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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX 15

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2022-2024

Action Document for Support Measures

MULTIANNUAL PLAN

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

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support Measures CRIS number: 2022/44121/ ACT-61026 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Global: The action shall be carried out in all countries eligible for support under the thematic programme
4. Programming document	NDICI Global Challenges Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	This action will contribute particularly to the People priority of the MIP on Global Challenges.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Health, Education and skills, Gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, Children and youth, Migration and forced displacement, decent work, social protection, inequality and inclusion, Culture.
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): 17 (partnerships for the goals) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10
8 a) DAC code(s)	110 Education – 25% 120 – Health – 25% 150 – Government and Civil Society – 25% 160 - Other Social Infrastructure & Services – 25%
8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	60000 Private sector institution

9. Targets	<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 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	☒	☐	☐
	Aid to environment @	☒	☐	☐
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	☐	☒	☐
	Trade development	☒	☐	☐
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	☐	☒	☐
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	☒	☐	☐
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	☐	☒	☐
	Nutrition @	☒	☐	☐
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	☒	☐	☐
	Combat desertification @	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change mitigation @	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change adaptation @	☒	☐	☐
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	☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity	☒	☐ ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

	Migration @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line: 14.020240- Global Challenges People</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 5.600.000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 5.600.000</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of EUR 1.800.000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2022, for an amount of EUR 2.000.000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023, and for an amount of EUR 1.800.000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2024, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.</p>			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: Procurement			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The proposed Action will provide the necessary support for the sound implementation of the Global Challenges (People) Thematic Programme, the achievement of its expected objectives and results, and the measurement, analysis and reporting on its impact. This action will cover expenditure associated with the programme implementation in HQ and EU Delegations, including projects preparation, monitoring, evaluation and audit, and related activities such as sector policy analysis and dialogue. The action will also support communication actions designed to raise awareness, understanding and support for the EU's priorities on human development and migration.

The objectives of this action will mainly be achieved through service contracts directly managed by the competent European Commission services. This is justified by the nature of the activities (trainings, communications, studies, visibility actions, events, evaluations or audits). A modest part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an international organisation /EU Member State when there is a particular technical area of competence or comparative advantage.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Through the People chapter of the thematic programme on global challenges, the European Union (EU) aims to help address global problems through global development outcomes that will be inclusive and sustainable.

The programme seeks to foster economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development in an

integrated and holistic way. This will be done through coherent, coordinated and focused action, in complementarity with geographic programmes, in a number of key areas, including human development.

Poverty eradication and sustainable development will only be possible if global social challenges are adequately addressed through policies aimed at ensuring a decent life for all. The action will support quality development and implementation of EU actions in the area of human development.

The Support Measures of the People area of the Multiannual Indicative Programme of Global Challenges are designed to cover expenditures associated with the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the People part of the NDICI MIP Global Challenges, and to the achievement of its objectives. Such measures contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis and reporting on the impact.

2.2 Problem Analysis

All actions falling under the framework of the Multiannual Indicative Action programme Global Challenges, are a priority area for support under the People component. Support measures are aimed at providing the means to improve preparation and design of those actions, and to ensure robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and financial verifications, to confirm that EU actions are evidence-based, effective and efficient and EU financial interests protected. The funds will also provide means to ensure accountability and improve visibility of EU action, both in partner countries and within Europe.

Main stakeholders

The action support the actors managing or implementing EU cooperation programmes including the European Commission services at Headquarters and in EU Delegations, and implementing partners at large for the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the Multiannual action programme of the Global Challenges 2022-2024 (People), and to the achievement of the European Union's objectives on human development and migration.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The overall objective is

- 1) to increase the effectiveness and help achieve the objectives and specific results of Global Challenges-People budget line (and ancestor lines) generally, and more specifically the Multi-annual action programme 2022-2024. Actions will support the European Commission, including EU Delegations, to implement the programme.
- 2) Enhanced strategic communication of EU action for human development and migration

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of the Multi-year indicative programme include e.g.

- Output 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1: The impact of Global Challenges People programme is better monitored, assessed and disseminated.
- Output 1.2 contributing to Outcome 1: the quality of programmes are improved and build on evidence and lessons learnt.
- Output 1.3 contributing to Outcome 1: EU staff are trained and supported in the project cycle management of human development actions funded by the Global Challenges People budget line (or ancestor programmes)

- Output 1.4 contributing to Outcome 1: the financial interest of the EU is secured
- Output 1.5 contributing to Outcome 1: the effectiveness and efficiency of selection procedures are reinforced
- Output 2 contributing to Outcome 2: effective and efficient communication and visibility of EU external action in the area of human development and migration

3.2 Indicative Activities

Indicative activities for Output 1:

-Preparation of studies & reports: This will cover expertise needed at any stage of the project cycle and may include sector, programme and project-related studies and analyses, evaluations and collecting evidence to increase evidence-based knowledge and analytical capacity of delegations and headquarters.

-Preparation and organisation of conferences, seminars, workshops, training sessions, and study visits: This will include inter alia organising and financing conferences, seminars, workshops, community building activities, publications and digital/audio-visual contents, surveys, media relations and media monitoring, training sessions and study tours, including all related travel, accommodation, conference material, and information costs needed to ensure the events are effective.

-Audits & evaluations: This may cover audits and evaluations of activities financed by the Global Challenges-People budget line (and ancestor lines) by delegations and by Headquarters' services.

- Ad hoc expertise: e.g. assessors in calls for proposals, knowledge building.

Indicative activities for Output 2:

-Strategic communication and public diplomacy activities that will contribute to raising awareness, understanding and support for the EU's commitment to human development and migration related issues (Global Challenges People), with a particular emphasis on Global Gateway priorities and core principles.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

This action is not considered relevant for the environmental protection and climate change.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

This action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is a significant objective of the action.

At all stages gender-responsive rights-based approach principles participation, non-discrimination/equality, accountability and transparency will guide the planning and implementation of the Action and specifically the desk review. Every effort will be made to ensure gender balance and to prioritise the active participation of women in the action.

The action contributes to the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III, 2021-2025).

Human Rights

Human rights-based approach and its key principles (participation, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency) will be integrated throughout the action. Particular focus will be given to ensure inclusive policies targeting women and persons living in vulnerable situations such as indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities.

Disability

This action is labelled as D1. This implies that the action is considered relevant for the inclusion of person with disabilities.

Democracy

Not targeted

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Not targeted

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction not targeted

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Operational	Low demand from Delegations (primarily) and headquarters for the use of support measures activities	Low	Low	Information and planning of activities under the action.
Operational	High demand for activities and the exhaustion of support measures funds	Medium	High	Planning of activities and prioritisation based on availability of other sources of funding (e.g. funding of evaluations and audits should first be looked at within the project itself.

Lessons Learnt:

This action will implement Support Measures for the first years of the new NDICI – Global Europe instrument and build on the experience of the Global Public Goods and Challenges Human Development theme of the GPGC programme and the previous Investing in People Programme that provided support measures that allowed for more than 100 contracts performing studies, audits and evaluations to assess individual actions and contribute to the implementation the programme.

Through these support measures, the European Commission could ensure strengthened preparation and monitoring of programmes for better results, including on fiduciary matters safeguarding the EUs general budget. The same approach will be kept in the budget period 2021-2027 to accompany the implementation of the Global Challenges programme with the aim of optimising and capitalising on results.

3.5 The Intervention Logic¹

By helping prepare, monitor, evaluate and audit the activities financed by the global challenges People programmes, we assume their results will be more effective, provide the added value, complementarity and consistency with geographical programmes expected, while enhancing EU capacity to react promptly and substantially when required and to reflect the EU's policy priorities with regard to its internal policies, international obligations and commitments. In the long-term, the support measures aim to reinforce the effectiveness of programmes funded by the global challenges People component and that EU financial interests are safeguarded.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

Given the nature of this Action, a Logical Framework Matrix is not required at Action level.

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with 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 72 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 measures².

4.3.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

The bulk of this action (audits, evaluations, events, trainings, technical assistance) will be implemented following procurement procedures.

4.3.2 Changes from direct to indirect management mode

If deemed necessary by the nature of the outcome to be achieved, a part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an international organisation and/or an EU Member State organisation, selected based on the following criteria: relevance for the nature of the action, their operational capacity, their added value, their transparency and the absence of conflict of interest.

¹ @TEI Methodological Note to Support Design

² www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

4.4 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.

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 components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Third-party contribution, in currency identified
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.2		
Objective 1 & 2 composed of		N.A.
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	5 600 000	N.A.
Indirect management with MS organisation or an international organisation - cf. section 4.3.2	To be determined	N.A.
Totals	5 600 000	N.A.

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The contracting authority for the action shall be the European Commission. The overall responsibility for the implementation of the action lies with the relevant services of the European Commission at the headquarters level.

In line with its specific objectives, the action will ensure active and meaningful participation of key stakeholders and rights holders such as youth, persons with disabilities, women organizations and organizations representing vulnerable and marginalized groups.

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced.

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).

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a(n) evaluation(s) will not be carried out for this action or its

components.

In case an evaluation is not planned, the Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

The evaluation reports shall be shared where relevant with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination³. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, 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 may be covered by another measures 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

Strategic communication and public diplomacy play a key role in strengthening the EU's role in the world. Activities will be implemented to ensure awareness, understanding and perception of the EU, in both EU and partner countries, is commensurate with the scale, scope and ambition of our sustained engagement. Public facing campaigns and political communication, particularly around the Global Gateway priorities and Team Europe approach, will focus not only on what the EU does, but why, including by emphasising shared values, interests and impact, and promoting the EU's leadership role on key priorities under Global Challenges People.

With varying emphasis, activities will focus on two complementary types of audience in EU and partner countries:

- Wider audiences, comprising citizens, especially in the 18-35 age bracket, who are not involved in policy, advocacy or international relations, and who may hardly be aware of the EU.
- Specialised audiences, made up of opinion leaders, activists and other multipliers who already have a stake in the sphere of policy, advocacy and international relations. These may include civil society, youth and women's groups, academia, business organisations, trade unions, and other such fora and networks.

³ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)