



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate E: Migration and Security Funds; Financial Resources  
Director

## **Seminar**

# **Smart use of finance for integration of migrants**

### **Impacts and mechanics to foster social innovation**

Brussels, 14 October 2019

Dear Sir, Madam,

There is a considerable potential for financial investments for the benefit of legally residing third-country nationals. Integration challenges faced by migrants need strong engagement not only from public authorities but also from social and private actors.

Effective and fair integration measures require political, social and financial investments. Sufficient investments will be beneficial both to the migrant communities and the host society in the mid to long term. Social finance for migrants is not only a question of individual or financial benefits. Migrants represent important social capital to build cohesive communities. They also represent human capital that can usefully contribute to the economic growth of the EU.

In this perspective, the legislative proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2021 – 2027 on InvestEU, ESF+ and Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF) foresee possibilities to leverage finance for effective and fair integration measures. Support of the InvestEU guarantee for the financial products alone or in combination with EU grants would offer important opportunities.

However, using them well requires knowledge of how they work in practice and a strategic reflection on how to apply them in the area of integration of migrants. To be better acquainted with mechanics and impacts of the instruments, DG HOME will organise a dedicated seminar at the conference centre Borschette in Brussels on 14 October 2019 from 9.30 to 16.45.

### **Objectives of the seminar**

During this seminar, experts will present main concepts and tools for the different financial instruments (blending, guarantees, microfinance, social impact bonds, etc.). There will be case studies (presentations of existing projects) to make the case for their use as clear and concrete as possible. The specific objectives to achieve with this meeting are:

1. to raise awareness among AMIF and ESF responsible/managing authorities (and possibly financial instruments national experts) on this topic, presenting the main concepts and tools while identifying the needs;
2. to give the possibility to AMIF and ESF responsible/managing authorities and national experts to establish/deepen contacts with financial institutions and other organisations active in this area and help them initiate the reflection on capacity building and the application of future financial instruments.

Therefore, the scope and the content of the seminar will be different from the objectives of the conference “*Integration of migrants: ensuring an effective coordination and use of EU Funds*” held on 27 June 2019.

### **Nature of participants and modalities of selection/registration**

In this perspective, we invite the representatives of the national authorities (members of the respective Funds’ committees) in charge of

- the implementation of the national programme AMIF
- the implementation of the ESF

In addition, we may accept participants from any other public administration or private/finance organisation with keen interest and competence in using financial instruments for integration of migrants. The selection of these participants, preferably one per Member State, should be done by the AMIF/ESF authorities.

Finally, DG HOME would welcome any further suggestions from Member States about possible other participants with a specific expertise or experience worth to share in this area (in particular for any testimonies of successful projects at the national level).

DG HOME is looking forward to developing interactive and pragmatic discussions to connect various organisations and develop capacity building to use innovative financial tools for migrants’ integration purposes.

Registrations can be done at <https://form.jotform.com/ProPager/1014SFIM> by **24 September 2019** at the latest.

Accommodation and travel expenditure can be covered (if the deadline is met and the arrangements are done by the Commission contractor) for ***a maximum two representatives from each Member State.***

You may wish to address any questions regarding the logistics or content of the conference at [finance.integration@newstravel.eu](mailto:finance.integration@newstravel.eu)

Yours sincerely,

/e-signed/

Beate GMINDER

## Draft agenda

### 9.30 – 10.15 – Policy priorities and challenges to shape financial investments

- **Policy priorities and challenges on integration of migrants**  
*M. Shotter, Director for Migration Protection and Visa, DG Migration and Home Affairs*
- **Impact of EU employment and skills strategies on integration of migrants**  
*M. Geleng, Director for Skills, DG Employment Social affairs and Inclusion*
- **Economy of well-being and integration of migrants**  
*L. Yli-Vakkuri, Director General, Ministry of the Interior, Finnish Presidency*

10.15 – 10.45 – coffee break

### 10.45 – 12.00 – Delivering on integration through combination of grants and financial instruments

*The objective of this session will be to present the concept of blending and how it can work in practice, taking into consideration legal possibilities foreseen in the MFF 2021-2027 under AMF, ESF + and InvestEU.*

- **Legal and operational framework for blending operations under direct management**  
*M. Korzilius – DG Migration and Home Affairs and J. Truszczynski – DG Economic and Financial Affairs*
- **Combination of grants and financial instruments under shared management**  
*H. Dudka – DG Budget*
- **Case studies (financial intermediaries, final beneficiaries)**
- **Q/A**

### 12.00 – 13.00 – Using social finance instruments - micro-finance, social enterprise finance etc

*The objective of this session will be to present the concept of guarantees and its application through micro-finance (including loans) and social enterprise investments. An overview of the investments framework will be shortly provided in respect to InvestEU in the MFF 2021-2027. Concrete projects implemented under the current financial framework (EaSI) will illustrate the financial opportunities.*

- **Investment guidelines and social window under InvestEU**  
*F. Munisteri – DG Economic and Financial Affairs and S. Viratham – DG Employment Social affairs and Inclusion*
- **Case studies – EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSi)**
- **Q/A**

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

**14.30 – 15.30 – Innovative instruments to achieve impacts in integration of migrants**

*The objective of this session will be to present the concept of social impact bonds and other instruments, how they can work in the field of integration and what could be their potential of development in the future.*

- **Social outcomes financing**  
G. Efremova – DG Economic and Financial Affairs
- **Case studies – 2/3 perspectives of innovative approaches**
- **Q/A**

**15.30 – 16.30 – Panel and interaction with audience**

*The objective of this session is to have an open exchange of views with the audience about the main lessons learnt so far on the use of financial instruments and the ways forward in the area of integration of migrants under the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027. Concrete next steps at the EU and at the national level could be proposed and discussed.*

**Panel**

- Representatives of national authorities
- Representatives of financial institutions at the European and national level notably the European Investment Bank, Council of Europe Development Bank, financial intermediaries
- Representatives of local and regional administrations and/or civil society

**16.30 – 16.45 - Conclusion and way forward**