



Brussels, 16.12.2022
C(2022) 9745 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 16.12.2022

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of El Salvador for 2022 and
2023 part I**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of El Salvador for 2022 and 2023 part I, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual programme, for 2022 and 2023. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP 2021-2027) for the period 2021-2027⁴, which sets out the following priorities: (1) Digitalization; (2) Green Transition; (3) Governance and Human Development.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the NDICI is to contribute to the EU's overall strategic objectives for its external action, as laid out by the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for El Salvador for the period 2021-2027. It will seek to build partnerships with El Salvador and advance the external dimension of the European Commission's policy priorities on Digital transformation and innovation, specifically in areas related to digital skills and

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. 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, the OJ prevails.

⁴ Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for El Salvador for the period 2021-2027, C(2021)9492 final of 16.12.2021.

capacities, digital governance, as well as the promotion of good governance in the country.

- (5) The action entitled “**LAMARR - Digital skills and services for youth, informal and independent workers**” aims is to improve equity and socioeconomic integration of disadvantaged young people, informal and independent workers, in particular women.
- (6) The action entitled “**Strengthening the Digital Civil Register System of El Salvador**” aims to contribute to a fully-fledged digital civil register system framed by a regulation that is compatible with a human-centred digital transformation.
- (7) The action entitled “**Social Digital Connectivity**” aims to increase the access of the citizens of El Salvador to Broadband and increase its potential to provide continuity of public services.
- (8) The action entitled “**Promoting good governance and democracy through support to Legislature, citizens and media**” aims to promote a more inclusive, participatory and transparent governance and strengthen democracy in El Salvador.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the actions.
- (10) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁵ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (11) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (1) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual action plan for the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of El Salvador for 2022 and 2023 part I, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) The action entitled “LAMARR – Digital skills and services for youth, informal and independent workers”, set out in Annex I;

⁵ Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (b) The action entitled “Strengthening the Digital Civil Register System of El Salvador”, set out in Annex II;
- (c) The action entitled “Social Digital Connectivity”, set out in Annex III;
- (d) The action entitled “Promoting good governance and democracy through support to Legislature, citizens and media”, set out in Annex IV.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2022 and 2023 part I is set at EUR 22 600 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union :

- (a) BGUE-B2022-14.020140: EUR 6 500 000 ;
- (b) BGUE-B2023-14.020140: EUR 16 100 000.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment. The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2023, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by a combination of direct and indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3 of the Annexes.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁶ to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 16.12.2022

For the Commission
Jutta URPIAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁶ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.