

Mid-Term Evaluation of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund Program (AMIF 2030)

Executive Summary

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TECHNICAL SHEET

Contract: Acquisition of services to carry out the Mid-Term Evaluation of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund Programme

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Aims, object and scope of evaluation

The object of the evaluation and its relationship to previous funding

On 8 December 2022, the European Commission approved¹ Portugal's programme to receive support from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund for the period between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2027, thus succeeding the AMIF from the previous funding period (2014-2020), whose implementation deadline was extended until the end of 2023. The first reprogramming of the Programme was approved on 23 October 2023 by Decision C(2023)7348.

Decree-Law no. 5/2023 of 25 January, which establishes the governance model for European Funds for the 2021-2027 programming period, introduced changes to the previous model. In this Decree-Law, the Specific Subcommittee for the FAMI Programme of the Interministerial Comissão Interministerial de Coordenação (CIC) for Portugal 2030 is assigned political coordination, and the Agência para o Desenvolvimento e Coesão, I.P. (AD&C) is given technical coordination and the role of AD&C with technical coordination and responsibility for payment and certification, the FAMI 2030 Managing Authority (MA) with management, the FAMI 2030 Monitoring Committee (MC) with monitoring, the Inspeção-Geral de Finanças (IGF) with auditing, as well as liaison functions distributed among various functional liaison networks.

Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund defines the Fund's strategic objective as "*contributing to the effective management of migration flows and to the implementation, strengthening and development of the common asylum policy and the common immigration policy, in line with the applicable Union acquis and in full respect of the international obligations of the Union and the Member States arising from the international instruments to which they are party*". To achieve the Programme's strategic objective, four specific objectives (SO) were defined: i) SO1 - Asylum (€20.5 million); ii) SO2 - Legal Migration and Integration (€22 million); iii) SO3 - Return (€12 million); iv) SO4 - Solidarity (€13.6 million). In addition to the actions under the specific objectives, actions are planned under the Programme's Technical Assistance (€4.1 million), whose mission is to support the activities necessary for the effective administration and use of the Fund.

The final recipients of support are third-country nationals (TCN). Professionals and volunteers working with TCN and the host society may receive support from the Fund in specific cases. At the cut-off date for this evaluation (31 December 2023), eight Calls for Applications had been launched and closed, with only one open. In addition, Deliberation No. 01/2024/PL of the Portugal 2030 CIC, which approved the Annual Call Plan for 2024, provides that 11 more Calls will be launched from January to December, covering all the specific objectives.

Evaluation objectives and expected results

The Mid-Term Evaluation of the FAMI 2030 Programme covers the period between the start of the programming cycle and 31 December 2023. The evaluation exercise aims to improve the Programme's design and implementation quality by identifying and proposing solutions to potential problems. The contributions and recommendations will also inform the political cycle and lay the foundations for the *ex-post* evaluation at the end of the programme period. The evaluation considers the criteria of effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, and Union added value, which is broken down into 13 evaluation questions, covering aspects such as the progress made in achieving the planned objectives, the efficiency of the management and control measures adopted and the continued relevance and appropriateness, the coordination, coherence and complementarity of the actions supported by the Fund and other Union funds, and the Union added value of the actions implemented under the Fund.

Methodological Approach

Given the early stage of the Programme's implementation (with only three operations approved as of 31/12/2023), the evaluation focuses on the relevance of the Programme and its instruments, operational and procedural aspects and ways to simplify the implementation of FAMI 2030 in the future.

The methodology emphasises the intervention logic framework underlying the specific objectives and implementation measures. To build a "narrative" that is recognised as plausible and that is tested using a *mix of* quantitative and qualitative data, the process of structuring the intervention logical framework includes identifying

¹ Decision C(2022) 9332 final.



the specific objectives of FAMI 2030 and defining the Programme's intervention logic and mapping the results chain implicit in the programming.

The methodological approach is anchored in a diverse range of methods and techniques for collecting data, processing and analysing quantitative and qualitative information, selected according to a careful reading of the technical and methodological implications associated with each evaluation question, which includes: i) documentary and *deskwork* collection of strategic and programming documents, framing public policies related to the object of the evaluation; ii) data collection via the FAMI 2030 Information System, the National Statistical System and the Migration Observatory; iii) 8 interviews/meetings with representatives of various entities, whose positions, knowledge and experience constitute contributions of the utmost importance to understanding the various dimensions of the evaluation study; iv) a survey of applicant entities to gather primary qualitative and quantitative information; v) two *focus groups* on the governance model and coordination of interventions and sources of funding and the relevance and implementation of the Programme.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Relevance

The initial analysis of problems and needs remains up to date and is in line with the current and future needs of the Portuguese-speaking population (the strategy initially developed enables the most relevant needs to be met). However, an unprecedented increase in asylum applications and migratory flows from Portuguese-speaking countries to Portugal, must be monitored to ensure that the Programme continues to respond to current and future needs. The Programme's financial allocation is insufficient to meet the current challenges and is not dimensioned for these recent changes in context. A more significant financial allocation will lead to an increase in the number of Calls and, consequently, applications, and it will be necessary to strengthen the human resources allocated to the FAMI 2030 Programme to ensure greater efficiency in the various stages of the process.

The Programme's *stakeholders* are appropriate and relevant, having been correctly identified and in line with the objectives of the FAMI 2030 Programme. The Monitoring Committee plays a significant role, enabling positive bidirectional gains (key moments for joint reflection and information sharing by each partner).

Effectiveness

The start-up of FAMI 2030 was conditioned by external events, particularly changes in the legal and institutional framework for migration and asylum, as well as by circumstances internal to the fund's management. Restructuring the public administration bodies with the main competences and responsibilities in the field of asylum and migration, which lasted almost two years, created difficulties in mobilising the relevant interlocutor, both for the MA and the beneficiary entities.

The creation of the MA changed the Programme's coordination with beneficiary entities, particularly those that had experience working with the managing body in the previous programming period, with the inherent difficulties of establishing new communication channels and practices. The overlap in time between the two organisations responsible for closing FAMI (2014 - 2020) and starting FAMI 2030 generated some inefficiencies and demanded the MA to manage the beneficiaries' expectations. The experience of the MA, whose team is being consolidated, and the liaison with stakeholders – through the Monitoring Committee and bilateral/thematic meetings – proved to be preponderant in the transition between programme periods and in adopting adaptive correction strategies.

There have been several improvements in the quality of the Calls compared to the previous programme period, in terms of institutional collaboration, the annual planning of the calls, the detail of the information available and the scope of the target audiences included, which promotes complementarity between projects and boosts the creation of economies of scale. The amount of public support available and the funding conditions are the factors that most conditions demand and, it is anticipated, the implementation of projects capable of achieving the Programme's objectives. The potential demand for FAMI 2030 is still comprised of a network of organisations with a low self-financing capacity and heavily dependent on public funds, particularly FAMI 2030. Demand for the Calls exceeded the available funding, reflecting the needs of the potential beneficiaries, especially the substantially high levels of demand for outreach responses, Local Migrant Integration Support Centers (LMISC) and intercultural education in schools.

Considering the initial start-up phase of the programme, the MA was able to develop an initial strategy for launching Calls that covered all the objectives and responded quickly to the most obvious needs, whether from the point of view of the urgency of resolving them, the return of support for continuity projects, or the promotion of operational efficiency and the restructuring of a system with high funding needs and overloaded with administrative backlogs.

Even so, the constraints of the start-up of FAMI 2030 were felt by beneficiary organisations as an "*interruption*" in the funding cycle, with an increase in unpredictability until the first calls for proposals were launched. These impacts were more significant for organisations heavily dependent on FAMI funding, jeopardising the viability of activities and the maintenance of teams. In the transition between programme frameworks, it was impossible to avoid the loss of European funding for local LMISC without immediate alternative funding sources, raising concerns about the sustainability of this response in critical territories, especially in terms of financial capacity for the continuity of more qualified interventions.

The common indicators selected to gauge the Programme's performance and effectiveness are objective, measurable and relevant to assessing the progress of the different types of intervention planned, although not exhaustively and with a clear preponderance of output indicators over result indicators. The diversity of effects associated with the interventions supported by FAMI 2030 goes beyond the results conveyed by the standard indicators, identifying priority areas for intervention in the Programme and with a significant initial allocation not expressed in them, particularly in SO1 and SO3.

The MA systematically assesses the need to contract specific indicators to fill the main gaps in the common indicators. It has already led to the decision to include new indicators in the Calls, focusing more on the results targeted by the Programme and improving the proportionality between the financial expression of the various types of intervention and their coverage by indicators. In this process, the MA has shown attention to the principle of parsimony, avoiding the unnecessary multiplication of indicators for the same type of intervention, to the extent that the practice has not been extended to all Calls, focussing on cases where apparent gaps in the common indicators have been identified.

The ability to fulfil the targets worries the beneficiaries, even those with more experience and implantation in the territory, against a backdrop of solid uncertainty about possible changes to the legal and regulatory framework in migration and asylum that will impact the flows of entry and stay of TCN.

The data stored in the Programme's information system makes it possible to generate sufficient evidence for a future estimate of the impacts of FAMI 2030. However, the preparation of a practical and helpful impact assessment also depends on the MA working in good time with the entities that produce the bases in the public administration and the National Statistical System to guarantee the production of information with the necessary level of disaggregation and access to micro-data in strict compliance with data protection requirements.

The FAMI 2030 Communication Strategy was fundamental in the transition period between the two programming frameworks with very different governance models, benefiting positively from the sharing of resources within the scope of the PT 2030 Communication Strategy and Plan, such as the Balcão dos Fundos e Linha dos Fundos and the Portugal 2030 *multisite*. The Strategy provides for monitoring procedures that are considered adequate overall, given the scope of the stipulated indicators. The implementation of the first phase of the FAMI 2030 Communication Plan is in line with what was planned, and the actions set out in the Global Communication Plan for PT 2030 and shows very satisfactory levels of achievement, which indicates some underestimation of the targets.

Promoting direct contact with *stakeholders* through the Monitoring Committee, bilateral/thematic meetings or webinars aimed at beneficiaries proved to be very useful in publicising opportunities and clarifying frequently asked questions.

Despite the usefulness of the various communication tools mobilised by the MA to raise awareness of the Programme and knowledge about the support available, there are still gaps in knowledge among potential beneficiaries about the current format and regulations of FAMI 2030 and the separation of functions of the MAI General Secretariat, the FAMI 2030 MA and even Agência para a Integração, Migrações e Asilo itself.

In the current Community programming framework, there has been a growing adequacy and flexibility of the available procedures, which has helped to adapt the Programme to the changing dynamics of the problems and needs observed in migration and asylum. However, the unprecedented intensification of migratory flows and asylum seekers to the European Union and each Member State creates additional challenges. It reduces the scope of the changes that have taken place regarding the adequacy and flexibility of the available procedures. As such, there is a need to reassess these factors to mitigate their negative effect on FAMI 2030 in the remaining programme period.

The principle of partnership, which is fundamental to ensuring the effectiveness of the FAMI 2030 Programme, has been guaranteed throughout the Programme's life cycle. The strategy for identifying, informing, and reaching out to the most relevant partners and ensuring their representation on the Monitoring Committee has proved appropriate and effective, with a very broad and heterogeneous ecosystem of actors and a multi-level intervention.



In practical terms, the existing measures to ensure the involvement of the relevant partners in the different phases of the Programme are being consolidated, partly due to the Programme's short implementation period. The weight of European funds more procedural/bureaucratic competencies assigned to the Monitoring Committee mitigates its potential for strategic consultation.

The FAMI 2030 Programme respects and promotes horizontal principles, presenting the appropriate organisational and procedural mechanisms. Their cross-cutting integration into FAMI 2030 continues to be crucial, both in terms of promoting and respecting the principles themselves, promoting the social inclusion of NPTs in Portuguese society, and for their pedagogical importance and changing the behaviour of the beneficiaries (some projects include the development of actions to raise awareness of the principles).

Efficiency

The demand for the most popular Calls shows significant variability in the requested funds. In these circumstances, to promote efficiency in the application of the fund about the results obtained, challenges arise in analysing and selecting the applications to be supported, be it the ability to identify situations of under- or over-sizing of the fund requested or the definition of indicator targets for each project that adequately reflect the intensity of the fund approved.

The selection of the LMISC supported and the setting of the respective targets - which is based on a potential relationship between resources and results - proved to be particularly sensitive in this start-up phase of FAMI 2030 and made it clear how difficult it was to reconcile the logic of European funding with sustaining this social response on the ground.

The definition, approval, and initial implementation of the Management and Control System were timely and suitable for meeting the requirements of managing and operationalising the operations cycle, ensuring reliable, validated, and up-to-date computerised recording and data storage on each operation. In the short time that elapsed between the appointment of the Management Committee of the MA and the approval of the first version of the Description of the Management and Control System, a wide range of measures and instruments were drawn up and approved to materialise its risk prevention and management strategy.

A diverse set of planned and necessary management modules still needs to be developed and stabilised in the IS, forcing the adoption of contingency solutions that have made the Managing Authority work less efficient.

The effects of the simplification, transparency and predictability measures in the management of the Programme are valued, especially the publication of the annual plan of notices, the improvement of the content of the Calls and the adoption of simplified cost methodologies. Even so, the complexity and demands of the application process and monitoring the implementation of operations remain a constraint, particularly affecting beneficiary organisations with smaller teams and no previous experience with European funds.

From the MA's point of view, the Simplified Cost Options (SCO) contribute to a reduction in the administrative burden and a decrease in the time devoted to the financial components of applications and, overall, in the time spent by technicians analysing applications while also anticipating efficiency gains in the processing of payment requests and a reduction in the error rate. From the beneficiaries' point of view, the CSOs make it possible to simplify the application process, reduce administrative burdens and facilitate a greater focus on achievements and results during project planning and application. Within an overall framework of strong receptiveness to the application of the CSTs, operationalisation requires a careful assessment of the suitability of the CSTs and the parameters set (categories of expenditure considered as eligible direct costs and the value of the flat rate) to the nature of the projects, as well as a continued effort by the MA to communicate and explain the information included in the CAAs.

The Balcão dos Fundos and the Linha dos Fundos are a single gateway to Portugal 2030 and FAMI 2030 and contribute to simplifying and reducing the administrative burden on beneficiaries. Some of the Balcão dos Fundos and the Linha dos Fundos functionalities could still be improved, making it easier for beneficiaries to use them, particularly the need to provide more technical support to users and more support in clarifying doubts/requests.

Consistency

The FAMI 2030 Programme is coherent with the initiatives supported in migration and asylum, particularly with the support made available through the Fund's Thematic Instrument, making it possible to reinforce complementarities and strengthen results. On the other hand, the FAMI 2030 programme architecture was designed in a context in which the Portuguese State reinforced its commitment to matters related to the management of migratory flows,

asylum and integration by developing the National Implementation Plan for the Global Migration Contract. FAMI 2030 is crucial to fulfilling the objectives and targets set out in this Plan.

In a context in which the operationalisation of measures to strengthen the Common European Asylum System is crucial, EO1 of FAMI 2030 plays a significant role. There is an absence/insufficiency of national public policy in some areas (asylum, voluntary return), which allows for a better framework for responding to the challenges at hand, with the European strategy being taken up/adopted without truly taking into account the specificities of the migratory phenomenon in Portugal.

The Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion for 2021-2027 signals the importance of developing actions that support integration and inclusion effectively in all sectoral areas. Its realisation involves creating solid partnerships that guarantee a more effective integration process through training and empowering all agents who contribute to the integration process. FAMI 2030, within the scope of the four SOs, attaches added importance to developing training/capacity-building and awareness-raising actions for the various key players (public bodies, social partners and civil society).

FAMI 2030 and the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy have a high degree of complementarity, especially regarding the new Pact and integrated border management. The alignment and coherence of FAMI 2030 with European policies is evident in the case of return, with the EU strategy for assisted voluntary return and reintegration being used in the definition of the specific FAMI 2030 Call (FAMI2030-2023-6 Voluntary return and reintegration in countries of origin), including in the selection criteria for applications.

The FAMI 2030 MA's close work and consultation with the FAMI 2030 Programme Specific Subcommittee, the Agency for Development and Cohesion, the AIMA, the IEFP, and others, is very positive. It guarantees the Programme's coherence and alignment with the leading European policy instruments and with the commitments made by the Portuguese state in these areas. This relationship is also crucial to ensuring an integrated and multidimensional response to the main challenges associated with asylum, migration, and integration and effective coordination of funds to guarantee better results in these areas.

Functional articulation networks have been rethought. They have great potential and can be very important for generating synergies and complementarities between programmes and coordinating public policies that improve the integration of migrants in Portugal.

The launch of complementary notices is very positive, and there are examples of joint work between the FAMI 2030 MA and other MAs and various working and consultation meetings with other relevant partners in preparing CAAs. For the work carried out on the Calls (scheduling, optimising types of operation, promoting synergies and complementarities between areas of intervention, ...) to be even more effective and fruitful, there must be planning in action, programming upstream response measures so that it is easier for the MAs to implement and phase them in.

Coordination mechanisms and close liaison exist and will be used even more regularly in the future, generating good results in the long term. However, more than formal networks/spaces, it is crucial to consolidate close relationships and bilateral work between MAs (and other partners) to streamline procedures and define and realise potential complementarities in responding to common challenges.

Significant complementarities are being established, emphasising the RRP and the instruments that make up the Partnership Agreement. Despite all the potential for articulation and complementarity between European and national instruments and funds, a very significant proportion of beneficiaries do not seek to establish any articulation, synergy or complementarity between the operations applied for under FAMI 2030 and operations supported by other national and/or EU funding instruments, the main reasons being lack of knowledge of different national/EU instruments or funds and the fact that the deadlines or timing of calls for tender do not allow for the preparation of applications.



European added value

FAMI 2030 makes a substantial part of the planned vital actions possible and, in the long term, the results to be achieved in migration and asylum (greater and better integration of TCNs into Portuguese society). This additional effect of the Programme is very relevant (61% of the operations would not be carried out without the support of FAMI 2030; only 4.3% of those surveyed acknowledged that they would carry out all the projects even without support).

The additionality of the Programme is also proven by the fact that more than half of the entities that would have gone ahead even without the Programme's support say that they would have reduced the financial size of the project(s) and/or reduced the target audience supported. The funds made available by FAMI 2030 make it possible to strengthen national public policies (insofar as they make it possible to significantly increase the volume of interventions and the results to be generated). FAMI 2030 has been decisive in bringing interventions to scale and complements/powers organisations to provide more and better services - critical for the country in other dimensions.

The preparation and operationalisation of applications/operations generate essential added value for the entities due to the pace they set in designing practices and ways of working from a project perspective, as well as producing tangible knowledge that can then be applied and disseminated.

Recommendations for the period 2021-2027	
Recommendation	Operationalisation
<p>R01. Reinforce the Programme's endowment and the number of human resources allocated to ensure that it continues to respond effectively to the evolving dynamics of the problems and needs observed in migration and asylum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinforcing the Programme's capacity to respond to the current challenges (unprecedented intensification of asylum applications and migratory flows from Portuguese-speaking countries to Portugal, mainly associated with spontaneous migration), which is not currently dimensioned for the contextual changes that have taken place and the new challenges related to them. - Reinforcing the number of human resources allocated to the Programme, since a greater allocation to the Programme will lead to an increase in the number of Calls and, consequently, applications, and it is necessary to guarantee high efficiency at the various stages of the process. - Bringing the Programme closer to some local beneficiaries, given their capacity to act on the ground and their more excellent proximity to the recipients, and therefore their capacity to intervene in social integration and support for voluntary returns, highly complementary to the Programme's work.
<p>R02. Deepen multilevel strategic reflection within the programme's ecosystem of actors in order to promote greater flexibility and adapt to the changing dynamics of problems and needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting a deeper strategic reflection between the Programme's MA and national organizations with responsibility and competence in the pursuit of public policy; - Continue to encourage multi-level coordination between the MA and <i>stakeholders</i>, starting with strategic reflection, to align national and Community intervention strategies to avoid duplication of efforts and the allocation of national and Community public funds, but also at the operational level, namely in terms of the requirements, duration and location of operations, ..; - Creating internal moments for strategic reflection to guarantee higher levels of flexibility and better adaptation to the changing dynamics of problems and needs.
<p>R03. Continue to integrate and promote horizontal principles at all levels of the Programme as a guarantee of FAMI 2030's compliance with EU regulations and standards, but also to ensure the effective integration of migrants and asylum seekers and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that the horizontal principles are continually mainstreamed and centralised throughout the life cycle of operations; - Promote the various horizontal principles equitably, ensuring the necessary suitability (and proportionality) of the principles to the specificities of the Specific Objectives and types of operations in question; - The training programme provided for in the programme's technical assistance, as well as the Academy of Funds and the Demand Qualification Network, includes actions to raise awareness of horizontal principles, given their educational importance and the fact that they change the behaviour of the beneficiaries;

Recommendations for the period 2021-2027	
Recommendation	Operationalisation
beneficiaries of international protection into Portuguese society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider mechanisms to ensure that some Calls are not disproportionately demanding and to ensure that there is some reasonableness in the "obligation" to develop awareness-raising actions on equal opportunities among organisations that apply for/are going to create several projects (the multiplication of actions among the same recipients is not an added benefit).
R04. Prioritisation of the implementation of the FAMI 2030 Communication Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spreading knowledge about the support available and the application procedures to potential beneficiaries by continuing the excellent practice of <i>webinars</i>, reinforcing training on the Programme for the Fund Line team, and developing additional content in the Help/FAQ section of the FAMI 2030 website; - Build up FAMI 2030's institutional presence on social networks and establish regular communication through this channel, complementing the Programme's institutional website, using press releases, news published in the media and calls for tenders as the main dissemination content; - Re-programme upwards the targets of the PT2030 Global Communication Plan that have already been primarily exceeded - number of news items and visits to the FAMI 2030 institutional website.
R05. Improve the FAMI 2030 monitoring system by expanding and qualifying the battery of indicators and anticipating the need for information to evaluate the Programme's impact outside the fund management sphere.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To continue the practice of assessing the need to include specific indicators in the Call, given the shortcomings of the battery of standard indicators, placing greater focus on the results targeted by the Programme and on the principle of proportionality between the financial expression of the various types of intervention and their coverage by indicators; - Developing communication materials and training actions for beneficiaries on reporting indicators, focusing on the tools and evidence available for identifying supported participants to minimise the risks of accounting for ineligible participants under FAMI 2030 and double-counting the same participant when calculating aggregate indicators; - Liaise with the entities of the National Statistical System to ensure that the context indicators and microdata are appropriate to the needs of the evaluations, especially concerning the breakdown by nationality; ensure timely access to microdata from administrative sources and any cross-referencing of databases through collaboration protocols with the responsible entities; request authorisation to share beneficiaries' contact details with the external evaluation teams, subject to their commitment to comply with data protection requirements.
R06. Consolidate measures to simplify and promote operational efficiency in the implementation of the Programme, both from the point of view of the MA and the beneficiaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritise the development of the <i>back office</i> system for monitoring and managing programmes (MA+) in coordination between the MA and AD&C. This liaison should take place at a strategic level (involving decision-makers from both organisations) and at an operational level (between the MA technical units and the team responsible for developing the system) to speed up the implementation of the modules still in production; - Develop training actions for potential beneficiaries of FAMI 2030 on the Funds Desk, the application procedures and requirements, the methodologies for assessing the merit of applications, the SCO and, more generally, on project planning and the respective actions, indicators and targets, thus minimising the risk of segmentation of potential demand, between entities that already benefit from the experience of applying for this type of support, which are increasingly able to present projects that are well classified in the merit analysis, and other more recent entities with more limited capacities. These actions should be articulated with AD&C, particularly in cases where they can be developed for a wide range of eligible beneficiaries and not just aimed at the potential demand for FAMI 2030; - Improve the communication and explanation of the information available on the evidence that must be presented for administrative verification (namely when



Recommendations for the period 2021-2027	
Recommendation	Operationalisation
	<p>submitting payment requests) and on the spot, in particular in the case of the application of simplified cost methodologies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluate the implementation of the SCO when there is a more significant level of execution to analyse the suitability of the parameters used (categories of expenditure and rates) and the effects on simplifying the management of FAMI 2030 and the applications and execution of operations.
<p>R07. Rebalance the LMISC framework in the Programme according to its role in national public policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring greater efficiency in the operationalisation of public policy and the role of the LMISC as a first-line service structure, whether through territorial coverage that guarantees that no critical territories are left uncovered (lack of response in key municipalities) or through more significant and better coordination between national bodies with responsibility and competences in the pursuit of public policy and local partners; - Gradually guarantee funding from the state budget (and perhaps municipal budgets) for a national network of LMISC, without prejudice to the eligibility under FAMI 2030 of projects for innovation, differentiation and qualification of the service provided; - Establish in the national regulatory framework minimum <i>standards of service</i>, accessibility and application of horizontal principles of public policy (for example, concerning equality and non-discrimination) applicable to all LMISC; - Ensure that funding via FAMI 2030 continues to contribute to developing measures to promote the quality of additional services when analysing the merits of projects.
<p>R08. Redefine and deepen networking and consolidate proximity and bilateral working relationships between MAs (and other key partners) to streamline procedures and define and realise potential complementarities in responding to common challenges.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To deepen the response to the challenges of migration policy (more significant focus on the phenomenon) through more excellent and better consultation between crucial entities, for example, within the framework of articulation networks, on how we are welcoming migrants and their integration/inclusion in Portuguese society and on what is happening in international terms and the responses that Portugal provides (or can provide), including within the framework of FAMI 2030; - Promote spaces and moments for planning action and the programming of response measures (programming should encourage complementarity), for example, within the framework of articulation networks, so that operationalisation and its phasing are more straightforward for the MAs to implement; - Deepen partnership work in articulation (for example, at evaluation level - concepts, understandings, communication, joint evaluations; at call level - scheduling, optimisation of operation types, promotion of synergies and complementarities between intervention areas,...) to generate synergies and complementarities between FAMI 2030 and other programmes/projects and for better coordination of public policies, impacting on the integration of NPTs; - Consolidate and deepen the work of consultation between the FAMI 2030 MA and other MAs, both in terms of ensuring predictability/feasibility in the <i>timings</i> established in the annual plan of notices and their design so that there is prior preparation/coordination to promote their sequentiality and potential for complementarity; - Creating the conditions for potential beneficiaries to be able to develop joint/complementary projects, in particular by ensuring more excellent compatibility between different funding instruments (deadlines, selection criteria...) and more outstanding communication and publicising of other instruments or national/Community funds, as well as ensuring that the deadlines or launch times for Calls allow for the preparation of joint/complementary applications.



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Executive Summary

FAMI 2030 Mid-Term Review

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