institutions involved in managing EU funds;b)Society as a whole:- Latvian population aged 16 and over;- Young people up to 15 years old;c)Corporate (internal) audiences: staff of public administrations and institutions involved in the management of EU funds.*Communication channels used by the Funds.*The implementation of the Funds' strategy and annual communication action plans should make use of a wide range of communication channels that will provide objective and comprehensive information to all target groups and allow for feedback. Traditional communication channels will be used: the single programme website www.esfondi.lv (an updated website is planned to be launched in 2022), the website of the managing authority (Ministry of the Interior) www.iem.gov.lv and other websites of the institutions involved in the administration of the Funds, the media, information events (seminars, conferences, training, press conferences), environmental advertising, printed materials, as well as existing and new social media according to the target audiences.The MoF, as the national communication coordinator for the EU Funds, in cooperation with the MoI, has developed a communication strategy for the EU Funds and programmes for the programming period 2021-2027 EN, which defines that the national communication coordinator will conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of communication within the public opinion survey, where the main quantitative indicator is "Level of public awareness of the EU Funds with support measures in the areas of migration, borders and security", setting the indicator to reach 15% of the respondents by 2027. In addition, other evaluation indicators may be used, such as the number of visitors to the website, the number of social media outlets where the news is published, the number of subscribers, etc.**﻿Actions to ensure equality, inclusion and non-discrimination:**Providing information in the public domain, including on the web, will ensure that its content is accessible to people with functional disabilities through multiple sensory (sight, hearing, touch) channels, as well as to seniors and people of different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds.Equal opportunities will be promoted through outreach activities (seminars, conferences, trainings, press conferences) by providing measures for the inclusion of persons with disabilities - sign language interpretation and real-time transcription, individual induction loops for the hearing impaired, environmental accessibility of venues, etc.Environmental advertising, print and social media content will be carefully evaluated to prevent the dissemination of any offensive or prejudicial information to the public.  |

# 8. Use of unit costs, fixed amount payments and flat rates and non-cost funding

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 of the CPR

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| Use of Articles 94 and 95 of the CPR | Yes | No |
| From adoption, the programme will use reimbursement of the Union contribution on the basis of unit costs, fixed amounts and flat rates according to priority in accordance with Article 94 of the CPR | [ ]   | [x]   |
| From the adoption, the programme will use the reimbursement of the Union contribution on the basis of non-cost funding in accordance with Article 95 of the CPR | [ ]   | [x]   |

# Appendix 1. Union contribution based on unit costs, fixed amount payments and flat rates

## A. Summary of key elements

| Specific objective | Estimated proportion of the total financial allocation under the specific objective to which simplified costing options will be applied, % | Type(s) of covered activity | Indicator for reimbursement (2) | Unit of measurement of the indicator by which reimbursement is made | Type of simplified cost option (standard unit cost rates, fixed amount payments or flat rates) | Simplified cost option amount (EUR) or percentage (flat rate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Kods(1) | Description | Code (2) | Description |

1) This applies to AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations Annex VI code

2) This refers to the common indicator code, if applicable

Appendix 1. Union contribution based on unit costs, fixed amount payments and flat rates

## B. Details by type of activity

## C. Calculation of standard unit cost rates, fixed amount payments or flat rates

#### 1. Source of data used to calculate standard unit cost rates, fixed amount payments or flat rates (who prepared, collected and recorded the data; where the data are stored; boundary data; validation, etc.)

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#### 2. Indicate why the proposed method and the calculation based on Article 94(2) of the CPR are appropriate for the type of activity.

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#### 3. Indicate how the calculations were made, in particular any assumptions made regarding quality or quantity. Statistical data and criteria should be used where appropriate and, where necessary, presented in a format that can be used by the Commission.

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#### 4. Please explain how you ensured that only eligible expenditure was included in the calculation of the standard unit cost rate, fixed amount payment or flat rates.

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#### 5. Assessment by the audit authority(ies) of the calculation methodology and amounts and the arrangements for ensuring data verification, quality, collection and storage.

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# Appendix 2. Union contribution based on non-cost funding

## A. Summary of key elements

| Specific objective | Amount to be covered by non-cost funding | Type(s) of covered activity | Conditions to be fulfilled / results to be achieved upon which the Commission will make reimbursement | Indicators | Unit of measurement of the conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved, upon achievement of which the Commission shall make a reimbursement | Method of reimbursement envisaged to reimburse the beneficiary(ies) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Kods(1) | Description | Code (2) | Description |

1) Applies to AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations Annex VI code

2) Refers to the common indicator code, if applicable

## B. Details by type of activity

# Appendix 3.

## Thematic Mechanism (Article 11 AMIF Regulation, Article 8 BMVI Regulation, Article 8 ISF Regulation)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Procedure reference | Programme version | Status | Date of acceptance/rejection | Notes |
| C(2022)3163 - 19 May 2022 - 2 | 1.2 | Offered |   |  |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specific objective | Type of receipt | Type of intervention | Union contribution | Pre-financing rate | Description of the event |
| TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR) |   |   | 160 447,75 |  | TA BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4/024 EUR 58,927.75TA BMVI/2023-2024/SA/1.2.2/02 EUR 101,520.00 |
| 1. European integrated border management | Special activities |   | 2 674 129,25 |  | EUR 982,129.25BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.4/024 - Support to comply with the implementation of the relevant interoperability legal framework under BMVI. The objective of this Specific Action is to support Schengen countries to comply with the implementation of the interoperability legal framework. The action has two aspects: 1) preparing the end-users of EU IT system for handling properly the information on identities contained in other systems as a result of interoperability and 2) extending the capacity of the SIRENE offices to resolve yellow links during the period that makes the Multiple Identity Detector (MID) operational. Latvia implements both aspects.EUR 1,692,000.00BMVI/2023-2024/SA/1.2.2/02 Specific Action Equipment for EBCG national components, purchased under BMVI and put at the disposal of Frontex.This Specific Action aims to increase Frontex operational capacity and the LV operational capacity to implement its obligations with regard to the overall protection of the EU external borders, through the purchase of equipment –to be put at the Agency’s disposal -under the following categories:3.Aerial means of transport and surveillance capacities:- 1 System comprising 3 Vertical Take-off and Landing Remotely Piloted Aircraft (40/50 Kg each) |

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| Procedure reference | Programme version | Status | Date of acceptance/rejection | Notes |
| C(2022)3163 - 19 May 2022 - 1 | 1.1 | Confirmed |   |  |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specific objective | Type of receipt | Type of intervention | Union contribution | Pre-financing rate | Description of the event |
| 1. European integrated border management | Special activities |   | 59 433 962,27 |  | In line with the Joint Statement of 23 November 2021 (JOIN(2021)32 final) on state-sponsored instrumentalisation of migrants at the EU external borders, the specific action BMVI/2021/SA/1 will cover additional support needs related to the situation at the border with Belarus. The specific actions are complementary to the BMVI Programme 2021-2027 and (together) will improve the protection of the EU's external borders. The allocation of EUR 63 million for this specific action will be used to possibly finance Work Package 1 "State Border Guard Support Equipment" and Work Package 2 "Latvia-Belarus border immovable surveillance infrastructure" in application BMVI/2021/SA/1.5.8. |
| TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Article 36(5) of the CPR) |   |   | 3 566 037,73 |  | TA |

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# DOCUMENTS

| Document name\* | Type of document | Date of document | Local number | Commission reference | Files | Date of dispatch | Sender |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Programme snapshot 2021LV65BVPR001 1.2 | Summary of data before transmission | 4 October 2022 |  | Ares(2022)6845161 | Programme\_snapshot\_2021LV65BVPR001\_1.2\_en.pdfProgramme\_snapshot\_2021LV65BVPR001\_1.2\_lv.pdfProgramme\_snapshot\_2021LV65BVPR001\_1.2\_lv\_en.pdf | 4 October 2022 | ZVILNA, Janis |