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ANNEX V

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Asia Pacific region for 2022 Part 1

Action Document for Prottasha II: Sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi returnees and improved migration governance

ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the annual work programme within the meaning of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, within the meaning of Article 23(2) of NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	PROTTASHA II: Sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi returnees and improved migration governance OPSYS number: ACT-60836 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Bangladesh (nationwide)
4. Programming document	Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme Asia-Pacific for the period 2021-2027
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	This action responds to the priority area “ <i>Migration, forced displacement and mobility</i> ” of the Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	151 – Government and Civil Society - General
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 10.7 – to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed policies. Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere SDG 5 : Gender equality and empowerment all women and girls SDG 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all
8 a) DAC code(s)	15190 - Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility – 100%

8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society - 20000 Multilateral organisation – 40000			
9. Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective
Digitalisation @ Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy digital services		<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Connectivity @ Tags: digital connectivity energy transport health education and research		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020131(NDICI South and East Asia) Total estimated cost: EUR 20 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 20 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: Grants with the type of applicants set out in section 4.3.1. Indirect management with the entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.2.			

1.2. Summary of the Action

The proposed Action will provide social, psychosocial and economic reintegration assistance to Bangladeshi returnees, including from the EU, transit countries¹ and other third countries and awareness-raising on safe and legal migration and return, as well as on perils of irregular migration and migrant smuggling. At the same time, it will foster ownership of the Bangladeshi authorities by strengthening their capacity and contributing to better coordination between national and local authorities on sustainable reintegration. It will build on the established structures, procedures and lessons learnt of the first phase of Prottasha with a focus on persons in vulnerable situations and on strengthening the referral mechanism. The proposed Action will assist all returnees, to be identified on a case-by-case approach, therefore enlarging the scope of the programme compared to its first phase where only returnees from the EU and selected transit countries were eligible for assistance. This will help to reach more returnees and will ensure increased human rights protection.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Migration is an essential livelihood option for many people in Bangladesh and an important economic and development factor. The bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) data from 1976 to 2020 indicates that 13,2 million Bangladeshis went abroad as migrant workers and sent back home 355 billion USD during the same period. Their remittances play a vital role in Bangladesh's economic growth, as they remain one of the main sources for the Government of Bangladesh (GoB)². In 2020, Bangladesh received USD 21 billion in remittances (7.6% of GDP), representing the second largest amount of foreign exchange. At the same time, there is a high macroeconomic risk linked to possible external crisis (e.g. COVID-19) and there is a general loss of human capital. Due to the

¹ The country through which migration flows (regular or irregular) move. In the context of this Action this means the country (or countries), different from the country of origin, which a migrant passes through in order to enter an EU Member State.

² Eight Five Year Plan FY2020 – FY2025, Government of Bangladesh.

COVID-19 pandemic, around 408 000 migrant workers returned home from different countries in 2020 (of them, around 50 000 women), of which 67% came home empty-handed³.

According to IOM data⁴, the main drivers for migration in Bangladesh are the absence of jobs on the national market, low income for jobs in the domestic market, financial problems and the lack of social protection and services. The main routes for regular and irregular migrants of Bangladeshi origin remain towards the Middle East, Western Asia (specifically Saudi Arabia), Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Americas or Africa. Bangladesh features among the largest countries of origin for migrants to the EU and belongs to the top 5 most common nationalities of Mediterranean sea- and land- arrivals through the Central Route in the year of 2020 (6.3% of total arrivals, 3 671 individuals)⁵. Bangladeshi migrants are counted within the top arriving/asylum applying nationalities in Italy, France, Cyprus, Malta and Greece.

There are three main avenues through which Bangladeshi workers find employment in foreign labour markets: recruiting agencies, intermediaries (dalals), and friends/family. Approximately 1 200 international recruiting agencies are currently in operation in Bangladesh. In addition a large number of sub-agents and intermediaries (dalals) operate across the country – estimates place the numbers at 10 000 sub-agents and around 1 350 travel agencies. About 53% of migrant workers use intermediaries, while 13% of migrants migrate through private recruiting agencies directly⁶. The multitude of actors and difficulties to regulate the process, can lead to high recruitment cost for migrants that may leave migrant workers in debt bondage and forced labour⁷, absence of support and services in migratory phases (pre, during and after), and in some cases to exploitation, abuse, stigma, social dislocation, family issues, irregular and riskier channels being used.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB)'s priority is on the one hand to encourage legal out-migration and in-bound remittances. The 8th Five Year Plan July 2020-June 2025 (8FYP) pursues this objective through a number of inter-related policy actions: (i) strengthen government efforts to negotiate with existing and new potential labour- shortage host countries to export Bangladeshi workers; (ii) upgrade skill base of potential migrants through training; (iii) support outmigration from the poorest districts of the Northwest part of Bangladesh that are not well served by access to external migration through better information flow and training; (iv) find ways to reduce the cost of out-migration through partnerships with job agencies that provide low-cost services; (v) provide access to one-time credit to defray the cost of migration secured against future earnings based on a government programme administered by commercial banks; (vi) provide information and anti-exploitation services through the embassies; (vii) ensure that the exchange rate for remittance through the banking system is competitive with the curb market rates; and (viii) offer solid banking services to the migrant workers to enable the use of formal banking channels for sending remittances.

At the same time, GoB aims at:

- Promoting zero migration stance until the dignity, fairness, freedom, security and human rights of all Bangladeshi expatriates, especially for women migrants, are ensured;
- Making overseas employment and return of Bangladeshi citizens, after contributing to Bangladesh economy and economy of host countries, safe, assured and protected;
- Making sure that return of the migrants is ensured through sustainable social and economic reintegration.

GoB therefore supports a comprehensive migration policy via enhancing the public and private service delivery capacity of the migration and reintegration sector. GoB has confirmed its interest to receive support ensuring a safe return and a sustainable reintegration of returnees, especially those living in the most vulnerable situations.

Standard Operating Procedures for the Identification and Return of Persons without an Authorisation to Stay (SOPs) were signed in 2017 between the EU and GoB. These SOPs aim at facilitating the safe and dignified return of

³ Probashi Kollyan Desk (2020). See

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Returnee%20Sitrep_GoB_Apr%20to%20Dec%202020_19May2021_Final_V2.pdf

⁴ IOM, Situation Analysis of Migration Context and Policy Framework in Bangladesh, 2015.

⁵ Frontex data. For 2021 data see: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/migration-flows/>

⁶ GoB, ILO, Causes and potential redress for high recruitment and migration costs in Bangladesh; https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-dhaka/documents/publication/wcms_303633.pdf.

⁷ https://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/business-helpdesk/faqs/WCMS_DOC_ENT_HLP_FL_FAQ_EN/lang--en/index.htm#Q16;
https://www.ilo.org/empent/areas/business-helpdesk/WCMS_DOC_ENT_HLP_FL_EN/lang--en/index.htm.

Bangladeshi nationals residing irregularly in EU Member States⁸. However, due to the insufficient cooperation on readmission (including the non-respect of the SOPs for 60% of the caseload) the Commission proposed to introduce temporary restrictive measures in relation to Bangladeshi nationals under Art 25a⁹ of the revised Visa Code. As a result of the enhanced EU engagement with Bangladesh, and in the light of the progress made in reducing the backlog of readmission cases and in processing new cases within the timeframes foreseen by the SOPs, the Council decided not to act upon the Commission proposal. The Commission is closely monitoring the progress made by Bangladesh to ensure that the progress is sustained.

2.2. Problem Analysis

Statistics on the overall number of returnees to Bangladesh are not yet available¹⁰. In 2020, IOM assisted around 1 400 voluntary returnees to return to Bangladesh. As regards returnees from Europe, 9 400 Bangladeshi received an order to leave in 2020, and 515 actually returned – a return rate of 5%. In 2021, provisional data from January to September show that 9910 return orders were issued, 874 returned - a return rate of 6%. Return rates were higher in previous years, around 10%. In 2017, the EU and GoB signed Standard Operating Procedures for the Identification and Return of Persons without an Authorisation to Stay (SOPs). Since then, more than 3000 irregular migrants returned under the SOPs.

Reintegration of returning migrants is challenging, especially for those with excessive migration debts, social dislocation due to extended absence, and because of stigma related to the “failed” migration. For women returnees, the stigma can be worse due to physical abuse they have often suffered at work abroad¹¹. The returning migrants may need psychological, social and economic support but both, returnees and communities, lack awareness about safe and legal migration and sustainable reintegration and available services. Additionally, support is needed to help people make effective use of remittances. The COVID-19 pandemic has aggravated the situation. With declining income, returnees are now finding it hard to cover monthly expenses. 87% of migrant workers who returned in January-March 2020 have been found to either lack any source of earnings since returning or are dependent on family members or minor agricultural activities.¹² Most returning migrants are reportedly liquidating savings or taking loans from different formal or informal sources. Apart from the debt and income constraints, 74% of returning migrants are reportedly also tackling mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, fear and 71% feel ostracized by neighbours and relatives, and hence, require effective reintegration and psychological services. Moreover, female migrant workers tend to experience physical and sexual exploitation and abuse at higher rates than men, and may require gender-sensitive interventions upon return, including community-level interventions to address potential stigma.

Reintegration is an important part of return migration, as it aims to empower and protect returnees by providing them with the necessary tools and assistance for their reinsertion into the society of their country of origin, while generally contributing to the sustainability of return. In April 2021, the Commission adopted its first EU strategy on voluntary return and reintegration¹³ to foster the sustainability, effectiveness and third countries’ ownership of reintegration. In order to address the above concerns, the EU launched the Prottasha project in 2017¹⁴, with the overall aim to provide reintegration assistance to returnees from the EU and transit countries. The Prottasha I project had three objectives:

1. Irregular migrants returning to Bangladesh are sustainably reintegrated: providing social, psychosocial and economic assistance for sustainable reintegration to 3 000 returnees;
2. Improved migration governance facilitates regular, safe and orderly migration and reintegration of irregular migrants in Bangladesh: strengthening the capacity of government and private sector to effectively manage migration;
3. Returning migrants, aspirant migrants, families, communities and local government and private sector actors consistently make informed decisions about migration, and practice and promote safe orderly and regular

⁸ The total number of cases submitted to the Readmission Case Management System (RCMS) was at 2,434 with 1,320 positive nationality determinations, a ratio of 54% of the total caseload (n.b. data from end April 2022).

⁹ COM(2021) 412 final.

¹⁰ The platform for tracking returnees funded under Prottasha I has now registered around 7 900 returnees in a few months from its launch (02/2021).

¹¹ Gender and migration from Bangladesh, ILO, 2014

¹² BRAC (2020). A Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Life and Livelihoods of Returnee Migrants.

¹³ COM(2021) 120 final.

¹⁴ Commission Decision C(2016) 8433

migration behaviours, including remittance management: communication campaigns to improve awareness on safe migration and reintegration.

The proposed Action builds on the first phase of the Prottasha programme which will end in 2022. Lessons learnt drawn from the first phase will be incorporated in the design of the Action, in particular thanks to a final evaluation which was completed in 2021. Major achievements of the first phase of Prottasha are the success of reintegration services provided to returnees at individual level and linking it to the community level, having communities participate in the reintegration process. The engagement of migration forums and business advisory groups ensured the sustainability of behavioural changes at local level, such as regards taking decisions about safer migration channels.

Great attention was paid to reaching the local level. The District Employment and Manpower Offices (DEMOS) have been capacitated to provide the required services for returnee migrants and integrate these services into their programmes. District Coordination Committees (DCCs) have been created by regrouping all the necessary government representations at district level. The fact of having this coordination ensures sustainability and enhances networking coordination among these representations at local levels.

The project's intervention in designing the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), having one framework for migration management is a major achievement and may ensure sustainability with adapted capacity building and follow-up.

The final evaluation shows government ownership of all the policy instruments put in place by Prottasha I. Important information management tools have been initiated such as the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) and Returning Migrants Management Information System (ReMiMIS) to facilitate networking, data collection and especially to offer transparency and make information available. These tools help to link the grassroots to the national level, which is essential for pre- and post- migration states.

In this regard, capacitating government agencies and valorising the DEMOS at local levels has been successful, but needs to be continued. Awareness-raising activities at local level and through social media, have allowed to reach an important number of people with messages on safe migration.

The second phase of Prottasha will address the remaining gaps in the reintegration services available in Bangladesh. The capacity of authorities to autonomously provide reintegration services needs to be further strengthened, especially further linking the local to the national level. Work also remains to be done on tracking returnees. ReMiMIS was launched during Prottasha I but has yet to be effectively populated by training relevant authorities at all levels.

The 8th Five Year Plan recognises that there is no policy framework to facilitate adequate provision of services for returnee migrants. Therefore, GoB plans to:

- initiate the adoption of a 'Sustainable Reintegration of Migrant Workers Policy';
- adopt a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for returnee migrant reintegration, especially for female migrants;
- to establish an inter-ministerial and inter-agency/department 'referral mechanism' for the sustainable reintegration of returnees and develop and implement a package of support for returning migrant workers, including social and psychosocial reintegration, entrepreneurial skills training, job placement and skills assessment to assist their reintegration into the domestic labour market;
- introduce new mechanism, including the introduction of mandatory deposit schemes for migrant workers, which can be deducted by the remittance receiving banks and accumulate in the account of migrant workers;
- develop the capacity of the District Employment and Manpower Office (DEMO)s and the Wage Earners Welfare Board (WEWB) to deliver reintegration services to returnee migrants including referral for medical, psychosocial support, skills development, economic rehabilitation and financial inclusion.

This shows the will of GoB to work in this area. GoB has also recently expressed interest to take over the management of Reintegration Centres established under Prottasha I. The EU support could provide key added value to set up an effective and human-rights compliant reintegration policy. The Government and local authorities will be actively involved for increased ownership and sustainability of the proposed actions.

The proposed Action will ensure that the EU's position as a key strategic partner of GoB is maintained and reinforced. The proposed Action considers as well the implementation of the SOP for the identification and facilitation of safe and dignified return of Bangladeshi nationals by supporting the sustainable reintegration of returnees from the EU and by strengthening a comprehensive migration policy aimed at further regulating the migration and labour export

system. Focus in this regard will be on enhancing the public and private service delivery capacity of Bangladesh's migration and reintegration sector, while respecting human rights for all.

The proposed Action will contribute to the sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi migrant returnees, including from the EU, transit countries¹⁵ and other third countries, and the progressive achievement of SDG 10.7, "to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed policies" in Bangladesh. It is in line with the priorities established in the 2021 EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration and 2021 Communication on "Enhancing cooperation on return and readmission as part of a fair, effective and comprehensive EU migration policy"¹⁶. To achieve this, the Action should be accompanied by intensified policy dialogue between GoB and the EU, as well as migrant recipient countries, promoting regular migration, fair recruitment and protection mechanisms for migrants and victims of trafficking and human right abuses with coordination by relevant EEAS/EC services. To avoid debt bondage and linked forced labour, the proposed Action will promote that the cost of migration for Bangladesh migrant workers is reduced in line with the General principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment of the International Labour Organisation¹⁷.

Planned regional programmes in 2022 and 2023 in the field of protection of vulnerable groups affected by migration as well as fighting trafficking in human being and smuggling of migrants could also contribute to such dialogue.

The Action will contribute to implementing the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum¹⁸, and assessing the feasibility of launching a Talent partnership with Bangladesh and responds to the 2030 Agenda's call to leave no one behind and to manage migration well, including forced displacement and voluntary return. The EU has been at the forefront of promoting comprehensive, development-led responses to forced displacement, on the basis of its approach set out in the communication "Lives in Dignity"¹⁹ supporting the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Common Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). The Action will contribute to the Gender Action Plan III 2021 – 2025²⁰ notably the specific thematic objective "Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, trafficked for all forms of exploitation have improved access to adequate and quality services for socio-economic integration and psycho-social support".

The Action will further seek synergies with other projects financed by European partners, in particular the joint reintegration services managed by FRONTEX (Caritas as implementing partner), as well as those currently run by Denmark and Switzerland, the Return and Reintegration Facility managed by ICMPD²¹ as well as the World Bank's RAISE programme²², to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of financing, address gaps and/or overlaps in provision of support to returnees. Efforts will be made to improve coordination with entities responsible for the return of migrants to inform on the services provided to returnees under this Action. Also, for returnees going to highly disaster-prone areas, links could be established with ongoing disaster preparedness schemes as vulnerable individuals (some of these "Early Action" schemes are supported by the Commission).

Identification of main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues (mandates, potential roles, and capacities) to be covered by the action:

Relevant ministries (duty bearer)

Migration management requires dedicated but shared responsibilities and commitment amongst the three main ministries having competencies on migration issues, namely the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and the Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment (MEWOE). Communication between key ministries need to be further strengthened to address remaining gaps limiting the

¹⁵ The country through which migration flows (regular or irregular) move. In the context of this Action this means the country (or countries), different from the country of origin, which a migrant passes through in order to enter an EU Member State.

¹⁶ COM(2021) 56 final, 10.2.2021

¹⁷ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms_536755.pdf.

¹⁸ COM(2020) 609 final of 23.09.2020 - Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum.

¹⁹ COM(2016)234 final, 26.4.2016

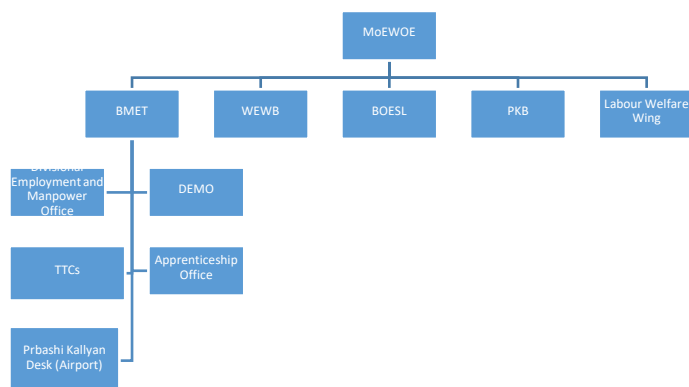
²⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/join-2020-17-final_en.pdf. The Gender Action Plan III was welcomed through [Presidency Conclusions](#) by 24 Member States (<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13947-2020-INIT/en/pdf>).

²¹ Activities on the reintegration of returnees will be taken over by FRONTEX. Coordination with FRONTEX will be ensured at every stage of the programme.

²² Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE): [Development Projects : Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment - P174085 \(worldbank.org\)](#)

effectiveness of the migration management and law enforcement capacity. Therefore, the Action will support improved communication among these Ministries.

Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment and related agencies (duty bearer)



MEWOE is responsible for implementing the rules framed in the 2013 Overseas Employment and Migrants Act. Three entities exist under MEWOE: the Bureau of Manpower, Employment, and Training (BMET), the Wage Earners Welfare Board, and Probashi Kalyan Bank (PKB). MoEWOE steers the policy formulation for Bangladesh, while the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) is the directorate that regulates the recruitment process and procedures for migrants. The Wage Earners Welfare Board is the entity mandated with reintegration assistance, but has so far lacked the resources and capacity to fulfil its mandate. Probashi Kalyan Bank provides support to migrants providing loans for migration.

An IOM study²³ identified the following key problems within MoEWOE:

- There is no knowledge management system in place within the MoEWOE;
- Lack of a robust monitoring mechanism;
- Limited financial and human resource capacities;
- Dependence on a Dhaka-centred service delivery system;
- Limited intra and inter-ministerial coordination at the national and district level;
- Fragmented service delivery approach.

BMET (duty bearer) is responsible for regulating the entire migration process: regulating and licensing recruiting agencies; collection and analysis of labour market information; registration and clearance of job seekers for local and foreign employment; development and implementation of training programs in response to specific labour needs both in the national and international labour market; development of apprentice and in-plant programs within existing industries; organizing pre-departure briefing sessions as well as several technical training programs; and resolving legal disputes. Also, a Vigilance Task Force oversees the fair recruitment process and conducts inspections at the offices of recruiting agencies and at ports of departure.

Under BMET there are around 46 District Employment and Manpower Offices (DEMOs) which serve as a centralized location for workers to find information about overseas employment and register in the BMET database. The limited capacity of BMET and DEMOs to provide migration services may be obstacles to regular migration from Bangladesh and sometimes results in higher processing cost for the migrants from Bangladesh. For example, a national study conducted by IOM Bangladesh in 2019 suggests that regular migrants also use migrant facilitators to expedite the process²⁴. This severely hinders GoB's efforts to ensure the welfare of all migrants and to facilitate safe and regular pathways.

Furthermore, the services are mainly geared towards outgoing migrants and there are limited services for returning migrants, many with vulnerabilities associated with their failed migration experiences and/or may be victims of trafficking in human beings.

The Wage Earners Welfare Board (WEWB) (duty bearer) is mandated with reintegration services but has so far remained mostly non-operational because of its limited capacity. Notably, WEWB only has one office in Dhaka, with few personnel. This is why a number of reintegration services were so far provided by BMET and DEMOs. This is also the reason why during the first phase of Prottasha focus was given to capacitating these structures, while attempting to include WEWB where possible. The World Bank is currently finalising the conditions for a loan to the GoB, of which USD 50 million will be earmarked for reintegration assistance. In particular, the programme will aim at setting up a number of decentralised WEWB offices ("welfare centres"), at district level. The Government has

²³ IOM, 2020 (Draft) Strengthening the Organizational Mechanism for an Effective International Labour Migration Management in Bangladesh

²⁴ Bangladesh: Survey on Drivers of Migration and Migrants' Profile, IOM, 2020. <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/bangladesh-%E2%80%93-survey-drivers-migration-remap-2019>

expressed the intention to take over the ten reintegration centres established under Prottasha with the aim to use them as first welfare centres. They could potentially become the government's hubs for reintegration services. Moreover, Switzerland plans to finance a programme to be implemented by ILO building on the World Bank's programme.

It will be crucial for the second phase of Prottasha to create synergies with the World Bank's RAISE programme and Swiss reintegration programmes. This is needed to avoid duplications and to ensure the sustainability. In particular, the Returning Migrants Management of Information System (RiMiMIS), the platform to track returnees, financed under Prottasha I, was handed over to BMET but would now need to be transferred to WEWB, and WEWB capacitated. Links to RIAT, the case management system to be used by FRONTEx, should also be explored. Moreover, the materials and curricula created for strengthening the capacity of BMET and DEMOs to provide reintegration services will need to be used for WEWB, to allow for an effective transfer of knowledge. In light of these structural changes and the GoB's plans in the field of reintegration, support to draft a comprehensive reintegration strategy will be provided via the programme.

Therefore, the Action focus on capacity building of WEWB as a priority to ensure the sustainability of the Action. Developing the capacity of WEWB and welfare centres to deliver reintegration services to the returnee migrants including referral for medical, psychosocial support, skills development, economic rehabilitation and financial inclusion is also a priority for the GoB as indicated in the 8FYP. Also, the Action will need to ensure that all relevant agencies under MoEWOE participate in the project's committees so that the work carried out under Prottasha is handed over to the newly mandated agencies.

Recruiting agencies (Private sector)

There are approximately 1 200 recruitment agencies operating in Bangladesh. The recruitment agents' work under license from the MEWOE, are collecting information on labour demand in the overseas job markets, immigration processes, working and living conditions, as well as identifying job placement opportunities. Recruitment agencies are organized under the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA). Problems relating to BAIRA setting high legal recruitment fees, and failing to provide sufficient financial compensation to workers who lodged complaints about illegal practices of its member agencies have been raised²⁵.

Under Prottasha I, the development of an online Case Management System (CMS) platform is being supported to enable MoEWOE to monitor the recruitment practices of Recruiting Agencies (RA) in a comprehensive manner. A first database of listed Recruiting Agencies was set up. Prottasha also promoted the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS). The second phase of Prottasha will ensure the sustainability by providing more training on the use of CMS and IRIS.

Dalals (private sector)

Almost all private recruiting agencies are based in Dhaka, as it is not financially viable to have offices throughout the country. In fact, until the Overseas Employment and Migrants Act of 2013 recruiting agents could not legally open sub-offices at district level. As such, private recruitment agencies work with local sub-agents, known as 'dalals', who refer prospective migrants from villages and areas far from city centres. Dalals perform two key functions: the recruitment of workers and the conduct of financial transactions. Recruitment at the grass-roots level is conducted verbally, with payments often made without a receipt, which makes it difficult for migrants to access justice in case of fraud and abuse.

Prottasha I conducted extensive awareness raising activities on safe migration at community level, including through Migration Forums, and through mass media outreach. The programme will continue these activities, also building synergies with other projects.

Migration fora

Migration Fora are a locally formed platform and comprises 10 to 12 influential persons at the local level varying from local community leaders, teachers, businessmen, social workers, religious leaders, returnees to representatives of the Union Parishad. The Prottasha project has established 60 Migration Forums in 60 Upazilas (sub-districts) in the ten target districts. Migration Forum members work actively at the community levels to provide information, advice on reintegration and safe migration processes, and referral linkage support to different migration and reintegration services. Under the present action, the support to Migration Fora will continue based on the good results obtained in phase I.

²⁵ World Bank, Institutional Assessment of Migration Systems in Bangladesh.

Migrants (rights-holders) participate meaningfully in the design and governance structure of the action. Indeed, their opinion has already been incorporated through the findings of evaluation of the previous phase as well as direct exchanges with beneficiaries, NGOs and Government representatives. Rights-holders will also continue to be included in the governance structures of the action.

Civil society organisation and women's organisation will be part of the action and will represent the voices of the right holders. Their capacities are limited, and they will be strengthened in the frame of this action.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to the sustainable reintegration²⁶ of Bangladeshi migrant returnees and to safe migration.

The project will focus on two specific objectives (Outcomes):

SO 1: Improve sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi returnees and their families in their communities in a gender sensitive manner.

The Outputs to be delivered by this Action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

- Output 1.1: Enhanced access to tailored arrival assistance for returnee migrants in need (particularly women, children and returnees in vulnerable situations).
- Output 1.2: Enhanced access to sustainable and gender sensitive reintegration services (social, psychosocial and economic) for Bangladeshi returnees in need and their families.
- Output 1.3: Enhanced capacity of women returnee migrants to claim their rights and seize economic opportunities.
- Output 1.4: Improved understanding of migrants on safe and legal migration, the perils of irregular migration and migrant smuggling, and on sustainable reintegration.

While the second phase of Prottasha is intended to provide assistance to a higher number of returnees compared to the first phase, the focus will be on those in need of assistance. The screening of returnees in need will be carried out by the implementing partners according to commonly agreed criteria. Providing tailored assistance to people living in the most vulnerable situations and the protection of women and children will be reinforced, putting more focus on the identification of women returnees, which remained low in the first phase of Prottasha.

SO 2: Contribute to improve policy and regulatory framework, and coordination system of national and local authorities responsible for migration management

- Output 2.1: Developed/revised and better implemented policies and operational plans on migration management and the return and reintegration processes in line with gender and human rights standards;
- Output 2.2: Strengthened capacity of government bodies, related agencies to take a leading role in migration management and the reintegration process;
- Output 2.3: Enhanced coordination on reintegration and migration between all relevant stakeholders at local and national level including through a referral mechanism.

²⁶ Sustainable reintegration is achieved when returnees have reached levels of economic self-sufficiency, social stability, and psychosocial well-being that make their further migration decisions a matter of choice, rather than necessity.

In line with the EU Strategy on voluntary return and reintegration, the coordination among all parties involved in the return and reintegration process, including national and local authorities and development actors will be strengthened. Referral of the returnees to relevant development programmes available in Bangladesh and private sector to facilitate sustainable reintegration through inter alia decent employment creation, education, skills development and social inclusion.

The policy advice will give priority to national reintegration policies, translating the evidence gathered through concrete assistance to returnees into policies.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Indicative activities related to Output 1.1

- provide returnees arriving at the airports with food, accommodation, cash support, emergency counselling, medical support, transportation and assistance for connecting with family members;
- identification of shelters and health care institutions for returnees unable to return to their communities, and referral to such where possible;
- establish an information service centre at Dhaka, Chattogram, and Sylhet International Airports.

Indicative activities related to Output 1.2

- identify returnees and establish profiles with a focus on identifying those living in the most vulnerable situations (e.g disability, sickness, children, unaccompanied minors, LGBTIQ+, forced returnees, victims of trafficking or smuggling, abuse, torture, detention or exploitation);
- assess the skills and needs of returnees, establish tailored reintegration plans, ensure regular follow up and registration of the progress against the targets set in the reintegration plan (applying a gender, age and context-sensitive and vulnerability approach);
- provide psychosocial assistance, family counselling, career counselling services, market-oriented skills training in line with labour market needs, financial assistance; provide tailored assistance for women, youth, children and other people living in vulnerable situations;
- establish effective referral mechanism via partnerships with related development and government programmes as well as the private sector promoting circular and green business development, where possible.

Indicative activities related to Output 1.3

- support individual and/or group of women migrant workers with mentorship and grants to start up enterprises, including community-based social enterprises, in line with labour market needs and promoting circular and green business development, where possible;
- establish and capacitate Women Migrants Forums at national and district level, work with women organizations/network to promote women migrants rights;
- build capacities of NGOs, CBOs, CSOs, media, and other relevant stakeholders for sensitization on women and children returnee migrants rights.

Indicative activities related to Output 1.4

- establish, capacitate and support the formalisation/registration of Migration forums on sustainable reintegration;
- organize sensitisation campaigns for National, District and Upazila and Union level local representatives, government officials, media and civil society, on social reintegration issues;
- conduct mass public campaign on safe migration and sustainable reintegration involving returnees as messenger and evaluate the possibility of engaging diaspora to spread information;
- organize community based awareness raising activities for potential migrants, with a focus on digital campaigns, also tailored to women and youth, about safe migration, risks of irregular migration and migrant smuggling and sustainable reintegration.

Indicative activities related to Output 2.1

- support GoB to develop and endorse a comprehensive all-inclusive²⁷ National Reintegration Policy in coordination with other international organisations;
- support MoEWOE to formulate a roadmap involving multiple stakeholders²⁸ to reduce the cost of migration;
- facilitate the development and adoption of a contextualized gender-responsive Financial Inclusion Framework for migrants, returnees and their families.

Indicative activities related to Output 2.2

- conduct multi-stakeholder and targeted (GoB including Vigilance Taskforce and Executive Magistrates, CSOs, women's organisations, media) capacity building activities on migration issues in Bangladesh – including migration management, all-inclusive gender sensitive migration & reintegration service delivery, IT, M&E, communications as prioritized by the Government, as well as key capacity building on international and national policy frameworks, conventions, legislation and regulations;
- support Welfare Centres to establish integrated, all-inclusive Returnees' Service Delivery mechanisms;
- support relevant GoB counterparts to build capacity in returnee registration using appropriate information management systems²⁹ at local administrative levels;
- strengthen capacity of BMET, and related agencies in the area of remittance management and possibly on fostering access of migrants and returnees and their families to financing opportunities and private sector development;
- support Private Recruitment Agencies (PRA) in building capacity in the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) and other tools.

Indicative activities related to Output 2.3

- support GoB to streamline inter- and intra-ministerial coordination on migration and reintegration programming, including through the Bangladesh Migration Compact Taskforce for global dialogues and processes, and national level coordination structures;
- support GoB to establish a protection-sensitive National Reintegration Referral Mechanism in cooperation with state and non-state actors, building on the existing local-level District Coordination Committee (DCC) structure piloted in Phase I of the Prottasha project;
- conduct orientation sessions with the Parliamentary Caucus on Migration and Development on issues related to the legislative and governance measures needed to best gear migration management to support development outcomes; and support joint events on broader migration issues, such as Global Forum on Migration and Development meeting preparations, the GCM review process, and other international or parliamentary-level migration framework discussions;
- strengthen existing District Migration Coordination Committees (DMCC) and further expand into additional districts – creating linkages with Migration Fora as well as with community-level migration support networks.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project)

²⁷ Including all categories of regular and irregular migrant returnees, victims of trafficking and forced returns – with particular focus on returnees living in the most vulnerable situations including women and children.

²⁸ Including MoEWOE, MoFA, BMET, BAIRA, BOESL, DEMO, WEWB, related UN Agencies and CSOs, key private sector actors.

²⁹ Returning Migrants Management of Information System (RiMiMIS) was established during the 1st phase of Prottasha.

The EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) screening classified the action as Category C (no need for further assessment). Certain environmental considerations will be taken into account during the following stages of the design of the project. This might look at, for example, providing support for business plans which are environmentally sustainable.

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project)

The Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening concluded that this action is no or low risk (no need for further assessment).

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is an important and deliberate objective, while the principal reason for undertaking the project is to contribute to the sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi migrant returnees. The first phase of Prottasha has managed to identify and assist a very limited number of women returnees. This was due to the fact that Prottasha I assisted prevalently returnees from the EU, which are mostly men. However, the programme could have further tailored its assistance to women returnees, and involve further women networks to reach out to an increased number of returnees. Since Prottasha II will assist returnees from everywhere, including Gulf Countries, a significant higher number of women will be among its beneficiaries. Therefore, the project will better reach out to women and provide tailored assistance. A specific objective targeting women has been added in this regard.

Human Rights

By supporting dignified return and sustainable reintegration, the Action will contribute to human rights protection. In particular, by enlarging the scope of the programme to returnees living in the most vulnerable situations from third countries, such as Gulf Countries, the Action will contribute to provide support to more returnees who might have suffered human rights violation. Beyond this Action, policy dialogue promoting human rights, regular migration, fair recruitment and protection mechanisms for migrants should be conducted with coordination by relevant EEAS/EC services.

A Human Rights base approach by the respect of the five working principles will be in all phases applied. The five working principles are: i) respect to all human rights, ii) participation, iii) non-discrimination, iv) transparency and v) accountability. The action will reinforce the capacities of the duty bearers/public institutions, the rights-holders and their representatives (CSO), as well as it will work with the private sector organisation (recruitment agencies and *Dalals*) and migration fora.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that While there is no specific objective relating to disabled people, under the Action, referrals to medical and other assistance for disabled people will be carried out where possible.

Democracy

The Action is not strictly linked to democracy promotion but is expected to empower citizens by improving their psychosocial and economic status, which in turns could provide the basis for their more active participation in society. Moreover, Prottasha II will continue the successful experience of the Migration Forums, which engaged returnees and other members of local communities in awareness raising and policy dialogue on migration.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

The Action contributes to the resilience of Bangladeshi society by supporting psycho, social and economic reintegration of returnees, which also helps to minimise the impact of their return and failed migration attempts on their families and communities of origin. Sustainable reintegration as well as awareness raising on safe migration also helps to reduce the stigma of failed migration and the tensions that this generates in society. Moreover, raising awareness on safe migration has the potential of better harnessing the potential of migration as a force for economic development, reducing irregular migration, frauds, abuses and failed migration.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction will be mainstreamed in the subsequent phases of the formulation of the action. In particular, the action could take into account the resilience of the infrastructures used by the project, as well as the resilience to disasters of economic plans implemented by returnees.

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
External environment	Risk 1 Lack of political commitment from the Government to migration and development in the context of readmission	Low	Medium	GoB has recently increased its cooperation with the EU on return and has communicated it's will to further improve reintegration and migration management. To mitigate a potential change of commitment, a continuous dialogue with the Government will be pursued, including through the structures set up during the first phase of the project and, at higher level, through the EU - Bangladesh Joint Working Group on implementation of the SOPs.
External environment & planning, processes and systems	Risk 2 The evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic might hamper carrying out the activities of the project or affect the final beneficiaries' access to services	High	Medium	The project will monitor the evolution of the Covid-19 pandemic to prepare the most appropriate contingency plans. Digital platforms will be used where necessary to provide trainings and to organise meetings of relevant stakeholders. The possibility for stakeholders to access services in a virtual manner could be promoted.
External environment	Risk 3 Difficulties in identifying returnees, which hindered the implementation of the first phase of the programme	Medium	Medium	Measures have been taken to improve the identification of returnees such as hiring community mobilisers which identified a substantial number of eligible returnees between March and October 2021. As the programme will support returnees irrespective of the country of return from the beginning of its implementation, it will allow to reach a substantially higher number of returnees.
Communication and information	Risk 4 Reputational risk of EU policy in-coherence when including returnees of 3 rd countries (especially from Gulf countries).	Low	Medium	As stated in the EU strategy on voluntary return and reintegration, the EU will provide support for voluntary return and reintegration of migrants from third countries of transit and destination to countries of origin in parallel with the support for voluntary returns from the Member States and will benefit from the increased sustainability of reintegration and ownership of national authorities in third countries ³⁰ . The programme plans not only to work on the sustainable reintegration of returnees, but provides as well policy advice and capacity building to the GoB on better migration management. This should be accompanied by policy dialogue promoting regular migration, fair recruitment and protection mechanisms for

³⁰ SWD(2021) 121 final of 27.04.2021

				migrants with coordination by relevant EEAS/EC services.
External environment & planning, processes and systems	Risk 5 Lack of inter-agency cooperation	Medium	Medium	To mitigate this risk, the Action will need to ensure that all relevant agencies under MoEWOE participate in the project's committees so that the work carried out under Prottasha I is handed over to the newly mandated agencies.
External environment & legality and regularity aspects	Risk 6 Risk of corruption	Medium	Medium	The actions on reintegration assistance and migration governance could be hampered by corruption. As regards reintegration assistance, the risk of corruption will be mitigated by working with reputable implementing partners with solid internal controls. Audit and monitoring missions will be carried out. As regards migration governance, corruption is a risk as there are many public and private interests surrounding in particular the system of recruitment of aspirant migrants. This risk will be taken in due account during the design of the Action, including by taking a realistic approach of results to be obtained and by further working on the accountability and transparency of the migration system (via i.a. the Vigilance Task Force, access to justice).
Planning, processes and systems	Risk 7 Risk of not reaching out to women returnees and not providing gender sensitive assistance	Low	Medium	The first phase of Prottasha has managed to identify and assist a very limited number of women returnees. This was due to the fact that Prottasha I assisted prevalently returnees from the EU, which are mostly men. However, the programme would have further tailored its assistance to women returnees, and involve further women networks to reach out to an increased number of returnees. Since Prottasha II will assist returnees from everywhere, including Gulf Countries, a significant higher number of women will be among its beneficiaries. Therefore, the project will need to better analyse the situation through gender sectoral analysis, reach out to women and provide tailored assistance.

Lessons Learnt:

- Need for a more systematic approach for identifying beneficiaries and profiling using platform

The first phase of Prottasha experienced difficulties in reaching the targets for immediate assistance and reintegration assistance partially due to problems experienced in identifying potential beneficiaries. Para-counsellors and community mobilisers were used in this regard but this did not offer a systematic and sustainable solution. Therefore, the next phase of Prottasha will prioritise capacitating national and local authorities to identify returnee migrants and to profile them in the platform developed under Prottasha I (ReMiMis). This is also relevant for producing data on returnees and developing appropriate policies. Moreover, it will ensure better coordination and avoid duplications of services provided under different reintegration schemes. The proposed Action will assist all returnees living in the most vulnerable situations, to be identified on a case-by-case approach, therefore enlarging the scope of the programme compared to its first phase where only returnees from the EU and transit countries were eligible for assistance. This will help to reach more returnees and will ensure increased human rights protection. Moreover, a permanent desk will

be established at the airports, in cooperation with the Probashi Kallyan Desk (PKD), a government department – to ensure that more returnees can be reached.

- Need to better mainstream gender issues

Under the first phase of Prottasha, only around 50 women returnees were provided reintegration assistance. While this can be partially justified by the lower number of women migrants from Bangladesh (around 13% of migrants), this is also due to the stigma of failed migration which affects in particular women, who are also often victim of abuses, in particular in the Gulf Countries. Therefore, there is an urgent need for the next phase of the project to identify an increased number of women returnees and provide services, which are more targeted to their needs. This was confirmed by the final evaluation of Prottasha I. Therefore, this Action proposes a specific objective and specific indicators for women returnees and better streamline gender in other objectives.

- Need to focus on exit strategy and coordination

While an exit strategy was developed, its implementation remains delayed and referrals under the first phase of Prottasha remained limited. In order to ensure the sustainability of the programme, the second phase of the project will focus on the implementation of a realistic exit strategy to ensure that, at the end of the next phase, an effective and sustainable reintegration system is in place. Coordination with programmes from other donors, and the World Bank, is important in this regard. As reintegration programmes from other donors are increasing in number (with funding from Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, ERRIN³¹, possibly Canada, as well as the World Bank), coordination is essential to avoid duplications and maximise efficiencies. Discussions are already ongoing with other donors and implementing partners in this regard (e.g. possible single reporting mechanism from implementing partners, possible MoU between different international organisations implementing projects).

- Need for improved awareness raising strategy on safe migration

The experience of Prottasha I made clear the necessity to design tailor-made awareness activities to make the target group more aware of the perils of irregular migration including the importance of sustainable reintegration and to reduce the negative perception of return. It has also been observed that the inclusion of relevant partners (eg diaspora, CSOs, women organisations) in awareness-raising activities would improve the number of beneficiaries reached and the level of awareness built. Therefore, the new design considers an overall awareness-raising approach through the engagement of relevant stakeholders. Moreover, disseminating awareness messages through digital platforms (i.e. Facebook) has provided good results and will be essential as social media can easily reach a very large audience very quickly. Separate awareness interventions shall be designed under digital campaigns for specific target groups keeping tailored awareness messages.

3.5. The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is

IF immediate assistance and sustainable reintegration support is provided *AND* Bangladeshi migrants continue to return while the Government is willing to cooperate in the area of reintegration, *THEN* women and men returnees will be sustainably reintegrated in their communities. *IF* awareness raising activities are conducted at the community level as well as through mass media and social networks, structures are created to amplify messages on safe migration and the diaspora is involved, *AND* the Government continues to cooperate spreading messages on safe migration, *THEN* aspiring migrants, returnees and their communities will be sensitised on safe migration and the perils of irregular migration and sustainable reintegration; and the negative perception of return will be reduced. *IF* GoB, local agencies and Parliamentary Caucus, Private Recruitment Agencies and relevant civil society organisations are capacitated on migration management and reintegration, *AND* are willing to coordinate *AND* the Government supports the creation and implementation of policies in line with the Bangladesh MiGoF, including to implement the GCM, a comprehensive reintegration policy, and roadmaps in an inclusive manner (human rights and gender responsive), *THEN* the framework for migration management and its implementation will be improved.

³¹ The European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN) is a network of 16 European partner countries, established to facilitate cooperation between migration authorities. It implements a reintegration programme in Bangladesh.

3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

This indicative logframe constitutes the basis for the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the intervention. On the basis of this logframe matrix, a more detailed logframe (or several) may be developed at contracting stage. In case baselines and targets are not available for the action, they should be informed for each indicator at signature of the contract(s) linked to this AD, or in the first progress report at the latest. New columns may be added to set intermediary targets (milestones) for the Output and Outcome indicators whenever it is relevant.

- At inception, the first progress report should include the complete logframe (e.g. including baselines/targets).
- Progress reports should provide an updated logframe with current values for each indicator.
- The final report should enclose the logframe with baseline and final values for each indicator.

The indicative logical framework matrix may evolve during the lifetime of the action depending on the different implementation modalities of this action.

The activities, the expected Outputs and related indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the Financing Decision.

PROJECT MODALITY (3 levels of results / indicators / Source of Data / Assumptions - no activities)

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
			Year: 2022 unless specified	Year: n+4 unless specified		
Impact	To contribute to sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi migrant returnees and to safe migration	<p>0.1 # of reintegration assistance services offered to returnee migrants in line with national policies</p> <p>0.2 # of policies that include reference to reintegration and safe migration policies based on the experience in providing reintegration services</p>	<p>0.1.1 0 reintegration assistance services available to returnees migrants with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>0.1.2 0 returnee migrants accessing reintegration with support of the EU-funded intervention</p>	<p>0.1.1 # reintegration assistance services available to returnees migrants with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>0.1.2 # returnees accessing reintegration services [TBD, possibly 30% of returnees] with support of the EU-</p>	Baseline, midline and end line reports	<i>Not applicable</i>

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
			Year: 2022 unless specified	Year: n+4 unless specified		
			0.2.1 0 reintegration policies implemented with support of the EU-funded intervention 0.2.2 0 safe migration policies implemented with support of the EU-funded intervention	funded intervention 0.2.1 0 reintegration policies implemented and enforced with support of the EU-funded intervention 0.2.2 0 safe migration policies implemented and enforced with support of the EU-funded intervention		
Outcome 1	1. Improve sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi returnees and their families in their communities in a gender sensitive manner	1.1 % of returnees and their family (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) who received reintegration services are sustainably reintegrated 1.2 % of assisted returnees (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) who improved their economic status compared to pre-migration situation 1.3% of assisted women returnee migrants with employment 1.4 % of aspirant migrants (disaggregated by sex and age) choosing safe migration pathways 1.5 % of migrants and their family members used remittance for productive purposes	1.1 0% 1.2 0% 1.3 0% 1.4 TBD 1.5 0%	 1.1 80% 1.2 60% 1.3 60% 1.4 TBD 1.5 TBD	1.1 Reintegration Sustainability Survey, Baseline, Midline, Endline Study 1.2 Baseline, Mid and Endline reports 1.3 Baseline, Mid and Endline 1.4 Baseline, Midline and Endline studies 1.5 Baseline, Midline and Endline studies	Migrants return to Bangladesh

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years) Year: 2022 unless specified	Targets (values and years) Year: n+4 unless specified	Sources of data	Assumptions
Outcome 2	2. Contribute to improve policy and regulatory framework, and coordination system of national and local authorities responsible for migration management.	2.1.# of migration related strategic documents in line with the Bangladesh MiGoF – including policies roadmaps and regulatory frameworks and mechanisms – developed and endorsed by GoB with support of the EU-funded intervention 2.2 # of migration related strategic documents in line with the Bangladesh MiGoF – including policies roadmaps and regulatory frameworks and mechanisms - implemented by GoB at national and local level with support of the EU-funded intervention	2.1 0 2.2 0	2.1 TBD 2.2 TBD	Strategic document; GoB endorsements and implementation plan	Migration governance remains a focus of the GoB plan
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 Enhanced access to tailored arrival assistance for returnee migrants in need (particularly women, children and returnees in vulnerable situations).	1.1.1 # of returnee migrants (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) receive tailored assistance support upon arrival with support of the EU-funded intervention 1.1.2 % of returnees (disaggregated by sex, age and type and country of return) satisfied with tailored assistance support upon arrival with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.1.1 0 1.1.2 TBC	1.1.1 12 000 (EU, Non- EU) (2 000 women) TBC assisted 1.1.2 80% of rights-holders report to be satisfied with tailored assistance support upon arrival	1.1.1 Programme database 1.1.2 Sampled satisfaction survey report of the emergency support	Migrants return to Bangladesh GoB cooperates, informs on arrivals and allows access to airport Entities responsible for returns inform returnees about available services provided by the project and how to access them.
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Enhanced access to sustainable and gender sensitive reintegration services (social, psychosocial and economic)	1.2.1 # of returnee migrants (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) are supported with sustainable reintegration services with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.2.1 0 1.2.2 0 1.2.3 0	1.2.1 (7 500) returnees (EU and Non-EU) TBC	1.2.1 Project database 1.2.2 Satisfaction Survey	

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
			Year: 2022 unless specified	Year: n+4 unless specified		
	for Bangladeshi returnees in need and their families.	<p>1.2.2 % of returnees (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) satisfied with reintegration services received with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.2.3 # of returnee migrants (disaggregated by sex, age and country and type of return) accessing reintegration services through referrals (disaggregated by type of service and service provider)</p> <p>1.2.4 % of returnees (disaggregated by sex, age and country of return) satisfied with services obtained through referrals</p> <p>1.2.5 # of persons living in vulnerable situations, women and minors victims/survivors of human trafficking or abuses during irregular migration receiving tailored PSS counselling with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.2.6 # of persons living in vulnerable situations, women and minors victims/survivors of human trafficking or abuses during irregular migration supported for accessing justice;</p>	<p>1.2.4 TBD</p> <p>1.2.5 TBD</p> <p>1.2.6 TBD</p>	<p>(6 500 Men, 1 000 Women) TBC assisted</p> <p>1.2.2 80 % of returnee migrants who received support from the project are satisfied with the reintegration services</p> <p>1.2.3. 3 500 returnee migrants accessing services through referrals</p> <p>1.2.4 70 % of returnee migrants who received referral services are satisfied</p> <p>1.2.5 35% of 1000 women</p> <p>1.2.6 TBD</p>	<p>1.2.3 Project Database</p> <p>1.2.4 Satisfaction Survey</p> <p>1.2.5 Project database and Survey</p> <p>1.2.6 Project database and Survey</p>	
Output 3 related to Outcome 1	1.3 Enhanced capacity of women returnee migrants to claim their rights and seize economic opportunities.	<p>1.3.1 # of women returnee migrants who received services through women organizations and networks with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.3.2 # of women had access to finance, entrepreneurship opportunities, including social entrepreneurship, alternative livelihoods and</p>	<p>1.3.1 0</p> <p>1.3.2 0</p>	<p>1.3.1 150</p> <p>1.3.2 150 women had access to entrepreneurship opportunities, including social entrepreneurship,</p>	<p>1.3.1 Project database</p> <p>1.3.2 project database</p>	Women and other migrants living in the most vulnerable situations are

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years) Year: 2022 unless specified	Targets (values and years) Year: n+4 unless specified	Sources of data	Assumptions
		<p>strengthened participation in the green and circular economy with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.3.3 # of returnee women migrant forums formed and functional with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.3.4 # of women's rights organisations that are advocating for women migrants rights who are capacitated and participate in policy dialogue on migration management with national authorities with support of the EU-funded intervention</p>	<p>1.3.3 0</p> <p>1.3.4 0</p>	<p>alternative livelihoods</p> <p>1.3.3 20 forums</p> <p>1.3.4 TBD</p>	<p>1.3.3. Project database</p> <p>1.3.4 Project database</p> <p>1.3.5 Project database</p>	<p>willing to avail themselves of services provided under the programme</p>
Output 4 related to Outcome 1	1.4 Improved understanding of migrants on safe and legal migration, the perils of irregular migration and migrant smuggling, and on sustainable reintegration.	<p>1.4.1. # of people informed through messages on safe migration, irregular migration, remittance management and sustainable reintegration through community-based initiatives and report the information helped them to reintegrate with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.4.2 # of people informed through messages on safe migration, irregular migration, remittance management and sustainable reintegration through mass and social media and report the information helped them to reintegrate</p> <p>1.4.3. % of informed people (disaggregated by sex and age) understand the difference between safe and irregular migration</p>	<p>1.4.1. 0</p> <p>1.4.2 0</p> <p>1.4.3 0%</p> <p>1.4.4. TBD</p> <p>1.4.5 TBD</p> <p>1.4.6 0</p>	<p>1.4.1 1 000 000 people reached through community based initiatives</p> <p>1.4.2 2 500 000 community people reached through mass and social media awareness campaign</p> <p>1.4.3 TBD</p> <p>1.4.4 TBD</p> <p>1.4.5 TBD</p>	<p>1.4.1 Project Database and satisfaction survey</p> <p>1.4.2 project database and social media reach</p> <p>1.4.3 Baseline, Mid and Endline</p> <p>1.4.4 project database</p> <p>1.4.5 Project Database</p>	<p>Returnee migrants, aspirant migrants, their family members, and community people willingly participate in the awareness activity</p> <p>Availability and Willingness of the international CSOs and diaspora communities to be a partner of the project.</p>

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years) Year: 2022 unless specified	Targets (values and years) Year: n+4 unless specified	Sources of data	Assumptions
		<p>1.4.4 # of local communities with structures in place to disseminate safe migration messages with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.4.5 # of diaspora members reached with messages on safe migration, sustainable reintegration, remittance management with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.4.6 # of migrants and families reached with messages on access to finance, private sector and remittance management with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.4.7 # of MoU signed with CSOs and stakeholders for migration related information and reintegration services in country and abroad</p>	1.4.7 0	<p>1.4.6 450 000 migrants and families reached with messages on financial literacy and remittance management</p> <p>1.4.7 TBD</p>	<p>1.4.6 Project Database</p> <p>1.4.7 Project Database</p>	
Output 1 relating to Outcome 2	2.1 Developed/revised and better implemented policies and operational plans on migration management and the return and reintegration processes in line with gender and human rights standards.	<p>2.1.1 # of GCM implementation plans developed, endorsed and operationalized by GoB with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>2.1.2 Strategy for mainstreaming migration into sectoral policies is available</p> <p>2.1.3 # of roadmaps on reducing the cost of migration developed and endorsed by GoB</p> <p>2.1.4 Comprehensive all-inclusive National Reintegration Policy is developed and endorsed, also based on the experience of service delivery under SO1.</p>	<p>2.1.1 0</p> <p>2.1.2 0</p> <p>2.1.3 0</p> <p>2.1.4 No</p>	<p>2.1.1 1</p> <p>2.1.2 1</p> <p>2.1.3 1</p> <p>2.1.4 Yes</p>	<p>2.1.1 GoB GCM review records</p> <p>2.1.2 Policy documents</p> <p>2.1.3 GoB endorsement notices</p> <p>2.1.4 GoB endorsement records</p>	Migration governance remains a focus of the GoB and GoB is willing to initiate changes to its migration governance approach

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years) Year: 2022 unless specified	Targets (values and years) Year: n+4 unless specified	Sources of data	Assumptions
Output 2 relating to Outcome 2	2.2. Strengthened capacity of government bodies and related agencies to take a leading role in migration management and the reintegration process.	<p>2.2.1 # of capacity building roadmaps developed and endorsed of GoB</p> <p>2.2.2 % of Welfare Centre and DEMO staff with improved capacity in delivering migration & reintegration services after participating in capacity building activities</p> <p>2.2.3 # of national integrated digital service delivery mechanisms designed with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>2.2.4 # of GoB and UDC staff trained by EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills in ReMiMIS data entry and reporting to use it, disaggregated by sex</p> <p>2.2.5 % improvement in Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning knowledge of training participants</p> <p>2.2.6 % Labour Attachees report improved capacity on migration issues, including migrants in crisis</p> <p>2.2.7 # of CSO, GoB and media participants trained by EU-funded intervention with improved knowledge and/or skill on migration and reintegration, disaggregated by sex</p> <p>2.2.8 # of Private Recruitment Agencies (PRAs) supported with IRIS capacity building</p>	<p>2.2.1 0</p> <p>2.2.2 TBD</p> <p>2.2.3 0</p> <p>2.2.4 0</p> <p>2.2.5 N/A</p> <p>2.2.6 N/A</p> <p>2.2.7 N/A</p> <p>2.2.8 0</p>	<p>2.2.1 1</p> <p>2.2.2 30%</p> <p>2.2.3 1</p> <p>2.2.4 TBD</p> <p>2.2.5 TDB</p> <p>2.2.6 70% improvement</p> <p>2.2.7 75%</p> <p>2.2.8 15</p>	<p>2.2.1 Capacity development activity records</p> <p>2.2.2 Baseline and endline survey results</p> <p>2.2.3 MoEWOE records</p> <p>2.2.4 Training records</p> <p>2.2.5 Pre- & post-test results</p> <p>2.2.6 Pre- and post-assessment</p> <p>2.2.7 Pre- & Post assessments</p> <p>2.2.8 Capacity building records</p>	GoB, agencies and relevant stakeholders are willing to cooperate

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years) Year: 2022 unless specified	Targets (values and years) Year: n+4 unless specified	Sources of data	Assumptions
Output 3 relating to Outcome 2	2.3 Enhanced coordination on reintegration and migration between all relevant stakeholders at local and national level including through a referral mechanism.	<p>2.3.1 National reintegration referral mechanism is activated and functional with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>2.3.2 # of inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the GCM NAP developed with support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>2.3.3 # of Parliamentary Caucus members trained with increased knowledge and/or skills in migration and reintegration, disaggregated by sex</p> <p>2.3.4 % of Parliamentary caucus participants expressing satisfaction with orientation sessions on Migration and Development</p> <p>2.3.5 # of DMCCs established and functional</p>	<p>2.3.1 No</p> <p>2.3.2 0</p> <p>2.3.3 0</p> <p>2.3.4 N/A</p> <p>2.3.5 0</p>	<p>2.3.1 Yes</p> <p>2.3.2 1</p> <p>2.3.3 TBD</p> <p>2.3.4 70%</p> <p>2.3.5 22</p>	<p>2.3.1 GoB SOP records</p> <p>2.3.2 GCM NAP records</p> <p>2.3.3 Pre and post training reports</p> <p>2.3.4 Satisfaction survey results</p> <p>2.3.5 DMCC meeting minutes</p>	GoB, agencies and relevant stakeholders are willing to cooperate

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Government of Bangladesh.

4.2. Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 48 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

4.3. Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures³².

4.3.1. Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to achieving of Specific Objective 1 (Improved sustainable reintegration of Bangladeshi returnees and their families in their communities in a gender sensitive manner) of the Action and their related outputs as described in section 3.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Applicants should be legal persons, national or international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or civil society organisations (CSO) based in Bangladesh with established nation-wide capacity at local level and track record in providing reintegration services to returnees.

4.3.2. Indirect Management with a pillar assessed entity

Specific Objective 2 (Improved policy and regulatory framework, and coordination system of national and local authorities responsible for migration management) of this action and related outputs as described in section 3 will be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- capacity and experience in migration and reintegration, including policy advice and capacity building in Bangladesh.

The Commission authorises that the costs incurred may be recognised as eligible as of 1 March 2022 because of the urgency to provide capacity building activities to the Government of Bangladesh as regards reintegration of migrants, and, in particular, the development, use and rollout of digital platforms in this field.

³² www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

4.3.3. Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

If part of the action cannot be implemented in indirect management due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the direct management modality will be used instead (grant and procurement) to contribute to achieving Specific Objective 2 of the Action. In case of grants, the purpose would be for grant beneficiaries to carry out the actions necessary for the fulfillment of the Specific Objective 2 described in this document.

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realization of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.5. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Objective 1	
Grants (direct management) - cf. section 4.3.1	16 000 000 EUR
Objective 2	
Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity - cf. section 4.3.2	4 000 000 EUR
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision
Totals	20 000 000

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The entrusted entities will implement the project. The entrusted entities will be responsible for development partner coordination, joint administration of the resources allocated by development partners, the mobilisation of additional resources and project assurance.

The project will be governed by a steering committee established, including the EU, the Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment (as permanent chair) and implementing partners. The steering committee will meet at least once a year to review progress against indicators, review the ongoing work plan and coordinate responses to issues identified in implementation.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

5. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1. Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

The implementing partners combine with the relevant Ministries to provide a decentralised M&E system which appears simple and practicable. The implementing partners will conduct baseline, midline and endline surveys/reports in close cooperation with the EU. Furthermore, the EU regularly fields Results-Oriented Monitoring (ROM) missions. The project formulation mission will further refine the performance monitoring system as well as its indicators (see Logframe).

Monitoring and reporting will assess gender equality results and the implementation of the human rights-based approach working principles (applying all human rights for all; meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making; non-discrimination and equality; accountability and rule of law for all; and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data). Monitoring and reporting will be based on indicators that are disaggregated by sex, age and disability when applicable. In order to monitor development and equal access, data/indicators will be disaggregated even further when applicable (f.ex. by minority group or case).

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the importance and nature of the action, mid-term and final evaluations will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

The mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to adapting the action to the number and category of returnees, fostering coherence between the project and national policies, and creating synergies with other implementing partners working in the same space.

The final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the action responds to a complex, situation involving returnees from an extended geographic area.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least two months in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

All evaluation shall assess to what extent the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. Expertise on human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The financing of the evaluation may be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

5.3. Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

6. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle has adopted a new approach to strategic communication and public diplomacy activities at country, regional and global level. This means that Action Documents for specific country, regional or global sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication actions promoting the programmes concerned.

Instead, all strategic communication and public diplomacy activities carried out at country level will be resourced through Cooperation Facilities established by support measure action documents. Regional and global strategic communication resources and activities will be managed from headquarters. All strategic communication and public diplomacy activities, whether at country, regional or global level, will be based on strategic plans to be developed.

It remains a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.