

Policy dialogue with Italy – 18 October 2013

Allocation

AMIF	ISF-B	ISF-P	Total
310.3 M €	156.3 M €	56.6 M €	523.2 M €

The Policy Dialogue took place a few days prior to the tragic events in Lampedusa and, in the light of early October EU JHA Council Conclusions, the need to take measures to prevent such tragedies in the future, was present throughout the discussions. The initiatives to be funded should take into consideration and build on the short-term actions being taken by the recently established Task-Force Mediterranean.

Asylum, migration and integration

On **asylum**, Italy's reception system will be reinforced to be able to cope with the number of applications. Procedures should also be improved, including on Country of Origin Information, and standards should be the same across the country. Monitoring and evaluation and contingency planning will also be important. Italy will also work closely with EASO. An **integration** policy in accordance with the European Agenda for Integration will be pursued and be Italy's top funding priority under the AMIF. Consistency and good coordination of the activities developed by local, regional and national administrations, as well as other stakeholders, in particular NGOs, is acknowledged as essential and the need to pay special attention to vulnerable groups. Indirect discrimination in schools for TCN is an issue that needs to be addressed. Italy and COM agreed also on the need to support pre-departure measures in the countries of origin. Good coordination and complementarity with other funding sources, in particular the European Social Fund will be required. Supporting unaccompanied minors, including the means to address their needs, will be a priority. It will continue to pursue an effective **return** policy, through the strengthening of voluntary return and establishment of an effective forced return monitoring system. Improving conditions in detention centres and good cooperation with third countries, notably in the framework of Mobility Partnerships, are essential for an effective and efficient return policy.

Internal security – Borders and visa

Supporting the development of **EUROSUR** should be a priority under ISF-Borders. Strengthening cooperation with third countries in this area, both through Union Actions and under Italy's national programme, in particular as regards the Seahorse Mediterranean Network and signed Mobility Partnerships and ongoing Migration and Security Dialogues with other Southern Mediterranean countries is also very important. Support for the use of **modern technology at the border**, notably installing automated border control (**ABC**) **gates** for EU citizens crossing the external border (adaptable to future Smart Borders), should be another priority. **VIS**, **SIS II** and **consular cooperation mechanisms** will constitute one of the main priorities of ISF, having Italy committed to consider the possibility of increasing consular cooperation with other EU Member-States in view of further exploiting, in close consultation with the Commission, the concept of 'Schengen Houses' in third countries.

Internal security – Prevention and combating of crime and crisis management

In the area of internal security, it was agreed that a strategic approach will be followed and a prioritisation of actions to be implemented using EU funding will be made in the national programmes. The emphasis will be on the fight against mafia-like criminal organizations and their infiltration in the licit economy, an issue which is central to its internal security strategy representing an increasing threat not only to Italy but also to many other EU Member States. Training, capacity building and information exchange activities will play an extremely relevant role and should constitute one of the pillars of IT programme, including the implementation of the **LETS**. Other important areas such as fight against **drug trafficking**, **trafficking in human beings**, improvement of Italy's capacities to implement the **CBRN** Action Plan and tackle small-scale CBRN incidents, **anti-corruption** measures, **financial investigation** as a means to support criminal investigation in view of better detection and dismantlement of criminal networks, fight against **cybercrime** (paying special attention to issues such as the fight against Child Sexual Exploitation online), and **fight against terrorism** (in particular anti-radicalisation measures) should be priorities of Italy 's national programme for the ISF.