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1. Programme strategy: main challenges and policy responses

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

EU Programmes Executive Summary

Under the ISF 2021-2027, Ireland is building on the work done with the assistance of the previous ISF 2014-2020 and Horizon 2020 Funds, and improving their effectiveness where possible. Irelands National Programme will seek to address a core set of important national priorities through actions carried out in the main by An Garda Síochána (“AGS”) - Irelands National Police and Security service.

An Garda Síochána operates as both the sole policing service within Ireland and the national security service. The function of An Garda Síochána is to provide policing and security services for the State with the objective of—

- a) preserving peace and public order,
- b) protecting life and property,
- c) vindicating the human rights of each individual,
- d) protecting the security of the State,
- e) preventing crime,
- f) bringing criminals to justice, including by detecting and investigating crime, and
- g) regulating and controlling road traffic and improving road safety.

Ireland’s involvement in the ISF-Police 2014 – 2020 Programme to date has been to implement two key specific objectives to ensure a high level of security in the EU. These objectives are;

- 1.The Fight against Crime
- 2.Managing Risk and Crisis

The vast majority of actions proposed under this Programme are now complete, with a small minority of outstanding actions anticipated to be completed within the 31st December 2022 deadline.

The Fight against Crime

To help achieve the EU’s Objective in ‘The Fight against Crime’, Ireland undertook projects in three distinct areas, namely; improving information exchange, research programs / trainings and the purchase of essential equipment and construction of infrastructure.

Information Exchange

Spending under the 2014 – 2020 ISF Programme commenced in 2016 with a number of significant upgrades (3) to Information Systems in line with the objective of enhancing the exchange of information between Ireland, other Member States and EU Agencies:

1. The FIND project consisted of upgrading the Garda National Immigration Bureau Information System (GNIB-IS) to query and search the Interpol Stolen Lost Travel Document (SLTD) database. This project was completed with significant benefits to Ireland in improving its connectivity to Interpol and the ability to be able to better cooperate with it and other policing agencies, especially within Europe.
2. Funding was received, allowing for the development of a new PRUM ready software to allow fingerprint profile matching between the national database system AFIS and databases of the other EU member states. Implementation of this proposal ensured Ireland met its legal obligations under section 2 of Council Decision 2008/615/JHA under the PRUM treaty.
3. The set-up of the Passenger Information Unit (PIU) within a designated hub, was completed with the financial support of the ISF. The objective of the PIU was to ensure Ireland's adherence to the PNR Directive, via receiving air passenger information from air carriers and exchanging PNR information with our EU counterparts.

Research Programs / Trainings

Ireland undertook a number of research programs and trainings with the ultimate aim of better educating law enforcement personnel across a variety of specialties to assist in both preventing and combatting crime, both in the state and across the EU as a whole. With funding assistance from the EU, Ireland conducted research and training in the areas of; (1) Human Trafficking (introduction of a data base), (2) Cybercrime (training programme for first respondents and new entrants), (3) Anti-Radicalisation, Ethnicity and Conflict Resolution (trainings). AGS have done and will continue to engage with CEPOL on these trainings to help gain efficiencies and make sure they are in line with EU standards.

Purchase of Essential Equipment and Construction of Infrastructure

Ireland undertook a number of projects within this category in the purchase and upgrade of equipment and the development of essential Cybercrime facilities. A number of equipment upgrades were required to bring Ireland into line and compatible with the PSNI, UK and EU Member States, so as to be able to continue close cross border cooperation. The deployment of such equipment has already been showcased as having immense value to An Garda Síochána in their ability to prevent and combat crime on a cross border basis. At the beginning of the 2014 – 2020 Programme it was highlighted that Ireland lacked sufficient capacity to be able to adequately combat the growing rise in Cybercrime. Since 2018 EU funding has allowed for the development of dedicated regional cybercrime hubs including the training and staffing of these. It is anticipated that these will continue to expand to meet the ever growing Cybercrime threat.

Managing Risk and Crisis

To help achieve the EU's Objective in 'Managing Risk and Crisis', Ireland carried out an extensive training exercise to develop and strengthen the ability of the Emergency Response Unit ('ERU') to effectively counter and manage a terrorist attack. A live simulation of an attack and subsequent response was successfully completed in 2018 which facilitated an inter-emergency services response, aimed at saving lives immediately after, or during such an incident. This brought together for the first time a number of emergency organisations outside of the Police such the Fire and Ambulance services. Ireland's continued involvement in the ATLAS network over the past number of years has led to knowledge sharing and best practice in direct response to the terrorist attacks throughout other Member States and in so doing, Ireland continues to ensure it has the capabilities to Manage Risk and Crisis. Ireland also participates in the implementation of the EU Crisis Protocol, on collective response to the viral spread of terrorist and violent extremist content online.

Lessons Learned

Overall the 2014 to 2020 programme was a huge success as set out above. As this was Ireland's first time partaking in the programme, Ireland learned to operate more efficiently and better operationalise the ISF programme. The main lesson learned is something that has already been addressed for this programme. This is to have the potential projects ready to launch from the outset of the programme for immediate commencement. In the previous programme there was a delay in starting the projects and for the programme to commence. This put unnecessary time constraints on projects. For the new programme, a number of potential projects have been provisionally reviewed. Ireland have set out a scoring system for potential projects based on relevance to the ISF and the standard of the application from the project owners. This means a number of projects have already been planned as part of their application. The Responsible Authority used a scoring system based on the relevance of applications to the programme, the experience of the applicants and the standard of the application in order to pick the relevant projects to provisionally proceed with. This means they will be ready to commence as soon as they are given approval.

Also, as the last programme was the first running of the ISF for Ireland, a range of procedures were established but not formally documented. Numerous procedures have now been formally documented with regards to project owner manuals, invoicing and reporting templates. All of these procedures will help the new programme run more efficiently. Also in line with the last programme, Ireland used financial assistance via grants to provide support to beneficiaries of the fund. This worked successfully for An Garda Síochána and will be continued in line with Article 53 of the Common Provisions Regulation.

For the 2014 to 2020 fund, the only support Ireland received was an outside project management consultant with EU regulation technical expertise acting as a technical assistant to form part of the responsible authority. The expertise came on board with the ISF for the latter stages in the period and assisted in programme administration and completion. These experts will continue to act as the technical assistant for the new programme whilst a team in AGS have worked closely with experts over the last number of years. Their knowledge sharing with further personnel in AGS will further enable smoother running of the ISF in the 2021 – 2027 programme.

To summarise, Ireland is well prepared for the commencement of the 2021-2027 Programme through a more efficient start date and also with procedures now in place. This will ensure a successful smooth implementation of the new larger programme.

General Overview

Changes in the international environment and ongoing innovation and adaptation by criminals present particular challenges. The increasingly international nature of Ireland and its economy brings with it greater exposure to international criminal activity, including organised crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, industrial espionage, cybercrime, and to international terrorism. Some 13% of the population consists of non-Irish nationals, and a pre-pandemic average of 10 million visited the country annually. Ireland continues to attract foreign students, business people, and migrants and from a societal perspective, this has created a more diverse and multicultural landscape in Ireland. Attitudes towards such personal matters as religion and sexual orientation have changed markedly.

Ireland has certainly been affected by these developments. In the eyes of domestic and foreign criminals Ireland provides plenty of opportunities for profiteering. Drug trafficking has long been the most prominent example of this and continues to evolve and adapt. The impact that Brexit has had on this in Ireland has yet to be fully seen, however it is a certainty that criminals will adapt to this new landscape and find new ways of transporting and dealing drugs into the state and the EU.

Since the turn of the century Ireland became a destination for various organised cross-border crimes, and this trend has continued to this day. More recently this has not necessarily meant criminals have had to travel cross border to conduct cybercrime, but with the fast pace of technology and the crucial role it now plays in society, criminals have adapted to be able to launch cybercrime attacks from outside of the state. This is certainly the most significant and dramatic new challenge to emerge facing policing authorities today. The dramatic growth of on-line services, reliance on social media, cloud computing and smart phones have positively transformed many aspects of our lives but have also exposed us to many risks. Identity theft, ransomware and theft have now become more prominent and it can be difficult to identify the perpetrators of such attacks. This is particularly relevant for Ireland at the moment as in recent months Ireland's Health Service Executive ("HSE") was target of a cyber-attack of ransomware which caused data leaks and a complete overhaul of the national systems which is still in progress. Ireland play a key role as a host to many international companies including many online service providers. These providers are key in digital investigations throughout the EU.

The Garda Commissioner has also publicly warned on the emergency of the threat of far-right activity. There is a growing awareness of these risks which is not always matched by effective counter-measures, and the investigation and prosecution of these offences present major challenges for law enforcement bodies worldwide. This has meant that now more than ever, there is a greater need to conduct cross border joint operations.

Criminals continue to conduct tobacco, firearms and human trafficking and have adapted to changing circumstances over the past decade. Continued gangland crime is a major factor in both these and the aforementioned drug trade, needing significant amount of policing resources to both monitor and prevent crime occurring in this area.

Emerging from the pandemic, unemployment has increased by over 18% where this is particularly

focused on youth unemployment. There is potential for many young people to turn to criminal activity in times of unemployment. Not only are community relations services required here to help prevent people from engaging in criminal activity but there will also be much larger policing resources required to deal with the crime as they arise. This is particularly dangerous as it could lead to a rise in criminal activity.

It is relevant to note Ireland's geographical location, which alters dimensions of EU cooperation and coordination. In addition, Brexit has created a new EU frontier on the island of Ireland – a border with a long history of terrorism, organised crime, racketeering and smuggling.

Due to the above challenges mentioned, Ireland requires investment in for police cooperation, cybercrime, the fight against organised crime and terrorism and the battle against drugs. This will help the progress Ireland have made to date from ISF assistance.. On the above issues, Ireland has become more properly equipped to adequately implement the growing framework of common rules of the EU. A professional, reliable and efficient police organisation is of paramount importance to this. Alignment with the ISF programme will continue to push Ireland forward and become as compliant as possible with the EU policing directives and strategies such as the above mentioned or the Law Enforcement Directive.

Ireland will continue to take advantage of the synergies which can be formed from other EU funding available. Ireland engage with multiple Horizon 2020 funds such as Inspectr, Protect, ATLAS and so on. In particular in the last programme the project carried out by our emergency response unit was part of an Atlas operation. These synergies will continue to be built on and are mentioned throughout the below implementation measures and actions.

To date Ireland is continuing to receive EU funding with the aim of combating crime especially with regards to Cybercrime and Radicalisation. The actions will build on the results from the ISF 2014 – 2020 Programme, and the H2020 projects Magneto and Pericles. Examples include training, capacity building and the construction of new dedicated cyber hubs. All training activities will be coordinated with CEPOL, with a view to enhancing synergies and avoiding duplication.

As a result of COVID-19, An Garda Síochána is adapting to new forms of learning including the use of virtual technology to perform trainings and going forward would like to emphasise their commitment to Training. Over the past number of years a significant number of Irish police have been trained in the use of cybercrime fighting techniques, emergency / terror response approaches and dealing with hate crime in the community. Actions envisaged will focus on continuing training in some of the aforementioned areas. These will include, but not limited to, training police officers in the fight against cybercrime and anti-radicalisation via cooperation with, inter alia, the EU's Radicalisation Awareness policy and practitioner networks. Ireland recently set out the Joint Offenders Action Plan which is an example of a collaborative approach between AGS, the Irish Prison service, Probation Service and Department of Justice. Ireland will also continue with their fight against human smuggling and migrant smuggling after the successful research projects carried out in the 2014 – 2020 programme.

This fits in with two of our key national policing strategy goals set by the An Garda Síochána:

- Investing in People, improving the greatest resource and providing continuous professional development; and
- Investing in a Secure Ireland, ensuring the security of the State, managing all possible threats, including but not limited to the threat of terrorism and to enhance our intelligence capability.

For the ISF 2021-2027, a desired outcome would be to assist in developing systems, partnerships and training programmes to tackle Cybercrime while also continuing to tackle Radicalisation through training and the development of community policing / reintegration models

2. Specific Objectives & Technical Assistance

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

Selected	Specific objective or Technical assistance	Type of action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Exchange of information	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Exchange of information	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Exchange of information	Annex IV actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Exchange of information	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Exchange of information	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Cross-border cooperation	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Cross-border cooperation	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Cross-border cooperation	Annex IV actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Cross-border cooperation	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Cross-border cooperation	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Preventing and combating crime	Regular actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Preventing and combating crime	Specific actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Preventing and combating crime	Annex IV actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Preventing and combating crime	Operating support
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Preventing and combating crime	Emergency assistance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TA.37. Technical assistance - not linked to costs (Art. 37 CPR)	

2.1. Specific objective: 1. Exchange of information

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

Specific Objective 1 – Improve the Exchange of Information

Overview

As indicated in section 1 An Garda Síochána has implemented a number of international information exchange projects over the past number of years to enhance its capabilities in information exchange both within the organisation and outside the organisation. The implementation of SIS and PRUM across the EU has seen a dramatic impact in how the EU secures itself. An Garda Síochána have driven the implementation of these, to both provide and be the beneficiary of, real time, prompt information, to better combat crime and enhance the security of the EU.

Improving the exchange of information and policing communications is a priority for the EU under Article 3 (2)(a). At a national level, An Garda Síochána have heavily invested in exchange of information projects between national agencies, especially with the Department of Justice. The Criminal Justice Operational Hub (CJOH) is a project to exchange data between Justice agencies in Ireland. As part of the CJOH, there are a number of projects which are in progress including; Chargesheet Transfer, Prisoner List transfer and the Higher Court Outcome. The completion of these projects will no doubt, increase the capabilities of the Irish State, to improve the use of information, which will have positive implications at both a national and international level.

The new programme will help build on this introduce new systems including creating and upgrading the SIS system as set out in the below key action. This SIS system will help integrate all of the above police and judicial systems and create huge efficiencies for Ireland through all of the various projects.

An Garda Síochána's Strategy Statement 2022-2024 and An Garda Síochána's Policing Plan 2022 outline where there are advantageous synergies between the European Union Specific Objectives and those of An Garda Síochána. The National Programme aligns these objectives and identifies suitable projects that are mutually beneficial to the ISF Programme and fully aligns with An Garda Síochána's Strategy Statement 2022 – 2024.

Strategy

An Garda Síochána's strategy in the area of information exchange over the coming years will focus on both; ensuring continued information exchange within the EU and working closely with Justice agencies within the state, to implement tools and software which can help improve how information is shared. This is in line with the before mentioned implementation measures from Annex II 1(a), ensure the uniform application of the Union acquis on security supporting information exchange, 1(b), to set up, adapt and maintain security relevant Union and national ICT systems to set up, adapt and maintain security relevant Union and national ICT systems (Such as the SIS and Recast system) and 1(c), to increase the active use of Union and national security relevant information exchange tools.

Since Ireland began its participation in information exchange projects within wider EU policing operations, it has seen significant benefits in the ability to better prevent and combat crime through up-to-date, live data. In turn the live information that Ireland exchanges with its EU policing counterparts helps

ensure a high level of security within the EU. It has been recognised that this successful partnership in the area of information exchange, should continue.

Liaising closely with the Department of Justice has long been an important strategy of An Garda Síochána, and this is a partnership that AGS would like to continue developing in the area of information exchange, via, inter alia, multi-agency cooperative structures such as the Criminal Justice Operational Hub, and the focus on data-sharing. Continuing this partnership will ensure that information and data can be shared, to allow for effective, dynamic decision making across different levels within each organisation, ultimately contributing to the security of the Irish state.

Full respect of fundamental rights should be ensured. This is all the more important in the context of use of new technologies, such as AI, or the processing of special categories of personal data, such as genetic data or biometric data for the unique identification of individuals. Projects aiming at implementing EU Internal Security legislation should be in strict compliance with national and EU data protection law (Law Enforcement Directive (LED) (EU) 2016/680 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

Key Action - Implementation of Tools and Software that will Enhance Information Exchange

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objectives set out in point (a) of Article 3(2) of this Regulation by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (a) Ensuring the uniform application of the Union acquis on security by supporting the exchange of relevant information, for example via Prüm, EU PNR and SIS, including through the implementation of recommendations from quality control and evaluation mechanisms such as the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism or other quality control and evaluation mechanisms.

In Undertaking this key action, the following recommended actions will be used:

- Annex III (a) - ICT systems and networks contributing to the achievement of the objectives of this Regulation, training on the use of such systems, testing and improving interoperability and data quality of such systems;
- Annex III (b) - monitoring of the implementation of Union law and Union policy objectives in the Member States in the area of security information systems;
- Annex III (k) - financing of equipment, means of transport, communication systems and security-relevant facilities;

Ireland has in recent years, invested heavily in improving its information sharing capabilities. This has been a priority for An Garda Síochána so that it can better fight crime, on both a national and international level. An Garda Síochána seeks to advance its national security capabilities in information exchange by continuing to invest in SIS and SPOC (Single Point of Contact) systems. This ties into Irelands National Digital Strategy, in particular the objective of Information Lead Policing. This is building on the achievements of the previous programme and enhancing Irelands abilities in this area even further.

Actions envisaged under ‘Exchange of Information’ will focus on improving and enhancing Ireland’s ability to exchange information, both with other agencies on a national level, and with the EU. The starting point is to ensure compliance with EU acquis and action plans and to use the ISF 2021-2027 to drive forward the national security capabilities in this area. Ireland will continue its use of the SIS and SPOC. The SPOC project extends the capability of the SIS systems to both Interpol and Europol, allowing

for the creation of one international Liaison front desk in order to manage all International Co-operation channels in a common workflow system as is EU best practice. This is a recommendation in the Schengen Evaluation in Police Cooperation. Along with these systems and also with the upgrade of the SIS to the SIS Recast system with the new funds this will continue Ireland's capabilities for improved, seamless communications with its EU policing counterparts. Ireland seeks to follow the Commission's advice to implement the next phase of SIS as per Article 79(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1862. In addition, Ireland will pursue other methods by which it as a police force, can better manage intelligence and disseminate it to its partners and ultimately to remain well connected with EU policing agencies, including Europol. As recommended by the Schengen Evaluation, Ireland will ensure that the Schengen Information System is accessible through mobile devices in use by the An Garda Síochána (to include relevant national and international databases – Schengen evaluation on Police Cooperation) and examine the enhancement of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition system in order to carry out automated checks of license plates and vehicles in SIS.

As further recommended by the Schengen Evaluation on Police Cooperation Ireland will extend access to investigative units to the Europol Information System and use of Europol's Secure Information Exchange Network Application to all competent decentralized authorities. Ireland will examine the introduction of an automated data loader into Europol's Information System and will also look to improve the national search applications to ensure mandatory checks into the Schengen Information System SIS and Interpol databases. Ireland is committed to addressing any future recommendations issued from Schengen evaluations.

This fits in with the some of the national policing strategy goals. The first goal it coincides with is Community Policing, including partnership development, engaging with communities and stakeholders, listening to and understanding their policing needs and working in partnership to address them. It also relates to the goal of Protecting People, enhancing our strategic crime management and coordination capacity, leveraging our improving data to enhance information-enabled policing. These measures taken will hopefully build synergies with other EU Exchange of information projects underway at the moment such as ROXANNE, INSPECTr and Broadway which Ireland are currently involved in.

Challenges relating to the implementation of new software will include training enough staff how to use the new systems and also implementing the EU system requirements. That's why the action set out by Annex III (a) and (b) will be key in order to achieve this. Ensuring regular training for all staff on how to get the best and correct use of the systems is important. Also monitoring the changes in regulation in order to ensure the systems are sufficient for use, ensuring a team does regular checks on union law and policy at fixed intervals is vital to achieve these goals.

Overall the desired outcome of this is that SIS and Recast are in full operation by the end of the period which will increase the speed and flow of intelligence sharing which will improve An Garda Síochána's ability to combat crime. Ireland, in addition to the above, would like to with ISF funding, create better systems, by which it as a police force can manage intelligence and disseminate it to its partners. This will be done through the acquisitions of Additional technical systems for a Digital Fusion Centre that are required across Garda National Criminal Intelligence Centre (GNCSIS) in order to strengthen the capacity of national security and intelligence and to manage all intelligence collected and disseminated both nationally and internationally. Focusing on this area will undoubtedly lead to better security within the EU as a whole. The objective in deploying a Digital Fusion Centre is to strengthen the capacity and capability of GNCSIS to acquire, assess and disseminate intelligence within An Garda Síochána and our European partners. Information received internally within An Garda Síochána and received from external partners such as European Union agencies is stored in a number of different databases. Some of the data challenges faced by An Garda Síochána is the volume of data, the different types and different structures of data contained within the various databases. The Digital Fusion Centre allows a single workspace to generate and disseminate intelligence fused from the data contained across the multiple databases. This will

provide 'one single source of the truth' for intelligence in An Garda Síochána. The Digital Fusion Centre will be used to reveal threats, relations and patterns from the fused data thereby accelerating the time to create actionable intelligence.

ANPA key component of the effective provision of these functions is collection and analysis of information and intelligence pertaining to organised crime groupings and those who are considered to be a threat to the security of the state. This intelligence is analysed and used both at a strategic and operational level. The deployment of a Digital Fusion Centre will enhance and expedite the analysis and dissemination of the threats posed by organized crime groups operating not just within the jurisdiction but throughout Europe and the rest of the world. In addition the Digital Fusion Centre will enhance the ability of An Garda Síochána to deal with state security threats from internal organisations as well as external threats from nation state actors. The Digital Fusion Centre will be used to generate intelligence which will be shared both internally and with European partners via agencies such as Europol when targeting organised crime groups and nation state actors.

The deployment of the Digital Fusion Centre will provide a holistic intelligence view with access to all data from one unified platform. The unified platform will reduce the time to transform data into intelligence through the use of advanced analytics and visualisation tools. Using the advanced analytics capability it will identify connections and patterns from large data sets. It will also expedite intelligence sharing within GNCSIS through collaboration and standardised reporting which will also be of benefit to our European partners. The Digital Fusion Centre will assist in retaining the historical knowledge base of An Garda Síochána whereby all user created work, insights and reports will be stored in the system for future reference and use.

2.1. Specific objective 1. Exchange of information

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 1: Output indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Target (2029)
O.1.1	Number of participants in training activities	number	3,000	15,000
O.1.2	Number of expert meetings/workshops/study visits	number	125	250
O.1.3	Number of ICT systems set up/adapted/maintained	number	0	13
O.1.4	Number of equipment items purchased	number	75	150

2.1. Specific objective 1. Exchange of information

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 2: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.1.5	Number of ICT systems made interoperable in the Member States/ with security- relevant EU and decentralised information systems/with international databases	number	0	number	2020-2021	7	number	ICT / S&I	
R.1.6	Number of administrative units that have set up new or adapted existing information exchange mechanisms/procedures/tools/guidance for exchange of information with other Member States/EU agencies/international organisations/third countries	number	0	number	2020-2021	7	number	ICT / S&I	
R.1.7	Number of participants who consider the training useful for their work	number	0	share	2020-2021	13,500	number	ICT / S&I	
R.1.8	Number of participants who report three months after the training activity that they are using the skills and competences acquired during the training	number	0	share	2020-2021	4,500	number	ICT / S&I	

2.1. Specific objective 1. Exchange of information

2.1.3. Indicative breakdown of the programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

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

Table 3: Indicative breakdown

Type of intervention	Code	Indicative amount (Euro)
Type of action	001.ICT systems, interoperability, data quality (excluding equipment)	5,350,000.01
Type of action	002.Networks, centres of excellence, cooperation structures, joint actions and operations	0.00
Type of action	003.Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) or other joint operations	0.00
Type of action	004.Secondment or deployment of experts	0.00
Type of action	005.Training	50,000.00
Type of action	006.Exchange of best practices, workshops, conferences, events, awareness-raising campaigns, communication activities	1,000,000.00
Type of action	007.Studies, pilot projects, risk assessments	0.00
Type of action	008.Equipment	1,399,000.00
Type of action	009.Means of transport	0.00
Type of action	010.Buildings, facilities	0.00
Type of action	011.Deployment or other follow-up of research projects	0.00

2.1. Specific objective: 2. Cross-border cooperation

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

Specific Objective 2 – Cross Border Joint Operations

Overview

An Garda Síochána has in recent years undertaken a large number of projects in the area of improving and enhancing their ability to engage in and conduct Cross Border Joint Operations as section 1 exhibited. This has allowed it to enhance its capabilities in this area to constructively detect, prevent and combat crime with a cross border dimension. The changing demographic of the country, high visitor numbers, and geographical and political issues combine to make cross border operations challenging.

Increasing information and intelligence exchange with Member States, invested in and facilitated by previous ISF projects and EU entities including SIS and EUROPOL, are leading to increasing and complex cross-border operations. This is a goal of many EU action plans, such as the EU Drugs Action Plan 2021- 2025, to increase synergies and operations between member states.

It is an area that An Garda Síochána would like to promote even further in the coming years as, there is a need for the modern police force, to actively partner and engage with its fellow policing counterparts, to effectively tackle crime. There are numerous instances of such co-operation on this area.

In November 2019, a Joint Investigation Team was established by An Garda Síochána and the PSNI, under Article 20 of the Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, to tackle cross border criminality. This is the first Joint Investigation Team in which An Garda Síochána has taken part, and has led to major seizures of weaponry that has degraded the capability of dissident groups, convictions for terrorism offences and large-scale preparations for potential terrorist incidents. Such work would not have been possible without close co-operation and information sharing with our international law enforcement partners, but most particularly with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

The Garda National Bureau of Criminal Investigation (GNBCI) participated in the EU-wide Operation Aphrodite II, against trafficking of counterfeit goods. The operation was carried out by law enforcement authorities from 18 countries, and supported by Europol, resulting in the seizure of 4.7 million counterfeit products. During the operation, 16,470 social media accounts and 3,400 websites selling counterfeit products were closed.

The fight against cyber based fraud and money laundering continues to be a major issue with a large cross border element. An Garda Síochána was involved in a 2019 joint operation entitled ‘Operation Omena’ whose goal was to investigate cyber based fraud and money laundering. The operation was undertaken by the Payment Crime Unit and was conducted in cooperation with law enforcement authorities in Finland and the assistance of Europol and Eurojust. Investigating officers at the Garda National Economic Crime Bureau (GNECB) identified hundreds of bank accounts opened for money laundering purposes and on the back of this a large number of arrests were made and sentences handed down.

One of the major initiatives in which An Garda Síochána has been actively involved in, is the Intelligence Network and Secure Platform for Evidence Correlation and Transfer (INSPECTr) project. INSPECTr is a

three year EU funded project which commenced in September 2019 under Horizon 2020. An Garda Síochána undertakes a lead role in the Law Enforcement Agency Steering Group. The principal objective of INSPECTr is to develop a shared intelligence platform and a novel process for gathering, analysing, prioritising, and presenting key data. This will and has helped in the prediction, detection, and management of crime in support of multiple agencies at local, national and international level.

An Garda Síochána will build on the experiences with EMPACT and expand its utility for Ireland. Over the past number of years the EU have contributed to Ireland's involvement in joint operations through funding received under the ISF 2014 – 2020 Programme and that received from joint EU projects such as CityCop and PROTAX. This fits in with the following national policing strategy goal to transform our service, restructuring our policing organisation and transform how Ireland delivers our services. Cyber-attacks, Human and Drugs trafficking are all EMPACT priorities of the next cycle 2022-2025. These are all also priorities of Ireland's ISF programme and Ireland intend to interlink the programmes and activities in these areas to help create synergies and be as efficient as possible. Ireland had many successes in these areas and wishes to continue this over the coming years. The desired outcome for these priorities would be that the proposed funding in this area would lead to Ireland being able to participate in a large number of joint operations in areas such as; Drug, Firearms and Contraband smuggling as well as ongoing Surveillance.

As part of this Ireland hopes to boost participation to actions in the context of the EMPACT with the appointment of a dedicated EMPACT officer. Ireland will improve the use of joint investigation teams, joint patrols, hot pursuits, discreet surveillance and other cooperation mechanisms as mentioned in the key action surrounding UAV capabilities below. As previously stated, Ireland's development of exchange of information capabilities will increase the cooperation of competent authorities. It is also envisaged enhancing cooperation with third countries, will also increase Ireland's capabilities in areas of relevance to the Union's internal security, contributing to combating and preventing crime, including drug trafficking and trafficking in human beings, and to contribute to combating cross-border criminal smuggling networks, including migrant smuggling. In line with: EU Security Union Strategy; EU Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings 2021-2025; EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025; upcoming Police Cooperation Code and the Communication on a renewed EU action plan against migrant smuggling (2021-2025).

Strategy

An Garda Síochána's strategy over the coming years, in the area of Cross Border Joint Operations, will focus on a number of areas.

- Fulfilling our Mission Statement – “Keeping People Safe”.
- Promote continued participation in both existing and upcoming projects which have a Cross Border element, which relates with Annex II 2(a) increasing law enforcement operations between member states.
- Increase the resourcing of projects with a Cross Border element, in order to take advantage of the numerous benefits that come with involvement in these types of projects in line with Annex II 2(b) to increase coordination and cooperation of law enforcement and other competent authorities within and between Member.
- States Collaborate more effectively with our EU and international partners, thus contributing to national and international security in line with Annex II 2(c), to improve inter-agency cooperation and at Union level between the Member States.

In order to achieve and implement this strategy, the following key actions will be vital to do this.

Key Action - UAV's and situational awareness – increase cooperation and data sharing

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objective set out in point (b) of Article 3(2) by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (b) improving the coordination and increasing the cooperation of competent authorities within and between Member States and with other relevant actors, for example through networks of specialised national units, Union networks and cooperation structures, and Union centers.

In undertaking this key action the following recommended action will be used:

- Annex III (g) - support to thematic or cross-theme networks of specialised national units to improve mutual confidence, exchange and dissemination of know-how, information, experiences and best practices, pooling of resources and expertise in joint centers of excellence.

In recent years Ireland has begun discussions and trainings in the use of UAVs with partners in the PSNI, UK (NPAS). Ireland's involvement with these partners included onsite visits of the working of UAVs in real time policing operations, while engaging in knowledge sharing, training and capacity building to share experiences and solutions to the challenges faced with UAVs. This involvement to date has shown the substantial benefits Ireland could derive from investment and development in both UAVs and their associated technologies, for use in law enforcement and joint operations.

It is desired that An Garda Síochána would like to further strengthen the organisation's UAV capabilities over the coming years through their continued involvement with existing partners and the through the investment in UAVs and its associated technologies / platforms, to better assist in joint operations and law enforcement.

A key outcome from this project will be to have the situational awareness platform established as part of the UAV systems. NSU uses an IT based Situational Awareness and Intelligence sharing platform, which provides secure information sharing to the end users mobile devices. It is planned to upgrade this platform to enable a secure information sharing for all European LE partners. This upgrade will enable the secure information sharing upon system(s) of which we will not detail due to security concerns. NSU has engaged recently with the Atlas C4 forum and will participate in a European Multiagency training exercise in March 2023. It is envisaged that this upgraded platform will be available for this exercise involving nine member states. This exercise will commence in Ireland and will involve surveillance teams and interventions teams. This training exercise will incorporate this information sharing platform and lay the foundations for a permanent European Cross-Border system which will provide secure data transfer in the live operations sphere. This exercise will commence in Ireland and subsequently run through central Europe. The exercise will simulate a realistic threat and show how the real time sharing of information between member states using technology such as Situational Awareness Platforms is essential to combat terrorist threats and organised crime. The participation of NSU in such exercises shows their commitment to strengthening EU wide interoperability between An Garda Síochána and other Law Enforcement agencies, thus highlighting the need for essential ICT systems. REGULATION (EU) 2016/794 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and replacing and repealing Council Decisions 2009/371/JHA, 2009/934/JHA, 2009/935/JHA, 2009/936/JHA and 2009/968/JHA. This regulation sets out a framework which supports data/information sharing between member states via Europol.

This action would qualify for higher financing under annex IV (2) as a project which aims at improving the interoperability of ICT systems and communication networks.

Key Action - Covert support to European Investigations

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objective set out in point (b) of Article 3(2) by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (b) improving the coordination and increasing the cooperation of competent authorities within and between Member States and with other relevant actors, for example through networks of specialised national units, Union networks and cooperation structures, and Union centers.

In implementing this key action, AGS will undertake the following recommended action:

- Annex III (d) - actions supporting an effective and coordinated response to crisis linking up existing sector-specific capabilities, expertise centers and situation awareness centers, including those for health, civil protection and terrorism;

NSU remains the sole operational unit within An Garda Síochána who possess the skillset and technological aids to deploy and operate covert monitoring platforms including tracking and visual intelligence systems. Vehicle/Object GPS/GPRS tracking systems that are compatible with the member states are of vital importance. Organised Crime including Human trafficking has proven to have a significant cross border dimension; to investigate, counteract and prevent such crimes requires significant cooperation between member states during joint investigations.

An Garda Síochána is involved on a Pan European level at providing covert support for European investigations through the support of the National Surveillance Unit (NSU). Monitoring of suspects and persons of interest involved in crime and terrorism requires technical surveillance support and associated infrastructure, as authorised under Section 8 of the Criminal Justice (Surveillance) Act, 2009, particularly in border areas. Compatibility with the equipment used with counterparts in the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and Member States, in the context of close operational cooperation and parallel investigations, is a crucial issue.

An Garda Síochána is in the advanced stages of implementing a new Regional Surveillance Model which would see the increase in the number of personnel employed in covert roles. Monitoring of all European gateways including sea/air ports will be a priority into the future. To support this project and provide uninterrupted covert support to joint European investigations, investment is required in this area. Regional units will require training and access to IT systems and hardware, which will enable monitoring of criminal targets entering and exiting the country. This project will see the addition of Artificial Intelligence enabled visual intelligence systems to enhance detection of criminal activity. The project will be lead centrally from NSU under the Garda National Crime and Security Intelligence Service (GNCSIS) Region. The recent introduction of a fulltime training team within NSU will facilitate the training of additional personnel.

In addition to the need for a Regional Surveillance model, the majority of European LE partners utilize RF tracking as the primary method of vehicle/object/person tracking. This method negates counter measures used by criminals who use GPS/GSM jamming equipment on a daily basis to avoid detection. RF systems are used by LE during controlled deliveries such as narcotics and firearms. It is planned to upgrade this platform to enable a secure information sharing for all European LE partners. This upgrade will enable secure information sharing upon system(s) of which we will not detail due to security concerns. The role

out of systems has commenced around Europe and An Garda Síochána requires investment in this area to enhance the capabilities to interrupt organized the operations of organized crime along known firearms trafficking routes to ensure there is a means of joint European agency cooperation for live operations. Investment in this key area will strengthen the operational capacity of An Garda Síochána and provide a level of cross border data sharing between European LE partners. Expansion of this vital infrastructure will be supported centrally by NSU and Regional Surveillance units, ultimately providing a country wide dedicated support system for live firearms operations nationally and internationally.

The goal of this project will be that projects under this action will see an upgrade of the RF tracking infrastructure, in line with what is used in the EU. All training activities will be coordinated with CEPOL, with a view to enhancing synergies and avoiding duplication.

2.1. Specific objective 2. Cross-border cooperation

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 1: Output indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Target (2029)
O.2.1	Number of cross-border operations	number	30	60
O.2.1.1	Of which number of joint investigation teams	number	15	35
O.2.1.2	Of which number of EU policy cycle/EMPACT operational actions	number	15	35
O.2.2	Number of expert meetings/workshops/study visits/common exercises	number	25	60
O.2.3	Number of equipment items purchased	number	8	15
O.2.4	Number of transport means purchased for cross-border operations	number	0	1

2.1. Specific objective 2. Cross-border cooperation

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 2: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.2.5	The estimated value of assets frozen in the context of cross-border operations	amount	0	euro	2020-2021	100,000	amount	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.6.1	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - cannabis	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.6.2	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - opioids, including heroin	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.6.3	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - cocaine	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.6.4	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - synthetic drugs, including amphetamine-type stimulants (including amphetamine and methamphetamine) and MDMA	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.6.5	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - new psychoactive substances	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.2.6.6	Quantity of illicit drugs seized in the context of cross-border operations - other illicit drugs	kg	0	kg	2020-2021	10	kg	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.7.1	Quantity of weapons seized in the context of cross-border operations - Weapons of war: automatic firearms and heavy firearms (anti-tank, rocket launcher, mortar, etc.)	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	number	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.7.2	Quantity of weapons seized in the context of cross-border operations - Other short firearms: revolvers and pistols (including salute and acoustic weapons)	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	number	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.7.3	Quantity of weapons seized in the context of cross-border operations - Other long firearms: rifles and shotguns (including salute and acoustic weapons)	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	number	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.8	Number of administrative units that have developed/adapted existing mechanisms/procedures/tools/guidance for cooperation with other Member States/EU agencies/international organisations/third countries	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	number	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.2.9	Number of staff involved in cross-border operations	number	0	number	2020-2021	150	number	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	
R.2.10	Number of Schengen Evaluation Recommendations addressed	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	percentage	NSU, OSS, GNDOCB	

2.1. Specific objective 2. Cross-border cooperation

2.1.3. Indicative breakdown of the programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

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

Table 3: Indicative breakdown

Type of intervention	Code	Indicative amount (Euro)
Type of action	001.ICT systems, interoperability, data quality (excluding equipment)	2,208,433.47
Type of action	002.Networks, centres of excellence, cooperation structures, joint actions and operations	1,008,433.72
Type of action	003.Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) or other joint operations	370,536.00
Type of action	004.Secondment or deployment of experts	0.00
Type of action	005.Training	1,377,027.31
Type of action	006.Exchange of best practices, workshops, conferences, events, awareness-raising campaigns, communication activities	0.00
Type of action	007.Studies, pilot projects, risk assessments	0.00
Type of action	008.Equipment	350,000.00
Type of action	009.Means of transport	185,268.00
Type of action	010.Buildings, facilities	800,000.00
Type of action	011.Deployment or other follow-up of research projects	0.00

2.1. Specific objective: 3. Preventing and combating crime

2.1.1. Description of the specific objective

Specific Objective 3 – Preventing and Combatting Crime

Overview

As indicated in section 1, the Fight against Crime was a major element within the 2014 – 2020 ISF National Programme, and continues to be a core function of An Garda Síochána under the current funding period. Indeed, this is still a priority for the EU now. As an organisation, it has a long-established tradition of crime prevention and community policing. An Garda Síochána has a statutory obligation under section 7 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 to prevent crime. The impact of a crime on victims and their families can go from nuisance to devastation depending on the crime. Through proactive policing, crime can be prevented in the first instance and thus fear of crime is reduced.

An Garda Síochána recognises that, in order to effectively combat crime and the fear of crime, comprehensive crime prevention and reduction strategies must be put in place. To this end, An Garda Síochána has developed, promoted and implemented various crime prevention and reduction strategies such as Neighborhood Watch, Community Alert, Text Alert, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) and target-specific strategies. However, criminals are very adaptable and so these strategies must be constantly reviewed, assessed, and replaced as necessary. Ireland intends to comply with the EU Directive 2019/1153 on law enforcement and Facilitating the use of financial information is necessary to prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute serious crime.

Community engagement is integral to our crime prevention efforts. Crime prevention will be effective through partnership and collaboration with community and State agency stakeholders and successful strategies must include elements and groups within society other than the Gardaí. All elements of society, State agencies, local authorities, health boards, schools etc. and all elements of the community right down to the individual citizen must play their part to prevent crime. The Graduated Policing Response strategy prioritised during pandemic response is a current example of the benefits of community engagement and crime prevention.

Strategy

This Crime Prevention & Reduction Strategy which was launched in 2017 has been developed to outline effective approaches to crime prevention and reduction. It describes a range of measures that can be taken by An Garda Síochána for effective delivery of crime prevention and reduction policies. It will provide guidance by way of good practice to assist with the development of appropriate policies and strategies to tackle specific crime problems and support safer communities.

Specifically, the key objectives of this strategy are:

- AGS will build and develop a robust organizational crime prevention structure and culture with ISF funded training similar to Annex II 3(a), to increase law enforcement training, exercises, and specialised exchange programmes, in coordination with CEPOL;
- AGS will build, operate and deliver a consistent and professional crime prevention service with benefits from ISF investments in Cybercrime and the dog unit similar to Annex II 3(c), to promote and develop measures to protect relevant stakeholders and communities;

- AGS will implement a suite of customized crime prevention approaches to protect communities from crime as with the ISF funded Cybercrime and dog units similar to Annex II 3(d), investing in infrastructure;
- AGS will build, develop and operate a wide range of communications solutions to disseminate key crime prevention messages to the public similar to Annex II 3(d), raising public awareness.

The following will be the key actions used in order to achieve this strategy.

Key Actions - Combating Cybercrime

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objective set out in point (c) of Article 3(2) by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (c)acquiring relevant equipment and setting up or upgrading specialised training facilities and other essential security- relevant infrastructure to increase preparedness, resilience, public awareness and adequate response as regards security threats;

An Garda are undertaking the following key actions as recommended:

- Annex III (k) - investing in equipment, means of transport, communication systems and essential security-relevant facilities;
- Annex III (i) - cooperation with the private sector in order to build trust and improve coordination, contingency planning and the exchange and dissemination of information and best practices among public and private actors including in the protection of public spaces and critical infrastructure;
- Annex III (d) - actions supporting an effective and coordinated response to crisis linking up existing sector-specific capabilities, expertise centers and situation awareness centers, including those for health, civil protection and terrorism;
- Annex III (g) - support to thematic or cross-theme networks of specialised national units to improve mutual confidence, exchange and dissemination of know-how, information, experiences and best practices, pooling of resources and expertise in joint centers of excellence.

An Garda Síochána is augmenting its cybercrime service capacity and capability by leveraging its network reach, further community engagement and upskilling in key areas. The following proposals will strengthen the Organisation’s response for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of cybercrime. The proposals primary aim is to significantly enhance An Garda Síochána’s response to cybercrime through (1) development of a training program to combat existing and emerging forms of cybercrime (2) promoting online cybercrime awareness and early reporting (3) strengthening cybercrime threat awareness through prevention and collaboration with companies and organisations (which Ireland is a leader in hosting many top tech multi national companies, and other Law Enforcement Agencies and (4) providing a rapid response to cybercrime through the use of mobile forensic capabilities. The addition of the above proposals will significantly enhance the Mission statement of An Garda Síochána of Keeping People safe Online. An example of this is AGS’s membership of the National Advisory Council for Online Safety and collaboration with the Irish Safer Internet Centre. All training activities will be coordinated with CEPOL, with a view to enhancing synergies and avoiding duplication.

The allocation of the above proposals will enhance AGS’ capabilities to identify trends, assist with minimising vulnerabilities and reacting to cybercrime threats and share this information with Law Enforcement Agencies and industry parties. This will assist AGS’s ability to identify, pursue and

prosecute cyber criminals.

Ireland supports the international strategies to combat cybercrime which emphasise cooperation between public authorities and the private sector, improving knowledge and training, and reinforcing international technical cooperation. Recognising that cross border partnerships in tackling cybercrime are essential, An Garda Síochána will continue to build on these at a European and international level through further investment in software/hardware/ equipment/training to provide support to European cross border joint operations and to ultimately combat and prevent crime. Specifically, Ireland intends to develop a Garda Lead Cyber Alert Tool, for use by Businesses and industry to assist with cybercrime prevention and investigations by sharing threats, vulnerability information and mitigation strategies to protect against cyber crime incidents. Ireland also wants to develop an Online reporting capability for the reporting of all non-emergency cybercrime incidents by members of the public and different industries. In terms of hardware and equipment, AGS also intends to invest in the development of a National Mobile Forensic Vehicle to provide an 'at scene' digital analysis capacity. Part of this overall action will also be facilitating financial information to help prevent crime.

As cybercrime is currently a headline issue in Ireland due to a recent government ransomware attack, AGS are under pressure to urgently implement and improve their response to cybercrime threats and identifying vulnerabilities. AGS have also launched the Connect National Digital Strategy which highlights the needs of investment and collaboration in this area. By focusing significant resources and with EU assistance through both the ISF and the EMPACT cycle of 2022- 2025, Ireland should be able to improve their cyber systems significantly.

This will qualify for higher funding through annex IV (4) as this is a project with the aim to fight cybercrime in particular child sexual exploitation online, and crimes where the internet is the primary platform for evidence collection.

Key Actions - Anti-Radicalisation Law Enforcement Training

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objective set out in point (c) of Article 3(2) by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (a) increasing training, exercises and mutual learning, specialised exchange programmes and sharing of best practices in and between Member States' competent authorities, including at local level, and with third countries and other relevant actors;

An Garda are undertaking the following key actions as recommended:

- Annex III (j) – actions empowering communities to develop local approaches and prevention policies, and awareness-raising and communication activities among stakeholders and the general public on Union security policies.

Ireland is committed to constructive participation in the implementation of EU law enforcement training and recognises the importance of ensuring that Member States, the JHA agencies, CEPOL and other EU stakeholders work together in this area to enhance the effectiveness of the EU's response to common security challenges. Ireland recognises that, in addition to qualitative improvements, such developments are also supportive of financial efficiency in the context of budgetary strictures. This is an area that Ireland will reach out to various authorities and stakeholders in order to form a partnership and get input into the programme. The same team had various partnerships with a number of specialist groups in order to create training programmes.

The responsible Irish authorities in this field have extensive experience in collaborating with qualified stakeholders on similar projects in the past. As can be seen per the EU Fundamental Rights Agency website. Under An Garda Síochána's "Diversity and Integration Strategy 2019-2021", a wide variety of stakeholders were involved to improve the recording of hate crimes and encourage the public to report such offences. The Garda National Diversity Unit collaborated with stakeholder organisations such as Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Disability federation of Ireland, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre to name a few. Additionally, as per the 2014 – 2020 ISF National Programme, An Garda Síochána collaborated with the Academic Institution "Mary Immaculate College" of Limerick to publish a "Report on Human Trafficking and Exploitation on the Island of Ireland". This was completed with the assistance of ISF funding.

The same approach and vision will be taken again when building on this programme and An Garda Síochána will collaborate with appropriate stakeholders when necessary during the lifetime of the programme.

The issue of radicalisation is of major concern to Ireland, as it is to all Member States and the Commission. Ireland recognises that the prevention of violent extremism is an important aspect of ongoing work taking place at EU level, both in the context of the EU's Counter Terrorism Strategy and in the context of the EU's legal framework to combat racism and xenophobia. Ireland plays a full and active role, in co-operation with our EU counterparts, in the range of actions taking place. Indeed Council Conclusions calling for an update of the EU Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to Terrorism were adopted under the Irish Presidency of the Council (9447/13 JHA Council, Luxembourg, 6th and 7th June 2013) and An Garda Síochána is represented and plays an active part in the Commission's Radicalisation Awareness Network. Furthermore, the EU Counter-terrorism Agenda recognised the need to foster the creation and enhance national and local networks of prevent practitioners and mixed multi-stakeholder networks on radicalisation.

In the context of the risks posed by Islamist / Far Right extremists, at a national level there are many community based initiatives which are designed to promote positive communication with various groups in our society. An important aspect of the Garda approach is a community policing engagement with minority communities. The EU Radicalisation Awareness Network Policing (RAN POL)'s EU wide Mission Statement is as follows:

"Terrorism, violent extremism and the process of radicalisation are traditionally subjects for intelligence agencies or secret services, since they involve national security and classified information. However the police have a crucial role to play in facilitating a preventive multi-(or inter-) agency approach at local or regional level. Especially in local settings, it is the police that very often have strong networks. The police know the schools, youth groups and families but also the existing violent extremist groups. Police are a key player, and should be stimulated to optimise the professional networks and engage with communities".

This statement describes the AGS Community Policing role perfectly. Most EU countries have separate security services and police structures however in Ireland An Garda Síochána performs both functions, this role identified in RAN POL's mission statement refers specifically to mainstream policing. While An Garda Síochána's Community Engagement & Safety Bureau and Diversity Officers have strong community links with for example the Muslim community, it has not as yet put structures in place to optimise information and intelligence flow that might identify and prevent radicalisation and then assist with deradicalisation, rehabilitation, risk management, and reintegration. Proper integration of such a system into the wider Garda intelligence gathering mechanisms to ensure both effective investigative and public safety within a human rights framework needs to be fully developed and implemented. An Garda Síochána continues to actively monitor potential radical elements and engage with communities in order to prevent any rise in extremism. However due to constant developments in this area, ongoing and

refresher training is required to both inform and educate personnel, in order that they have the knowledge and capabilities to best tackle this problem. For example, It may be surprising for some to learn that knowledge of Islamic history, as understood by the extremist, is central to understanding and predicting his or her behaviour. This knowledge can help community police and other RAN members to properly identify Islamic extremism and radicalisation from other types of benign behaviour. Taking the wrong actions for the wrong reasons is detrimental to good community policing, and can damage the good relations that community policing relies upon.

What Ireland would specifically propose to do with the ISF money to build on the organizational policy is to complete the following Anti Radicalisation actions:

- Specialised training programme, in coordination with CEPOL
- Experiential learning and partnership with other EU member states
- Development of a community policing model and mechanism surrounding data gathering and analysis of radicalisation and extremism
- Deradicalization risk management and reintegration model development
- Interagency International Conference to cap the proposal drawing together the training and structures developed, as well as development of national and local networks of prevent practitioners and mixed multi-stakeholder networks on radicalisation.

This action would qualify for Higher financing through projects which aim to prevent and counter radicalization in Annex IV (1).

Key Action – Enhanced capabilities in the prevention of smuggling operations – Dog Unit.

The Fund shall contribute to achieving the specific objective set out in point (c) of Article 3(2) by focusing on the following implementation measures:

- (b) acquiring relevant equipment and setting up or upgrading specialised training facilities and other essential security- relevant infrastructure to increase preparedness, resilience, public awareness and adequate response as regards security threats;

An Garda are undertaking the following key actions as recommended:

- Annex III (k) - investing in equipment, means of transport, communication systems and essential security-relevant facilities;

Drugs, Firearms and Cash Smuggling

In ensuring that An Garda Síochána has the ability to adequately ensure Drugs, Firearms and Cash Smuggling detection and capabilities are maximised,

A key organisational goal for An Garda Síochána is the prevention and detection of Drugs, Firearms and Cash Smuggling activities, to carry out this function a number of approaches are utilised including inter-agency planning and cooperation, surveillance technology, intelligence operations, and constant research into international experience and best practice which are then incorporated into our training and operational plans to ensure our prevention, education, and detection capabilities are maximised.

Irish port traffic accounts for over 90% of imports and exports moved in and out of Ireland and facilitate an annual average of 4.5 million foot and car passengers.

When searching port containers, the aid of tactical cameras would provide an ability to have a live video feed back to the handler's handheld device and an audio communication facility in this system. This will allow the handler to have more control on commands given to the dog as some of these containers are not accessible by the handler. This will assist in preventing the smuggling of drugs, firearms and cash. The use of tactical cameras will greatly enhance the search capabilities of the dogs, during the course of live operations this technology will provide valuable feedback to command centres which will enhance the quality of real-time critical decision making to ensure successful outcomes are achieved. The use of this technology will also assist us in the training environment and provide valuable data which can also be shared with our foreign colleagues where the exchange of information and advice will prove valuable.

2.1. Specific objective 3. Preventing and combating crime

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 1: Output indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Target (2029)
O.3.1	Number of participants in training activities	number	275	1,100
O.3.2	Number of exchange programmes/workshops/study visits	number	9	15
O.3.3	Number of equipment items purchased	number	10	20
O.3.4	Number of transport means purchased	number	1	2
O.3.5	Number of items of infrastructure/security relevant facilities/tools/mechanisms constructed/ purchased/upgraded	number	10	10
O.3.6	Number of projects to prevent crime	number	2	4
O.3.7	Number of projects to assist victims of crime	number	3	3
O.3.8	Number of victims of crimes assisted	number	10	20

2.1. Specific objective 3. Preventing and combating crime

2.1.2. Indicators

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

Table 2: Result indicators

ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Measurement unit for baseline	Reference year(s)	Target (2029)	Measurement unit for target	Source of data	Comments
R.3.9	Number of initiatives developed / expanded to prevent radicalisation	number	0	number	2020-2021	1	number	Community Relations	
R.3.10	Number of initiatives developed / expanded to protect / support witnesses and whistle-blowers	number	0	number	2020-2021	0	number	Community Relations	
R.3.11	Number of critical infrastructure/public spaces with new/adapted facilities protecting against security related risks	number	0	number	2020-2021	10	number	Cyber, OSS, NSU	
R.3.12	Number of participants who consider the training useful for their work	number	0	share	2020-2021	990	number	Cyber, OSS, NSU, Community Relations	
R.3.13	Number of participants who report three months after leaving the training that they are using the skills and competences acquired during the training	number	0	share	2020-2021	990	number	Cyber, OSS, NSU, Community Relations	

2.1. Specific objective 3. Preventing and combating crime

2.1.3. Indicative breakdown of the programme resources (EU) by type of intervention

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

Table 3: Indicative breakdown

Type of intervention	Code		Indicative amount (Euro)
Type of action	001.	ICT systems, interoperability, data quality (excluding equipment)	831,648.92
Type of action	002.	Networks, centres of excellence, cooperation structures, joint actions and operations	2,414,373.13
Type of action	003.	Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) or other joint operations	0.00
Type of action	004.	Secondment or deployment of experts	0.00
Type of action	005.	Training	1,934,888.81
Type of action	006.	Exchange of best practices, workshops, conferences, events, awareness-raising campaigns, communication activities	345,628.36
Type of action	007.	Studies, pilot projects, risk assessments	0.00
Type of action	008.	Equipment	400,000.01
Type of action	009.	Means of transport	269,741.51
Type of action	010.	Buildings, facilities	269,741.51
Type of action	011.	Deployment or other follow-up of research projects	0.00

2.2. Technical assistance: TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)

Reference: point (f) of Article 22(3), Article 36(5), Article 37, and Article 95 CPR

2.2.1. Description

In the 2014 – 2020 ISF Programme, Ireland benefited from the Technical Assistance fund in a number of various ways. Primarily, it allowed for the funding of accounting and project management expertise, for the administration and running of the Internal Security Fund within Ireland. Secondly, it enabled the funding of expertise to conduct the interim evaluation which was carried out in 2018. Finally, Technical Assistance was utilised for funding the purchase of EU Publicity material, which has been displayed in each of the projects respectively (except for projects which were subject to strict security derogation), in order to highlight to those both partaking in the projects and the general public, that the EU helped fund Internal Security projects.

Under the 2021 – 2027 Programme, Ireland envisages utilising Technical Assistance funding under the following actions, in line with the Common Provisions Regulation, Articles 30, 32 and 89.

Monitoring and Management of the ISF Fund – Technical Assistance will primarily fund accounting and project management expertise to assist in the monitoring, management and administration of the ISF Fund, on behalf of the Department of Justice and An Garda Síochána. This will include any mid term or interim programme inspections as required under the Common Provisions Regulation. This range of expertise was something that was utilised in the 2014 – 2020 Programme, and given its success, will be employed for the 2021 – 2027 Programme, to ensure dedicated and professional oversight of the administration of the fund.

Communication of the ISF Fund – Given the regulations and requirements surrounding the publicising of EU assistance, Technical Assistance funding will be required to highlight the involvement of the EU within projects implemented under the National Programme.

Audit of the ISF Fund – Technical Assistance may be utilised to fund the audit of the ISF from year to year. The audit of the ISF can require expertise from audit professionals. Drawing from the Technical Assistance fund for this purpose may be required to ensure that the ISF audit is completed, as per EU regulations highlighted under the Common Provision Regulation. Furthermore, any interim evaluations carried out upon instruction from the EU, will be financed from the Technical Assistance fund.

2.2. Technical assistance TA.36(5). Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)

2.2.2. Indicative breakdown of technical assistance pursuant to Article 37 CPR

Table 4: Indicative breakdown

Type of intervention	Code	Indicative amount (Euro)
Intervention field	034.Information and communication	246,776.60
Intervention field	035.Preparation, implementation, monitoring and control	863,718.34
Intervention field	037.Capacity building	123,388.30

3. Financing plan

Reference: point (g) Article 22(3) CPR

3.1. Financial appropriations by year

Table 5: Financial appropriations per year

Allocation type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Initial allocation		3,003,406.00	4,495,266.00	4,386,491.00	3,781,055.00	3,216,237.00	2,916,149.00	21,798,604.00
Mid-term review								
Thematic facility WPI								
Thematic facility WP II								
Thematic facility WP III								
Transfer (in)								
Transfer (out)								
Total		3,003,406.00	4,495,266.00	4,386,491.00	3,781,055.00	3,216,237.00	2,916,149.00	21,798,604.00

3.2. Total financial allocations

Table 6: Total financial allocations by fund and national contribution

Specific objective (SO)	Type of action	Basis for calculation Union support (total or public)	Union contribution (a)	National contribution (b)=(c)+(d)	Indicative breakdown of national contribution		Total (e)=(a)+(b)	Co-financing rate (f)=(a)/(e)
					Public (c)	Private (d)		
Exchange of information	Regular actions	Total	4,064,900.01	1,354,966.67	1,354,966.67	0.00	5,419,866.68	75.000000000000%
Exchange of information	Annex IV actions	Total	3,734,100.00	414,900.00	414,900.00	0.00	4,149,000.00	90.000000000000%
Total Exchange of information			7,799,000.01	1,769,866.67	1,769,866.67	0.00	9,568,866.68	81.5039050163%
Cross-border cooperation	Regular actions	Total	5,696,535.87	1,898,845.29	1,898,845.29	0.00	7,595,381.16	75.000000000000%
Cross-border cooperation	Annex IV actions	Total	603,162.63	67,018.07	67,018.07	0.00	670,180.70	90.000000000000%
Total Cross-border cooperation			6,299,698.50	1,965,863.36	1,965,863.36	0.00	8,265,561.86	76.2162162319%
Preventing and combating crime	Regular actions	Total	825,925.92	275,308.64	275,308.64	0.00	1,101,234.56	75.000000000000%
Preventing and combating crime	Annex IV actions	Total	5,640,096.33	626,677.37	626,677.37	0.00	6,266,773.70	90.000000000000%
Total Preventing and combating crime			6,466,022.25	901,986.01	901,986.01	0.00	7,368,008.26	87.7580754775%
Technical assistance - flat rate (Art. 36(5) CPR)			1,233,883.24				1,233,883.24	100.000000000000%
Grand total			21,798,604.00	4,637,716.04	4,637,716.04	0.00	26,436,320.04	82.4570286901%

3.3. Transfers

Table 7: Transfers between shared management funds¹

Transferring fund	Receiving fund						
	AMIF	BMVI	ERDF	ESF+	CF	EMFAF	Total
ISF							

¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

Table 8: Transfers to instruments under direct or indirect management¹

Instrument	Transfer Amount
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¹Cumulative amounts for all transfers during programming period.

4. Enabling conditions

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

Table 9: Horizontal enabling conditions

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
1. Effective monitoring mechanisms of the public procurement market	Yes	<p>Monitoring mechanisms are in place that cover all public contracts and their procurement under the Funds in line with Union procurement legislation. That requirement includes:</p> <p>1. Arrangements to ensure compilation of effective and reliable data on public procurement procedures above the Union thresholds in accordance with reporting obligations under Articles 83 and 84 of Directive 2014/24/EU and Articles 99 and 100 of Directive 2014/25/EU.</p>	Yes	<p>National Public Procurement Policy Framework https://ogp.gov.ie/national-public-procurement-policy-framework/</p> <p>National Public Procurement Guidelines on Goods and Services https://ogp.gov.ie/public-procurement-guidelines-for-goods-and-services/ www.eTenders.gov.ie</p> <p>Capital Works Management Framework https://constructionprocurement.gov.ie/</p> <p>DPER circular 13/2015 https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/2b0103e70fec4127983d2c1e60e0546d/ This will be updated for 21-27 period.</p> <p>Refer to the "Enabling Conditions - Long Version" Document</p>	<p>The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) has responsibility for developing and setting out the overarching policy framework for public procurement in Ireland.</p> <p>The National Public Procurement Guidelines outline the responsibilities of contracting authorities to comply with monitoring and reporting arrangements in line with EU procurement legislation.</p> <p>eTenders provides a central facility for advertisement of procurement opportunities and award notices across the public sector which is reported on by OGP.</p> <p>The CWMF is an integrated set of contractual provisions, guidance material and technical procedures which covers all aspects of the delivery process of a public works project from inception to final project delivery and review.</p> <p>Please refer to the "Enabling Conditions - Long Version" Document</p> <p>The National Public Procurement Guidelines set out these arrangements on page 72-73.</p>
		<p>2. Arrangements to ensure the data cover at least the following elements:</p> <p>a. Quality and intensity of competition: names of winning bidder, number of initial</p>	Yes	<p>https://ogp.gov.ie/public-procurement-guidelines-for-goods-and-services/</p>	

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		<p>bidder and contractual value;</p> <p>b. Information on final price after completion and on participation of SMEs as direct bidders, where national systems provide such information.</p>		<p>https://www.etenders.gov.ie/Media/Default/Content/LegislationGuides/Circular_10_-_14_0.pdf</p>	<p>Information on price at award is provided in the Contract Award Notice required for every contract above the value of €25,000.</p> <p>eTenders, the national procurement platform, records the details of all interested bidders. eTenders is a live platform. In addition, page 22-23 of the National Procurement Guidelines on Goods and Services set out the policy on SME participation in public procurement.</p>
		<p>3. Arrangements to ensure monitoring and analysis of the data by the competent national authorities in accordance with article 83 (2) of directive 2014/24/EU and article 99 (2) of directive 2014/25/EU.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>www.etenders.gov.ie</p> <p>Report of the Interim Procurement Reform Board</p>	<p>OGP analyses the data captured on eTenders and prepares Article 83 and Article 99 reports to the European Commission as required.</p> <p>This document that is regularly published and contains additional information.</p>
		<p>4. Arrangements to make 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.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Public Service Spend and Tendering Analysis</p> <p>https://ogp.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/OGP-2017-Public-Service-Spend-and-Tendering-Analysis.pdf</p> <p>Report of the Interim Procurement Reform Board</p>	<p>Reports are published on the OGP website once finalised. The OGP also publishes an annual Spend and Tendering Analysis report.</p> <p>This document that is regularly published contains additional information.</p>
		<p>5. Arrangements to ensure that all</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>National Public Procurement Guidelines</p>	<p>Contracting Authorities must report</p>

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		<p>information pointing to suspected bid-rigging situations is communicated to the competent national bodies in accordance with Article 83(2) of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 99(2) of Directive 2014/25/EU.</p>		<p>on Goods and Services- https://ogp.gov.ie/public-procurement-guidelines-for-goods-and-services/ https://www.ccpcc.ie/business/help-for-business/guidelines-for-business/bid-rigging-what-you-need-to-know/</p>	<p>suspected bid-rigging to the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (see p. 19 of guidelines)</p> <p>The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) is an independent statutory body with a dual mandate to enforce competition and consumer protection law in Ireland. It regularly publishes information for consumers and businesses. For example, it recently published a “Business Guide on Bid Rigging”.</p> <p>Ireland’s Anti-Fraud Coordination Service (AFCOS) based in the EU and International Division of Dept of Finance are responsible for anti-fraud coordination for EU funds in Ireland.</p>
<p>3. Effective application and implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Effective mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (‘the Charter’) which include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrangements to ensure compliance of the programmes supported by the Funds and their implementation with the relevant provisions of the Charter. 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014</p> <p>IHREC Strategy Statement</p> <p>Implementing the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty</p> <p>Guidance Tool on Equality and Human Rights in EU Funds</p>	<p>The MAs will ensure compliance with the Charter in all Funds.</p> <p>IHREC will support the MAs with monitoring, assisting to ensure compliance with the Charter.</p> <p>The Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty (the Duty) requires public bodies to have regard to non-discrimination, equality, and human rights in carrying out their functions. Adherence to the Duty by all implementing bodies will help to ensure compliance with the Charter.</p>

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
					<p>Building on the Duty, a guidance tool has been developed with IHREC to assist Intermediate Bodies (IBs) and Beneficiaries in advancing equality and human rights.</p> <p>IHREC will be invited to sit on the PMCs and will be consulted throughout the development of the PA and OPs and in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of OPs.</p> <p>Compliance will be ensured through application of the Duty and with the help of the Commission’s ‘Fundamental Rights Checklist’ and IHREC guidance. Each IB or scheme delivery partner will report annually on progress in relation to human rights and equality and on continued compliance with the Charter.</p> <p>Training on human rights and equality will be procured and provided to staff in the MAs, IBs and Beneficiaries as required.</p>
	<p>2. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the Charter and complaints regarding the Charter submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7).</p>		Yes	<p>Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014</p> <p>IHREC Strategy Statement</p> <p>Implementing the Public Sector Equality</p>	<p>Where a complaint regarding the Charter or potential case of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the Charter is brought to the attention of the MA, the MA will establish the facts of the case. If the case is established by the MA to be a potential breach of the Charter, the MA will request that IHREC provide an</p>

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
4. Implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) in accordance with Council Decision	Yes	A national framework to ensure implementation of the UNCRPD is in place that includes: 1. Objectives with measurable goals, data collection and monitoring mechanisms.	Yes	and Human Rights Duty Guidance Tool on Equality and Human Rights in EU Funds	<p>assessment. The MA will state clearly the reasons for its belief that a potential breach of the Charter has occurred.</p> <p>Upon formal receipt of such a request, IHREC will complete their assessment with reference to Ireland's obligations under the Charter.</p> <p>Where IHREC deem that the Charter has not been complied with they will inform the Monitoring Committee. IHREC will set out its findings in a report and propose recommendations, if any, drawing on the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty and the guidance tool developed by IHREC and the MAs to support integration of equality and human rights standards under the Funds. The MA will respond and inform the Committee of any remedial actions taken and of the scope to draw lessons for the implementation of programmes. Reporting on any cases of non-compliance and complaints will take place at least annually.</p> <p>The current mechanism to implement the UNCRPD commitments is the National Disability Inclusion Strategy (NDIS) and its Steering Group.</p> <p>The NDIS has been extended until the end of 2022 with implementation of actions and monitoring by the NDIS Steering Group continuing. Progress is tracked</p>

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
2010/48/EC				<p>IHREC - UNCRPD</p> <p>NDA – Monitoring of NDIS</p> <p>Launch of Disability Consultation Network</p>	<p>against a set of 62 indicators identified by the National Disability Authority (NDA). There will be ongoing assessment of the implementation of actions identified in the NDIS until the strategy concludes. The Mid-Term review of the NDIS commits to the development of a specific UNCRPD implementation plan, expected in 2022.</p> <p>The Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities (CESPD) is also of particular relevance in relation to Article 27 of the UNCRPD.</p> <p>IHREC is the independent monitoring mechanism for UNCRPD in Ireland, and will work with the NDA to carry out this task.</p> <p>A Disability Participation and Consultation Network has been established to ensure that persons with disabilities have input into the formation of policy and legislation in Ireland.</p> <p>The MAs will ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards are properly reflected in the preparation and implementation of programmes. Where relevant, interventions will be aligned with and enable progress on the implementation of the NDIS & CESPD.</p> <p>The NDA and IHREC are members of the Partnership Process Steering Group which</p>
		2. Arrangements to ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards are properly reflected in the preparation and implementation of the programmes.	Yes	<p>The National Disability Inclusion Strategy</p> <p>Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities 2015-24</p> <p>Disability Act 2005</p> <p>Employment Equality Act 1998-2015</p>	

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
		<p>3. Reporting arrangements to the monitoring committee regarding cases of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with the UNCRPD and complaints regarding the UNCRPD submitted in accordance with the arrangements made pursuant to Article 69(7).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Equal Status Act 2000-2018</p> <p>NDA Code of Practice on Accessibility of Public Services and Information provided by Public Bodies</p> <p>NDA Centre for Excellence in Universal Design</p> <p>Implementing the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty</p>	<p>advises on preparation for 2021-27 and will be consulted throughout the development of the PA and OPs. They will be invited to sit on the Monitoring Committees.</p> <p>The MAs will ensure that accessibility policy, legislation and standards will be reflected in all stages through consultation on key documents and active monitoring. Relevant policy, legislation and standards include the NDIS, CESP, the Disability Act and the Equality Acts. The NDA and IHREC have developed detailed guidance for use by public bodies involved in preparation and implementation of programmes. Each IB or scheme delivery partner will report annually on disability issues.</p> <p>Training in relation to disability issues will be procured and provided to staff in the MAs, IBs and Beneficiaries as required.</p> <p>Where a complaint regarding UNCRPD or potential case of non-compliance of operations supported by the Funds with UNCRPD is brought to the attention of the MA, the MA will establish the facts of the case. If the case is established by the MA to be a potential breach of UNCRPD, the MA will request that IHREC provide their assessment. The MA will state clearly the reasons for its belief that a potential breach of UNCRPD has occurred.</p>

Enabling condition	Fulfilment of enabling condition	Criteria	Fulfilment of criteria	Reference to relevant documents	Justification
					<p>Upon formal receipt of this request, IHREC will complete their assessment with reference to Ireland's obligations under UNCRPD, the Employment Equality Acts and the Equal Status Acts. Where IHREC deem that UNCRPD has not been complied with, they will inform the Monitoring Committee. IHREC will set out its findings in a report and propose recommendations, if any, drawing on the Public Sector Duty and the guidance tool developed by IHREC and the MAs to support integration of equality and human rights under the Funds. The MA will respond and inform the Committee of any remedial actions taken and of the scope to draw lessons for the implementation of programmes. Reporting on any cases of non-compliance and complaints will take place at least annually.</p>

5. Programme authorities

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

Table 10: Programme authorities

Programme Authority	Name of the institution	Contact name	Position	Email
Managing authority	An Garda Síochána	Ms Kathrynna Clifford	Directorate of Finance	Kathryna.Clifford@garda.ie
Audit authority	An Garda Síochána Audit Committee	Mr Brendan Power	Head of Internal Audit	gias@garda.ie
Body which receives payments from the Commission	An Garda Síochána	Ms Kathrynna Clifford	Directorate of Finance	Kathryna.Clifford@garda.ie

6. Partnership

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

An Garda Síochána, as the sole policing force which encompasses all policing and security activity at all national and regional levels, led consultations both within the various branches of the organisation and with the Department of Justice and Equality. This was completed in order to conduct policy dialogue in relation to Ireland's National Programme. Limited discussions with non-public authorities with prior engagement on relevant EU funding streams were undertaken by An Garda Síochána – these included relevant third level institutions such as University College Dublin for organising Cybercrime training modules in the previous programme. Other partnerships formed were AGS with Mary Immacualte Collège on human trafficking which AGS are now proposing to use with the next round of funding. The Community Relations team who are leading the Anti Radicalisation programme form various partnerships and get input from many specialist groups to input into their training programmes. This is in line with Article 6 (1) of the Common Provisions Regulation that Ireland are forming partnerships with relevant authorities.

In approaching the Partnership Principle, consideration must be given to ensure that no state secret information/ security sensitive information may become public knowledge that could adversely affect planned or on-going security and policing projects/ strategies. An Garda Síochána (“AGS”) have given consideration as to how we can align our operations to comply with Article 8 (1) and Article 39 (1) of the CPR Regulation. This will be achieved through slightly amending our Monitoring Committee agenda. It is standard procedure of the Monitoring Committee to meet on a quarterly basis to ensure adequate programme progression is maintained and any pressing issues are addressed, in compliance with Article 33 (3) of the CPR Regulation. The Monitoring Committee is chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer and is attended by members of the various departments of ISF importance. This has been the procedure for previous funding programmes and will be the case for the programme from 2021-2027. However, strategic changes in structure of these quarterly meetings will be introduced to comply with the Partnership principle. AGS will dedicate a section of their quarterly Monitoring Committee meeting to the review and discussion of feedback provided to them by nominated and qualified third party external bodies. These external bodies may consist of and not limited to regional and local authorities, urban and public authorities, economic and social partners, environmental partners, civil society bodies promoting social inclusion, fundamental rights, gender equality, non-discrimination and rights of persons with disabilities. These chosen bodies will be in compliance with Article 8(1) of the CPR Regulation.

AGS intend to use a dedicated section of the AGS website as part of its operational process to comply with the Partnership aspects of this program. The dedicated website will be used as a source of information from qualified third-party external bodies whose expertise qualify them to provide commentary on project progression and strategies going forward. These external bodies will be privy to quarterly update reports on the various projects that make up the 2021 – 2027 National Programme. Additionally, these qualified third-party external bodies will be provided with a report containing minutes from the quarterly Monitoring Committee meeting that has taken place. These bodies will be provided the platform to provide feedback they have on the ISF project progression specific to their organisation, and also provide any strategy suggestions for the National Program through the form of written submission. Following the submission of any written feedback, this feedback will be reviewed and discussed at the upcoming Monitoring Committee which will be contained in meeting minutes.

Respect of Privacy and Human Rights also play an important role in the projects and where this is sensitive, particular attention is also to be paid to it by involving relevant partners in the development, implementation and monitoring phase for the different aspects, including ethical, legal and privacy related of the selected projects linked to AI under the various specific objectives.

Following the Policy Dialogue An Garda Síochána outlined proposals for inclusion in a draft National Plan for ISF. These submissions were analysed by the Responsible Authority within An Garda Síochána and were the subject of significant bilateral discussion thereafter involving the existing Monitoring Committee and the International Coordination Unit within An Garda Síochána. It should be noted that the Monitoring Committee includes representatives from the Department of Justice and Equality. Proposals were examined to determine their relevance and quality in context of national and EU priorities. Following bilateral discussions, a draft National Plan was circulated for consultation and this was followed by formal meetings to discuss individual strands (discussions encompassed budgets, indicators etc).

In November 2019, a Joint Investigation Team was established by An Garda Síochána and the PSNI, under Article 20 of the Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, to tackle cross border criminality. This is the first Joint Investigation Team in which An Garda Síochána has taken part, and has led to major seizures of weaponry that has degraded the capability of dissident groups, convictions for terrorism offences and large-scale preparations for potential terrorist incidents. Such work would not have been possible without close co-operation and information sharing with our international law enforcement partners, but most particularly with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI). This is a partnership which will continue with ISF funds in line with Article 6.

7. Communication and visibility

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

Ireland aims to follow and implement all aspects of the Common Provisions Regulation, Chapter III, Section I, Visibility or Support from the Funds and Section II, Transparency of Implementation of the Funds and Communication on Programmes'. To do this Ireland has established its communication priorities for the programme.

These include;

Section I – Article 46 - Visibility

Ireland will ensure the visibility of support in all activities in relation to the ISF. A website / portal will be set up to ensure this. Ireland will utilise as many communication tools as possible to communicate key actions completed under the programme with the EU's assistance to highlight key achievements.

Section I – Article 47 - Emblem of the Union

Ireland will utilise the EU emblem in line with Annex VIII. This will ensure visibility to the wider public of the EU's active role in funding internal security projects, including plaques and all equipment with the ISF logo included.

Section I – Article 48 - Communication officers and networks

Ireland will identify a communication coordinator for visibility, transparency and communication activities. They will ensure the above visibility and EU emblem obligations are fulfilled.

Communication activities will be funded from the Technical Assistance fund as per article 29 of the Common Provisions Regulation. From Ireland's experience in the 2014 – 2020 Programme, it is anticipated that the cost of communication activities will be minimal for the 2021 – 2027 Programme and will not form a substantive portion of Technical Assistance funding.

Section II – Article 49 - Responsibilities of the managing authority

The Responsible authority on behalf of the fund will assume the managing authority role for communications and visibility. Included in this is setting up the portal for the fund. This will be set up within 6 months of the launch of the programme. Included on this portal a summary of all calls for proposals will be listed. A list of operations currently being carried out by the fund will also be available on the portal.

Section II – Article 50 - Responsibilities of beneficiaries

An Garda Síochána as the beneficiaries of the fund will ensure to publish appropriate activities on various channels. These channels will include; newspaper articles, a dedicated website, social media platforms as well as documentation highlighting the involvement of the EU on any training materials, poster and infrastructure. The use of these channels will create a broad and diverse target audience which will have the aim of maximising the communication of the work of the fund, to as many people as possible, both nationally and internationally.

Using these priorities, Ireland then plans to utilise a number of indicators relevant to communication

activities for the Programme. These indicators shall be used to assess, at regular intervals, the success or otherwise of Ireland in achieving its communication obligations under the Common Provisions Regulation. Indicators shall include;

- EU involvement has been highlighted to project beneficiaries
- EU involvement has been highlighted to the greater public

8. Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 CPR

Intended use of Articles 94 and 95 CPR	Yes	No
From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates under the priority according to Article 94 CPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs according to Article 95 CPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Appendix 1 : Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates

A. Summary of the main elements

Specific objective	Estimated proportion of the total financial allocation within the specific objective to which the SCO will be applied in %	Type(s) of operation covered		Indicator triggering reimbursement (2)		Unit of measurement for the indicator triggering reimbursement	Type of SCO (standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates)	Amount (in EUR) or percentage (in case of flat rates) of the SCO
		Code(1)	Description	Code(2)	Description			

(1) This refers to the code in Annex VI of the AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations

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

Appendix 1 : Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates
B. Details by type of operation

C. Calculation of the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates

1. Source of data used to calculate the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates (who produced, collected and recorded the data, where the data is stored, cut-off dates, validation, etc.)

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2. Please specify why the proposed method and calculation based on Article 94(2) CPR is relevant to the type of operation.

3. Please specify how the calculations were made, in particular including any assumptions made in terms of quality or quantities. Where relevant, statistical evidence and benchmarks should be used and, if requested, provided in a format that is usable by the Commission.

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4. Please explain how you have ensured that only eligible expenditure was included in the calculation of the standard scale of unit cost, lump sum or flat rate.

5. Assessment of the audit authority(ies) of the calculation methodology and amounts and the arrangements to ensure the verification, quality, collection and storage of data.

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Appendix 2: Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs

A. Summary of the main elements

Specific objective	The amount covered by the financing not linked to costs	Type(s) of operation covered		Conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Indicators		Unit of measurement for the conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Envisaged type of reimbursement method used to reimburse the beneficiary(ies)
		Code(1)	Description		Code(2)	Description		

(1) Refers to the code in Annex VI of the AMIF, BMVI and ISF Regulations.

(2) Refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable.

B. Details by type of operation

DOCUMENTS

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent by
Enabling Conditions - Long Version	Supplementary Information	12 Oct 2022		Ares(2022)7085858	Enabling Conditions - Long Version	13 Oct 2022	Malone, Gail
Programme snapshot 2021IE65ISPR001 1.1	Snapshot of data before send	13 Oct 2022		Ares(2022)7085858	Programme_snapshot_2021IE65ISPR001_1.1_en.pdf	13 Oct 2022	Malone, Gail