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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX 3

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measures in favour of the Republic of the Sudan 2022 - Part 1

Action Document for Sudan Support Measures for Cooperation Facility

ANNUAL MEASURE

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

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Sudan Support Measures for Cooperation Facility OPSYS number: ACT-60788 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) TEI.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Republic of the Sudan
4. Programming document	Not applicable. Individual measures outside the scope of programming documents (NDICI-Global Europe Regulation, Article 23)
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Not applicable. Individual measures outside the scope of programming documents (NDICI-Global Europe Regulation, Article 23)
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): 17 (partnerships for the goals) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 5 (gender equality); SDG 16 (peace and justice and strong institutions)
8 a) DAC code(s)	43010 - Multisector aid - 100%
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Other - 90000
9. Involvement of multilateral partners	No

10. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
11. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	12. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective
Digitalisation digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship 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"/>
Connectivity transport		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

	people2people energy digital connectivity		<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
13. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2022-14.020121-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 3 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 3 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
14. Type of financing	Direct management through: Procurement			
15. Type of measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperation facility <input type="checkbox"/> Measures in favour of Civil Society			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The action will provide complementary support for the identification and formulation of new actions of the EU in Sudan, through studies, research and evaluation and other specific technical assistance under the Global Europe Regulation. Furthermore, it will provide support for the implementation of Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy as well as stronger coordination with the EU Member States under the Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) for Sudan and Gender Action Plan (GAP) III implementation. The “Team Europe” approach will be applied where relevant, and the action will also boost communication around the Global Gateway priorities in Sudan. The action will fund the procurement of Technical Assistance services to execute the assignments required to better design and implement the EU development cooperation and related strategic communication activities in the country.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Sudan had exhausted inter-service consultations, but eventually was not presented to the Global Europe Committee due to the military takeover on 25 October 2021. Hence, the MIP for Sudan is “on hold” and pending adoption, should the situation become conducive. Cooperation is carried out through previous committed actions under the EU Trust Fund for Africa, and to a minor extent under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), the Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities thematic programme (CSO-LA), and the EU’s Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP)/Rapid Response Pillar. The individual measures is in favour of the people of Sudan without any engagement with the state’s authorities.

This support measure will allow the EU and its Member States to develop impactful actions in support to EU priorities and values in Sudan, following the “Team Europe” approach where relevant. This action will also enhance the visibility of the EU in Sudan and position the EU as the preferred partner for the country by informing and sensitizing Sudanese population on the EU’s actions, and in particular its support to the population and the Global Gateway. Overall, the action will greatly contribute to strengthening European public diplomacy.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis: The EU aims to ensure effective delivery of its development cooperation to support the people of Sudan under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe). Within this context there is a need for scoping studies to better design new EU development cooperation programmes that are conflict sensitive and in line with the human rights based approach and gender mainstreaming commitments.

The EU further wants to ensure efficient and effective strategic communication of its values and policies, including the impact of its cooperation in the country.

The presence of a large number of development partners in the country requires a significant coordination effort ensuring coherence, synergies and complementarities. In particular, the Team Europe Initiatives will require intensive collaboration and coordination with the Member States.

More specifically the following issues will be addressed:

- Growing demand for project preparations, studies and context analysis:
There is a need to formulate and implement programmes, taking into account conflict sensitivity, gender and human rights sensitivity. The substantial EU support to Sudan calls for the support of specialized Technical Assistance (TA) in the areas of project preparation, studies and monitoring and evaluation of activities.
- Need for coordination and collaboration with Member States and other implementing partners:
The crisis calls for more intensified coordination and collaboration, especially since implementation will take place through different implementation channels. The GAP III calls for more coordination activities on gender issues.
- Increased awareness, understanding and support of the EU and its action:
There is a need to enhance a continuous and specific public communication by reaching out to the audiences that have little or critical opinion of the EU and its action in the country. This is to ensure that the EU values, principles and interests are pursued and its actions well understood by the Sudanese population. Finally, the EU development model should be promoted in order to support Sudan on its road to democracy and achieving durable peace. The GAP III calls for more political dialogue on gender issues with civil society organisations and authorities (if feasible). The Global Gateway needs to be promoted in Sudan.

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

This action will enable EU cooperation, bilateral and as part of the Team Europe Initiatives, to achieve its objectives efficiently, taking into account the constraints identified, and improve communication and public diplomacy of the EU Action in Sudan.

A broad range of stakeholders are expected to benefit from the proposed Cooperation Facility, including, but not limited to:

- i. Civil society including women organisations and human rights defenders, international organisations and the private sector as far as they are stakeholders of EU supported development projects and programmes;
- ii. EU Member States, and other development partners in the interest of upholding the aid effectiveness agenda.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to an efficient and effective use of the EU funding and position the EU as the preferred partner for the country.

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are to:

1. provide complementary support to on-going actions, as well as to support the identification and formulation of new actions of interest for EU engagement in Sudan, including via technical assistance as well as studies, assessments and evaluations, gender sectoral analysis and to support joint cooperation and implementation with EU Member States, notably under the Team Europe Initiatives, following a “Team Europe” approach.
2. increase awareness, understanding and support to the EU values and its partnership with the country, and promote key EU external action strategies such as the Global Gateway.

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

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Sector, project and programme specific analysis and studies (including gender sectoral analysis) for on-going and future programming is successfully concluded.
- 2.1 contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2): Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy activities are undertaken as set out in the Multi-Annual Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy Plan (minimum 1 action focused on gender issues).

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1 may include:

- Identification and formulation of development programmes corresponding to the current needs and human rights situation.
- Gender analyses (country gender analysis and/or gender sectoral analyses).
- Technical assistance for the Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) of the GAP III.

Activities related to Output 1.2:

- Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy activities such as public facing campaigns aimed at a wider audience; political communication particularly around the Global Gateway priorities and Team Europe approach; activities designed to foster, maintain, strengthen and connect networks and communities.
- Strategic communication on gender issues (16 days of activism against gender-based violence, women days, etc.).

The commitment of the EU’s contribution to the Team Europe Initiative to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe members. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each respective member’s 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

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

The EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) screening classified the action as Category C (no need for further assessment).

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

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality will be integrated through the strategic communication and public diplomacy activities and a gender sectoral analysis will be elaborated for new actions.

Human Rights

The action will take a human rights-based approach. It will be taken into account when identifying possible future actions in the context following the military coup. It will adhere to the following principles: Non-discrimination, meaningful participation, transparency, accountability and respect to all human rights.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies the need to take into account disabilities and will be considered when identifying possible future actions as well as the meetings organised in the frame of this action will be accessible for people with disabilities.

Democracy

Not Applicable

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

The action will specifically address conflict sensitivity analysis in all its activities and strive to contribute to reconciliation and peace efforts.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Not Applicable

Other considerations if relevant

Not Applicable

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
External environment	Political instability and deteriorating security situation	High	High	<p>EU and like-minded international partners continue to support different stakeholders in finding the solution to the political crisis and Sudan's transition towards democracy.</p> <p>Regular monitoring of the situation in the intervention areas. Strong security policy that is adapted to the local context and coordination with EU and international diplomatic representation.</p> <p>Facilitation of blended (virtual and in-person) information sharing and gathering</p>
People and the organisation	Limited engagement with governmental	High	Medium	The EU and like-minded international partners continue to engage with the authorities at the technical level

	authorities might also be a major obstacle for policy dialogue, public diplomacy and the formulation of new Action			
Communication and information	Reduced media space and internet cuts	Medium	High	Adapting the communication and public diplomacy actions to more physical events and meetings.

Lessons Learnt:

Combining local and international expertise has enabled the EU Delegation to implement international best practices with substantial local insights and understanding. It also facilitated blended (virtual and in-person) information sharing and gathering. Finally, the flexibility in application of procurement procedures for countries in crisis situation, as Sudan is, will enable the EU Delegation to respond quickly to the changing environment and requirements.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the EU-Sudan partnership. It will enable the EU to sustain its research and evaluation capacities of the EU Delegation, the latter will be able to design a more coherent approach to the current development, efficient and effective use of the EU funding in the Sudan's context.

Secondly, the intervention will allow implementation of strategic communication and public diplomacy activities. In parallel, it will strengthen the cooperation and coordination with Member States, especially within the Team Europe Initiatives and CLIP, and other development partners.

Finally, the intervention will ensure the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)¹ and mainstream gender in order to meet the EU's and the country's human rights and gender equality targets. Contributing to the Gender Action Plan III (2021-2025).

The research, studies and evaluation capacities will be supported by technical expertise for enhanced and better coordinated joint analysis, planning, programming and reporting, thereby addressing the root causes of vulnerability, inequalities poverty and conflict.

The strategic communication will target specific audiences such as women and youths, as well as, indirectly, the general public through campaigns and actions aimed at increasing awareness, understanding and approval of the EU's action in the country.

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 the government of the partner country.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/taking-forward-commitment-reducing-inequalities-human-rights-based-approach-toolbox-adopted_en

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 60 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 Budget Support – NOT APPLICABLE

4.4 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 measures.

4.4.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

Outcomes 1 and 2 will be implemented through operational procurement.

4.5 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 subject to the following provisions.

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).

4.6 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4	
Objective 1: provide complementary support to on-going actions, as well as to support the identification and formulation of new actions of interest for EU engagement in Sudan, including via technical assistance as well as studies, assessments and evaluations, and to support joint cooperation and implementation with the EU Member States, notably under the Team Europe Initiatives. Objective 2: increase awareness, understanding and support to the EU values and its partnership with the country through strategic communication and public diplomacy activities	3 000 000
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.4.1	3 000 000
Totals	3 000 000

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

This action will be implemented under direct management. Procurement will be conducted in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders and Member States, where relevant.

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

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partners' 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. Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by sex. All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach and gender equality. 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, an evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components.

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.

Regional and global strategic communication and public diplomacy funds will be managed from headquarters.

At country level, action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication 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.

To that end, Delegations will first develop short strategic communication and public diplomacy plans that reflect the objectives of the Delegation as a whole in this domain, initially covering the period up to the Mid-Term Review (MTR). The plans will be endorsed by a coordination mechanism comprised of the EEAS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI, and will be reviewed, modified and extended as appropriate as part of the MTR process.

These plans will cover:

1. The audiences targeted
2. For each group targeted, the principal communication objective, in terms of measurable outcomes
3. The core narrative, formulated in terms not of what we do in the country concerned, but why we do it
4. Preliminary suggestions for content (messages, straplines, hashtags), partnerships (influencers) and channels
5. Key administrative information: timeline, budget and the programme manager responsible for implementation.