



EU Funds
Management Task Group



European Union

ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2013

MEMBER STATE: **PORTUGAL**

FUND: **European Return Fund**

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: **EU Funds Management Task Group at the MHA**
(Estrutura de Missão para a Gestão dos Fundos Comunitários)

YEAR COVERED: **2013**



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1. GENERAL RULES FOR THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

A. General Rules

The Responsible Authority (RA) is a totally independent structure specifically established by Government instrument – signed by the Prime Minister – to provide technical, administrative and financial management for the General Programme on Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows.

Currently the RA is the *EU Funds Management Task Group* (EMGFC), however, in the face of major structural changes taking place in the Portuguese public administration, it is foreseeable that in the near future this structure (EMGFC) will be extinct and the competences of Responsible Authority will be assumed by the Directorate General of Home Affairs (DGAI).

This predictable structural change will maintain, however, the strict separation of functions and total respect of existing management rules at Community level, as has been guaranteed to date.

In accordance with the legal instrument which establishes it and defines its functions, the RA is completely prohibited from acting as a beneficiary of Community co financing or as an executing body for projects, and may not do so even as part of a partnership or association.

The head of the RA is therefore, in accordance with the aforementioned legal instrument, personally and nominally accountable to the Government for the professional, impartial, independent and transparent character of all acts of management



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during the implementation of the entire General Programme on Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows.

This model – used by Portugal as a standard for the management of structural funds for the past twenty years, as well as in the ERF I and II – therefore ensures a complete separation of functions, thus putting the RA in a position of total independence, whether in relation to potential beneficiaries of financing or in relation to the Certifying Authority¹ (CA) and the Auditing Authority² (AA), which likewise enjoy full administrative, technical and financial autonomy.

Consequently, even in hypothetical situations where the open competition (to which all calls for applications are subject) may, depending on the particular area of activity concerned, give rise to only one potential beneficiary – and even though that beneficiary may be a government body – the institutional and legal nature of the RA, its independent status and the independence with which it is required to perform its exclusive management functions will ensure a complete separation of functions, thus guaranteeing the impartiality and transparency of all acts connected with the analysis, selection, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

This model is supplemented by the appointment of two bodies with full technical, administrative and financial autonomy, the CA and the AA.

In the case of the CA, the separation of functions is further reinforced by the fact that the team responsible for certifying expenditure under the Funds of the General Programme has no involvement in matters relating to the implementation, if any, of projects, as was the case, moreover, under the ERF II.

The AA, which is part of the Ministry of Finance and therefore occupies a position of complete independence in relation to all potential beneficiaries, is the body responsible,

¹ Foreign Nationals and Borders Service, as at the present date, but to be changed in the near future to the Financial Institute for Regional Development.

² Inspectorate-General of Finance.



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at national level, for auditing all EU financing, which fact alone attests to its competence and impartiality in exercising the functions in question.

The RA is also part of a Joint Committee, an advisory body made up of representatives of those members of the Government with competence in the area in which the Fund is active which becomes involved either at the stage of drafting the programming under the Fund or at the stage of approving projects.

The general rules for selection of projects to be financed under the Annual Programme are consistent with those laid down in the specimen description of the management and control system for the four Funds that make up the General Programme on Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows, which was sent to the European Commission at the appropriate time.

The RA organises all the procedures for the selection and award of co-financing by the Fund, in accordance with the principles of transparency, equal treatment and non-duplication of support.

The rules are contained in the national legislation relating specifically to the Fund – *Portaria* No 98/2008, of January 31st, 2008 and *Portaria* No 913/2010, of September 16th, 2010 – and can also be found in the manual of procedures for the Fund as well as on the RA's own website (<http://www.fundoscomunitarios.mai.gov.pt>).

The process for the selection of projects laid down in those documents is as follows:

- Announcement – Applications are made to the RA following the publication of an announcement in a newspaper with wide national coverage and on the RA's own website. The announcement will contain, either directly or by reference to a web page which it will specify, all information relevant for this purpose, in particular the Fund objectives which the applications must meet, the eligible beneficiaries, the temporary eligibility period for the Annual Programme during which projects must be implemented, the selection criteria and the value of the financial appropriation available.



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General selection criteria:

- Degree of consistency with the national situation and national requirements;
- Relevance, appropriateness and consistency of the objectives and activities of the project in relation to the Annual Programme;
- Fitness of the profile of the body applying for financing, proven experience and track record;
- Cost effectiveness of the anticipated expenditure;
- Degree of complementarity with other publicly-financed projects.

The minimum criteria laid down in Article 15(5) of the basic act establishing the Fund will also be observed.

Expected timing of the opening of the call for proposals – The call for proposals was launched in the last quarter of 2012.

Submission of applications – Applications are submitted by electronic form, so as to provide the information necessary for the approval decision and the subsequent monitoring, control and evaluation processes. A table of indicators of implementation and results is annexed to the form so that the body applying for funding can select the indicators most appropriated to the proposed project. This will make it possible to assess the project's contribution to the objectives of the Programme.

- Admissibility of the application – This involves a formal analysis of the application to verify compliance with the general conditions governing the eligibility of the applicant and of the project.
- Analysis of the application and technical opinion – Analysis of the application will be based on the forms themselves and will include assessment against the selection criteria and an examination of the eligibility of the expenditure



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proposed and whether it is reasonable for the purposes of achieving the objectives of the application.

- Opinion of the Joint Committee – Following analysis, applications are ranked in accordance with the rating arrived at after their assessment against the selection criteria and on the basis of the funds available, and submitted to the Joint Committee for its opinion. Once this opinion has been obtained, a decision can be made.
- Decision – Instrument validating approval of the application for financing.
- Financing contract – The financing decision is formalised by a written contract concluded between the RA and the body applying for financing. The contract expresses the undertaking to implement the project in the exact terms set out in the instrument approving the financing, the outline of the cost structure for the project forming an integral part of that contract.

The procedures for the conclusion of contracts will be in conformity with the provisions of Article 11 of the rules governing implementation of the Fund and will ensure compatibility between the national and EU rules applicable to public procurement.

A call for proposals was launched on October 30th, 2012 and the deadline to submit proposals for projects was November 13th, 2012. In response to this call for proposals, 3 project applications were submitted by 2 potential beneficiaries. Examination of the project proposals was underway at the time of submitting the draft Annual Programme 2013.

B. State of Play on the Three Strategic Objectives 2012 – 2013

The further development and improvement of voluntary return activities:

It is not expected a sharp increase on the number of removals, as a consequence of the current crisis scenario which has been gradually worsening and which may, somehow, have an impact in this situation. Voluntary return represents a solution whose adoption



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has been favored by SEF's strategy, especially since Directive n° 2008/115/EC of the Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2008 (Directive on Return) was transposed into the national legal framework, specifically into Act 29/2012, therefore sidelining coercive removal. Within this context, foreign citizens facing the need to abandon the country are always offered voluntary return as a first option. It is, therefore, a solution that meets the requirements of the strategic guidelines and orientations of this Department's operational performance, specifically within its monitoring competences.

Nevertheless, the increase in the number of requests for support under the Support Programme for Voluntary Return and Reintegration has been a constant in recent periods of implementation, as can be seen in the periods corresponding to FR 2008, 2009 and 2010. Thus, between January 2011 and June 2012 (FR 2010), IOM has recorded a total of 3184 candidates, more than the 7% recorded in the corresponding period FR 2009 (between January 2010 and June 2011 - 2983 people registered) and more than 68% over the period corresponding to FR 2008 (January 2009 to June 2010) in which 1893 people were registered).

Regarding to the applicants supported in the period corresponding to FR 2010, IOM materialize the return of 654 candidates which reflect a decrease of 2% relative to the total number of persons supported by FR 2009 (671 beneficiaries). This slight decline contradicts the cycle of growth (around 19%) occurred from the period of FR 2008 (546 beneficiaries supported) to FR 2009.

In the context of the current project in execution (FR 2011 - January 2012 to June 2013), until November 2012 the IOM has received a total of 1722 requests corresponding to a monthly average of 156 candidates. Up to November 2012 were supported under FR 2011 306 candidates which corresponds to a monthly average of 61 candidates registered from the beginning of project implementation (the returns supported by this fund started in July). Given these data the perspective for 2013 is to increase the number of candidates supported which will surpass the values recorded in the FR 2009 (671 beneficiaries) and FR 2010 (654 beneficiaries).



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Another important aspect is related to the partnership working that IOM develops in this context. Nationally, the network information and advice has shown a very good response capacity, and currently over 65% of all requests submitted are a result of intervention of network partners. Currently the network has over 50 partners distributed widely throughout the national territory and the prospect of increased consolidation for the next projects is quite good since several institutions have expressed interest in collaborating with IOM in this area.

Regarding the reintegration support in the implementation period corresponding to FR 2010 were supported 57 beneficiaries, which compares with the FR 2008- 41 beneficiaries and FR 2009- 61 beneficiaries. Additionally it's important to refer that IOM Lisbon has three local partners in Brazil in key states (Minas Gerais, São Paulo and Goiás) and the objective is to expand it to other states that have assumed some preponderance in recent years.

One of the objectives of strengthening the support for reintegration remains the creation/ strengthening partnerships with organizations / institutions for local development in Brazil to make the return even more sustainable. In the project corresponding to FR 2011, currently running, a new partner was included in the State of Espírito Santo in partnership with the RESCUE project. In this scope it should also be referred the study on "Positive Factors and Impacts to a Sustainable Reintegration in Brazil" whose objective is to evaluate the impact of reintegration support the projects financed by the Fund Return over the last two and half years. This study is being conducted by IOM in partnership with Prof. Duval Fernandes from the University PUC Minas.

In short, we may assume that the activities planned for the PA 2013 will follow the same line of conduct of previous years, as mentioned in the results and best practices of previous projects. However, each new project seeks to include new activities that can improve support for return and reintegration of migrants seeking support from IOM as consolidate existing good practices.



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The promotion of a more strategic focus on EU standards through implementation of actions linked to the requirements of the return directive:

In October of 2012 entered into force the Law 29/2012, which introduced a package of amendments to the Law 23/2007 (Aliens Act), seeking, inter alia, the transposition of Directive no. 2008/115/EC (Directive return) on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals, aiming at - in full respect for the fundamental rights - harmonizing the existing norms in this area.

The Support Programme for Voluntary Return and Reintegration and activities implemented by IOM Lisbon incorporate part of the requirements of the Directive return in order to work for a better management of migration, allowing a voluntary return dignified, humane and sustainable specially to immigrants in vulnerable conditions, thus contributing to the strengthening of regular and orderly migration and beneficial to both the host countries and the countries of origin.

The projects implemented respect and promote principles conveyed by the directive return, in particular the principle of voluntary return preferably on removal orders. Some beneficiaries of the program are notified to voluntarily leave the country, but cannot afford to comply with this notification. When apply for the Program Support Voluntary Return and Reintegration, avoid be subject to to measures of removal coercive. The IOM Mission in Lisbon also sensitizes their partners at national level to the importance of voluntary return while effective policy support to citizens in Portugal, and the existence of a coherent policy based on work in partnership with various interlocutors.

Thus, the activities implemented by IOM Lisbon under the PRV meet the principles of the directive return to combat irregular migration in Europe, to promote respect and dignity of migrants and favoring voluntary return. Moreover, as the directive return gives importance to cooperation between host countries and migrants' home, in order to address the relevant issues and return migration through partnerships, IOM also advocates a return involving the host countries, transit and origin in the context of



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comprehensive approach between countries, promoting effective management of migration between all parties involved.

The improvement of the national capabilities through co-operation with other Member States:

There are possibilities of signing bilateral and/or multi-lateral agreements or protocols, particularly outside the context EU and of the Schengen Area, in addition to those that Portugal is already part and which are currently in force. Furthermore, one should underline the role of *Frontex* in the promotion of joint return flights that SEF has been adhering.

The IOM mission in Lisbon is in permanent contact with their counterparts in the EU context. Apart from the activities of operational assistance coordinated with other IOM missions within the EU, it is worth mentioning the project VREN, in which the IOM Mission in Lisbon is involved, which will run for 24 months and aims to create a network on European Return. This project is being implemented by IOM Brussels and is co-funded by the Community Action 2010.

The VREN project proposes the creation of a European network on voluntary return involving interlocutors in the 27 member states, Norway and Switzerland. The aim is to promote a policy of management of voluntary return coherent and harmonized through the establishment of mechanisms for sharing between partners.

This network of partnerships will enhance the responsiveness of all parties and allow an improvement in the channels of communication and sharing of information, best practices and relevant studies among the countries involved in the Voluntary Return and Reintegration (both in EU member states European and in the countries of origin). Will also strengthen structures between countries to ensure cooperation and coordination between all parties involved in the national context and thereby improve the implementation of projects to support the voluntary return and reintegration.



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2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS

The RA is revising the Portuguese Management and Control System, and shall notify the Commission of its final result in accordance with article 21, 1., (b) of the Commission Decision no. 2008/458/EC, of March 5, 2008.

3. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE PRIORITIES CHOSEN

3.1. Actions to be implemented under priority 1 – Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by Member States

ACTION 1 – SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMMES

Purpose and scope of the action

The aim of Action 1 of the 2013 programme is to continue to support the implementation of the voluntary return and reintegration measures, particularly as regards pre-departure, return and post-arrival activities, which are intended to support third country nationals who are staying in Portugal under a vulnerable condition and wanting to return to their countries of origin.

This Action is in line with the national objective of continuing to guarantee a high capacity of response to return requests by strengthening the decentralised management of pre-departure activities, namely in what regards the reception of requests and counselling on return.

This action encompasses return plans which include further to the assisted return, flexible assistance services and support for reintegration at the pre-



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departure stage, an appropriate response to the priorities relating to post-return reintegration and help to facilitate the adoption of informed return decisions.

In the context of the activities at the pre-departure stage, special emphasis will be placed on services to support training in the management of small businesses and short-term vocational training, as well as services for the provision of country-of-origin information relevant to the post-return reintegration process.

As regards the assisted return activities to be undertaken in the 2013 programming year, the IOM intends to support 625 migrants in returning to their countries of origin, providing them assistance in obtaining the required travel documentation, planning the trip, helping on boarding formalities and assisting the returnee on departure, transit and arrival at the country of origin in cooperation with IOM offices abroad.

The post-arrival reintegration support network set up in the frame of the 2009 programme and reinforced under the 2010, 2011 and 2012 programmes will continue to be strengthened, namely by increasing the number of local partners at the countries of origin, with a view to work on local community development so as to match individual reintegration programmes with existing resources at community level and integrate reintegration plans into broader local community development plans. Priority will also be given to post-arrival activities which contribute in particular towards promoting effective forms of monitoring the reintegration processes and the effectiveness of the financial support provided to that purpose.

Reintegration assistance includes a) pre-return individual counselling; b) reintegration financial grant; and c) assistance on the ground via IOM offices in countries of origin or, if IOM is not present in such countries, coordinated via NGOs partners.



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Post-arrival assistance will be provided to all returnees who request it, upon submission and a case-by-case assessment by IOM of a reintegration plan and a business plan in case they wish to use the reintegration grant to set up a small business in their country.

Beneficiaries of the action

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the potential Beneficiary of the Action, since it was the only organization that submitted projects for this action.

Expected quantified results

A number of implementation indicators will provide visibility on this action, in particular the following:

- number of third country nationals repatriated under voluntary return plans: 625
- number of third country nationals benefiting of reintegration support in the countries of origin: 60
- number of information/awareness-raising actions implemented: 4
- number of reintegration projects monitored in the countries of origin (monitoring for reintegration: small business set up / training and education): 40

Financial information

Euros

Action	Community Contribution	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	TOTAL	% CE
	1	2	3	4=1+2+3	5=1/4
Action 1	748.044,46	249.348,15	0,00	997.392,61	75%



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Implementation schedule

January 1st, 2013 to June 30th, 2015

Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the Fund

LAYER 1 - ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN OR FORCED RETURN	
X	TYPOLOGY A - Assisted Voluntary Return
	TYPOLOGY B - Forced Return
LAYER 2	
Typology (1 to 10)	Share (%)
2. AVR (assisted voluntary return)	50%
4. Counselling and information	50%

ACTION 2 – SUPPORT FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF RETURN DECISIONS

Objective and scope of the action

The objective of Action 2 is to contribute to the simplification and effective implementation of procedures for enforcing return decisions concerning third-country nationals who do not or no longer fulfil the conditions for entry and stay, in view of enhancing the credibility and integrity of immigration policy and reducing the period of custody of persons awaiting forced removal in line with Article 4, paragraph 1(e) of the Basic Act.

The action concerns return operations carried out by the Foreign Nationals and Borders Service, include both forced returns involving escorted returns and returns without escorts of third country nationals subjected to an administrative³ or a judicial⁴ return decision, the return monitoring and the setting up of a specialized detention centre.

³ Administrative return decision issued by the Foreign Nationals and Borders Service.



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The element of the action concerning removals without escorts concerns third country nationals who have been subjected to an administrative or a judicial removal decision. The option aims at avoiding the use of police escorts which would increase time and costs involved as well as the social stigma for the returnee returning to his/her country of origin under such conditions. Eligible costs include pecuniary assistance on return transportation by airway and assistance on the cost of the required travel documentation when necessary.

In the case of forced returns involving police escorts, eligible costs involve the cost of travel for the returnee as well as the escorts and expenditure related to return monitoring.

Under the 2013 annual programme, the Foreign Nationals and Borders Service intends to provide to approximately 445 third-country national returnees with pecuniary assistance on return transportation by airway along with assistance to cover the costs of obtaining the required travel documentation where necessary.

Beneficiaries of the action

The Foreign Nationals and Borders Service is the Beneficiary of the Action.

Expected quantified results

- Number of removals by administrative decision: 320
- Number of removals by judicial decision: 125

Financial information

Euros					
Action	Community Contribution	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	TOTAL	% CE
	1	2	3	4=1+2+3	5=1/4
Action 2	368.560,35	122.853,06	0,00	491.413,41	75%

⁴ Return decision issued by a court of law.

Implementation schedule

January 1st, 2013 to May 31th, 2014

Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the Fund

LAYER 1 - ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN OR FORCED RETURN	
	TYPOLOGY A - Assisted Voluntary Return
X	TYPOLOGY B - Forced Return
LAYER 2	
Typology (1 to 10)	Share (%)
3. Forced return	100%

ACTION 3 –IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS FOR TEMPORARY RECEPTION

Objective and scope of the action

The third country nationals who enters or remains illegally in Portugal are subject to detention by the police authority and, where possible, will be delivered to the Foreign Nationals and Borders Service (SEF) to be present within forty-eight hours after the detention to the judge of the court of small instance criminal, in its area of jurisdiction, or the court the region, in other areas of the country, for its validation and possible application of coercive measure of expulsion.

If it is determined by judicial or administrative decision the person will be detained in a detention center or temporary facilities space equivalent, run by the SEF and this Service promotes the competent process till the finalization of the return.

This detention does not may extend for longer than necessary and the execution of the expulsion may not exceed 60 days (limitation established by national law n. ° 23/2007).



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Currently there is only one facility for this purpose - the Housing Unit of Santo Antonio (UHSA,) which is situated in northern Portugal, Oporto, with the capacity for 30 adults and 6 children, which is insufficient to meet the demands foreseen.

In 2012 the average length of stay of third country nationals in this centre was 23 days and the number of stays in the last two years was 431 and in the last three years was 679.

Furthermore, most of the cases of third country nationals installed in the UHSA facility are originate in the centre and south of Portugal, resulting in an complex and expensive logistic for each removal process.

The key element of this action is the setting up of a specialized temporary detention centre located in Sintra , which will allow a significant increase in the current accommodation capacity.

The Center will have a capacity of installation for 35 individuals (third country nationals) men or women and with or without accompanying minors and intends to respond to the concern to ensure the temporary reception in dignified and humane way citizens of third countries during the time they have to wait to their definite return. Located in the municipality of Sintra, near Lisbon area, this new facility will, on one hand, increase capacity installation of nationals of third countries subject to removal under Portuguese law, on the other hand, will optimize resources, as regards the HR and logistics associated with removals which in financial terms will significantly reduce costs.

This project foresees the works regarding the adaptation, via recuperation, of an existent building to the mentioned objective (architectural project, interior adaptations, assembly of security fence, ventilation system, etc.) through the purchase of equipment necessary to the different areas - social work and housing and the acquisition of a specially adapted vehicle to the transport of the returnees. The general time frame of the project intends to be like follows:



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1. Public procurement and execution of architectural projects and different specialties – 2013 - April to August;
2. Refurbishment and adaptation of housing areas, social, leisure, circulation area and parking – 2013 - September to October 2014.
3. Installation of power systems – 2014 - June to October.
4. Installation of security components whose installation is required at this stage (eg: railing systems, access control, CCTV, emergency generator, suitability of areas with the inherent structural changes of doors, windows, floors, ceilings, etc.). – 2014 - August to October.
5. Acquisition of the necessary equipment to different areas, such as equipment for kitchen, laundry room, toilets, cleaning, social area – 2014 – August to October.
6. Acquisition of vehicle prepared for transportation of detained (special features for security, etc) – 2014 – July to November.

Due to the legal competencies of the SEF in this matter is ensured the future sustainability of the project.

Beneficiaries of the action

The Foreign Nationals and Borders Service is the Beneficiary of the Action.

- Detention capacity: 35

Financial information

Euros					
Action	Community Contribution	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	TOTAL	% CE
	1	2	3	4=1+2+3	5=1/4
Action 3	998.986,19	634.632,81	0,00	1.633.619,00	61%

Implementation schedule

March 1st, 2013 to December 31th, 2014

Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the Fund

LAYER 1 - ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN OR FORCED RETURN	
	TYPOLOGY A - Assisted Voluntary Return
X	TYPOLOGY B - Forced Return
LAYER 2	
Typology (1 to 10)	Share (%)
3. Forced return	100%

3.2. Common features

Visibility of co-financing by the Fund

Co-financing by the Fund of any component relating to management of the Programme and the projects to be approved will be clearly visible. Methods for ensuring visibility will include:

- ☐ Placing the EU logo and specifying co-financing by the Fund on all material produced to implement the programme (invitations to present project proposals, manuals of procedures, guidelines, forms, correspondence, etc.);
- ☐ Placing the EU logo on all equipment purchased for the project;
- ☐ Placing the EU logo and specifying co-financing by the Fund on all relevant publicity material, prospectuses, headed paper, public relations activities, etc;
- ☐ Placing the EU logo and specifying co-financing by the Fund at the premises of subsidy beneficiaries (for example, office walls, entrances, etc.);
- ☐ Publicising co-financing by the Fund, in particular where projects are mentioned in the context of seminars or conferences;

The following text will be used to specify co-financing by the Fund:



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“Project co-financed by the European Return Fund”

Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments

Complementarity with other EU instruments and the prohibition of overlapping financing are basic principles of management which are laid down in the national legislation applicable to the implementation of the Fund and which find expression at all stages of the Programme’s execution, in particular as follows:

➤ The Joint Committee, which is the advisory body of the Responsible Authority, comprises representatives of those members of the Government with competence in the area in which the Fund is active and becomes involved at the stage of drafting the corresponding programming as well as at the stage of approving projects, its specific responsibilities being, among others:

- Providing the information necessary to ensure that there is consistency and complementarity between the financing from the Fund and other relevant national and EU instruments;
- Deliver opinions on developments in national investment priorities in the area in which the Fund is active.

➤ During the various stages of the Programme’s implementation, in particular at the stages of submitting applications and monitoring and reviewing projects, the RA asks the body applying for financing or the body to which financing has been awarded, as the case may be, for information on the compatibility of the action in respect of which financing has been applied for or awarded with other national or Community instruments and ascertains whether there is any overlapping financing;



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➤ The RA represents the Ministry of Home Affairs within the monitoring bodies of the National Strategic Reference Framework for the period 2007-2013, which monitors implementation of the programmes supported by the Structural Funds;

➤ Within the Ministry of Home Affairs, the RA centralises all information relating to projects or actions in respect of which any form of EU financing has been applied for or awarded, and is responsible for ensuring that that financing is consistent and that there is no overlapping support.

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Purpose of technical assistance

Technical Assistance is specifically intended to promote maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of the Programme, and therefore seeks to provide, through the RA's, AA's and CA's technical support structures, a range of management, auditing and certifying activities which are essential for executing, monitoring and reviewing projects financed under the Programme so as to ensure that the objectives proposed are achieved.

To that end, technical assistance helps to equip the RA's, AA's and CA's management structures, with the logistical facilities essential to its proper operation and to effective monitoring and review.

It is also responsible for taking action to promote, communicate and publicise financing, particularly the results achieved through the projects supported by the Fund.

Accordingly, the main expenditure headings to be taken into account are as follows:



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- Expenditure relating to financing the RA's, AA's and CA's support structures, including spending on the human and material resources allocated to it;
- Purchase of services for preparing midterm evaluation reports, implementation reports, final reports or some other reports that may be at any time required by the Commission, in particular expenditure incurred by the Responsible Authority in connection with the provision and monitoring of those services;
- Purchase of services for auditing and reviewing the projects supported, in particular expenditure incurred by the Auditing Authority in connection with the provision and monitoring of those services;
- Purchase of services for certifying expenditure, in particular cost incurred by the Certifying Authority in connection with the provision and monitoring of those services;
- Purchase of IT services and equipment to support management, monitoring and evaluation activities;
- Collection and processing of the information required to monitor the material and financial implementation of the projects financed;
- Information and publicity sessions with potential Programme beneficiaries and production of the corresponding media and tools;
- Communications and publicity sessions, in particular with respect to the results achieved through the projects supported;
- Technical preparation of the frameworks earmarked for the management support structure.



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- Information sessions on the implementation of the Multiannual Programme results obtained via the projects supported by the annual programme.

Since the management and control system is the same for all four Funds under the General Programme, in accordance with the specimen submitted to the European Commission at the appropriate time, and in keeping with the logic of rational and efficient resource management, expenditure relating to the common technical assistance headings will be applied jointly to the four Funds, in a reasonable and verifiable manner and in such a way as to avoid any duplicated financing of costs.

In accordance with paragraphs 10 and 11 of Council of Ministers Resolution No 155-A/2006 of 17 November 2006, the budgetary costs of this measure are to be borne by appropriations from the budget of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The General Secretariat of the Ministry of Home Affairs (SG-MAI) is to be responsible for providing logistical support to the RA and for budgetary implementation, and is accordingly the final beneficiary of the technical assistance.

The SG-MAI's accounting system is organised in accordance with the Accounting Information System (AIS), and complies with the principles and concepts of accounting and the cost accounting criteria laid down by law.

After the extinction of EMGFC, as mentioned in chapter 1 of this Annual Programme, the RA's competences will be transferred to the Directorate-General of Home Affairs.

Quantification of expected results

The expected results of this measure have to do with achieving the goals and objectives set out for the Programme and will therefore manifest themselves in



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management tasks and procedures, which, in accordance with the applicable rules, will make it possible to maximise the national and EU resources assigned to the Programme.

The following indicators will therefore be used:

- Rate of execution of the Fund expenditure at 31.03.2016 - 100%
- Average time taken to assess applications – 30 days

Beneficiaries of the action

The Responsible Authority, the Auditing Authority and the Certifying Authority.

Visibility of Community financing

See point 3.4.

Financial information

Euros					
Action	Community Contribution	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	TOTAL	% CE
	1	2	3	4=1+2+3	5=1/4
Technical Assistance	64.872,00	0,00	0,00	64.872,00	100%

Implementation schedule

January 1st, 2013 to March 31st, 2016.



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Member State: PORTUGAL

Annual Programme: 2013

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Action	Priority No	Specific Priority No	Community Contribution	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	TOTAL	% CE	Share of Total
		-1	1	2	3	4=1+2+3	5=1/4	6=1/total1
Action 1	1		748.044,46	249.348,15	0	997.392,61	75%	34%
Action 2	1		368.560,35	122.853,06	0	491.413,41	75%	17%
Action 3	1		998.986,19	634.632,81	0	1.633.619,00	61%	46%
Technical Assistance			64.872,00	0	0	64.872,00	100%	3%
Other Operations (2)								
TOTAL			2.180.463,00	1.006.834,02	0,00	3.187.297,02	68%	100%

(1) If applicable.

(2) If necessary, specific measures defined in the basic act, in particular emergency measures.

Signature of person responsible

Pedro Duarte Silva

EU Funds Management Task Group

Ministry of Home Affairs