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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX V

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan
in favour of the Pacific Region for 2021

Action Document for Pacific transformative gender equality programme

ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes an annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and an action plan in the sense of Article 23(2) of the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Pacific transformative gender equality programme CRIS number: NDICI ASIA/2021/043-270 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	Yes. This action will contribute to the TEI “Green-Blue Alliance for the Pacific”.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Pacific Region as defined in the Pacific Multi-Country Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027. This multi-country action is regional in scope but will include national level activities in the following Pacific Island countries: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
4. Programming document	Pacific Multi-Country Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	Priority area 3 – Fundamental Values, Human Development, Peace and Security, Sector 3.2 – Mainstreaming Gender and Addressing Violence against Women and Children. The action contributes to the following expected result: ‘Supported PICs eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and children’.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Gender marker G2 DAC 151 - Government & Civil Society-general
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 5 ‘Gender Equality’ Other significant SDGs: SDG 4 ‘Education’, SDG 10 ‘Reduced inequalities’, SDG 13 ‘Climate Action’ and SDG 16 ‘Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions’.
8 a) DAC code(s)	15170 – Women’s equality organisations and institutions 15180 – Ending violence against women and girls

8 b) Main Delivery Channel	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN) – 41146 Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) – 47096			
9. Targets	Target(s) this action is contributing to: <input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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	Principal objective
	Digitalisation Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<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"/>
	Connectivity Tags: transport people2people energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

	digital connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2021-14.020132-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 8,375,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 8,000,000 This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) for an amount of 375,000 euros; • Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Government of New Zealand (MFAT) for an amount yet to be determined; • Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Government of Australia (DFAT) for an amount yet to be determined. 			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Indirect management with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)			

1.2. Summary of the Action

In line with the ambitions set by the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024 and the Gender Action Plan III (2021–2025), this multi-country action is relevant for the 2030 Agenda and the 2017 European Consensus on Development. It contributes mainly to SDG 5 ‘Gender Equality’, while also contributing to SDG 4 ‘Education’, SDG 10 ‘Reduced inequalities’, SDG 13 ‘Climate Action’ and SDG 16 ‘Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions’.

The overall objective of the proposed action is to promote gender equality and eradication of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in the Pacific Island Countries. The action will build on the positive achievements of the Pacific Partnership to end VAWG (2018-2022) and of the Spotlight Initiative’s Pacific Regional Programme (2020-2023), both of which are comprehensive, multi-faceted programmes grounded in an aligned theory of change. The programme will be comprehensive in nature and will build and expand upon the partnerships that have already been established, both at regional and national levels. Its design will also consider other significant gender programmes in the region, including the “Pacific Women Lead” programme of Australia’s DFAT to ensure continued complementarity of efforts to promote gender equality in the region.

The action’s specific areas of work/objectives are: i) strengthening institutions and the implementation of laws and policies that prevent and respond to gender-based violence; ii) promoting evidence-based primary prevention and addressing social norms; iii) increasing provision and access to multisector services; and iv) supporting the strengthening of civil society organisations (CSOs) to mobilise, lobby and advocate for the prevention of VAWG. Key strategies to fulfil these objectives include a focus on building sustainability, particularly for national women’s machinery and for civil society and government institutions; production and use of evidence and data to drive forward policies and programmes that work; strengthening of Pacific-driven leadership; and strengthening diverse and multi-faceted partnerships and coordination to drive forward regional actions.

Overall, it is expected that this action will result in reduced rates of gender-based violence (GBV) at country and regional levels; improved implementation of relevant legal and policy frameworks; increased access to – and quality of – essential services for victims of gender-based violence; strengthened civil society monitoring and advocacy;

increased efforts to prevent VAWG through changing social norms, especially through education, sports, faith and traditional entities; and improved capacity of stakeholders to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, including before, during and after emergencies.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a pervasive human rights issue and a major barrier to gender equality. In the Pacific, rates of violence against women and girls are among the highest in the world – double the global average. Two out of three women experience violence at the hands of an intimate partner, compared to one in three globally.

The Pacific region is also highly vulnerable to the compounded impacts of emergencies, namely natural disasters and public health crises. Due to climate change, weather-related disasters are occurring with increased frequency and severity which is a direct threat to sustainable development, including the safety and health of women and girls, and broader gender equality gains. Global evidence increasingly points to the complex, yet clearer link between gender inequality and violence against women and girls and unequal control over natural resources (land, water, fisheries) especially in locations affected by environmental degradation and climate change.

Furthermore, since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging data and reports from Pacific crisis centres have shown that all types of violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence, have intensified, further demonstrating the need to invest in comprehensive VAWG prevention and response programmes that are responsive to emergencies. Service providers have required rapid support to adapt gender-based violence (GBV) services for a public health emergency. This has included responding to the devastating toll that coercive control, emotional, physical, and financial violence has on women and children in lockdown and responding to a notable increase in severity and frequency of VAWG as the economic crisis intensifies. The socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Pacific's women and girls is dire; increased care burdens at home and within families coupled with reduced employment options, lack of financial security and already low land ownership rights are widening gender inequalities and increasing the risk of violence.

Deeply entrenched social norms and practices rooted in gender inequality and discrimination result in, and exacerbate, widespread economic, emotional, physical and sexual violence for Pacific women and girls across their lifespan. These social norms are rooted in deeply held beliefs that there are “justifiable reasons” for husbands to use physical violence to “discipline and control” their wives. The silence, shame and stigma associated with VAWG makes it difficult and unsafe for women and girls to disclose and seek support for the violence they experience, and for all community members to break cycles of violence.

It is critical that gains and existing momentum across the Pacific region to promote gender equality and prevent VAWG are not rolled back and that efforts to accelerate action to implement regional and national commitments to prevent and respond to gender-based violence are prioritised. For example, it is imperative to accelerate implementation of existing laws, policies and action plans with adequate resources, in particular through targeted gender-responsive budgeting, to improve women and girls' access to essential services and scale up increased efforts, to prevent VAWG through whole of government, whole of school and whole of society primary prevention approaches. Pacific Island countries require support to advance comprehensive whole of government, whole of society approaches that foster social movements that challenge negative social norms, invest in rigorous primary prevention programmes and prioritise access to essential services for survivors, especially those hardest to reach. A key strategy includes ensuring national governments prioritise annual budget allocation, based on existing costing models, as a clear accountability mechanism for implementation. This approach requires ongoing, dedicated engagement and integration across all sectors of society, including disaster management and response, to tackle the contributing factors and root causes that facilitate violence against women and girls in the Pacific context.

Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework. The proposed programme builds on a combination of EU and Pacific regional policy frameworks. The overarching policy framework for a human rights-based and inclusive future for the region is the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, adopted by Pacific leaders in 2014. This framework promotes core values of good governance, the full observance of democratic values, the rule of law, the defence and promotion of all human rights, gender equality, commitment to just societies, full inclusivity, equity and equality for all people. The Pacific region has made commitments to end VAWG in several global, regional and national instruments including in the Pacific Platform for Action on the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality – 1994 (PPA 1994), the revised PPA 2004, the Cairns Communiqué 2009 and the 2012 Pacific Leaders Gender Equality

Declaration (PLGED) and the recent Boe Declaration on Security. This strategic policy framework underpins the current Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights (PPA 2018-2030). The latter echoes the People and Peace priorities of the 2017 European Consensus on Development "Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future" and supports the achievement of the EU's new Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in External Action 2021–2025 (GAP III), in particular "Thematic area of engagement - Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence". Furthermore, the Pacific Youth Development Framework 2014-2023 (PYDF) is a key policy framework, given the median age of the Pacific population is 22.6 years (median age of Australia is 37.2 years).

The Outcomes Document from the recently completed 14th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women and 7th Pacific Ministers for Women Meeting (HRSD is the Convenor and Secretariat for both events) is highly instructive of possible actions to address end violence against women and girls (EVAWG) and this proposed action will accelerate the calls for strengthened coordination and implementation of primary and secondary prevention of VAWG.

The Programme also supports the realization of SDG 5 (Gender Equality) as the core SDG, while also contributing to SDG 4 (Education); SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities); SDG 13 (Climate Action); SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

Although not directly addressing (one of) the seven priority areas, the proposed action is in line with the policy priorities set out in the EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific as it supports women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights and gender equality, empowering them for active involvement in civic and political decision-making, and in particular as the action works towards eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls.

2.2. Problem Analysis

Although there is a shortage of data for a number of Pacific Island countries and despite some progress, notably in terms of access to education, the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) Women, Actors of Development Report¹ shows that there is still a lot of room for improvement in terms of gender equality in the region. Women in the Pacific suffer from some of the highest levels of VAWG in the world and are adversely affected by inequality of economic opportunities, insecurity of land rights, low levels of representation and inconsistent access to services. The girl child is also subject to gender discrimination in terms of access to education, especially secondary education, and in some countries, risk to be subject to arranged marriages. Many Pacific countries face particular challenges with respect to promoting women's voice, influence and empowerment; the percentage of women in Pacific Parliaments is less than 10%.

The prevalence of violence against women in the Pacific is among the highest in the world. Data indicate that up to 68% of adult women have experienced physical violence during their lifetime, often at the hands of an intimate partner. High rates of intimate partner violence against women have been recorded in Kiribati, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. Young women with disabilities are often more vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse. The seriousness of the issue has led to calls for example in the case of Fiji that "the vulnerability of women and girls with disabilities [be] addressed in the new constitution".

As evidenced in the UNICEF/UNFPA report there is also a strong link between children's exposure to violence and intimate partner violence, supporting the notion of a cyclical pattern of violence where the perpetrator of violence could also be a survivor of violence. Children who experience violence and/or witness their parent's violence towards one another, learn that the use of violence is appropriate in personal settings and imitate these early childhood lessons in adult relationships, thus perpetuating the problem. Meanwhile, girls under 15 subjected to sexual assault are more likely to suffer physical and/or sexual abuse by their partner in later life.

This situation is to be appreciated against a background of policy strategies, legal frameworks and initiatives undertaken by several countries across the Pacific, together with the development cooperation efforts of many donors, over several decades. And yet, limited progress towards gender equality has been achieved.

Pacific leaders have committed to promoting gender equality and EVAWG, notably in the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, which is currently up for review in 2021. Gender equality and ending VAWG is an issue raised during regional dialogue through the Pacific Islands Forum Meeting organised every year, bilateral policy dialogues between the EU and some Pacific countries once every 1-2 years (once a year with Fiji, PNG and Timor Leste; once every two years with Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) and through the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women. In 2020, the Melanesia Spearhead Group (MSG) met specifically on the issue of gender-based violence and called for escalating the issue of VAWG to the highest political levels in its Outcome document. In addition, the Pacific

¹ <http://www.acp.int/content/acp-women-actors-development-femmes-acp-acteurs-de-developpement>

Women's Network against Violence against Women (PWNAVAW) convenes its network members every two years and produces reports and outcomes statements for priorities to prevent and respond to VAWG in the region.

Additionally, implementing legislative reform to increase women's protection against violence has been a major priority for many of the national governments in the Pacific. Eleven Pacific Island States have now enacted family violence or domestic violence legislation to provide better support for survivors of violence including access to justice and formal protection. These countries include Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae), Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. A major effort under the Pacific Partnership has been to complete the national domestic violence counselling policies and procedures under the Family Protection Act (FPA) with piloting of these national systems in Solomon Islands and Kiribati.

Despite the implementation of these legal frameworks, policy strategies and initiatives, there is still much to be done. For the first time ever, prevalence data collected in Kiribati (2019) on both men's use of violence, alongside women's experience of violence in Kiribati showed that 57% of men in South Tarawa reported perpetration of any physical and/or sexual abuse against a wife or female partner within the past year, and 38% of women had experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate male partner (for example, a husband, male partner). There is still much to do by the way of primary prevention and transformation of social norms that condone and justify VAWG.

In this respect, the central importance of youth is evident in the Pacific, on the basis that you can bend young coconut trees, but not old ones. Data from the SPC available for 13 out of the 15 Pacific ACP states shows that the age group 15 to 24 years represents on average 18.1% of the population and the age group 0 to 24 represents on average 51% of the population of countries in the region. In addition, it is well documented that it is during childhood and early adulthood, that notions of respect, equality, dignity and diversity are shaped. It is therefore important to work with children and youth on the entrenchment of human rights, especially when it comes to the equal enjoyment of rights, regardless of sex or gender identity.

Prevention of gender-based violence was a priority area of the Triennial Conference and the Conference acknowledged GBV as a continuing scourge of the Pacific, and reaffirmed that its root cause is gender inequality, unequal gender power relations, privilege and patriarchy. The Conference called on governments, with the assistance of civil society organisations (CSOs), faith-based organisations (FBOs), Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, development partners and the private sector, to continue intensive efforts and leadership at all levels to prevent VAWG.

The combined analysis of the reports referred to above points to the strong need for better policy and implementation of legislation, combined with grass roots prevention strategies and comprehensive service provision. The importance of working with children and youth is clearly demonstrated, both in terms of their proportion of the population and the cyclical nature of VAWG linked to childhood experiences. The need to work across a range of sectors and adopt holistic and coordinated approaches is required. The action therefore seeks to contribute to addressing root causes of gender inequality and VAWG through interrelated approaches, which at the same time define EU's 4 priority areas for support under this action:

- Priority 1 Strengthening laws, policies and institutions in relation to VAWG, including gender-responsive budgeting including National, costed, whole of government, whole of society primary prevention of VAWG action plans.
- Priority 2 Prevention of VAWG through transformation of social norms, attitudes and beliefs among young people through formal and informal education and community based prevention, including through sports and faith-based organisations
- Priority 3: Ensuring women and girls have access to multisector, essential services.
- Priority 4 A robust, connected and mobilised civil society with the capacities to lobby, advocate and monitor VAWG policies and programmes.

Promoting human rights and gender equality, including combating violence against girls and women, are at the heart of the programme, and are therefore much more than just cross-cutting issues. Indeed, these are integral aspects of the programme and the improvement in women's human rights, especially to health, safety, education, livelihoods are critical aims for programmatic success. All programme activities inherently centre the promotion of human rights as part of policy and legislation implementation, 'whole of' prevention programmes which utilise a human rights frame as the foundation of development and policies of key influencing intuitions. Through a human rights-based approach, the programme will promote and practice gender equality with acute attention to ensuring survivors of violence have access to the essential services which are part of their rights to justice, health and safety. As a whole, the programme's central aim is to advance gender equality and human rights.

A key strength of the Pacific Partnership has been its diverse engagement and support to government, civil society and non-traditional partners, such as sports, faith, education and traditional institutions. Building on this learning and knowledge, this programme will continue and widen engagement with stakeholders that facilitate an enabling policy environment and, as a result, good governance principles. The programme seeks to support Pacific Island governments in the development and implementation of policies that end VAWG, while also supporting civil society and service providers to build their capacity and have the space to monitor policies, hold policy makers to account and advocate. Good governance will also be promoted through improved capacity and frameworks through enhanced formal education institutions on gender equality and through the agreement on and rolling out of integrated services for survivors, as this will rely on cooperation and mutual accountability.

A key component integrated throughout the programme and highlighted will be advancing a more integrated response to climate change and environmental protection as a strategy to address VAWG, especially in the Pacific region. Climate change and environmental protection are high on the agenda in the Pacific region and are issues Pacific Island Governments and civil society organisations are leading on at a global level, as evidenced by the Prime Minister of Fiji as the COP23 President. Climate change exacerbates existing gender inequalities, often resulting in more negative impacts for women and girls through economic, physical, sexual and emotional violence, harassment and exploitation. During and after disasters, women and girls are at greater risk of gender-based violence, including rape, sexual exploitation, and assault, which is why this programme is taking an explicit strategy to strengthen linkages between climate change and disaster response and prevention of VAWG. The programme will also address the longer-term impacts of recurrent disasters and compounded emergencies with COVID-19 on the economic realities faced by women and girls, which leads to violence. A holistic and more coordinated approach will be ensured throughout the EU-funded programming with the Action's response on climate change aligning to those initiatives specifically focusing on environmental protection.

Other cross-cutting issues might include peace building and the involvement of women in conflict resolution. Although this is not relevant to all countries in the Pacific, some Pacific ACP countries do face certain levels of active conflict and the promotion of Human Rights and Gender inclusiveness is often a part of strategies to ensure that all relevant stakeholders play an active role in resolving conflict situations.

The (rights-)holders of the action are the people in the Pacific region, especially women and girls, but also groups living in vulnerable situations such as adolescent girls, women with disabilities, youth not in formal education, employment or training, and persons with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Improvements in gender equality and reduction of VAWG benefits society as a whole, since it contributes to empowering women, safer and more peaceful communities, which has been shown to benefit economies in general.

This action will involve a wide range of **stakeholders**, many of whom are already partners in the EU funded Pacific Partnership and Spotlight Initiative programmes.

The programme will endeavour to create partnerships and synergies with other UN agencies such as UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP. While the primary partners will be UN WOMEN and SPC, the programme will be implemented in the spirit of the "One UN" approach by enhancing the specific mandates and competences of each agency involved.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) should remain a strategic partner of the programme to ensure cohesion with regional policies promoting gender equality: PIFS gender and violence against women related programmes include the monitoring and reporting of the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED, 2012); regional advocacy and country monitoring visits by the Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Reference Group; gender and human rights peer reviews; monitoring the implementation of Forum Economic Ministers implementation plans on women's economic empowerment; and PIFS plays a key role as secretariat of the CROP Gender Working Group.

Other key regional partners including regional civil society networks and organisations, for example: the Pacific Women's Network Against Violence Against Women, Pacific Conference of Churches, Oceania Rugby and Oceania National Olympic Committee, Australia Pacific Training Coalition and others.

To achieve concrete results, the action will support national and local level activities in specific Pacific Countries. Countries include: Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Republic of the Marshall Islands, among others. These countries have been selected because they have either already embarked on initiatives in line with the corresponding result area or they have expressed interest in receiving assistance from regional organisations in areas addressed by the proposed action. In addition, these are countries where the proposed implementing partners have established relationships and, in some cases, on site staff. These countries cover the three sub-regions of the Pacific – Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. All have high levels of VAWG. They also include

some of the countries with the largest populations of the region, such as Fiji, thus achieving greater coverage of the Pacific region's population.

In each country and depending on the activities to be carried out there, likely stakeholders will include:

Duty bearers

- National Women's Machinery, Ministries or departments dealing with women's affairs, local government officials;
- The full range of service providers for survivors of VAWG, including local and national health, justice, police, social services authorities;
- Ministries of education, teacher training institutes, school management, teachers and extra-curricular activity groups;
- Ministries or departments dealing with women's affairs, local government officials in pilot areas, women's organisations, and any local community leaders within the pilot areas;
- CSOs and women's rights organisations across the Pacific that play a role in advocating and holding governments to account for improvements in gender mainstreaming, combating VAWG and promoting gender equality;
- Disability rights and organisations advancing the needs and rights of people with diverse sexual orientation and gender identities;
- Environmental non-governmental organisations, professionals and government agencies;
- Youth groups and youth networks, such as the Pacific Youth Council, National Youth Councils or the Pacific Young Women's Leadership Alliance, as well as young people aged 15-25 in the pilot areas, including vulnerable and marginalised youth;
- Community leaders, including sports group and faith-based group leaders, as well as elders, tribal leaders and local authorities.

As mentioned above, each of the co-delegate partners (SPC and UN WOMEN) has strong, long-standing partnerships with the national and local stakeholders whose collaboration will be necessary to implement the action. They also have a good understanding of partner organisations' and institutions' management capacity and subject matter capabilities. As co-delegates of the action, the implementing partners will be responsible - under the oversight of the EU - for determining which specific local partner organisations, inclusive of national governments, regional and national civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, academic partners and the private sector which are best placed or have the clearest mandate to undertake the activities that need to be carried out.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

In this programme, the following Goal, Outcomes and Outputs will be advanced:

The **Overall Objective (Impact)** of this action is to promote gender equality and prevent violence against women and girls.

The **Overall Goal** of this action is: reduced rates and acceptance of violence against women and girls at country and regional levels.

The **Specific Objectives (Outcomes)** of this action are

1. Regional and national political leadership ensures EAWG legislation and policies are in line with international standards and translated into implementation and action;
2. Favourable social norms, attitudes and behaviours are promoted at the family, community, and societal levels to prevent VAWG;
3. Women, girls and children who experience violence (including before, during and after emergencies), have access to coordinated and high quality, essential services (health, police & justice, social services) to recover from violence and perpetrators are held to account;

4. Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, influence and advance progress on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) and ending VAWG.

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

- 1.1 EVAWG Laws and policies are regularly reviewed, resourced, and enforced to align with international human rights standards and global evidence and facilitate institutional change;
- 1.2 Key institutions and governments have the capacity to mobilise resources and implement whole of government National VAWG Prevention Action Plans and institutional policies to prevent VAWG across key sectors (e.g. education, faith, sports);
- 2.1 Rigorous community mobilization strategies targeting women and men, girls and boys and other stakeholders in faith, sports and traditional entities are implemented using innovative social norms change approaches and through key social influencers at national and regional levels;
- 2.2 Social Citizenship Education curricula and whole of school initiatives that promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion, respectful relationships and non-violent communication skills are implemented and expanded;
- 2.3 A regional Pacific Prevention Hub is developed and operational to promote regional evidence generation, capacity building, and learning on 'what works' to prevent VAWG in the Pacific region;
- 3.1 Service providers (duty bearers), namely health, police and justice, and social services have strengthened capacity and budget to provide timely, quality, coordinated services, to hold perpetrators to account in line with due diligence standards and collect and use data in an ethical manner;
- 3.2 Women and girls (especially those in rural communities, women with disabilities, and women with diverse gender identities and sexual orientation) at community level have increased awareness, knowledge and skill to be able to access services;
- 3.3 Disaster management and emergency response systems are better prepared to address the safety concerns of women, girls and children in emergencies and reduce the risks of violence;
- 4.1 Civil society organisations and networks, especially those representing groups facing multiple forms of discrimination, have knowledge and skills to effectively advocate and monitor the implementation of costed national policies and programmes to prevent VAWG as well as accountability for implementation results, following one coherent approach;
- 4.2 Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased opportunities and support to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and ending VAWG, including domestic violence/intimate partner violence (DV/IPV), with relevant stakeholders at sub-national, national, regional and global levels, making use of technology;
- 4.3 Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased knowledge, skills and capacities to organize, lobby, network and knowledge share through digital technology and mediums, fit for purpose in the COVID-19 and Pacific context.

Across the programme activities, the following strategies will be mainstreamed:

- Ensuring a *contextual and culturally grounded approach* that builds on the strengths of Pacific values and principles around equality, inclusion and non-violence to promote social norms change and harness Pacific thought leadership;
- An *intersectional approach* that applies the principle of 'Leave No One Behind' of the 2030 Agenda. An intersectional approach recognises that ethnicity, race, class, gender, sexuality, age, ability, HIV status, location, socio-economic background and other aspects of identity are experienced simultaneously and influence how power is experienced and negotiated through these identities²;

² Diverse Voices and Action (DIVA) for Equality, 'UNJUST, UNEQUAL, UNSTOPPABLE: Fiji Lesbians, Bisexual women, Transmen and Gender non binary people tipping the scales toward justice', May 2019, SUVA.

- A *sustainable approach*, ensuring that all programme actions are inclusive of capacity building, institutional strengthening, and sustainability strategies to ensure that countries have the ability to sustain action regardless of programme funding and support;
- An *evidence based and evidence generating approach*, ensuring using and building evidence for what works across the span of Pacific geography and culture (i.e. Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia) and diverse settings (i.e. urban, maritime, rural) in order to what and how to take interventions to scale;
- A *transformative approach*, addressing the power relations between hierarchies, women and men and generations, at social, economic and political level. Examining, questioning, and changing rigid gender norms and imbalances of power which disadvantage women and girls and generate discriminations at all ages, starting from early childhood, in societies. Promoting change in social attitudes, including by actively engaging men and boys and by putting a focus on young people as drivers of change.

Examples of Expected results & Outcome Level Indicators (*Indicative, in accordance with GAP III*)

Overall, it is expected this programme will contribute to reduced rates of violence against women and girls at country and regional levels, improved implementation of EVAWG laws and policies, increase provision and access to – and quality of - essential services for survivors of VAWG, and improved capacity and coherence across the region to prevent and respond to VAWG, including before, during and after emergencies.

Outcome 1 (indicative examples)

- Extent to which legislation and/or policy prohibiting/addressing VAWG has been developed, strengthened and/or implemented;
- Number of laws, policies and action plans that are developed, updated and monitored for implementation.

Outcome 2 (examples)

- Proportion of men and boys who acknowledge that violence against women and girls is not acceptable;
- Proportion of women and girls who report feeling and/or experiencing increased safety in private and public spheres.

Outcome 3 (example)

- Proportion of women and girls in target populations, including those facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, who report experiencing violence who seek help (disaggregated by sector – health, social services, police);
- Number of service providers and multi-sector service delivery systems that provide survivor-centered, quality and timely services to women and girls who experience violence.

Outcome 4 (example)

- Extent of use of social accountability mechanisms by civil society in partner country in order to monitor and engage in ending violence against women and girls;
- Number of coordinated actions by women’s rights organisations, autonomous social movements and relevant civil society organisations to advocate jointly on ending violence against women and girls;
- Number of grassroots civil society organisations reached by EU support.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Outcome 1

- Support training, ongoing capacity building, and national and regional convenings for civil society actors on best practice and evidence-informed interventions and strategies to effectively monitor and advocate for favourable legislation and policies that insulate the safety of women and girls. This includes prioritising costing and gender responsive budgeting, along with systems and structures to support whole of government, whole of society approaches.
- Support national governments, civil society and other key actors (e.g. faith, traditional entities) to ensure accountability and actionable implementation of existing EVAWG laws and policies, including, where relevant, amendment or development of new laws/policies.

- Support national governments to develop and effectively implement national prevention strategies and action plans, including whole of government approaches and social norms change strategies.

Activities related to Outcome 2

- Partner with and provide technical assistance to national and regional partners to implement community-based and institutional change-focused prevention programmes that integrate faith, sport and other key influences of communities in gender transformative social norms change.
- Integrate programmatic research and evaluation to document and capture the effectiveness of interventions implemented.
- Expand the roll-out of Social Citizenship Education curricula and whole-of-school initiatives via training, in-service mentoring and engagement of young people to institutionalize human rights, gender equality and EVAWG learnings in the Pacific.
- Curate and create knowledge products and disseminate learnings on best practices and effective approaches to social norms changes and prevention of VAWG to disseminate learning and evidence generated at the national levels.
- Convene local, national and regional stakeholders engaged in primary prevention of VAWG in unique forums to unpack the strategies and approaches required to end VAWG in the Pacific.

Activities related to Outcome 3

- Provide technical support to Ministries of Women/Divisions of Women and frontline service providers to strengthen the coordination, governance and functionality of VAWG multi-sectoral service delivery systems with specific focus on localizing national systems to sub-national levels, strengthening referral pathways and service delivery for people with diverse needs (e.g. disability, diverse sexual orientation and gender identities, rural/maritime) and building actionable gender-based violence administrative data systems to inform policy and practice and monitor progress.
- Provide direct granting and technical support to government and non-government frontline service providers (e.g. social services, health, police and justice) to ensure women and girls have access to quality, affordable and appropriate essential services.
- Support service providers and community members/leaders with innovative strategies to increase awareness on the availability of services and how to access them, with consideration to unique adaptations required for COVID-19 and cyclical natural disasters.
- Provide technical support to Ministries of Women/Divisions of Women and frontline service providers to prepare for and respond to emergencies with a comprehensive, context-specific prevention and response plan to address VAWG.
- Support advocacy efforts within the disaster management and emergency response system to mitigate the risk of VAWG in life-saving service delivery, such as food security, evacuation centres/shelter, health and social protection.

Activities related to Outcome 4

- Support regional, sub-regional and national convening of diverse civil society organisations, groups and networks to engage in women's rights and feminist movement building.
- Support the convening of key national and regional partners, including development partners, key donors, independent women's funds, VAWG civil society leaders and Pacific inter-governmental bodies, to map available resources for civil society and identify a coherent approach of engagement.
- Facilitate the development of digital platforms and mediums for Pacific EVAWG civil society organisations and networks to increase their advocacy capacity and reach for priorities identified by civil society groups related to EVAWG.

Linked to the overall activities will be a robust monitoring, evaluation and learning framework and a commitment to continuous learning, driving forward an evidenced based – and evidenced generating – programme.

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiatives foreseen under this action plan will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe partners. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each

respective partners' meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the event that the TEIs and/or these contributions do not materialise the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

A key component integrated throughout the programme and highlighted will be advancing a more integrated response to climate change and environmental protection as a strategy to address VAWG, especially in the Pacific region. Climate change and environmental protection are high on the agenda in the Pacific region and are issues Pacific Island Governments and civil society organisations are leading on at a global level, as evidenced by the Prime Minister of Fiji as the President of the 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Climate change exacerbates existing gender inequalities, often resulting in more negative impacts for women and girls through economic, physical, sexual and emotional violence, harassment and exploitation.

While the above mentioned thematic areas will be streamlined throughout the Action, particular attention will be provided in all disaster management, climate change/resilience related policies and programmes funded by the EU to ensure full integration of gender and GBV related aspects. Mainstreaming a gender focus in relevant environmental and climate related policies and legislation will therefore fall within the scope of environment-related actions financed by the European Union.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G2. This implies that gender equality is the principal objective of the Action.

Human Rights

Promoting human rights and gender equality, including combating violence against girls and women, are at the heart of the programme, and are therefore much more than just cross-cutting issues. Indeed, these are integral aspects of the programme and the improvement in women's human rights, especially to health, safety, education, livelihoods are critical aims for programmatic success. All programme activities inherently centre the promotion of human rights as part of policy and legislation implementation, 'whole of' prevention programmes which utilize a human rights frame as the foundation of development and policies of key influencing intuitions. Through a human rights-based approach, the programme will promote and practice gender equality with acute attention to ensuring survivors of violence have access to the essential services which are part of their rights to justice, health and safety. As a whole, the programme's central aim is to advance gender equality and human rights. Throughout the Action, attention will be given to the 5 working principles of the human rights based approach: a) applying all human rights for all; b) meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making; c) non-discrimination and equality; d) accountability and rule of law for all; and e) transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1.

Democracy

N/A

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Other cross-cutting issues might include peace building and the involvement of women in conflict resolution. Although this is not relevant to all countries in the Pacific, some Pacific ACP countries do face certain levels of active conflict and the promotion of Human Rights and Gender inclusiveness is often a part of strategies to ensure that all relevant stakeholders play an active role in resolving conflict situations.

Disaster Risk Reduction

During and after disasters, women and girls are at greater risk of gender-based violence, including rape, sexual exploitation, and assault, which is why this programme is taking an explicit strategy to strengthen linkages between climate change and disaster response and prevention of VAWG.

Other considerations if relevant

The programme will also address the longer-term impacts of recurrent disasters and compounded emergencies with COVID-19 on the economic realities faced by women and girls, which leads to violence.

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/Medium/Low)	Impact (High/Medium/Low)	Mitigating measures
1-to the external environment	School teachers and other staff are resistant and/or experience difficulties in promoting gender equality and girls' rights and discussing issues related to gender based violence and for those issues to be part of the education curriculum	Medium	Medium	The Governments of Kiribati, Tuvalu and the Republic of the Marshall Islands have requested technical support from SPC to roll out a gender and human rights curriculum in primary schools starting 2017/18. Additionally, the Government of Tuvalu has indicated its commitment to the inclusion of human rights and gender into formal school education through its Human Rights National Action Plan 2016-2020. The Ministry of Education of RMI has requested technical support from SPC to identify measures and develop policy to promote gender equality across its ministry.
1-to the external environment	Faith based and community based organisations might be unwilling to fully embrace internationally recognised human rights, as they relate to gender roles, gender equality and women's human rights, including sexual and reproductive health rights.	Medium	Medium	Several human rights organisations in the region are already working with faith-based organisations on ensuring that their messages align with international human rights and have identified champions for disseminating these. The Pacific Council of Churches has begun to take steps in addressing gender equality and the Fiji Council of churches recently developed a public campaign featuring leaders of major religions in Fiji speaking out against VAWG. These are significant steps forward and present a key opportunity to work with these institutions in a more sustained and focused way. In addition, other programmes, especially a range of access to justice programmes are supporting the domestic roll out of human rights as recognised in international conventions.
1-to the external environment	Gender equality and human rights and their individual application is seen as in conflict with	Medium	Medium	Regional experts consulted were clear that this would not be a problem. In addition, as per lessons learnt (see below), the programme will work through existing community structures and organisations,

	the local values and culture of the collective			as well as respected institutions such as the Church and other faith-based organisations. This is also being promoted through the development of the Regional Primary Prevention of Violence against Women Framework UN WOMEN is leading on in 2017. The Pacific Plan of Action for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration (the ‘Pacific Plan’ 2005 - 2015), adopted by Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders provided a regional mandate and explicit language for promoting and respecting human rights. The Framework for Pacific Regionalism, which replaced the Pacific Plan (2005 – 2015), identifies the defence and promotion of human rights as one of its underlying values.
3-to people and the organisation	Sustainability of the action at risk if the results are not carried on by the beneficiaries	Medium	Medium	The action should strengthen the policy framework and institutions through its multipronged approach. Accountability will be ensured through the civil society capacity development for monitoring and advocating with policy makers. An exit strategy is expected to be included in the detailed project description for each result area.

Lessons Learnt

In line the recent Pacific Partnership Midterm Evaluation recommendations, the programme will “build on the achievements of the Pacific Partnership by assuring future EVAWG initiatives continue to deliver and invest in this type of cohesive approach”. In particular, the Pacific Partnership has excelled at reducing fragmentation and increasing regional coherence on the issue of gender equality and the elimination of VAWG by bringing together the regional Pacific agencies, Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), along with UN WOMEN and multiple donor partners – to advance robust regional and national action to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

Findings and recommendations from the Pacific Partnership Mid-Term Evaluation underscore the need to build upon and ‘scale up’ the innovative and evidence-based prevention programming developed through the Pacific Partnership, such as social citizenship education, primary prevention programmes with sports and faith, and whole of government, whole of society National Action Plans to Prevent VAWG. Moreover, the programme will build upon the Pacific Partnership core values and approach, which ensures that policies, programmes and interventions are culturally resonant, human rights based, and grounded in the latest global and regional data and evidence. The programme will pilot new approaches that address the linkages between VAWG in the contexts of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, and the broader issues of climate change and recurrent natural disasters.

In addition, this programme will partner and coordinate with other key programmes and efforts at the regional level to bring together communities to progress gender equality and end VAWG. This includes the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women and Women’s Ministerial meeting, the DFAT Pacific LEAD programme, the biennial and quadrennial reporting on the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and other intergovernmental preparatory meetings and gender coordination mechanisms. In addition, civil society organizations (CSOs) have existing networks and coalitions to build communities of practice, and to test and refine home-grown Pacific approaches to prevention and convene regional forums for dialogue and learning. This includes the Pacific Women’s Network Against Violence Against Women, the Pacific Feminist Forum, and the Pacific Women with Disabilities Women’s Forum

In the Pacific, the Vanuatu, Samoa, and Regional Spotlight programmes will undergo a mid-term evaluation in late 2021. Lessons learned and findings from this MTE will further inform the overall approach of this action to ensure continuous improvement and refinements based on real-time evaluation findings.

3.5. The Intervention Logic

The overall objective of this action is to promote gender equality and contribute to ending violence against women and girls. Drawing lessons from various studies and previous intervention of donors, the action will focus on a set of interrelated actions that, together, create a context where VAWG is no longer justified, accepted and tolerated from a legal justice and social context. The action will continue to focus on addressing harmful social norms that are root causes of VAWG and gender inequality. The action will advance ‘whole of approaches’, ensuring that duty bearers and rights holders are catalysed to reject VAWG through a set of national strategies that bundle strategic interventions at individual, family, community and societal levels. As such, the action is both “bottom-up” and “top down”, creating a context where VAWG is no longer tolerated and accepted.

The action is based on the following Theory of Change Statement:

If (1) an enabling legislative and policy environment in line with international standards on EAWG and other forms of discrimination is in place and translated into action with an adequate budget; (2) if favourable social norms, attitudes and behaviours are promoted at community and individual levels to prevent VAWG; and (3) if women who experience violence are empowered to use available, accessible & quality essential survivor-focused services & recover from violence, build resilience and apply skills and strategies reducing the risk of returning (again) to vulnerable situations; and if (4) CSOs and women’s rights groups are following a coherent approach to influence advancement of progress on EAWG then (5) there will be a substantial reduction in violence against women and girls; because (6) violence is being prevented before it happens or before it re-occurs, and those experiencing violence will be empowered to recover, strengthen their resilience and rebuild their lives with appropriate assistance and support.

This is based on the following theoretical understandings demonstrated in current evidence on what works to prevent VAWG:

- Violence against women and girls is preventable. It is a result of gender inequality and can be prevented by addressing the unequal structures, norms and practices that perpetuate gender inequality.
- Community mobilization including in Faith, Sports and whole of School programmes are effective in changing harmful gender norms and preventing violence against women.
- Prevention and response services must work together in countries with high rates of violence and low access to services.
- Access to services must include investment in improving both the quality and reach of services that respond to women and girls experiencing violence. The UN WOMEN Essential Services Package is a set of best practices that have been developed globally. The Essential Services Package is being contextualized to the Pacific through this programme.

The global evidence requires comprehensive approach by adopting laws and policies and emphasized role of prevention by addressing the root causes of VAWG as well as the need to enhance accessibility of survivors to quality services. The main lesson learned, substantiated by evidence, is that in order to effectively address VAWG, a comprehensive, transformative approach towards gender equality and women’s empowerment is required which needs to result in comprehensive EAWG laws and costed policies, prevention, provision of essential services in line with SDGs.

3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

Results	Results chain ():	Indicators:	Baselines	Targets	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	Promote gender equality and prevent violence against women and girls.	% target population embracing gender equality and rejecting VAWG	tbd	tbd		<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1. Regional and national political leadership ensured EVAWG legislation and policies are in line with international standards and translated into implementation and action	1.a Extent to which legislation and/or policy prohibiting/addressing VAWG has been developed, strengthened and/or implemented	1.a 0% new policy or amendments	1.a 100% of amendments to national legal framework that is aligned with best international practice National legislation in target countries has specific laws, b-laws, policies, or action plans that addresses VAWG prevention and response by 2024	1.a Regional and national Policy/Legislation base	There is continuous will by law enforcement and decision making to advance VAWG policies
Outcome 2	2. Favourable social norms, attitudes and behaviours are promoted at the family, community, and societal levels to prevent VAWG	2.a Proportion of men and boys who acknowledge that violence against women and girls is not acceptable 2.b Proportion of women and girls who reporting feeling and/or experiencing increased safety in private and public spheres.	2.a 38% of women and 30% of men (Fiji target communities) Other countries tbd by 2022 2.b TBD	2.a Increase by 5 percentage points annually 2.b TBD	Programme data (surveys as part of the M&E)	An integrated/multi-pronged approach to prevention is effective to change social norms and attitudes. Changes in attitudes and beliefs will result in changes in behaviours.
Outcome 3	3. Women, girls and children who experience violence (including before, during and after emergencies),	3.a Number of women and girls in target populations, including those facing intersecting	3.a Fiji: 1659 (2020)	3.a Increase by 20% annually	Service providers (crisis centres,	Quality services will increase women's confidence in seeking support and increasing

	have access to coordinated and high quality, essential services (health, police & justice, social services) to recover from violence and perpetrators are held to account	and multiple forms of discrimination, who report experiencing violence who seek help (disaggregated by sector – health, social services, police) 3.b Number of service providers and multi-sector service delivery systems that demonstrate increased capacity to provide survivor-centred, quality and timely services to women and girls who experience violence. 3.c Number of legislative actions taken in partner country to criminalise gender-based violence, including online, and to prosecute perpetrators, in line with international standards	Other countries - tbd 3.b Fiji: 127 (2020) Kiribati: 31 (2020) Other countries tbd	3.b Increase by 50% annually	health, police) data Programme data (pre and post and other M&E data)	their access to such services; There is commitment and resources to collect data and coordinate services; There is adequate funding for the provision of services to survivors of violence.
Outcome 4	4. Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, influence and advance progress on GEWE and ending VAWG	4.a Extent of use of social accountability mechanisms by civil society in partner country in order to monitor and engage in ending violence against women and girls.	4.a Zero new reports by CSO on the monitoring of EVAWG	4.a One comprehensive joint report by CSO submitted to decisions makers for action, each year	Programme data	Existing adequate technical expertise on legal and policy frameworks for EVAWG
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 EVAWG Laws and policies are regularly reviewed, resourced, and enforced to align with international human rights	1.1.a Number of new and revised laws, by-laws and regulations that addressed VAWG	1.1.a Zero	1.1.a One law, by-law or regulation per country per year	Programme data	There is continuous will by law enforcement and decision making to advance VAWG

	standards and global evidence and facilitate institutional change	with the support of the programme				
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Key institutions and governments have the capacity to develop costs and implement whole of government National VAWG Prevention Action Plans and institutional policies to prevent VAWG across key sectors (e.g. education, faith, sports).	1.2.a Number of guidelines, protocols and standard operating procedures on prevention and the provision of quality services for survivors developed by the states with the support of the programme	1.2.a 14 (2020)	1.2.a 2 new per year	Programme data	National stakeholders recognize UN Women and SPC's technical expertise on legal and policy frameworks for EVAWG
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 Rigorous community mobilization strategies targeting women and men, girls and boys and other stakeholders in faith, sports and traditional entities are implemented using innovative social norms and approaches and through key social influencers at national and regional levels.	2.1.a Number of institutions/ /communities that have adopted new or revised prevention policies and or action plan 2.1.b Number of communities with increased (at least 10p.p increase) population who think that a woman should tolerate violence from her husband/partner to keep her family together	2.1.a Central level: Zero Community level: Kiribati: 18 Fiji: 3 2.1.b tbd	2.1.a Central level: five central institutions in countries where Action Plans are adopted Community level: Kiribati: 25 Fiji: 10 2.1.b 50 by 2024	Programme data	Communities and their members who are activists are motivated to lead prevention work Communities at large are open engage in prevention initiatives Adequate capacity of partners is built to progress work efficiently
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 Social Citizenship Education curricula and whole of school initiatives that promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion, respectful relationships and non-violent communication skills are implemented and expanded	2.2.a Number of schools with new/revised curriculum and support materials to include and/or strengthen content on social citizenship	Total of 152 schools: Kiribati: 133 Tuvalu: 4 RMI: 9 pilot Vanuatu: 6 pilot.	Kiribati: primary schools (96); Junior Secondary Schools (25) Combined Junior Secondary Schools and Senior Secondary Schools (24); Senior Secondary Schools (20). RMI: 94 primary schools and 17	Current phase annual report for schools currently being piloted. For targets-source of data is the SPC EQAP and SPC	Continued government commitment to the SCE programme and agreement to roll-out nationally. Other donor-funded projects in the education sector can complement this work and stakeholders, esp MOEs, can appreciate this

				<p>secondary schools – nation-wide roll-out.</p> <p>Tuvalu: nation-wide rollout: 10 primary schools and 2 secondary schools.</p> <p>Vanuatu: nation-wide rollout: 479 primary schools and 111 secondary schools.</p> <p>Fiji: national roll out.</p>	Pacific Data hub dataset.	connection and facilitate parties collaborating.
Output 3 related to Outcome 2	2.3 A regional Pacific Prevention Hub is developed and operational to promote regional evidence generation, capacity building, and learning on ‘what works’ to prevent VAWG in the Pacific region	2.3.a Extent to which Pacific Prevention Hub is functioning	2.3.a Concept Note on Pacific Hub developed	2.3.a A business model of the Hub developed in 2022 Hub functioning with pulled technical sources in 2023	Programme data	<p>EVAWG stakeholders and technical experts from various institutions and networks are keen to join technical efforts through the Hub model</p> <p>There is potential high donors interest to invest in this model</p>
Output 1 related to Outcome 3	3.1 Service providers, namely health, police and justice, social services have strengthened capacity to provide timely, quality, coordinated services, to hold perpetrators to account in line with due diligence standards and collect and use data in an ethical manner.	<p>3.1.a Number of service providers and multi-sector service delivery systems that demonstrate increased capacity to provide survivor-centred, quality and timely services to women and girls who experience violence</p> <p>3.1.b Number of gender-based violence cases reported to the police, brought to court which resulted in the perpetrators being</p>	3.1.a Zero new service providers	3.1.a 10 new service providers per year	Programme data	Basic technical expertise exists

		sentenced, disaggregated at least by sex				
Output 2 related to Outcome 3	3.2 Women and girls (especially those in rural communities, women with disabilities, and women with diverse gender identities and sexual orientation) at community level have increased awareness, knowledge and skill to be able to access services.	3.2.a % of women, including those facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, who report experiencing physical or sexual violence who seek help, by sector i.e. (a) government services and civil society services; or (b) social welfare, legal aid, housing/shelter, police protection	3.2.a Zero new	3.2.a 50,000 yearly	Service providers (crisis centres, health, police) data Programme data (pre and post and other M&E data)	Quality services will increase women's confidence in seeking support and increasing their access to such services.
Output 3 related to Outcome 3	3.3 Disaster management and emergency response systems are better prepared to address the safety concerns of women, girls and children in emergencies and reduce the risks of violence	3.3.a Extent to which emergency response systems are better prepared	tbd	tbd	tbd	xx
Output 1 related to Outcome 4	4.1 Civil society organisations and networks, especially those representing groups facing multiple forms of discrimination, have knowledge and skills to effectively advocate and monitor the implementation of national policies and programmes to prevent VAWG as well as accountability for implementation results, following one coherent approach.	4.1.a Number of coordinated actions by women's rights organizations, autonomous social movements and relevant civil society organizations to advocate jointly on ending violence against women and girls.	4.1.a Zero new	4.1.a 1 major regional and 1 national (in target countries) action per year undertaken by CSO	Programme data	Capacity of outreach and partnerships is adequate

Output 2 related to Outcome 4	4.2 Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased opportunities and support to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and ending VAWG, including DV/IPV, with relevant stakeholders at sub-national, national, regional and global levels.	4.2.a Number of networking and other joint initiatives by SCO that support knowledge sharing	4.2.a Zero new	4.2.a Three in each target country each year	Programme data	Capacity of outreach and partnerships is adequate
Output 3 related to Outcome 4	4.3 Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased knowledge, skills and capacities to organize, lobby, network and knowledge share through digital technology and mediums, fit for purpose in the COVID-19 and Pacific context	4.3.a Number of grassroots civil society organizations reached that demonstrate increased capacities	4.3.a Zero new grassroots organisations	4.3.a 10 organisations in each target country per year	Programme data	UN Women's unique mandate regarding coordination and operational work in VAWG is efficiently used

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the partner countries.

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 measures³.

4.3.1. Indirect Management with an international organisation

This action may be implemented in indirect management with UN WOMEN and the Pacific Community (SPC). In such a case, UN Women and SPC will implement jointly the programme. Actions will be split between the two entities based on their expertise.

The UN WOMEN has been selected for

- their leading role for the Pacific on gender equality and prevention of VAWG across the region and their coordination mandate to ensure close coordination of this action with other UN funded gender equality and VAWG prevention programmes in the region.
- their track record of successfully managed large programmes in the Pacific region, on a similar scale to the present action.

SPC has been selected for

- their scientific and technical knowledge acquired in the Pacific.
- technical assistance to Pacific Island governments guided.
- and a deep understanding of Pacific Island contexts and cultures.

UN WOMEN plays a regional leading role through its multi-country office for the Pacific on gender equality and prevention of VAWG across the region. UN WOMEN also holds the coordination mandate for gender equality for the UN System and will leverage its coordination mandate to ensure close coordination of this action and other UN funded gender equality and VAWG prevention programmes in the region. UN WOMEN has demonstrated its ability to successfully manage large programmes in the Pacific region, on a similar scale to the present action. Result 2, 3 and 4 will be implemented by UN WOMEN as it is directly related to its core mandate and experience base. Through its current programming, UN WOMEN has developed extensive networks with a variety of stakeholders in the Pacific from high level Pacific leaders to grassroots organizations. UN WOMEN has experience supporting community partners with operational management. UN WOMEN's Fiji Multi-Country Office (MCO) is based in Suva and works with governments and civil society organizations across 14 Pacific Island countries and territories to address gender imbalance, empower women and build more inclusive societies. UN WOMEN also has a country presence in 6 other Pacific countries (Kiribati, Tonga, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu); and has strong financial and logistical capacity that enables it to manage complex development programs across a number of countries. UN

³ 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.

WOMEN is the only IO in the region working on holistic approaches to changing social norms at the community level, including through faith-based groups and sports and is therefore strategically placed to run a holistic programme to combat harmful social norms around gender equality and VAWG. UN WOMEN also leads programming in the region on women’s economic empowerment and participation and leadership, which makes it an ideal lead partner that can ensure thorough coordination and complementarity with other work in the region in this field. Further details on coordination under point 5.7 Organisational set-up and responsibilities.

For the last 70 years, SPC has been the principal regional scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific. Its vision is for a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy and productive lives. SPC provides technical assistance to Pacific Island governments which is guided by both technical expertise and a deep understanding of Pacific Island contexts and cultures. SPC’s technical mandate covers more than 20 sectors, providing knowledge and innovation informed by its own statistics division in areas such as fisheries science, public health surveillance, geoscience and conservation of plant genetic resources for food security; climate change and disaster risk reduction; education; human rights and gender mainstreaming. The Human Rights and Social Development Division (HRSD) will lead the SPC component in collaboration with the Education Quality Assessment Programme (EQAP). HRSD brings together the previous Social Development Programme (SDP) and Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT). As separate programmes, SDP was focused on gender equality, youth development and culture development, and RRRT on promotion and protection of human rights in the region. HRSD has staff embedded in the Ministries of Justice of the FSM, Kiribati, RMI, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and under the PPEVAWG project, it has staff located within the Ministries of Education in Kiribati, RMI, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. As a result, SPC has a local understanding of the human rights and EVAWG context in those countries and the necessary structure to implement the activities relating to outcome area 2.2 and it can also lend support to the agencies implementing other outcomes areas.

Combining the strong mandates and track records of UN WOMEN with the expertise of SPC’s has proven effective in creating a solid basis for the action to benefit from a large networks, credibility and leverage while securing long term ownership within the Pacific region. Furthermore, the strategic engagement of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat in this action, serving in a leadership advisory role, further strengthens this action’s integration into regional processes and ownership.

In case the envisaged entities would need to be replaced, the Commission’s services may select a replacement entity using the same criteria. If the entity is replaced, the decision to replace it needs to be justified.

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 realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.5. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components⁴	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	UN WOMEN contribution (amount in EUR)
Indirect management with UN WOMEN and SPC	8 000 000	375 000
Total	8 375 000	

⁴ N.B: The final text on audit/verification depends on the outcome of ongoing discussions on pooling of funding in (one or a limited number of) Decision(s) and the subsequent financial management, i.e. for the conclusion of audit contracts and payments.

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The day-to-day technical and financial management and administration of the action will be the responsibility of the Organisation, in close collaboration with the partner, for the components under their respective responsibility. The Organisation will be responsible for narrative and financial reporting, as well as for the collation, aggregation and management of relevant documents and other preparation for audits in line with provisions. The Organisation may choose to set up a project coordination group in agreement with the action. This would be a technical level group and terms of reference would be agreed between the partners. The EU would be invited to participate in it.

A Programme Steering Committee (PSC) will be established to oversee the implementation and the strategic decisions to be taken on the action. The PSC will be responsible for approving annual plans, monitoring risk and assessing programme quality and will meet bi-annually. The PSC will be co-chaired by the EU and the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, with representatives from SPC, UN WOMEN, governments of Australia and New Zealand, CSO representation, in line with the best practice from the Pacific Partnership programme. Moreover, UN Agencies will be represented in the PSC as strategic partners and in support of regional coherence and coordination. The Organisation will act as secretariat to the chair. In addition, other key stakeholders, such as representatives of civil society, other relevant international organisations and national partner institutions, may be invited to join the steering committee. The PSC will be able to make recommendations for any adjustments to the action that may help achieve its objectives in a meaningful, targeted and cost-effective way. 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.

In addition, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) will play a critical role in the governance structure of the programme and strategic actions in the region. PIFS are custodians of the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, which will undergo review in 2021, and as the regional institution that convenes Pacific leaders and ministerial meetings, and its continued role in stewarding this next phase of a regional action to improve gender equality and prevent VAWG is critical.

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 partners' responsibilities. To this end, the implementing partners shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and a final report. 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 – at a minimum – the logframe matrix indicators. The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

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).

The partner will be responsible for coordinating their approach to monitoring, through a set of complementary monitoring frameworks. While the logframe enclosed in this action document may evolve during the course of the action, the indicators in the complementary monitoring frameworks should be reflective of the logframe indicators at the time of their conception. One single annual report covering all result areas will be submitted for the programme each year, in line with the special and general conditions of the co-delegation agreement.

In addition, considering the expected results, and the nature of some activities foreseen to achieve those results, significant evaluation work will be needed. In particular, the output and outcomes of the activities implemented to change social norms cannot be measured by existing statistics but need to be assessed on the basis of knowledge and attitude surveys at the beginning and at the end of the intervention. These surveys will be conducted by the implementing partner responsible for the corresponding expected results and the corresponding resources will be foreseen in the co-delegation agreement. For the third expected result area, there is also a need to take stock, during

the inception phase of the existing CSO initiatives at regional and national level. This will also be done by the implementing partner and budgeted accordingly.

It is important to note that considering the lack of data and the very low administrative capacity in the region, it has not been possible to design an SMART impact indicator. Indeed, the surveys that need to be conducted to measure the prevalence of violence against women and girls are very costly, and Australia has confirmed that they do not intend to support another set soon. The amount of funding under this action is not either commensurate to such a need. Against this background, the outcome indicator will be used as a proxy for the impact indicator.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, an independent external final evaluation will be carried out for this action via the Organisation. The evaluation will follow the United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards for Evaluations and it will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the progress made towards the expected results, identify lessons learned and present recommendations for any potential further programme phases

The evaluation report shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁵. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall 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 will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

It will remain 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.

However, action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication and visibility actions promoting the programmes concerned. These resources will instead be consolidated in Cooperation Facilities established by support measure action documents, allowing Delegations to plan and execute multiannual strategic communication and public diplomacy actions with sufficient critical mass to be effective on a national scale.

⁵ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)