



Brussels, 13.11.2024
C(2024) 7990 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.11.2024

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Nepal for 2024

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, 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(1) and (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of Nepal for 2024, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2024. Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('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 actions provided for in this Decision should contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with Commission Communication 'The European Green Deal'⁴ and in the Inter-institutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁵.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2021-2027⁶, which sets out the following priorities: i) Inclusive Green Growth, ii) Human Capital Development, and iii) Good Governance.

¹ .ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>, 26.9.2024 OJ L 239,

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 COM (2019) 640 final of 11 December 2019.

⁵ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

⁶ Commission Decision on the adoption of the National Indicative Programme between the European Union and Nepal C(2021)9053 final of 14.12.2021

- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Asia and the Pacific’ are to support Nepal’s green economic development in the energy and agriculture sectors as part of the Global Gateway.
- (6) The action entitled ‘GREEN⁺ - Green and Reliable Energy for Economic Prosperity in Nepal’ will increase reliable, green, and inclusive energy supply in Nepal and supports climate change mitigation efforts by avoiding green-house gas emissions by increasing the number of households connected to an inclusive, green, improved, and reliable grid supply.
- (7) The action entitled ‘Green Resilient Agricultural Centered Private Sector Economic Development (GRAPE 2)’ will advance sustainable climate-resilient economic development, with a focus on climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in Nepal.
- (8) The measure entitled ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Nepal – Strategic Communication’ will support the EU to position itself as a partner of reference for Nepal among selected target audiences.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c), of the Financial Regulation and 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 157(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 157(4) of the Financial Regulation⁷ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(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 determine the changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (13) 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 annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of Nepal for 2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions and measure:

⁷ Except for the cases referred to in Article 157(7) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (a) “GREEN+ - Green and Reliable Energy for Economic Prosperity in Nepal”, set out in Annex I;
- (b) “Green Resilient Agricultural Centred Private Sector Economic Development (GRAPE 2)”, set out in Annex II;
- (c) “Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Nepal – Strategic Communication”, set out in Annex III.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2024 is set at EUR 32 880 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.020131 South and East Asia of the general budget of the Union.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of 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 points 4.4.1 of the Annexes I and II.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁸ 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, where 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, 13.11.2024

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁸ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.