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ANNEX 6

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for 2021

Action Document for Durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations in Sub-Saharan Africa

ANNUAL PLAN

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

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations in Sub-Saharan Africa CRIS number: NDICI AFRICA/2021/043-466 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Horn of Africa, Central Africa, the Lake Chad and the Sahel regions of Sub-Saharan Africa
4. Programming document	Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	<i>Specific Objective 2:</i> Address protection and long-term needs and support durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations (refugees and IDPs) and host communities. Result 2.1: Refugee and asylum seekers needs and rights are addressed in a balanced, coherent, comprehensive and coordinated manner aiming at the implementation of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR) and its comprehensive refugee response framework (CRRF). Result 2.4: Stronger political dialogue at continental, cross-regional, regional, or sub-regional level on forced displacement is achieved.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority area 6 - Migration, mobility, and forced displacement DAC Code 151 - Government & Civil Society-general CRS Code 15190 - Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility CRS Code 72010 - Material relief assistance and services to displaced persons
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 10 to reduce inequality within and among countries

	Specific target (10.7) to facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people Other SDG: SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts			
8 a) DAC code(s)	DAC code 151 Government & Civil Society-general – 40% CRS Code 72010 - Material relief assistance and services to displaced persons– 60%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	21000 International NGO 41100 UN entities			
9. Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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	<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"/>

	digital services		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity	<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"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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

12. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line(s) (article, item):</p> <p>East and Central Africa</p> <p>BGUE-B2021-14.020121-C1-INTPA: EUR 60 000 000</p> <p>West Africa</p> <p>BGUE-B2021-14.020120-C1-INTPA: EUR 15 000 000</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 75 000 000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 75 000 000</p>
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MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

13. Type of financing¹	<p>Direct management through grants: the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1</p> <p>Indirect management with international organisations and/or Member State agency: the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2 and 4.4.3</p> <p>Possible changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option) envisioned</p>
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1.2. Summary of the Action

Forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa has reached record highs and is mostly protracted. It is also highly localised with most refugees originating from a small number of countries and a small number of countries hosting most refugees. This action aims to contribute to alleviating protracted forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa by:

1. Promoting policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other displaced populations
2. Contributing to the protection needs of the forcibly displaced
3. Providing durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations

This regional action intends to provide sustainable, diversified and localised solutions to protracted displacement situations in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel and Lake Chad regions and for the Central African Republic (CAR) situation. It will support regional responses to displacement crises while at the same time providing direct assistance to the countries of origin as well as the countries hosting the forcibly displaced under those regional responses, including a focus on cross-border areas when relevant. It will focus on refugees, returnees² and cross border

¹ Art. 27 NDICI.

² As per the UNHCR definition of returnees: “A person who was of concern to UNHCR when outside his/her country of origin and who remains so, for a limited period (usually two years), after returning to the country of origin. The term also applies to internally displaced persons who return to their previous place of residence.”

displacement, and complement actions expected to be developed as part of country programmes, as well as humanitarian actions financed by the EU, notably for internally displaced persons (IDPs), and crisis response and conflict prevention actions.

In the spirit of responsibility sharing, assistance will include supporting refugees in asylum countries, including by matching the pledges the concerned Governments made at the Global Refugee Forum, for instance on the inclusion of refugees in national and local development plans and national systems for education and health, energy and infrastructure, efforts to end encampment or to provide documentation for refugees. Assistance will also be provided to create conditions in countries of origin for voluntary return in safety and dignity, when the conditions allow or support protection and durable solutions in countries affected by the crisis. The action will also tackle the complex nexus existing between migration, extreme events and climate change, responding to a pledge of the African Union and supporting the implementation of National Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement of several countries and their national adaptation plans.

In the Horn of Africa and for the CAR situation, it will make use of and provide assistance to the Support Platforms and other coordination and policy dialogue mechanisms, including through relevant regional economic communities (RECs) such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to support a regional response to displacement. It will notably support the new ‘Solutions Initiative for the Sudan and South Sudan Displacement Situation’, launched by the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and IGAD in close coordination with the EU in October 2020 under the IGAD Platform to find lasting solutions for 7 million displaced persons (including 3 million refugees or almost half the refugees in Sub-Saharan Africa) in and from the two countries. It will also support solutions for the displacement of Somalis, which remains a key concern in the Horn of Africa with around 2.9 million Somalis internally displaced due to conflict, drought and floods, and roughly 800,000 Somalis hosted as refugees in the region and more than 130,000 Somali refugees having recently returned in precarious conditions. It will also support the launch of a new Support Platform for the CAR situation, in which close to a third of the 4.7 million Central African Nationals have found themselves uprooted. The Support Platform will help galvanise attention and allow for the setting up of comprehensive and diverse solutions for the many refugees, asylum seekers, displaced and host populations.

In the Lake Chad Basin, the Protection Strategic Framework focuses on addressing key protection concerns and risks, with a focus on cross-border and common protection issues for refugees, returnees and IDPs through a common comprehensive approach and coordinated mechanism among relevant stakeholders. In line with the EU and UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel and the Protection Response in the Sahel, the Action foresees to support the Bamako Process and interventions focussing on increasing coordination mechanisms in the region, providing protection and assistance to persons of concern as well as supporting durable solutions to their situation.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Africa has recorded a steady economic growth; however, a number of challenges persist including political instability, conflicts and security issues, recurrent and protracted food crises, climate change, extreme events, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss, as well as the detrimental impact of the COVID pandemic. Almost 400 million people live below the poverty line across the continent and lack access to basic services in the area of health, education and nutrition, while inequality and governance challenges have not allowed for an inclusive growth. Rapid and continuous population growth puts additional pressure on natural resources, the labour market and service delivery. These factors have contributed to exacerbating forced displacement in the region, while also increasing the burden on countries hosting the forcibly displaced (Africa hosts over a quarter – 28 % - of refugees worldwide). At the same time, unmet needs of forcibly displaced and associated humanitarian responses are putting additional pressure on natural resources. While data are not always available to estimate to what extent environmental degradation and climate change can trigger or aggravate conflict, 95 % of all conflict displacements in 2020 occurred in countries vulnerable or highly vulnerable to climate change³. Disasters can also strike populations already uprooted by conflict, forcing them to flee multiple times.

³ As defined by the ND-Gain Index (<https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/>).

The EU calls for a strategic partnership with Africa to tackle together the emerging challenges and to pursue common interests. Both the EU and Africa are fighting climate change⁴. The World Bank estimates that, in Sub-Saharan Africa alone, climate change may trigger the migration of up to 70 million people by 2050. The objectives of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa (regional MIP) are aligned with the SDGs and the main components of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The regional MIP is structured around six priority areas and their respective components with the understanding that appropriate inter-linkages will be established both in the programming provisions and in the identification and formulation of specific actions.

This action intends to contribute to Priority area 6 of the regional AAP: ‘Migration, mobility, and forced displacement’, Specific Objective 2: ‘Address protection and long-term needs and support durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations and host communities’, Result 2.1: ‘Refugee and asylum seekers needs and rights are addressed in a balanced, coherent, comprehensive and coordinated manner aiming at the implementation of the Global Compact for Refugees and its comprehensive refugee response framework’ of the regional MIP, stressing the importance of increasing resilience of refugees and IDPs, among them to the impacts of climate change, climatic variability and natural extreme events. These efforts will pursue integration between adaptation, development and humanitarian aid.

This action is aligned with the Communication on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum⁵, the strengthened partnership with Africa, the Communication ‘Lives in Dignity’⁶ and will contribute to the 10 % spending target foreseen in the NDICI-Global Europe and to SDG 10 to reduce inequality within and among countries, specific target (10.7) to facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people.

This action will contribute to the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees⁷, affirmed by the UN General Assembly in 2019, which puts in place a new comprehensive refugee response model. It envisions predictable and sustainable support to ease pressures on countries hosting refugees, enhances opportunities for refugees to become self-reliant, expands their access to third-country solutions, and supports conditions in refugees’ countries of origin so that they may be able to return in safety and dignity.

The Compact set out arrangements to ensure that both refugees and their host communities benefitted from this support. The EU supported the Compact as well as the setting up of Regional Refugee Support Platforms (Support Platforms). Support Platforms, established with UNHCR support, bring together a multi-stakeholder coalition to address specific refugee situations as a key part of the Global Refugee Compact commitments. The Nairobi process under IGAD chair has been the first of those platforms, and has benefitted from significant EU policy, technical and financial engagement since 2016.

The proposed action reflects a strong ‘people-centred approach’ that focuses on improving individual and local communities’ self-reliance, social justice and participatory decision-making. It will mainstream environment and climate change, aligning with the external dimension of the EU Adaptation Strategy⁸, that envisage a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach to reach the most exposed, vulnerable, conflict-prone or marginalised communities, leaving no one and no place behind. The geographical priorities of the Adaptation Strategy coincide with the scope of this Action (Africa, Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries). The EU

⁴ JOIN (2020) 4 final JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa of 09/03/2020.

⁵ COM(2020) 609 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum of 23/09/2020

⁶ COM(2016) 234 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-reliance Forced Displacement and Development {SWD(2016) 142 final} of 26.4.2016

⁷ The compact foresees as its fourth component the Support to the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and GCM Commitments on climate change and migration (United Nations Network on Migration WORKPLAN 2021 – 2022 PRIORITIES).

⁸ COM(2021) 82 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change {SEC(2021) 89 final} - {SWD(2021) 25 final} - {SWD(2021) 26 final} 24/02/2021

supports, among others, the African Adaptation Initiative, the African Risk Capacity, and has launched the Africa Research and Innovation Partnership.

It will also contribute to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan III⁹ and promote gender equality and women's empowerment and reduce any form of gender discrimination. Programmes implemented in conflict-sensitive countries where Conflict Analysis Screenings are on-going or are planned, will take into account the outcome of such analyses. Women and girls displaced by conflict face particular risks, and those displaced by disasters tend to be disproportionately affected. Globally, women account for 80 % of the people displaced by the impacts of climate change. Poor women and children are up to 14 times more likely to be killed than men by a climatic-induced disasters. They also have different adaptive capacities that are often overlooked.

The proposed action will also ensure a close cooperation with other EU-funded programmes such as those funded under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) or the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) as well as regional and multilateral institutions, including financial institutions (in particular, IGAD, ECCAS, ECOWAS, the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the UN, AU and the World Bank), particularly where there is alignment with EU priorities. The actions will also contribute to reinforce cooperation with civil society, local authorities as appropriate in line with the regional value added and subsidiarity principle, as well as the private sector, social and other stakeholders on shaping the multilateral landscape. It also fits in a Humanitarian - Development - Peace (HDP nexus approach, and will therefore also include our humanitarian counterparts.

All actions funded under the regional MIP demonstrate a clear added-value from a regional perspective in line with the subsidiarity principle. For this action in particular, all efforts will be made to ensure coherence and complementarity between regional and national programmes, as per the principles of subsidiarity and burden sharing. The Action will also support in the implementation of the National Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement of those African countries that stated in their nationally-determined contributions (NDCs) that migration and displaced people are a priority of their climate adaptation plans¹⁰.

2.2. Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

According to the latest global trend report of UNHCR (June 2021)¹¹, 'the East and Horn of Africa (E&HoA), and Great Lakes (GL) regions hosted 4.5 million refugees at the end of 2020, rising by 3 % or 122,800 people during the year. Those regions now host nearly 1 in every 5 refugees worldwide. The largest regional increase in the number of refugees in 2020 was however in West and Central Africa (+12 %). Globally, the number of refugees under the UNHCR's mandate has more than doubled in the last decade, with now a record high of 1 in 6 people in the world being forcibly displaced.

Yet forced displacement is highly localised. Globally, eight out of every 10 people displaced across borders originate from just ten countries (82 %) and more than two thirds (68 %) of all refugees (and Venezuelans displaced abroad) come from just five countries. In Africa, ten countries account for 88 % (28 million) of all forcibly displaced people on the continent. In turn, developing countries host 86 % of refugees (73 % are hosted in neighbouring countries) globally. Three countries (Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia) alone hosted over two-thirds of refugees in the E&HOA and GL regions, or some 13 % of all people displaced across borders globally. At the same time six countries (South Sudan, DRC, Somalia, Sudan, CAR and Eritrea) in those regions continue to be in the top 10 of countries of origin for refugees in the world. In 2020, Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 11.1 million of displacements. Climatic disasters often overlap with conflict in sub-Saharan Africa as cause of new and repeated displacement. In 2020, they triggered a record 4.3 million new displacements across the region (39 % of displaced people) and left around 2.3 million people living in internal displacement as of the end of the year. Somalia (1 million), Ethiopia (0.66 million), and South Sudan (0.44 million) are the countries with the highest number of new displacements in 2020. Kenya (0.33

⁹ JOIN(2020) 17 final JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL EU GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP) III – AN AMBITIOUS AGENDA FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN EU EXTERNAL ACTION {SWD(2020) 284 final} of 25/11/2020

¹⁰ Angola, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan (<https://www.climatewatchdata.org/ndcs-explore>) mention in their INDC/NDC (i) forced displacement, and/or (ii) migration, and/or (iii) planned relocation as defined by the Cancun Adaptation Framework on human mobility.

¹¹ <https://www.unhcr.org/statistics/unhcrstats/60b638e37/global-trends-forced-displacement-2020.html>.

million), Niger (0.27 million) and Nigeria (0.27 million) are the countries where the number of displacements due to disasters overpass those due to conflicts. During 2020, in countries not affected by conflicts (Angola, Burundi, Malawi, Madagascar, Tanzania, and Uganda) displacements due to disasters account for 0.22 million¹².

Forced displacement is also overwhelmingly protracted. An estimated 76 % of refugees find themselves in a protracted situation. The protracted situation of most refugees remains unaddressed yet in the meantime, the COVID-19 pandemic has undermined the capacity of developing countries hosting these refugees. Already fragile health infrastructures are stretched in helping local populations, not to mention refugees. The pandemic has also eroded crucial income from trade, tourism, and remittances and set back gains made against poverty in these countries.

The U.N. Summit for Refugees and Migrants organized in September 2016, led to the affirmation of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR) in 2018, which emerged from a broadly supported multilateral process and offers a rich array of innovative policy tools. The Compact reiterates the importance of traditional durable solutions for achieving permanent protection for refugees by calling for the expansion of ‘access to third country solutions’, and ‘support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity’. In recognition of the protracted nature of most refugee situations around the world, it builds on the 1951 Refugee Convention and calls for the international community to work together to improve the self-reliance of refugees and the resilience of their host communities by transforming refugees from a humanitarian burden to a development and economic opportunity. The GCR also led to the creation of the support platform concept as a tool to respond to the most protracted and complex refugee situations. In a spirit of partnership and in line with host country ownership and leadership, their functions include: (i) galvanising political commitment and advocacy for prevention, protection, response and solutions; (ii) mobilising financial, material and technical assistance, as well as enhancing resettlement and complementary pathways; and (iii) facilitating coherent humanitarian and development responses.

This Action intends to provide sustainable, diversified and localised solutions to protracted displacement situations in the IGAD, the Sahel and Lake Chad regions and for the CAR situation. It will support the Regional Refugee Support Platforms and other coordination and policy dialogue mechanisms, including through relevant RECs (IGAD, ECOWAS and ECCAS), while at the same time providing direct assistance to countries of origin as well as countries of asylum, in full respect of the Kampala Convention¹³. In the spirit of responsibility sharing, assistance will include matching the pledges the concerned Governments made at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019 in Geneva for instance on the inclusion of refugees in national and local development plans and national systems for education and health, energy and infrastructure, efforts to end encampment policies and provide valid national documentation for refugees and asylum seekers. Assistance will also be provided to create conditions in countries of origin for voluntary return in safety and dignity when the conditions allow or support protection and durable solutions in countries of origin affected by the crisis. In the same year, the African Union also highlighted the importance of better understanding the escalation in conflict among communities grappling with the effects of climate change and called for accelerated implementation of the Sendai Framework’s target E with a focus on durable solutions¹⁴.

In the **Horn of Africa**, the IGAD support platform builds on the IGAD Nairobi process, which has successfully encouraged IGAD member states to adopt and implement commitments in favour of refugee protection and integration. It was initiated to address the regional Somali forced displacement situation and then expanded to all IGAD Member States. It aims at providing durable solutions for the forcibly displaced and also covers three thematic policy dialogues on education, livelihood and health. The EU has supported the Nairobi process/Platform since 2016 both at the regional level and through its application in IGAD Member States and is considered as one of the key partners for IGAD and its Member States in the area of forced displacement. The EU along with UNHCR, the World Bank, Germany and UNDP is an active member of the ‘core group’ that supports and provides strategic direction to the platform. The Nairobi process has contributed to operationalising progressive policies for refugees throughout the IGAD region but forced displacement remains a challenge for the region, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the EU needs to continue its engagement to ensure host Governments are adequately supported and conditions for durable solutions are conducive. In line with the EU Adaptation Strategy, the EU will support the Article 16 of the IGAD Free Movement Protocol signed in 2020¹⁵. The Article calls upon IGAD Member states to allow those who have been displaced by disasters to seek refuge in their territory, to take measures to facilitate their

¹² [Global Report on Internal Displacement 2021.](#)

¹³ <https://au.int/en/treaties/african-union-convention-protection-and-assistance-internally-displaced-persons->

¹⁴ African Union, ‘Africa Common Position to the 2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 13-17 May, Geneva, Switzerland’ 13 May 2019.

¹⁵ IGAD (2020): Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region.

stay and the exercise of their rights and to ensure that they will not be sent home until it is safe and reasonable to return. It also incorporates those at risk of displacement and allows them to move pre-emptively to avoid or mitigate disaster impacts. The effective implementation of the IGAD Protocol in the context of disasters and climate change will require Member states to realise policy coherence facilitating the integration of climate change action plans with migration policies¹⁶.

Most recently, the new ‘Solutions Initiative for the **Sudan and South Sudan** Displacement Situation’, launched by UNHCR and IGAD in close coordination with the EU in October 2020 under the IGAD Platform, aims to harness peace dividends stemming from the implementation of the peace agreements to find lasting solutions for 7 million displaced persons (including 3 million refugees or almost half the refugees in Sub-Saharan Africa) in and from the two countries. It will culminate in a Heads of State Summit later this year during which regional and national strategies will be launched. In South Sudan flooding added disaster displaced, with 0.4 million displaced both in 2020 and 2021¹⁷, South Sudan’s national adaptation plan recognises that people displaced by conflict are among the most vulnerable to climate change impacts, and that the convergence of extreme weather events with conflict means climate change adaptation projects need to promote conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

The displacement of Somalis remains a key concern in the Horn of Africa. The number of internally displaced persons in **Somalia** has increased from 1.2 million in 2016 to 2.9 million in 2021 due to conflict, drought and floods¹⁸, and roughly 800,000 Somalis are hosted as refugees in the region while more than 130,000 Somali refugees have returned. Returnees to a large extent join IDP settlements where access to basic services and livelihood opportunities are extremely limited. Housing, land and property rights of returnees and IDPs are rarely respected and many face constant threats of forced evictions. A set of new migration policies and laws have been adopted and more are in the making and Somalia’s ratification of the Kampala Convention is a promising step towards improving the situation of displacement-affected communities in Somalia.

Violence surrounding the **Central African Republic's** presidential and parliamentary elections in December 2020 has displaced over 344,000 people (213,000 IDPs and 131,275 refugees)¹⁹, bringing the total number of uprooted Central African nationals to close to a third of the population of 4.9 million. People have fled inside the Central African Republic, as well as seeking refuge in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad, the Republic of the Congo, and Sudan. The launch of a Support Platform for CAR, expected at the end of 2021, with UNHCR support, will galvanise attention and allow for the setting up of comprehensive and diverse solutions for the many refugees, asylum seekers, displaced and host populations, including support to voluntary and dignified return of CAR refugees within the 2019 Tripartite agreement between Cameroon, CAR and UNHCR and local integration as appropriate. While negotiations for its creation are progressing well, it will require clear engagement from the concerned countries (CAR, Cameroon, Congo, DRC, Chad) and of ECCAS, whose capacities to coordinate a regional response to forced displacement is still limited.

The **Lake Chad Basin** crisis²⁰ has led to the forced displacement of 3.1 million persons (2.8 million IDPs in Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger and over 298,000 Nigerian refugees in Chad, Cameroon and Niger). Additional support to Nigeria and affected countries in providing protection and comprehensive durable solutions to forced displaced populations will further support peaceful cohabitation with host communities and alleviate the possible negative impact on domestic politics. The EU has been operationalising the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach in the Lake Chad basin with the UN agencies and the World Bank and contributed to the Stabilisation Facility for the Lake Chad which has confirmed EU’s commitment in the region. Ongoing support to the crisis and the affected countries in the region such as Niger and Chad remains key in our relations with the countries and the partners as stabilising an already fragile broader region is crucial for the EU. Linkages with the Lake Chad Basin Commission’s

¹⁶ PDD (2019): The Role of Free Movement of Persons Agreements in Addressing Disaster Displacement in Africa with Focus on ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC Regions. Stakeholder Workshop Report. (<https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PDD-Free-Movement-Stakeholder-Workshop-Report-2019.pdf>).

¹⁷ <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-flooding-snapshot-21-october-2020>, <https://erccportal.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ECHO-Products/Echo-Flash#/daily-flash-archive/4309>

¹⁸ In 2020, on top of floods, extraordinary humid conditions helped to fuel eastern Africa’s worst locust infestation in 25 years. Thousands of farmers in Somalia were forced to move in search of assistance.

¹⁹ UNHCR – June 2021: <https://reliefweb.int/country/caf?figures=all#key-figures>.

²⁰ The Lake Chad region is caught in a conflict trap. Climate change and conflict dynamics create a feedback loop where climate impacts feed additional pressures while conflict undermines communities’ coping capacity, as stated in a 2018 climate-fragility risk assessment of the Lake Chad region carried out by Adelphi.

Regional Stabilisation Strategy may be pursued and encouraged, including the Regional Strategy for the Stabilisation, Recovery & Resilience of the Boko Haram-Affected Areas of the Lake Chad Basin (RSS) updated in February 2021.

The **Sahel** is the fastest growing forced displacement crisis in Africa with over 3 million refugees, IDPs and returnees in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Mauritania. It has led to significant internal and cross border movement resulting in particular to 580,000 forcibly displaced persons in Niger, 1.37 million in Burkina Faso²¹ and 1.1 million in Mali. Supporting displaced populations and fostering durable solutions remains key to stabilising and supporting local and national authorities facing the crisis. In the Sahel region, the EU is the key partner of the G5 Sahel countries in responding to the protracted crisis. In line with the EU Integrated Strategy in the Sahel and the commitments taken at the N'Djamena Summit, the action will further support the efforts of the G5 Sahel countries with regard to the vulnerable populations in the region. It will contribute to strengthen EU's partnership with the Sahel countries in line with the EU Council Conclusions of 16 April 2021.

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

UNHCR: Under its Statute, UNHCR provides international protection to refugees and seeks permanent solutions for them, acting on the authority of the General Assembly (GA). In that capacity, it is the lead agency with respect to refugee protection, responsible for seeking solutions in the UN system in association with a wider array of stakeholders. As set out in subsequent GA resolutions, its responsibilities include coordination, provision of protection and assistance, obtaining solutions, and advocacy. Importantly, UNHCR also has a supervisory role: it is the UN entity most directly responsible for ensuring that States adhere to internationally accepted standards with respect to refugees and stateless persons and for strengthening States' capacity to protect such persons. UNHCR also plays a key role, recognised by the UN General Assembly with regards to returns of refugees to countries of origins. It is also a key actor with regards to internal displacement, including inter alia working on protection and identifying solutions in line with relevant GA resolutions.

Under the GCR, UNHCR is also able to activate Support Platforms, which are then led by a group of States that are committed to providing support. It can benefit from the engagement of other stakeholders as appropriate (including regional and subregional mechanisms and groupings, international organisations, international financial institutions, civil society, and the private sector).

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM): has a specific role 'to concern itself with the organised transfer of refugees, displaced persons and other individuals in need of migration services' (Art. 1§1b of the IOM Constitution). Furthermore, being mandated to deal with internal migration, IOM has substantial practical involvement in assistance to internally displaced persons, which is guided by the IOM policy paper on 'Internally displaced persons: IOM Policy and Activities'. IOM has global experience in assisting IDPs, including in countries targeted through this action. IOM's activities are aimed at assisting and protecting those who are displaced, including through camp management. Such interventions have improved the lives of IDPs, returnees, host and return communities and significantly contributed towards developing stability within regions. The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) globally co-lead the CCCM Cluster for natural disaster and conflict-induced IDP situations respectively. IOM also manages the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) instruments, which are a way to track displacement be it internal or cross-border.

EU Member States and EU their agencies

Many EU Member States and their agencies are engaged in the regions targeted under this Action in the fields of forced displacement and all efforts will be made to coordinate closely with their activities and programs and increase synergies and complementarities in a Team Europe approach.

The World Bank (WB): As part of a global effort, the World Bank Group is actively engaged to help better manage the forced displacement crisis, in support of its mission to reduce poverty and contribute to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Following onto the financing provided through the IDA 18, the WB will finance up to USD 2.2 billion in operations, including a dedicated sub-window of USD 1 billion for operations that respond to the impacts of COVID-19 under the IDA 19. The WB is a key partner of the EU and has many complementary programs, particularly in the Horn of Africa, where they are both members of the Core group supporting the IGAD Platform. Regular and active coordination between the two institutions will be key for this action.

²¹ The majority of Burkina Faso's IDPs are women and children as conflict and displacement tear families and communities apart.

Regional Economic Communities (RECs): IGAD, ECCAS and ECOWAS and their Member States: Under the leadership and guidance of the IGAD Secretariat, IGAD Member States were the first to adopt a regional response to forced displacement in 2016. The IGAD Nairobi process has led to substantial policy commitments in favour of the forcibly displaced and served as a blue print for the GCR Platform process. ECCAS and ECOWAS are similarly coordinating regional dialogue with their Member States on forced displacement and will be instrumental in promoting a regional approach to the issue.

National and local authorities affected by the displacement situations targeted under this action in: Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti, Uganda, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic (CAR), Cameroun, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Chad, Mauritania, Mali, Nigeria and Niger.

International and national NGOs will have a key role as implementing partners. Their involvement will be based on their expertise, operational capabilities on the ground, past good record implementing EU programs. They may be contracted directly through this action or work on this action through other implementers.

Civil society will have a crucial role, in relation to democratic participation and accountability, including anti-corruption. Civil society, especially at local level, may be instrumental for peacebuilding, human rights and outreach to vulnerable populations, as well as for providing services in relation to refugee challenges. Civil society will also be key in the realisation of the women, peace and security agenda, notably in monitoring, reporting and preventing human rights violations against women and girls in conflict.

Refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, returnees and host communities' interest and welfare will be at the centre of all considerations in this action. Diverse and specific activities and processes will be initiated to ensure their voice and will is constantly assessed, heard and taken into account when developing and implementing this action.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to address forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa through regional approaches

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this action are to

1. Promote regional policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other forcibly displaced populations
2. Contribute to the protection, resilience and self-reliance of the forcibly displaced and host communities
3. Provide durable, green and climate resilient solutions for forcibly displaced populations

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

- 1.1 To deepen regional dialogue and political commitment and advocacy for prevention, protection, response and solutions for the forcibly displaced through Support Platforms and other regional coordination mechanisms and processes, the nexus between climate change, disasters and conflicts, including options for policy monitoring and compliance
- 2.1 To improve protection, and resilience of refugee populations and host communities in a sustainable manner, in line with UNHCR and the Commission's green and low carbon practices
- 2.2 To support refugees' self-reliance
- 3.1 To support refugees' local integration in their host communities and local resilience in the face of climate-related and other environmental risks
- 3.2 To support the voluntary return of refugees in safety and dignity in their countries of origin when conditions are suitable, including by improving conditions in countries of origin

3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1

Strengthen regional responses to forced displacement by:

- Empowering the IGAD and CAR Support Platforms so that they can play their catalytic role by providing technical and financial support.
- Supporting the political dialogue and coordination role of RECs (IGAD, ECCAS and ECOWAS) to promote and monitor progressive policy commitments in favour of refugees through technical assistance, taking in consideration the interaction between climate and migration policies.
- Strengthening the protection of asylum seekers/refugees in host countries as per relevant international conventions, including through sensitisation of the stakeholders, and enhancing the capacity of national authorities to implement those conventions.

Activities related to Output 2.1:

Contribute to supporting the protection and other basic needs of the forcibly displaced with particular focus, where relevant, on the most vulnerable (children in particular) and the host communities, for instance by:

- Facilitating access to functional and sustainable health facilities and services for target groups (including for sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV))
- Increasing sustainable and climate resilient access to water and sanitation services including hygiene promotion and non-food items (soap, chlorine tablets...);
- Facilitating access to suitable secure, environmentally sound accommodation, land and safe shelter solutions including access to affordable and renewable clean energy;

Strengthening the resilience of the forcibly displaced, including by:

- Facilitating access to justice, rule of law, civil and legal documentation, improved protective environment (e.g. trained police, family reunification, freedom of movement, support to victims)
- Promoting peace building, reconciliation and healing among the displaced communities through dialogue and mediation
- Supporting the civil engagement and leadership role of young people (especially young women) and promoting dialogue with the youth

Activities related to Output 2.2:

Enhance opportunities for the forcibly displaced people with particular focus, where relevant, on the most vulnerable (children in particular) and the host communities to become more self-reliant for instance by:

- Facilitating access to education services: basic education centres, activities for school retention, access to secondary or tertiary education, vocational training centres in promising sectors, functional literacy, provision of training and incentives to teachers from the displaced community, incentivising the inclusion of the most vulnerable
- Promoting valuable work opportunities and alternative livelihoods to vulnerable groups
- Contributing to a conducive environment for private sector development, including by working with the local authorities to establish a conducive environment for entrepreneurship for the forcibly displaced
- Development of value chains and market linkages, involving both the forcibly displaced and host communities in order to increase their livelihood opportunities. This will be built on a sound and comprehensive understanding of existing markets and market infrastructure and the private sector and considering opportunities for green and circular economies to reduce pressure on depleted natural resources
- Increased financial inclusion of the forcibly displaced and host populations in activities to support livelihoods as well as improved financial literacy and entrepreneurial skills
- Support to small service providers and craftspersons through flexible demand and market oriented skills trainings
- Strengthening the pastoral and agricultural livelihoods of the forcibly displaced in view of supporting food security, including by mainstreaming ecological intensification and climate resilient practices
- Enhanced carrying capacity of allocated land for the forcibly displaced, environmental-friendly settlement planning, environmental actions plans (including rehabilitation and sustainable production systems), and improved local processing of agricultural products and market access by facilitating access to green investments(e.g. renewable energies, improved water access and use, etc...)

Activities related to Output 3.1:

- Promoting the integration of refugees in host communities by matching pledges of concerned Governments made at the Global Refugee Forum for instance on the inclusion of refugees in national and local development plans and national systems for education and health, inclusion of refugees in the labour market, efforts to end encampment or to provide documentation for refugees.
- Promoting harmonious relations between displaced and host communities for instance by supporting community initiatives and engagement and joint programs and initiatives
- Building the capacity of decentralised and local authorities in preparation of further forced displacement and facilitate both the management of new population in hosting areas by local authorities, and future integration.

Activities related to Output 3.2:

Provide assistance to create conditions in countries of origin (particularly in South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, CAR and Mali) for voluntary return in safety and dignity when protection and other conditions allow, including by:

- Investing in safe and sustainable return areas, through an area-based approach, to ensure basic services like clean drinking water, shelters, energy, healthcare, passable roads, and primary and secondary education are available and viable to those who voluntarily return
- Supporting the gathering and sharing of information on main returnee areas, returnees and potential returnees in respect of their rights as data subjects within concerned stakeholders agencies (Intention to return, target locations, service mapping, protection assessment/analysis and risk analysis)
- Supporting the informed, voluntary dignified and safe movement/transport of the returnees/refugees to areas of origin
- Ensuring adequate capacity and safety of the reception and registration centres
- Providing access to basic services (shelter, energy, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food, health), and/or reintegration packages to the people of concern
- Building the capacity of government institutions and local authorities to ensure sustainability, property restitution and improve their response capabilities
- Helping address the issue of housing, land and property rights
- Supporting access to documentation necessary to, inter alia, access public services, reclaim property and possessions, vote or pursue other purposes linked to durable solutions
- Supporting awareness arising and sensitisation campaigns as well as activities aiming at peaceful coexistence in the host communities
-

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcome of the SEA screening (Strategic Environmental Assessment – relevant for budget support and strategic-level interventions)

An SEA is not required but key environment and climate-related aspects will be addressed during the design of the action.

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

Category B project not requiring an EIA, but for which environmental aspects will be addressed during the design of the action.

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 climate risk aspects will be addressed during the design of the action.

Environmental protection and climate change will be mainstreamed along the Action. As part of objective 1 will support the promotion of a humanitarian greener sector and better integration of policies and actions between climate change, disaster risk reduction and migration. As part of objective 2 it will ensure that protocols and greener solutions are provided to support implementing partners. This action will support some of the pledges made by African Governments during the Global Refugee Forum for increasing climate resilience as a measure to decrease forced displacements. It will align to the NDCs of those African countries mentioning the linkages between climate change and migration.

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 a gender perspective is integrated throughout the Action with a focus on increased participation of women and girls in decision making, a systematic assessment of the particular needs and strengths of women and girls and gender disaggregated data at all levels.

Human Rights

The Action will be based on the full respect of the human rights of the forcibly displaced, as well as on non-discrimination principles and the self-determination and the participation of the displaced populations in all aspects of the action. The Action will engage as much as possible all relevant stakeholders at the local, national, regional and international levels in order to achieve a broad and comprehensive understanding of effective protection management policies. A “Do-No-Harm” approach will be applied that relies on the understanding/analysis of the impact of aid on existing conflicts & its interactions within a particular context, with the goal to limit or prevent unintended negative effects on the social fabric, the economy and the environment. Good governance and human rights will be integrated in all areas of intervention. Capacity building activities of key stakeholders will promote good governance principles with an emphasis on a rights-based approach to assistance to the forcibly displaced.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that while working on disability-related issues is not a main objective in this action, the specific needs of disabled beneficiaries (including for access to the facilities supported by this project) will be duly assessed and addressed.

Democracy

Displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa can be linked to failings in democratic processes and the state of democratic space in a given country. This action will support the restoration of protection of all democratic rights of the forcibly displaced.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa is directly related to the peace and security situation in the region. Programs will be designed and implemented with a conflict sensitivity lens. It will strive to increase peace amongst displaced communities and between displaced and host communities. It will also contribute to strengthening the resilience of displaced and host communities. In areas of return, care will be paid to a balanced assistance between returning refugees and returning IDPs and to the situation of existing populations not to create tension and disparity.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) recognises disaster displacement – the forced or involuntary movement of people associated with disasters. Disaster Risk Reduction will be mainstreamed into all the programs stemming from this action both in terms of risk disaster reduction measures and in support of the regional dialogue supported by the EU via the Nansen Initiative (now Platform on Disaster Displacement), a state-led, bottom-up consultative process intended to build consensus on the development of a protection agenda addressing the needs of people displaced across international borders in the context of disasters and the effects of climate change, led by EU Member States and support by the EU as donor.

Other considerations if relevant

NA

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures

People and the organisation	Risk 1 Low capacity of regional, national and local authorities to engage in the proposed activities.	Medium	Medium	Support to the RECs and governments at national and local level with capacity building and technical assistance is integrated into the action.
External environment	Risk 2 Deterioration of security situation preventing access to project sites, suspending activities and putting project staff at risk. Can also lead to displacement and influx or exodus of IDPs.	High	High	Implementing partners will be chosen that have experience working in these regions and have well-established security procedures in place. Thorough situation analysis and coordination, ongoing risk assessment will be required in all programs and specific measures taken accordingly. Do no harm approach to reduce or at least not exacerbate existing conflicts is key and will be strictly employed. Regular security assessments are undertaken in programme locations to take stock of the situation and mitigation measures are put in place. Interventions will be identified and implemented within the standard humanitarian principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality.
Planning, processes and systems	Risk 3 Tensions due to site selection; creation of social disruption.	Low	Medium	Selections of the project sites can fuel tensions in already volatile situations. To mitigate this, implementing partners will actively engage the local authorities and local communities in the design stage of the program, and in particular will include stakeholders at the local level. They will also play a key role during the implementation of the action in order to create ownership and inclusion
Legality and regularity aspects	Risk 4 Formal and informal barriers for displaced people, including the legal and policy framework, impede implementation.	Medium	Medium	The action is anchored on an active regional policy dialogue to improve the legal and regulatory framework for displaced people. Many of the host countries targeted in this action were CRRF pilots and direct support to the authorities for CRRF roll-out will help to address some of these barriers. On the ground, the implementing partners will engage the relevant government agencies to explore incremental changes in the enabling environment.
Communication and information	Risk 5 Tensions (including conflicts and competition over limited resources) between the forcibly displaced and host communities prevent progress towards an	Medium	Medium	The action adopts an inclusive and integrated approach targeting both the forcibly displaced and host communities, applying conflict sensitivity principles and implementing economic and social development initiatives to the benefit of both populations to foster social cohesion. In addition, specific sensitisation activities will be integrated and efforts will be made to ensure planning is a participatory process where the voices of both the

	integrated approach.			forcibly displaced and host communities can be heard.
External environment	Risk 6 Spread of COVID-19 in targeted areas affecting the implementation of key activities for the Action.	Medium	Low	Key implementing partners have gained useful experience over the last 18 months, mitigation measures are in place in most refugee camps/areas and protocols and Government guidelines are being adhered to. Implementation of safety measures are in place to ensure that risk to staff and beneficiaries of contracting COVID-19 is minimised. Activities requiring the movement of people are likely to be the most affected, with delays in movement being most likely.
External environment	Risk 7 Insecurity and humanitarian access: As the security situation in most areas targeted under this action region remains volatile, implementing actors might not have access to the beneficiaries.	Medium	High	Alternative strategies, such as resorting to national actors, including for civil military coordination will allow activities on the ground to continue. Efforts are also underway to strengthen the level of acceptance of humanitarian actors in areas of return through greater interaction with members of communities in general, and affected people in particular, allowing for better security analysis and adaptation of safety measures. In case needed, there is a risk of having to reduce the scope of the Action due to a deterioration of security conditions in the areas of intervention.
External environment	Risk 8 New climatic extreme events increase the number of displacements and/or decrease the access to natural resources in camps	Medium	Medium	Measures to reduce environmental degradation at camp site level and in hosting communities like renewable energies, improved WASH systems, promotion of efficient cook stoves, reuse of products and subproducts for livelihood in a circular manner and the promotion of local solutions will mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

Lessons Learnt:

Most EU forced displacement programs in Africa have so far been undertaken under the EUTF for Africa. On top of regular assessments such as ROMs or mid-term or final reports, EUTF programs were also regularly reviewed by the Monitoring and Learning System (MLS), which also produced specific case studies on programs. All those reports, when relevant to the program at hand will be re-examined to ensure all appropriate lessons learned are taken into account. Lessons learned from programs implemented under the Bekou Fund will also be duly taken into account. Furthermore, relevant Commission services, including the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), will be closely associated to the implementation of this AD to ensure lessons learned on the humanitarian side are also fully integrated in the spirit of the development-humanitarian nexus. Finally, relevant EUDs will also be closely associated with/or lead on the implementation of this AD to ensure lessons learned for each specific country context are also duly taken into account.

3.5. The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that if appropriate durable solutions are found for forcibly displaced populations, the protection needs of the displaced will be better addressed, they will be more self-reliant, they will enjoy increased rights and independence and the burden on the host communities will be alleviated.

Indeed, in a context of protracted displacement where the conditions for large-scale repatriation of exiled populations are not often met, the logic of intervention is articulated mainly around the concept of "responsible disengagement" with a view to search for sustainable solutions. In fact, the action thus targets activities for solutions "that will allow the displaced populations to return later or to integrate".

3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

At action level, the indicative logframe should have a maximum of 10 expected results (Impact/Outcome(s)/Output(s)).

It constitutes the basis for the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the intervention.

On the basis of this logframe matrix, a more detailed logframe (or several) may be developed at contracting stage. In case baselines and targets are not available for the action, they should be informed for each indicator at signature of the contract(s) linked to this AD, or in the first progress report at the latest. New columns may be added to set intermediary targets (milestones) for the Output and Outcome indicators whenever it is relevant.

- At inception, the first progress report should include the complete logframe (e.g. including baselines/targets).
- Progress reports should provide an updated logframe with current values for each indicator.
- The final report should enclose the logframe with baseline and final values for each indicator.

The indicative logical framework matrix may evolve during the lifetime of the action depending on the different implementation modalities of this action.

The activities, the expected Outputs and related indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the Financing Decision.

PROJECT MODALITY (3 levels of results / indicators / Source of Data / Assumptions - no activities)

Results	Results chain (e): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (e): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	Contribute to addressing forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa through regional approaches	1 Regional approaches to forced displacement supported	1 0	1 5	1 Program reports	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1 Promoted policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other displaced populations	1.1 Number of policy coordination mechanisms on forced displacement supported	1.1 0	1.1 3	1.1 Outcome of regional meetings	
Outcome 2	2 Contributed to the protection needs of the forcibly displaced	2.1. Number of forced displacement areas supported to provide better access to basic services	2.1 0	2.1 20	2.1 Program reports 2.2	
Outcome 3	3 Provided durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations	3.1 Number of refugees voluntarily and safely returned, disaggregated by sex and age. 3.2 Number of areas supported to host returnees or IDPSs	3.1 0 3.2 0	3.1 100 000 3.2 8	3.1 Program reports 3.2 Program reports	
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 Deepened regional dialogue and political commitment and advocacy for prevention, protection, response and solutions for the forcibly displaced through Support Platforms and other regional coordination mechanisms and processes;	1.1.1 Number of support platforms supported through technical and/or financial assistance 1.1.2 Number of regional strategic policy commitments secured through regional dialogue supported through this program	1.1.1 0 1.1.2 0	1.1.1 2 1.1.2 4	1.1.1 Program reports, UNHCR reports, REC reports 1.1.2 Program reports, UNHCR reports, REC reports	
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 Improved protection, and resilience of refugee populations and host communities in a sustainable manner	2.1.1 Number of forcibly displaced assisted with health services, disaggregated by sex and age. 2.1.2 Increase in number of forcibly displaced having access to legal documents 2.1.3 Number of youth benefitting from engagement leadership training, disaggregated by sex and age. 2.1.4 Percentage of forcibly displaced having access to clean energy	2.1.1 0 2.1.2 0 2.1.3 0 2.1.4 0	2.1.1 50 000 2.1.2 5 % 2.1.3 300 2.1.4 10 000	2.1.1 Program reports 2.1.2 Program reports 2.1.3 Program reports	
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 Supported refugees' self-reliance	2.1.1 % decrease of refugees dependent on food assistance.	2.1.1 0 %	2.1.1 5 %	2.1.1 Program reports	

		2.1.2 Number of forcibly displaced assisted to develop income generating activities, disaggregated by sex and age. 2.1.3 Number of people supported receiving equipment / assistance for agricultural production activities / livestock / fishing, disaggregated by sex and age. 2.1.4 Number of people supported receiving equipment / assistance for clean energy disaggregated by sex and age.	2.1.2 0 2.1.3 0 2.1.4 0	2.1.2 10,000 2.1.3 5000 2.1.4 5000	2.1.2 Program reports 2.1.3 Program reports	
Output 1 related to Outcome 3	3.1 Supported refugees' local integration in their host communities	2.2.1 Number of projects for peaceful coexistence implemented 2.2.2 Number of GCR country pledges supported	2.2.1 0 2.2.2 0	2.2.1 30 2.2.2 6	2.2.1 Program reports 2.2.2 Program reports	
Output 2 related to Outcome 3	3.2 Supported the voluntary return of refugees in safety and dignity in their countries of origin when conditions are suitable, including by improving conditions in countries of origin	3.2.1 Number of return assessment reports conducted 3.2.2 Proportion of refugees volunteering for return who are informed on their rights and the level of safety on the Return Routes, and who benefit from transport assistance and reintegration	3.2.1 0 3.2.2 0	3.2.1 8 3.2.2 70%	3.2.1 Finalised and distributed assessment reports 3.2.2 Program reports	

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 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. Implementation of the Budget Support Component [For Budget Support only]

NA

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 (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

Call for proposals and direct award

The direct management part of the AD will be implemented through a mix of call for proposals when there are sufficient potential implementers and direct award when either an entity has a unique mandate with regards to the tasks (for instance IGAD or ECOWAS) or where the conditions on the ground require a direct award (for instance not enough potential implementing partners with the necessary operational reach; security/access restrictions particularly when it concerns remote refugee camps or reintegration areas; crisis declaration...)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The purpose of the intended grants is to contribute to the expected results under the following specific objectives:

Specific Objective 1 Promote regional policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other displaced populations

Specific Objective 2 Contribute to the protection, resilience and self-reliance of the forcibly displaced and host communities

Specific objective 3 Provide durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations

(b) Type of applicants targeted

For specific objective 1, considering the specific political context, applicants will be selected using the following criteria: clear mandate or ability to conduct inter-governmental policy dialogue on forced displacement.

For specific objective 2 and 3, given the challenging operational and security context in many of the countries targeted applicants will be selected using the following criteria: technical competence and proven track record in implementing activities where the forcibly displaced are the main beneficiaries in the countries targeted in this action; ability to operate in the countries and localities targeted in this action and preferably proven experience and/or established operational presence in the countries and localities targeted in this action; ability to collaborate effectively with relevant stakeholders. The first choice will be grants awarded following calls for proposals to NGOs or civil society consortia but could also include grants to local authorities.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, and as per point 11.1 of the annex I to the Financial Regulation a grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to NGOs in countries under crisis declaration.

Art 2, 21, (a) and (b) of the Financial Regulation define the criteria for a crisis declaration. The final list of the Declaration of crisis 2021-2022 lists the following countries that are relevant to the implementation of this action: Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Chad and Uganda. Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, a grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to relevant Regional Economic Communities (such as IGAD, ECOWAS). The recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because the concerned RECs (IGAD, ECOWAS) have a unique mandate given by their Member States in the framework of the GCR, the CRRF and the Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan process.

Event to be reported 20.b (Use of direct award for grants without call for proposals for an action with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power), as per section 8.5.1 of the DEVCO Companion, will be invoked in this regard.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entities fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.4.

4.4.2. Indirect Management with an international organisation

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: having a unique/specific mandate and /or role with regards to the forcibly displaced such as UNHCR, IOM or other specialized UN agencies and /or physical presence and current and previous successful programmatic and/or policy engagement on forced displacement in the countries targeted under this action. These entities must be pillar assessed.

The implementation by this entity entails: promoting regional policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other displaced population; contributing to the protection, resilience and self-reliance of the forcibly displaced and host communities; providing durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entities fail, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.4.

4.4.3 Indirect Management with a Member State Organisation

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: having physical presence and current and previous successful programmatic and/or policy engagement on forced displacement in the countries targeted under this action.

The implementation by this entity entails: contributing to the protection, resilience and self-reliance of the forcibly displaced and host communities; providing durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations. These entities must be pillar assessed.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entities fail, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.4.

4.4.4. Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

If negotiations in indirect management with an international organisation or a Member State organization fail, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.1.

If direct management cannot be identified (for instance if calls for proposals fail or negotiations for a direct award fail), that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.2 and 4.4.3

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 provision.

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 components²²	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4	
Objective/Output 1 Promote regional policy dialogue and commitments in favour of refugees and other displaced populations	5 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	3 000 000
Indirect management with Member State organisation or international organisation- cf. sections 4.4.2 and 4.4.3	2 000 000
Objective/Output 2 Contribute to the protection, resilience and self-reliance of the forcibly displaced and host communities	35 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	15 000 000
Indirect management with Member State organisation or international organisation- cf. sections 4.4.2 and 4.4.3	20 000 000
Objective/Outputs 3 Provide durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations	35 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	15 000 000
Indirect management with Member State organisation or international organisation- cf. sections 4.4.2 and 4.4.3	20 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	(will be covered by another Decision) ²³
Contingencies²⁴	Contingencies will be built in individual contracts
Totals <i>Grants: total envelope under section 4.4.1: EUR 33 000 000</i> <i>IM: total envelope under section 4.4.2 and 4.4.3: EUR 42 000 000</i>	75 000 000

²² 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.

²³ Where the action is not covered by a financing agreement (see section 4.1), but 'will be covered by another Decision' as it is unlikely that evaluation and audit contracts on this action would be concluded within N+1. These contracts have to be authorised by another Financing Decision.

²⁴ Consider that contracts where no financing agreement is concluded, contingencies have to be covered by individual and legal commitments by 31 December of N+1.

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

This action will result in a number of contracts for each of which a steering committee will be established composed of the implementing partner, the EU, including relevant Commission services and relevant EUDs, representatives of regional or Governmental entities as appropriate, beneficiaries and other relevant actors as necessary.

Furthermore, at the national level, implementing partners will be required to liaise with national/local government authorities and report to the EUD to ensure it is fully kept abreast of progress and developments and can duly participate in visibility activities.

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.

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, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality).

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).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

Each implementing partner will have specific responsibilities for monitoring and reporting under this action. Common indicators will as much as possible be used in order to allow AD wide reporting. Indicator values will be measured at regional or on a country-by-country basis depending on the nature of the activities.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a mid-term and final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission or via an implementing partner.

A mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to the suitability of expanding the scope of the action within already targeted countries or to other displacement situations.

A final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision).

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 1 month in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination²⁵. 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 shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

²⁵ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

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.

APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention²⁶ (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

Primary Interventions are those contracts or groups of contracts bearing reportable results and respecting the following business rule: 'a given contract can only contribute to one primary intervention and not more than one'. An individual contract that does not produce direct reportable results and cannot be logically grouped with other result reportable contracts is considered a 'support entity'. The addition of all primary interventions and support entities is equivalent to the full development portfolio of the Institution.

Primary Interventions are identified during the design of each action by the responsible service (Delegation or Headquarters operational Unit).

The level of the Primary Intervention is defined in the related Action Document and it is revisable; it can be a(n) (group of) action(s) or a (group of) contract(s).

Tick in the left side column one of the three possible options for the level of definition of the Primary Intervention(s) identified in this action.

In the case of 'Group of actions' level, add references to the present action and other action concerning the same Primary Intervention.

In the case of 'Contract level', add the reference to the corresponding budgetary items in point 4.5, Indicative Budget.

Option 1: Action level

²⁶ [ARES \(2021\)4204912](#) - For the purpose of consistency between terms in OPSYS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI have harmonised 5 key terms, including 'action' and 'Intervention' where an 'action' is the content (or part of the content) of a Commission Financing Decision and 'Intervention' is a coherent set of activities and results which constitutes an effective level for the operational follow-up by the EC of its operations on the ground. See more on the [concept of intervention](#).

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
Option 2: Group of actions level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#): <Present action> <Other action>
Option 3: Contract level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract)>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract)>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract)>
	(...)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 1> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 2> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) #>