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**THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**ANNEX I**

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Colombia for 2024

**Action Document for the “Territorial Alliance for Peace and Nature”**

**ANNUAL PLAN**

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

## 1 SYNOPSIS

### 1.1 Action Summary Table

<b>1. Title</b> <b>CRIS/OPSYS</b> <b>business</b> <b>reference</b> <b>Basic Act</b>	<b>Territorial Alliance for Peace and Nature</b>  OPSYS number: ACT-62593  Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	Yes, TEI Peace and TEI Environment and Climate Change – Colombia  Configuration: Team Europe total amount: approx. EUR 1.100 M  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member States providing support to the TEI Environment: Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, France, Finland.</li> </ul> Member States providing support to the TEI Peace: Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Netherlands, Portugal, Ireland, France  <i>Potential new contribution to this action:</i>  France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AFD: Public policy loan for Integrated Rural Reform: EUR 200 million (TbC)</li> <li>- Expertise France: EUR 1.0 million (TbC)</li> </ul> Italy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation: EUR 1.5 million (TbC)</li> </ul>
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out in Colombia
<b>4. Programming document</b>	Multi Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021 – 2027

<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results</b>	<p><b>Priority Area 1: Peace</b></p> <p>Specific Objective 1: contribute to a stable and sustainable peace in the territories affected by conflict, with a particular emphasis on the implementation of Chapter 1 of the Government's Integrated Rural Reform part of the Peace Agreement.</p> <p><b>Priority Area 2: Environment and Climate Change</b></p> <p>Specific Objective 1: Contribute to the sustainable use of biodiversity to generate prosperity and inclusion for vulnerable rural communities.</p>
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	<p><b>Peace:</b> Inclusive and sustainable rural development in the areas most affected by violence and poverty are targeted by this action and take account of the municipalities prioritised under the national “<i>Programas de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial</i>” (PDET)– Development Programmes with a Territorial Approach.</p> <p><b>Environment:</b> This action aims to leverage national and international climate finance and investments to address drivers of deforestation, forest degradation, and greenhouse gas emissions, preserving and restoring Colombia's strategic ecosystems and its biodiversity, which serves as a source of prosperity.</p>
<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	<p><b>Main SDG:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other relevant SDGs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDG 1: Ending Poverty. Target: By 2030, Colombia will have reduced multidimensional poverty to 8.4%<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• SDG 5. Gender Equality</li> <li>• SDG 10: Reducing Inequalities. Target: By 2030, Colombia will have reduced inequality, reaching a GINI coefficient of 0.480.</li> <li>• SDG 13: Climate Action. Target: By 2030, Colombia will have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 51%<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>• SDG15: Protect, Restore, and Promote the Sustainable use of Terrestrial Ecosystems, Sustainably Manage Forests, Combat Desertification, and Halt and Reverse Land Degradation and Biodiversity Loss.</li> </ul>
<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b>	<p>15220 - Civilian peacebuilding, conflict prevention and resolution – 50%</p> <p>41030 - Biodiversity - 50%</p>
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	<p>Third Country Government (Delegated Co-operation) – 13000</p>
<b>9. Targets</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Migration</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender</p>

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.mppn.org/paises\\_participantes/colombia/](https://www.mppn.org/paises_participantes/colombia/)

<sup>2</sup> <https://climatepromise.undp.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/colombia>

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
<b>10. Markers (from DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective @</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Biological diversity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>11. Internal markers and Tags:</b>	<b>Policy objectives</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>
Digitalisation @		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy digital services		YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Connectivity @		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
digital connectivity energy transport		YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities@	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line (article, item): BGUE-B2024-14.020140-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 31 800 000 - Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 15 900 000 This action might be co-financed in parallel co-financing by: - The Government of Colombia: EUR 15 900 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	<b>Indirect management</b> with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.1. In case of exceptional circumstances, direct management through grants (section 4.3.2)			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

In Colombia, Environment and Peace are closely interlinked, as conflict around natural resources is both a cause and effect of armed confrontation, causing a negative spiral of extractive and illegal activities. Conflict hotspots overlap with areas of environmental degradation of strategic ecosystems and protected areas through widespread deforestation, inappropriate land use changes, illegal mining, and crops. Large portions of rural areas are held hostage by the conflict, threatening biodiversity conservation, undermining communities' safety and security, livelihoods, and productive investments, and widening the development gap with urban areas. Huge land tenure issues continue to fuel the conflict and are a main obstacle to access climate finance and sustainable use and protection of biodiversity.

The Petro administration has committed to reversing this trend by implementing the Integrated Rural Reform agreed as part of the Peace Agreement, and through an environmental policy in line with EU global action on climate, including protecting the Amazon and biodiversity, and promoting a transition towards renewable and green energy. Substantial financial resources from the national budget are available for this purpose, including the "National Fund for Life and Biodiversity" which channels the domestic carbon tax and seeks to leverage large-scale climate finance investments.

The proposed action combines the two priorities of the 2021-2027 MIP: Priority Area 1. Peace and Priority Area 2. Environment and Climate Change, in an integrated approach. It seeks to give continuity to the EU's support to the peace process, in particular the significant investment made through the EU Trust Fund for Peace in the Amazon and Llanos departments and on the Southern Pacific coast, especially in Cauca and Nariño.

The programme aims to strengthen the coherent and coordinated presence of the Colombian State, including entities linked to the implementation of the Integrated Rural Reform (point 1 of the 2016 Peace Agreement), in marginalised territories affected by internal armed conflict. Its overall logic is to enable active citizen participation and build trust between local communities and the Colombian state. Another important goal of the programme is to mobilise/leverage domestic public funds and

private investments towards the prioritised territories: EUDEL has already secured 1:1 co-financing resources from Colombian partners.

In practical terms, this implies developing localised actions focused on

- (1) enhanced territorial planning around water, land and agrarian reform via the establishment of stabilisation corridors halting or reversing the advancement of the agricultural/forestry frontier (with clear spatial planning between protected, forested and agricultural areas and land tenure recognition) leading to the resolution of socio-economic related conflicts over land and natural resource use;
- (2) strengthening participatory, multilevel and cross-sectoral territorial governance that is gender equal and human-rights based;
- (3) supporting sustainable, inclusive and innovative rural economic development models that contribute to the employment, incomes and sustainable livelihoods of local inhabitants and to the conservation of strategic ecosystems, especially those located in and around protected areas such as National Natural Parks and creating the conditions for public and private investment through sustainable value chains and climate finance.

The three components are wholly interdependent insofar as SO1 (Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights) and SO2 (Increased effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors ensuring the representation and protection of the disempowered groups' interests) can be considered as "enabling conditions" for the achievement of SO3 (Improved legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women, ethnic groups and youth). Without progress in terms of natural resource management and territorial governance, investments will simply not take place. The programme also seeks to strengthen local governance mechanisms to mobilise national funds and climate finance, including investments supported under EFSD+.

The "Territorial Alliance for Peace and Nature" builds on what has been learned within the framework of the EUTF and other EU projects (BS DLS, BS DRET, DeSIRA projects, HeCO) and will have strong complementarity with the budget support Forests ("Bosques"), the FPI projects on peacebuilding, ECHO actions and the Euroclima+ and Amazonia+ programmes.

The Action also will contribute to the fulfilment of the EU Gender Action Plan 2021-2025 GAP III<sup>34</sup> and the EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024<sup>5</sup>.

### 1.3 Zone benefitting from the Action

The action shall be carried out in Colombia, with a particular focus on the Amazon, Llanos, and Pacific Coast regions.

## 2 RATIONALE

### 2.1 Context

Colombia is a country of extremes: an OECD member with thriving economic opportunities concentrated in the main urban areas, a destination for more than 3 million Venezuelan migrants in search of a better life, but also a country with one of the highest numbers of internally displaced

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/gender-action-plan-iii-towards-gender-equal-world\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/gender-action-plan-iii-towards-gender-equal-world_en)

<sup>4</sup> EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III adopted by the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and welcomed through EU Presidency Conclusions by 24 EU Member States."

<sup>5</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12122-EU-Action-Plan-on-Human-Rights-and-Democracy-2020-2024>

people in the world (4.8 million as of 2022<sup>6</sup>). The majority are victims of forced displacement, and about 80% of the internally displaced are women and children<sup>7</sup>. Furthermore, 15.8% of the women displaced because of the armed conflict have stated that they were also victims of sexual violence. Women belonging to indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities have been most affected by the armed conflict, with 51.6% of indigenous women and 40.7% of Afro-Colombian women declared to be victims of the conflict<sup>8</sup>.

Likewise, Colombia has one of the most severe food insecurity levels in the whole Latin American and Caribbean region<sup>9</sup>. Some groups with specific socio-demographic characteristics are more impacted by food insecurity than others, for example female-headed households. Some 35% of households headed by women are food insecure, while, in contrast, some 26% of households headed by men. This can be explained by the structural/ institutional barriers more often faced by women when entering the national labour market and the fact that woman ultimately have lower-paid jobs<sup>10</sup>.

Colombia recovered robustly from the shock of the pandemic, with GDP up by 10.7% in 2021 and 7.3% in 2022. Nevertheless, it continues to have the highest levels of poverty, income inequality and labour market informality in Latin America. The unemployment rate was 12.7% in January 2024 (14.3 % for women in 2022), one of the highest in the region. In addition, this unemployment rate hides the larger problem of high levels of employment within the informal economy: more than 60% of workers have informal jobs and no access to social security benefits except for health. Female unemployment is almost double that of men. The availability of sewage systems is 92% in urban zones but only 15% in rural areas. Land inequality, which is among the highest in the world, increased sharply in the 1990s when illegal armed groups forcibly removed small farmers from their land, creating over 6 million displaced people.

Colombia is a mega-biodiverse country and has the highest number of species per area worldwide<sup>11</sup>. Approximately 52% of its territory is covered with forests (47% of which in the Amazon Basin), making it also one of the richest countries in the world in terms of cultural diversity. This diversity is currently present in 61 protected natural areas belonging to the National Natural Parks System which, with a total of 23 million hectares, represents more than 11% of the national surface area (marine and land). These Natural Parks are key to regulating the water cycle, protecting the country's biodiversity, and combating the effects of climate change. Nevertheless, about 90,000 people live illegally in these protected areas, without access to social services and economic incentives. Most of them are internally displaced peasants, living in extreme poverty conditions.

The country has 26 million hectares for agricultural, livestock and forestry production (commercial reforestation). However, of the purely agricultural land (11.3 million hectares), only 35% is used. In contrast, although there are only 8 million hectares with potential use for livestock, 38 million hectares are devoted to extensive grazing. Land use and tenure dynamics have been shaped by a history of illegal economic activities and armed conflicts.<sup>12</sup> This context generates conflicts of use that fuel ongoing deforestation and contribute to land concentration, forest and ecosystem fragmentation, and the degradation of the services they provide. Colombia has the highest level of socio-environmental conflicts related to land and access to natural resources in Latin America. If

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.internal-displacement.org/database/displacement-data>

<sup>7</sup> Vuelven las amenazas contra organizaciones de mujeres | [VerdadAbierta.com](http://VerdadAbierta.com)

<sup>8</sup> Overview of gender equality in Colombia | Gender Equality in Colombia: Access to Justice and Politics at the Local Level | OECD iLibrary [oecd-ilibrary.org](http://oecd-ilibrary.org)

<sup>9</sup> No reliable data exist for Haiti and Venezuela

<sup>10</sup> [docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000147155/download/?\\_ga=2.232555929.722147881.1713345021-588225411.1713345021](https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000147155/download/?_ga=2.232555929.722147881.1713345021-588225411.1713345021)

<sup>11</sup> Colciencias recognises that Colombia is the second most mega-diverse country in the world. This information is available in: [https://www.colciencias.gov.co/sala\\_de\\_prensa/colombia-el-segundo-pais-mas-biodiverso-del-mundo](https://www.colciencias.gov.co/sala_de_prensa/colombia-el-segundo-pais-mas-biodiverso-del-mundo)

<sup>12</sup> Livestock breeding can be a legal economic activity hiding recycling of narco-money or indeed pushing narco-deforestation. [https://www.unodc.org/res/WDR-2023/WDR23\\_B3\\_CH4\\_Amazon.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/res/WDR-2023/WDR23_B3_CH4_Amazon.pdf)

these structural challenges are not addressed, there is little hope of ending the decades-long conflict that has plagued the country.

Another important issue to consider is that Colombia remains the largest producer of cocaine in the world, and 2021 was a record year for production. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimated that 204,000 hectares (504,095 acres) were dedicated to coca cultivation in 2021. Production has been trending upwards since 2012 but coca prices began dropping in early 2022, particularly in the areas covered under this proposal. As a result of this situation, the main coca-producing regions in the country are facing an economic fallout that could result in a worsening of the humanitarian and security situation – but also opens opportunities for reconversion into licit activities and crops.

Colombia also continues to face challenges related to the rule of law (corruption, impunity) and governance (low electoral participation, coercion and patronage, organised crime), especially in rural areas where the scarce of the State adversely affects democracy and the delivery of public services. Illegal economic activities such as coca cultivation, illegal logging and mining, stem from the lack of alternative economic opportunities in conflict-affected areas, where the State presence is weak, and the presence of illegal armed groups is prevalent. These activities along with extensive livestock contribute to deforestation and contamination of water sources. Issues such as rural reform and sustainable use of natural resources remain at the heart of any credible long-term solution for Colombia's development.

The six-point Peace Agreement signed in 2016 with the extinct FARC-EP commits the State to implementing an Integrated Rural Reform, enhancing political participation, eradicating illicit drugs, recognising victims' rights and setting an implementation, verification, and validation mechanism of the Agreement. The Peace Agreement has prioritised 170 municipalities (representing 36% of the national territory, 27% of the rural population and 57% of the population living in poverty) for implementing Development Plans with a Territorial Approach (Planes de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial –PDETs).

President Gustavo Petro came to power in August 2022 as the country's first leftist leader. He succeeded in building a broad (but fragile) majority in Congress, allowing him to pass landmark laws such as a tax reform, a new electoral code, the recognition of Colombia's peasantry (*campesinado*) as subjects of constitutional rights, and a National Development Plan 2022–2026. However, the Petro administration has not managed to secure support for other key pieces of legislation that are crucial for its flagship 'Total Peace' policy. In spite of temporary ceasefires with the ELN (*Ejército de Liberación Nacional*) and the EMC (*Estado Mayor Central*, FARC dissidences), violence against communities and especially human rights defenders remains rampant in rural areas. The Human Rights Ombudsperson's Office reported 182 killings of human rights defenders between January and October 2022<sup>13</sup>. For President Petro's 'Total Peace' policy to deliver on expectations, it will need continued political and financial support from the international community.

President Petro's political priorities (peace, environment and social justice) are in line with the priorities of the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027 and the two Team Europe Initiatives: Peace and Environment. The "EU-Colombia Memorandum of Understanding on an Agenda of enhanced political and sectoral dialogue and cooperation for the next decade" signed in September 2021 opens the perspective for the negotiation of a comprehensive legally binding agreement (Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, PCA), complementing the existing Trade Agreement. Negotiations on the PCA were formally launched in December 2023, culminating a year of unprecedented intensity of high-level engagement in the lead up to the EU-LAC Summit, with a high number of high-level official visits including by HR/VP Borrell, EVPs Timmermans and Vestager, VP Schinas, and Commissioners Johansson and Sinkevičius.

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<sup>13</sup> [World Report 2023: Colombia | Human Rights Watch \(hrw.org\)](https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023/colombia)



## 2.2 Problem Analysis

The main problems to be addressed by this action include:

- (i) Overlaps between multiple instruments of territorial planning and management tools, especially regarding natural reserves, collective ethnic and smallholders' territories. Indigenous reserves cover an area of 32.5 million hectares, the National System of Protected Areas covers 23.16 million hectares, forest reserves cover 11.0 million hectares, councils of afro-Colombian communities cover 5.7 million hectares and established and projected Campesino Reserve Zones (ZRC) and other Campesino territorial models (e.g., TECAM) cover 1.7 million hectares.
- (ii) Socio-environmental land conflicts. Land use in Colombia grew by 25% between 1990 and 2015, with substantial problems over tenure and sustainability, especially in highly biodiverse areas. Issues of particular concern include: (i) poor spatial planning; (ii) extensive land-use change of natural areas for agriculture and urbanisation; (iii) the expansion of the agricultural frontier; (iv) the loss of strategic ecosystems, and (v) land tenure issues including collective land titling for ethnic communities. These issues, along with unregulated extensive livestock continue to fuel the conflict and impede access to climate finance and the sustainable use of biodiversity.
- (iii) Lack of gender equality. Despite efforts made in this area, according to figures from the National Land Agency (2018) women's access to land formalisation programs has been slow (only 5 women for every 8 men). Additionally, only 38% of the vacant territories allocated between September 2016 and August 2018 were granted to women. In this regard, while there are legal provisions that recognise women as the subject of rights on land, greater efforts are needed to ensure women's equity and their priority participation.
- (iv) The weak presence of the State in rural areas hampers public services delivery and results in large segments of the population living in conditions of informality and illegality, without little or no influence on local governance decisions, segmentation and little coordination among local actors, including international cooperation. Forest reserves, national parks and protected areas host the highest concentration of illegal armed groups in the country, and indigenous reserves (Resguardos) often are left to organise their own security and protections systems against them, according to their ancestral authorities and self-government.
- (v) The proliferation of illicit economic activities and underutilisation of the bio-economic potential in environmentally strategic areas (e.g., Amazon basin) where the State presence is weak and the presence of illegal armed groups is rampant. In particular: i) Coca production in protected areas increased by 21.5% between 2021 and 2022 and nearly 20% in their buffer zones, thereby expanding agricultural frontiers and causing a coca oversupply that escalates violence due to rivalries (49% of coca crops were found in these special management zones in 2022 that include collective territories and national parks). ii) Illegal extractive activities cause conflict due to the invasion of indigenous territories, environmental pollution, and illegal exploitation. iii) More sustainable models such as agroforestry or value chains related to non-timber forest products are not viable due to inefficiencies in the use of available land for agricultural activity. Local organisations lack access to credit, technical assistance, research and development, logistics that would enable sustainable production models aligned with the bio-economic potential of the territories.
- (vi) Lack of access to sustainable finance for climate action. The National Natural Parks System (PNNC) contributed 4.85% of the country's GDP in 2018 through ecosystem services such as the provision and regulation of water, and carbon storage. The income generated by these ecosystem services has significant potential, not only in terms of the financial sustainability of the PNNC system itself but also for the sustainable development of the surrounding



territories. However, to date this potential remains largely untapped and undermined by conflict dynamics<sup>14</sup>.

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

**The main project counterparts are ascribed to the following three Ministries (Duty bearers):**

- **The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS** from its Spanish acronym): Responsible for the “green growth” policy and the coordination of the National Environmental System (SINA by its acronyms in Spanish).
  - **National Natural Parks of Colombia (PNNC):** in charge of the National System of Protected Areas. Its strategic plan considers both conservation approach as well as the “Parks with People” approach<sup>15</sup>.
  - **SINA’s Research bodies:** Amazonian Institute of Scientific Research SINCHI- and the Pacific Research Institute –IIAP.
- **The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR)**<sup>16</sup> and the agencies created for the implementation of the Integrated Rural Reform:
  - **National Land Agency (ANT):** In charge of resolving underlying problems related to land ownership rights in the rural sector.
  - **Territory Renewal Agency (ART),** in charge of the design and implementation of PDET and “integrating projects”-PI.
  - **Rural Development Agency (ADR):** Promotes, structures, co-finances and implements comprehensive agricultural and rural development plans and projects. In charge of Integrated Agricultural and Rural Development Projects (Proyectos Integrales de Desarrollo Agropecuario y Rural-PIDAR<sup>17</sup>
  - **Directorate of Rural Woman:** in charge of the coordination, design, and evaluation of policy plans and projects aimed at influencing the social and economic well-being of rural women, as well as promoting coordination with national and territorial entities for the implementation of such plans and projects.
- **The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism (MINCIT)** through their INNPULSA Mipymes Fund, which works within this sector providing support to entrepreneurship, innovation, and micro, small and medium enterprises.

Some of these entities may also be involved in the implementation of components of the action.

These implementing institutions will build **alliances at national and territorial levels** with other key stakeholder groups such as:

- Implementation Unit of the Peace Agreement.
- Local authorities, particularly the governors of departments in the “Deforestation Arc of the Amazon” and the southern Pacific.

<sup>14</sup> Carbon trading: see <https://es.mongabay.com/2023/05/colombia-corte-constitucional-examinara-por-primera-vez-un-conflicto-por-bonos-de-carbono/>

<sup>15</sup> Particularly relevant for “peace building” activities includes: i) reduction of the pressures and threats affecting protected areas, in particular those associated to land use, territorial occupation and land ownership conflicts with peasant communities; and ii) the development of special strategies for territorial management by indigenous peoples and afro-Colombian groups

<sup>16</sup> Responsible for productive capacity building (agricultural value chains), issues related to household agriculture and the promotion of contracts between small producers and commercial allies.

<sup>17</sup> Comprehensive Agricultural and Rural Development Projects – PIDAR, initiatives focused on encouraging the generation of income, production surpluses, to improve the living conditions of rural population and the territorial competitiveness.

- Technical training institutes such as the National Learning Service (SENA) and the Colombian Association of Universities (ASCUN).
- Community Action Boards, Peasant (Campesino) Reserve Zones (ZRCs) and Agri-food Peasant territories (TECAM)<sup>18</sup> established and in the process of establishment, along with organisations that group and represent them.
- Organisations representing Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities.
- Women's organisations and organisations of persons with disabilities.
- Private sector bodies such as the rural production guilds.
- Investment finance entities such as Truvalu, El Lab, World Women's Corporation, Confiar, Heco Invest, etc.

At the EU level, financial institutions and European entities such as the Dutch Cadastre, Land Registry and national mapping agency (Kadaster) and the French National Geographic Institute (IGN).

The **final beneficiaries (rights holders)** of the action are the rural communities in the conflict-affected areas at large, in particular peasant, indigenous and Afro-descendant communities in the targeted stabilisation corridors, protected areas, and ZRC/TECAM.

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The **Overall Objective** of this action is to advance the economic and socially sustainable use of natural resources in Colombia in line with the Integrated Rural Reform of the Peace Agreement.

The **Specific Objectives (SO)** /Outcomes of this action are:

**SO1 / Outcome 1:** Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested, and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights.

**SO2 / Outcome 2.** Increased effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors ensuring the representation and protection of women (in all their diversity), youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of the population.

**SO3 / Outcome 3.** Increased legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women (in all their diversity), ethnic groups, youth, and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.

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

**OPs contributing to SO1** (Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested, and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights).

**Output 1.1.** Improved planning tools and capacities for spatial planning between protected and agricultural areas, with water as an articulating axis.

<sup>18</sup> Territories inhabited and organised by families, communities, and peasant organisations in delimited geographical areas. They guarantee the conservation of common goods of nature, the dignified life of its inhabitants, food sovereignty, agro ecology, and the protection of the economic, social, cultural, political and environmental rights of the peasantry that inhabits them.

**Output 1.2.** Improved mechanisms for transparent, efficient, gender-equal and ethnically responsive land titling and the formalisation of the land system.

**OPs contributing to SO2** (Increased effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors ensuring the representation and protection of women (in all their diversity), youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.)

**Output 2.1.** Increased capacities of civil society and competent institutions to build consensus around territorial governance with the active involvement of local communities, women, youth, and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.

**Output 2.2.** Strengthened spaces for cross-sectoral territorial dialogues and policy dialogue links with the national level based on women and youth leadership.

**OPs contributing to SO3** (Increased legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women (in all their diversity), ethnic groups, youth, and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population).

**Output 3.1.** Improved technical and financial support mechanisms for innovative and inclusive models of sustainable local development based on bio-economies, agroforestry, agro-ecology and traditional and customary knowledge.

**Output 3.2.** Increased public-private investment capacities and opportunities around the green economy and climate resilience in the prioritised territories.

### 3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to SO1: Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested, and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights.

Activities related to OP1.1: Improved planning tools and capacities for spatial planning tools between protected and agricultural areas, with water as an articulating axis.

1.1.1. Harmonise and coordinate the broad range of current land management tools<sup>19</sup>, based on lessons learned so far and take into account requirements for the “Free, Prior and Informed Consent” of indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, as well as other communities.

1.1.2 Consolidate *productive, protected landscapes for peace* (through operational arrangements between the ZRC, collective territories, PDET and the Special Areas of Environmental Interest) within the framework of the Agrarian Reform system in its dual role of stabilising communities and guaranteeing territorial sustainability.

1.1.3 Generate connectivity between areas of socio-ecological importance around water. This activity aims to design an ecological restoration plan in the transition zones between the identified agricultural frontier and protected areas contributing to biodiversity conservation and mitigating the effects of climate change, while ensuring integrating water management.

Activities relating to OP1.2: Improved mechanisms for transparent, efficient, gender-equal and ethnically responsive land titling and the formalisation of the land system.

1.2.1 Expand the environmental zoning plans of the Peace Agreement by mapping private and/or collective lands and protected areas under the “fit for purpose” approach. The key point is that the systems should enable secure land rights for all and cover all land as a basis for land valuation and land use control. The fit-for-purpose approach is participatory and inclusive – it is

<sup>19</sup> Multiple and overlapping territorial planning tools are for example: integrated watershed management plans, joint and integrated land management schemes, sustainable and inclusive development plans for ZRC, Indigenous Communities'/ Community Councils' Life Plans, Protected Area management plans, national IRR plans among others.

fundamentally a human rights approach. Therefore, it is implemented within a robust land governance framework.

1.2.2 Develop proposals to accelerate and harmonise the categorisation of land tenure/use/ownership and the compilation of records for the formalisation and/or regularisation of property rights within stabilisation corridors (including forest reserve areas), ensuring women's equity and their participation.

1.2.3 Train the technical teams of the ANT at both national and territorial levels on key technologies to enhance their procedures, on the design and implementation of instruments and tools for system interoperability, and on improving communication among relevant entities, exchanging experiences, best practices, and European technology for the enhancement of the land system (e.g., Copernicus Intl.).

Activities relating to OP2.1: Increased capacities of civil society and competent institutions to build consensus around territorial governance with the active involvement of local communities, women, youth, and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.

2.1.1 Promote leadership of local organisations, women, and youth, including indigenous peoples, Afro-Colombians and small farmers, in the planning and execution of actions. e.g. within the framework of the Action Plan to Counter Deforestation and the construction and implementation of the “Intergenerational Pact for the Life of the Colombian Amazonia” (PIVAC); in social dialogue platforms and rural women's strategies within the framework of policy instruments for conflict transformation, social dialogue, sustainable development and recognition of women's land rights.

2.1.2 Develop protocols for environmental defenders and local communities related to their access to information, their participation in environmental decision-making, and environmental justice in the context of the Action Plan on the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Escazú Agreement).

Activities related to OP2.2: Strengthened spaces for cross-sectoral territorial dialogues and policy dialogue links with the national level based on women and youth leadership.

2.2.1 Strengthen existing multi-actor territorial dialogue platforms for peace (public-private-community, inter-ethnic, women and youth), facilitating the articulation of the State with the territory through a highly participatory, inclusive, and human rights-based approach to the design and implementation of public policy.

Activities relating to OP3.1: Improved technical and financial support mechanisms for innovative and inclusive models of sustainable local development based on bio-economies, agroforestry, agro-ecology and traditional and customary knowledge.

The following activities will be focused on *productive protected landscapes for peace* referred to under OP1.1.

3.1.1 Support the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of “integrating projects” (**proyectos integradores**) (**PI**) initiatives in municipalities / sub-regions located in areas with high environmental importance (in PDET zones). These PI will adopt an innovative, inclusive and sustainable value chain approach (e.g. agro-forestry; agro-ecology, etc.) and will focus on the following sectors (among others): i) fishing, aquaculture / hydro-biological and cocoa resources in the southern Pacific and in the Amazon deforestation arc. ii) Dairy value chains within the framework of regenerative and sustainable silvo-pastoral systems. iii) Fruits under a “sustainable tropical agriculture” approach; and iv). Cocoa for peace. These activities will promote innovation and knowledge, focusing on circular and sustainable productive practices to develop inclusive and sustainable businesses while protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services, prioritising the conservation of the natural environment, soil nutrition and water harvesting, and reducing dependence on external chemical and energy inputs.

3.1.2 Support the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of the **PIDAR** in prioritised ZRCs in the deforestation arc of the Amazon, that use public resources to create, expand, improve or recover the production capacity or provision of goods or services by the State in rural areas, while protecting the environment and restoring biodiversity.

3.1.3 Support the formulation, implementation, and coordination of projects to strengthen the biodiversity economy within the framework of “**biodiversity nodes**” (promoted by PNN). Related activities include strengthening technical and social innovation in agro-ecology, agroforestry, agro-ecology and bio-economy for peasant, family and community agriculture in “green businesses” based on: i) non-timber tropical forest products such as *sacha inchi*, *copoazú*, *cacay*, etc. ii) production, multiplication, and planting of non-conventional or non-traditional agricultural products for the implementation of sustainable productive projects taking account of markets and impacts on local biodiversity. iii) restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems. iv) community tourism and ecotourism, (including gastronomy initiatives), scientific tourism, agritourism, etc. v) traditional and customary knowledge of collective and ancestral communities.

3.1.4 Strengthen entrepreneurial capacities, administrative and organisational processes, and market linkages for all supported green ventures and businesses through the creation of **ZASCAs** (centres of productive development and reindustrialisation), the *FortaleSer* programme, and financial readiness by MINCIT /INNpulsa, in consultation with local communities.

N.B GoC will contribute financial resources to these *productive protected landscapes for peace*.

Activities relating to OP 3.2: Increased public-private investment capacities and opportunities around the green economy and climate resilience in the prioritised territories.

3.2.1 Promote and develop conflict-sensitive **carbon credits and biodiversity funds** e.g.: i) funds and perpetual financing initiatives already in place and generating income (e.g. Herencia Colombia, Acción Fund – debt-for-trust swap); ii) carbon and biodiversity bonds (e.g. Asómbate by Consortium Solidaridad, Rabobank and the Carbon Farming Academy) and iii) partnerships for the promotion and development of carbon markets - “Carbon Sinks” (EFSD+).

3.2.2 Leverage support and funds for **financing the enhancement of connectivity and socio-productive infrastructure** in prioritised territories, contributing to the competitiveness of value chains in those areas while implementing the necessary social and environmental safeguards and due diligence. The leveraging of funds will be territorially consolidated by highlighting the added value of each partner. Additional European contributions from Member States, companies, and national and foreign investment funds, both public and private (likely blending CDP/AICS), are foreseen. The blending counterparts from the EU and Member States will contribute to these projects with a high level of innovation and sustainable financial impact.

3.2.3 Support the formulation, implementation, and coordination of **intergenerational public-private impact investment funds** that are highly innovative, under a territorial, landscape-oriented, and strategic development approach, complemented by the actions of other donors and various state entities, as well as from other Colombian territories. The following financing mechanisms could be strengthened and expanded in prioritised territories: i) Investment fund for rural peace and financing of value chains with a market-oriented approach, social marketing for women entrepreneurs, and capacity development, with gender and intergenerational perspectives (e.g., Consortium Conexion/Truvalu/El Lab). ii) Agricultural and livestock productive projects associated with payments for environmental services, prioritising already established organisations, in accordance with the provisions of Decree Law 870 of May 25, 2017.

3.2.4 Support the formulation, implementation, and coordination of other **innovative green financing mechanisms around value chains** such as: i) eco, ethnic and agro-tourism, cultural, health, and nature-based agroforestry systems and ecosystem services. ii) scientific tourism that highlights the landscape and biodiversity assets of the territory, generating high-value and globally competitive products driven by actors from peasant, community, and popular economies. iii) green and sustainable businesses with producers from peasant, ethnic

communities, and other rural actors located on small and medium-scale properties, incorporating mechanisms for biodiversity conservation in the territories and diversifying the livelihoods of these communities.

Notes:

- 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 of a TEI framework.
- FPI has an ongoing project (Support to peace consolidation in Colombia, EUR 2.5M) that provides support to the peace process/negotiations in both the "ark of deforestation" of the Amazon region and the Pacific Coast. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure complementarity between the Action and FPI support in the area of peacebuilding.
- The geographical coverage of the action and the fact that it addresses the root causes of humanitarian problems (peace building, institution strengthening, income generation, livelihoods, governance, etc.) represent a good opportunity to create synergies with actions financed by ECHO.

### 3.3 Mainstreaming

#### **Environmental Protection & Climate Change**

##### **Outcomes of the SEA screening** (relevant for budget support and strategic-level interventions)

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening concluded that no SEA is required but key environment and climate-related aspects will be addressed during the design of the action. Vast areas of natural tropical forest are still being transformed, due to different drivers such as land ownership concentration and speculation, often linked to illicit crops, extensive cattle grazing, and mining. The stabilisation of the agricultural frontier requires an acceleration of innovation in agriculture systems fostering agro-ecological approaches, agro-forestry, forest management and restoration, biodiversity protection and improvements in current territorial governance systems. All of which are addressed by this action.

##### **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) in accordance with the guidelines on integrating the environment and climate change into EU international cooperation and development pages 57-61. The action is likely to have positive effects on the environment. Furthermore, outcome 3 contributes directly to the promotion of climate change adaptation measures in the most environmentally sensitive areas of the country. The action aims under outcome 3 to foster innovations in agriculture systems, forest management and restoration, among others. All of which contribute to cause positive effects on the environment.

##### **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 low risk (climate risk aspects will be addressed during the design of the action) in accordance with the guidelines on integrating the environment and climate change into EU international cooperation and development, pages 63-64. All agricultural and agro-ecological activities are today vulnerable to climate variability and climate change. In Colombia El Niño and La Niña are regular meteorological phenomena affecting rural productive activities throughout Colombian territory. The action aims to accelerate the expansion of solutions to deal with climate challenges, which are also part of Colombian public policy.

### **Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls**

As per the OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is a significant objective. The Action will contribute to the fulfilment of the EU Gender Action Plan 2021-2025 GAP III, in particular to its thematic areas of engagement “Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women” and ‘Addressing the challenges and harnessing the opportunities offered by the green transition and the digital transformation”. The action supports specific gender-responsive activities in the scope of the implementation of the peace agreement and the sectoral policies, including on land rights (Outcome 1). Furthermore, under Outcome 2, the action supports institutional work at the territorial level, ensuring that gender equality remains a prioritised topic and approach within local governance mechanisms and under Outcome 3 gender- specific local economic activities are specifically targeted.

### **Human Rights**

Policies supported by this action are fully driven by a human rights-based approach. The entire action aims to promote the implementation of peace agreements and their respective declaration on human rights. It also seeks an enabling environment for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement and commitments regarding access to information, justice, and public participation. The action shall use a human-rights based approach in relation to the participation and consultations with indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, especially in respect of their traditional authorities and land management approaches and with regard to the right to Free, Prior and Informed consent related to any economic or infrastructure activity that affects their territories and in relation to local development plans, etc.

A human rights-based approach (HRBA) will be enshrined into the planned interventions, while working in close cooperation with local government to meet its obligations in terms of service delivery. Strengthening the capacities of right holders to hold local authorities accountable and to ensure more transparency of service provision are part of the proposed approach. This action strengthens the capacities of the State of Colombia as duty bearer as it has specific obligations and responsibilities to respect, promote and fulfil the human rights of its citizens. The Action, in all of its interventions will pay particular attention to the situation of persons living in the most vulnerable and marginalised situations (persons living in poverty, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, persons belonging to ethnic minorities, etc.) It shall leave no one behind throughout the programme cycle, from the design process through to implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

### **Disability**

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that the Action will contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, particularly on the commitment to supporting countries to improve accessibility of the environment and the EU’s Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024

### **Reduction of inequalities**

As per the Inequality Marker (I-Marker), the Action has been labelled as an I-2. The main objective of the Action is to reduce inequalities. The action focuses on three key biodiverse territories that have been historically isolated and are badly connected to multisector opportunities at Colombian and international level. The weak presence of the State in these regions makes it difficult to generate favourable conditions for sustainable development and generates inequalities in the distribution of resources and opportunities. The action is in line with the Colombian Gender Implementation plan and supports to the National Gender and Climate Change roundtable and promotion of opportunities for green growth and the circular economy. The action risk analysis includes mitigation measures to face the challenges in the inclusion of women and young people in leadership and entrepreneurship positions (outcome 2). Furthermore, the action includes specific gender-responsive methodologies in the scope of value chain supporting initiatives (outcome 3). Specifically, this action fosters: i) the active and meaningful participation of youth and women in decision-making processes on



environmental conservation and climate change policies and actions; ii) diplomatic and financial measures to promote the leadership of youth, women and the LGBTI persons, as well as the balanced intergenerational representation of men and women in all their diversity in all stages of peace processes and local economic and conservation processes; iii) gender sensitive strategies and agreements on mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction and sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity; and iv). gender sensitive access to jobs, entrepreneurship opportunities and alternative livelihoods in the green economy and circular economy.

### **Democracy**

The peace agreement implementation contributes to Colombian democracy and stability. The action contributes to territorial governance and peace under a participative and inclusive approach, fostering the linkage of local platforms and communities, including ethnic minorities and women's organisations, with the national and international level.

### **Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience**

As noted above, in Colombia, environment and peace are closely interlinked, as conflict around natural resources is both a cause and an effect of armed confrontation, causing a negative spiral of extractive and illegal activities. Huge land tenure issues continue to fuel the conflict and are a main obstacle to access climate finance and the sustainable use of biodiversity. The action aims to promote the peaceful coexistence of rural population and nature. Through the land tenure and governance supportive measures, the action strengthens local inclusive dialogue platforms. Colombia underwent a conflict analysis, resulting in a risk matrix and analysis of the land issue produced with ANT. The objective is to establish a comprehensive and collaborative approach to managing conflict risks and taking action without causing harm, especially through the inclusion of women, youth and ethnic minority communities and the respect of Free, Prior and Informed Consent protocols as foreseen by the Colombian Peace Accord and the EU Council Conclusions on Indigenous Peoples of 2018. This approach emphasises community involvement and the management of various legal types of land, which can overlap. The goal is to minimize and mitigate risks to the work of PNN.

Carbon-emission approaches such as REDD+ have been controversial in Colombia and they need to be monitored for potential conflict sensitivity and unintended harmful impacts, as well as for respect of the Free, Prior and Informed consent enshrined in the Peace accord for indigenous peoples and Afro-Colombians.

Other controversial areas of work could be the building of infrastructure; the risk of infiltration by organised crime in green economies; the need to respect traditional knowledge and practices of local communities, including on biodiversity; the issue of security and safety of communities; etc.

### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

The action is considered relevant for disaster risk reduction in the scope of its contribution to climate change mitigation. Under Outcome 3, local economic projects will prioritise the conservation and protection of the environment and ecosystems, the water cycle, natural resources, and the prevention of threats and disasters, as well as the management of climate change according to Article 21 of the National Development Plan (PND 2022 2026).

**No other considerations are relevant.**

## **3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
Security	Risk 1: The persistence of the	Medium	High	Many of the activities foreseen by the action aim to reduce the

	armed conflict and organised crime violence in the targeted territories; risks of conflicts over land and natural resources			potential for conflict over natural resources/land. In addition, the EU and its MS will continue their active support for the implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement and the other peace related processes started by the present Government (ELN, EMC, urban peace processes in Pacific cities...).
Illegal economic activities	Risk 2: The persistence of illegal economic activities and the recruitment of youth, as well as the infiltration of organised crime in legal economic activities (money laundering, etc.)	Medium	High	Strengthen local economic systems and productive chains linked to family, peasant, and community agriculture. Other mechanisms that offer high value, competitive economic alternatives to communities, (especially youth and women. Indigenous peoples and Afro-Colombians) will also be put in place.  As part of its political dialogue strategy, the EU Delegation will carry out actions to promote the presence of the State in the territory, guaranteeing the coverage of services and legal economic opportunities for young people.
Institutional	Risk 3: Strong centralisation of processes and decision-making resulting in low capacities in both local authorities and community organisations.	Medium	High	The action will have a territorial focus in regions with particularly low levels of development. Direct engagement with local authorities and community organisations is planned and they are expected to play an active role in the implementation of activities thus strengthening their capacities through a learning by doing approach.
Private sector involvement	Risk 4: Slow consolidation of an enabling environment for foreign investment	Medium	High	The planned financing mechanisms include guarantees aimed at reducing the risks faced by investors while at the same time leveraging additional funds. Returns on investments over time are also expected to

				reduce their perceived riskiness.
Vulnerable groups' exclusion	Risk 5: Low effectiveness in terms of the inclusion of women and youth, indigenous peoples and Afro-Colombians in leadership and entrepreneurship positions.	Medium	Medium	Innovative actions specifically targeting women and young people (gender-responsive value chain methodology, use of information technologies, satellite systems, connectivity and use of applications, etc) will be prioritised. Furthermore, women and youth participation in local governance platforms and in sustainable local economic projects will be ensured. Protocols for Free, Prior and Informed consent for indigenous peoples and Afro-Colombians will be rigorously implemented.
Environment and climate change	Risk 6: All agricultural and agro-ecological activities are vulnerable to climate variability and climate change e.g., in Colombia, El Niño and La Niña are regular phenomena affecting peasants' productive activities.	High	High	This action is about scaling up/out projects/interventions that have proven effective in terms of reducing vulnerability to climate change (Nature based solutions, climate smart agriculture, agroforestry, etc.).
Environment and climate change	Risk 7: Carbon-trading/ decarbonisation approaches may cause tensions and divisions if not consulted with communities.	High	High	Traditional and customary knowledge related to agro-ecology and sustainable forest management will be valued and incorporated.
	Limited engagement in favour of gender equality and the empowerment of women, a human rights-based approach, and persons with disabilities by the targeted institutions and non-state actors	medium	medium	The action will provide adequate resources to work with institutions and non-state actors on the importance of integrating gender equality, a human rights-based approach, and the rights of persons with disabilities
<b>Lessons Learnt:</b>  The whole premise of this action is that it builds on the lessons learnt and best practices emerging from both ongoing and closed interventions such as: BS Local and Sustainable Development, BS				

Rural Development with Territorial approach, Euroclima+, DeSIRA projects, the EU Trust Fund for Peace (Rutas PDET, Caminemos, Rural Paz, BS Land and Territories for Peace, Amazonia Joven), and Sustainable Landscapes/Heritage Colombia project, among others. Some of the key lessons learnt informing this action include:

- Actions targeting the conservation of protected areas and the relationship between people and their natural resources must be based on the recognition of the strategic importance of those territories and their contribution to key challenges such as water and climate regulation and the adaptation to, and mitigation of Global Climate Change.
- The EUTF demonstrated the relevance of a territorial approach, as well as the viability of a market and community-centred value chain approach. It also showed that it is necessary to combine efforts with other donors and to build upon what has already been built. The Peace funds leave behind successful processes, which need to be scaled up to the next level under a landscape and regional approach.
- Territories where biodiversity richness, diverse ethnic groups and interests converge require effective, participatory, and coordinated governance models with a rights-based and environmental justice approach. These governance models need to harmonise the actions of the different social, institutional, and sectoral actors so that they shift towards the sustainable development of the targeted territories, strengthening biodiversity conservation on the one hand, and improving the productive economy of the territory on the other.
- Increased participation and leadership of women and youth in sustainable value chains generates local impact, broadens territorial voices and connects territories at national and global levels. Furthermore, innovative approaches to youth and women's empowerment by involving these actors in value chain decision-making and governance positively influenced the transformation of roles.
- The development of women's and youth entrepreneurship in tourism, gastronomy and service sectors strengthened the local economic system.
- To effectively compete with illegal economic activities that have high-profit margins, alternatives must have a market and a competitive value allowing them to compete with illegal products.

### 3.5 The Intervention Logic

*The Overall Objective* of this action is to contribute to the economic and socially sustainable use of natural resources through the attainment of three Specific Objectives/Outcomes:

*SO1 / Outcome 1:* Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights.

*SO2 / Outcome 2.* Increased effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors ensuring the representation and protection of women (in all their diversity), youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.

*SO3 / Outcome 3.* Increased legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women (in all their diversity), ethnic groups, youth, and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.

Historically, marginalised territories in Colombia have been trapped in a vicious cycle of environmental degradation, weak human security, illicit economic activities, the presence of illegal armed groups and limited /no State presence. This action aims to reverse the advancement of the agricultural frontier (and deforestation) by means of a modern, inclusive and effective territorial governance system, while at the same time offering viable economic alternatives to the communities living within those areas. The three components are wholly interdependent insofar as SO1 and SO2 can be considered as "enabling conditions" for the achievement of SO3, in particular, the

mobilisation of public and private investments in the selected territories. Without progress in terms of natural resource / lands management and territorial governance, investments will simply not take place. Likewise, a major aim of the programme is to strengthen the permanent, relevant, and well-coordinated presence of the State in marginalized and conflict-affected territories, where illegal armed groups currently “govern”. The intervention logic underpinning the three strands of the action can be summarised as follows:

If the integration of the broad range of existing spatial planning tools - with water as an articulating axis,- is achieved (Output 1.1.) and if the capacities for efficient land titling and formalisation based on an integrated and gender-responsive approach (Output 1.2.) are improved, then the implementation of socio-environmental stabilisation corridors including sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested and agricultural areas will be achieved (Outcome 1) provided that decision makers remain committed to implementing the Integral Rural Reform, and public institutions, private sector representatives and CSOs remain interested in working together around the implementation of inclusive and sustainable socio-environmental initiatives (Assumptions). The logic is that by putting in place a modern land-use framework that clearly distinguishes between protected and agricultural areas, as well as private/collective lands, the current destruction of natural resources, and the consequent negative effects of climate change and biodiversity loss can be mitigated. Regarding sustainable land tenure, the logic is that this will be facilitated through the acceleration and simplification of the procedures for classifying properties, and the compilation of records for the formalization and/or regularization of properties within the corridors including forest reserve areas. If these processes are accompanied by the capacity development of the technical teams of the ANT at both national and territorial levels on the use of key technologies, and on the design and implementation of instruments and tools for system interoperability, and if communication among relevant entities, exchanging experiences and best practices is achieved, then increased land tenure security is more likely. Key assumptions underpinning this specific change process include (i) the correct targeting of persons within the technical teams, (ii) the adequate quality of the capacity development provided, (iii) the willingness of the different entities to collaborate with each other and (iv) state of the art European know how on land systems being made available to the relevant stakeholders. In turn, the resulting improved land governance and increased land tenure security are expected to pave the way for the economic and socially sustainable use of natural resources in the prioritised stabilisation corridors (Impact).

In the same way, if the capacities of civil society and competent institutions to build consensus around territorial management and conflicts over the use of natural resources are increased with the active involvement of local communities, women, youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of the population (Output 2.1.), and if the spaces for cross-sectoral territorial dialogues and policy dialogue links with the national level are strengthened (Output 2.2.), then the effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors will be increased, ensuring the representation and protection of women (in all their diversity), youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of the population (Outcome 2), provided that: i) the different actors are willing and able to engage in the co-creation of sustainable solutions, ii) the proposed solutions are relevant and viable, and iii) adequate financial resources to implement them will be made available (Assumptions). The logic is that by strengthening local capacities to engage in inclusive dialogue and enhanced multi-stakeholder consultation, promoting and guaranteeing the participation and co-responsibility in dialogues centred on the planning, implementation and monitoring of public policies, that it will be possible to arrive at the co-creation of the most appropriate solutions based on the principles of transparency, participation, inclusion and gender equality, and respect for the rights of communities. In turn, it is expected that this transparent and inclusive approach which emphasises the leadership role of local organisations in the planning and implementation of initiatives that promote environmental sustainability and social equity, will lead to a reduction in the number of socio environmental conflicts paving the way for the economic and socially sustainable use of natural resources in the prioritised stabilisation corridors (Impact).

This impact will also be contributed to by the third component of the action related to sustainable local development. In this case, if the technical and financial support mechanisms for the

development of innovative and inclusive models of sustainable local development are improved based on bio-economies, agroforestry, agro-ecology and traditional and customary knowledge (Output 3.1.) and if the public-private investment capacities and opportunities around the green economy and climate resilience in the prioritised territories are increased (Output 3.2.), then legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women, ethnic groups and youth will be increased (Outcome 3), provided that: i) the different financing sources and political actors will be willing and able to engage in a joint territorial and climate-oriented process, ii) the efforts made under the first component (land governance) lead to an improved perception of the investment climate in the prioritised territories, including the economic and socio-political conditions that impact public/private actors' willingness to invest (Assumptions). The intervention logic underpinning this change process is that if policies, regulations, and measures that combine traditional practices with innovation, energy efficiency, the use of renewable resources and nature-based solutions are put in place, then opportunities for investment, employment and sustainable livelihoods will be unleashed leading to the improved quality of life of communities. At the same time, by encouraging the agroecological transition of inclusive agri-food chains, the appeal of environmentally damaging activities such as deforestation, as well as illicit economic activities will recede. This change process will be facilitated by increased access to finance which will be brought about by the design of an institutional structure and architecture within the framework of the Climate Action Law that promotes the financing of joint actions in sectors such as transport, environment and sustainable development, mines and energy, housing, city and territory, agriculture, fisheries and rural development, trade, industry and tourism; by the creation and consolidation of innovative public-private initiatives for climate financing and for the National System of Protected Areas and by a strategy to address climate change for the promotion and development of carbon markets and their implementation, monitoring and financing.

### 3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

This indicative logframe constitutes the basis for the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the intervention.

Based on 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.

	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To advance the economic and socially sustainable use of natural resources in Colombia in line with the Integrated Rural Reform of the Peace Agreement.	1. Total extension of land that is covered by protected areas in the targeted regions	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	Data from PNN - SINAP	
		2. Total extension of land deforested in the last year in the targeted regions	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	Data from PNN - SINAP	
		3. Human Spatial Footprint Index (IHEH) linked to Protected Areas in the Stabilization Corridors.	Tbd	IHEH 12/2025: 35% 12/2026: 32 % 12/2027: 30%	Data from PNN – SINAP Stabilisation Index Measurements	
		4. % of population living with multidimensional rural poverty (MP) disaggregated by sex and ethnicity  5. % Unemployment (UE) disaggregated by sex and age	Nariño MP: 21.4%; UE: 6.2%  Putumayo MP: 27.2%  Caquetá MP: 25.6%; UE:11.2%  Meta MP: 20.3%; UE:11.2%  Guaviare MP: 33.7%  C/marca MP:13.3% UE:12.7%  Gap between men and women: 6.2% in 2021	Improvement per department of 2% by 2027  Tbd  Reduction in gap of 2% per department by 2027	Dane reports  National Administrative Dept. of Statistics ( <a href="#">DANE</a> )	
Outcome 1	Improved implementation of stabilisation corridors including the management of	1.1. % of the area of the agricultural frontier delimited through participatory	Tbd%	12/2027: 50% by 2027	UPRA Report on the	The Government of Colombia maintains its



	sustainable land tenure in the prioritised protected, forested and agricultural areas, ensuring gender equity and respect for indigenous people's rights.	environmental zoning/social agreements on territorial planning			Agricultural Frontier and PNNC Annual Management Report	political commitment to the implementation of the Integral Rural Reform with the corresponding technical and financial investment.  Institutional and regulatory conditions remain in place to create and consolidate new public-private-social partnerships around green value chains and sustainable business models.  Availability of the financial resources to implement proposed solutions
		1.2. Areas of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems under (a) protection, (b) sustainable management with EU support (km2) GERF 2.9. Disaggregated by region	0	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC Annual Management Report	
		1.3 Reduction of deforestation (in ha) with EU support in the targeted regions (MIP Indicator)	Tbd%	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC Annual Management Report	
		1.4. % increase in the characterization of properties, constitution of files to formalize/regularize land, and land titling (disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity)	Tbd%	12/2025: 20% 12/2026: 30% 12/2027: 40% (cumulative)	Land registry	
		1.5 # of people who have formalised/regularised their land or have received new land titles. Disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity and region	0	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	Land registry	
<b>Outcome 2</b>	Increased effectiveness, participation, and inclusiveness of territorial governance in the prioritised stabilisation corridors ensuring the representation	2.1. # of Conservation and Welfare Agreements implemented by department, with the participation of women, young people, peasants, indigenous and afro-descendants	Tbd	12/2025: 70 12/2026: 70 + 40% of CSO representatives 12/2027: 0 50% of CSO representatives	GoC reports PIVAC reports Attendance lists of consultation meetings	Willingness and capacities of the different actors to engage in the co-creation of inclusive and

	and protection of women (in all their diversity), youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.	2.2. # of Land Use Agreements/ Environmental Agreements within the framework of the IRR (in the context of the implementation of the PIVAC)	Tbd	By 2027: per department = 5	PNNC annual management report Departmental Governance bodies' + PIVAC reports	sustainable solutions.
		2.3. Number of policy, regulatory or legal reforms adopted to support women's employment and entrepreneurship, such as in terms of ownership and land rights, inheritance, mobility, and access to identification (GAP III)	Tbd	Tbd	Directorate of Rural Women / MinAgricultura reports	
<b>Outcome 3</b>	Increased legal employment, climate action investments, and sustainable livelihoods for rural communities, women (in all their diversity), ethnic groups, youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.	3.1 % increase in the income levels of people in supported sustainable value chains (disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity <sup>20</sup> )	Tbd	By 2027: 50%	PNNC, ADR, Innpulsa, Fontur	Value chain actors contribute to the strengthening of investment processes in the territory  Willingness and capacities of the different financing sources and political actors to engage in a joint territorial and climate-oriented process.
		3.2. # of (a) jobs, (b) green jobs supported/ sustained by the EU (GERF 2.13) Disaggregated by sex, age, sector and region	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	Report on Rural Businesses Led by Women and Youth	
		3.3. # of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: (a) firms, (b) people (all financial services), (c) people (digital financial services) (GERF 2.17)	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC, ADR, Innpulsa, Fontur	
		3.4. Areas of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC, ADR, Innpulsa, Fontur	

<sup>20</sup> Can be used to provide input to GERF 1.1 SDG 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status\*

		support (GERF 2.2.) Disaggregated region			
		3.5. # of eco tourists visiting protected areas by department	Tbd	12/2025: 10% 12/2026: 20% 12/2027: 30%	PNNC reports

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data
Output 1.1	Improved planning tools and capacities for spatial planning between protected and agricultural areas, with water as an articulating axis.	1.1.1 # Number of people who have been involved in community agreements or activities for reforestation or environmental protection, disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity.	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC – SINAP data
		1.1.2 # harmonised territorial planning tools developed with the support of the EU in protected landscapes for peace in the framework of participative and rights based processes including representatives of women, ethnic and peasants', indigenous and afro-descendant organizations	Tbd	2027: 1 per intervention area	UPRA Report on the Agricultural Frontier and PNNC Report Environmental Zoning Plans
Output 1.2	Improved mechanisms for transparent, efficient, gender-equal and ethnically responsive land titling and the formalisation of the land system.	1.2.1 % of prioritized properties located in PNN “buffer zones”, ZRC and collective territories that are characterized (disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity and department)	Tbd	12/2025: 20% 12/2026: 30% 12/2027: 40% (cumulative)	PNNC management reports
		1.2.2 # of people who have increased their knowledge, information and tools to formalise their land property or access to land titles with the support of the EU, disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	And land registry incl. Law 2 of 1959

		1.2.3 # of people with increased skills for the resolution of land conflicts by department and population/ethnicity	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	
		1.2.4 # of staff of the ANT or other relevant institutions, who have increased their skills to use new technologies and procedures for system interoperability and/or inter-institutional coordination	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	
<b>Output 2.1</b>	Increased capacities of civil society and competent institutions to build consensus around territorial governance with the active involvement of local communities, women and youth and the most socioeconomically vulnerable groups of population.	2.1.1 # of Land Use Agreements/ Environmental Agreements within the framework of the IRR ( gender oriented in the context of the implementation of the PIVAC)	Overall participation in PIVAC departmental consensus: Women: 44%; Male: 56%	By 2027: per department = 5 12/2025: 20% increase in women/youth leaders 12/2026: 30% increase in women/youth leaders 12/2027: 50% increase in women/youth leaders	PIVAC and Departmental Governance bodies' reports  Minutes and attendance list of consultation sessions held
		2.1.2 # of grassroots civil society organisations benefitting from (or reached by) EU support (GERF 2.28)	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	
		2.1.3 # of Protocols for environmental defenders and local communities related to their access to information/ participation in environmental decision-making, and environmental justice in the context of the Escazú Agreement developed or revised with the support of the EU	Tbd	12/2025: 1 per department 12/2026: 2 per department 12/2027: 3 per department	PIVAC and Ombudsman reports
<b>Output 2.2.</b>	Strengthened spaces for cross-sectoral territorial dialogues and policy dialogue links with the national level based on women and youth leadership.	2.2.1 # of public-private-community consultation spaces with a permanent and legitimate inter sectoral and multi-level presence of the State at the territorial level and with the participation of women and youth	Tbd	12/2025: 15 and increase in women/youth leaders 12/2026: 20 and increase in women/youth leaders	Minutes and attendance list of consultation sessions held

				12/2027: 25 and increase in women/youth leaders (cumulative)	
		2.2.2 # of community influenced public policy decisions per department	Tbd	12/2025: 1 a year 12/2026: 2 a year 12/2027: 3 a year	Minutes and attendance list of consultation sessions held
<b>Output 3.1</b>	Improved technical and financial support mechanisms for innovative and inclusive models of sustainable local development based on bio-economies, agroforestry, agro ecology and traditional and customary knowledge.	3.1.1a Status of the financial strategy for conservation and climate action of protected areas within the framework of current and new climate finance  3.1.1b Number of inclusive green financial schemes established with support of the EU-funded intervention (OPSYS pre-defined indicator)	Do not exist  Tbd	12/2025: Financial strategy of PNN drafted and validated with main stakeholders.  12/2027: Nariño: 3 Putumayo: 3 Caquetá: 3 Meta: 3 Guaviare: 3 C/marca: 3	PNNC, ADR, ART, Fontur, research institutes
		3.1.2 # new research areas supported by the Knowledge Management Stimulus programme	Tbd	12/2025: 20 12/2026: 35 12/2027: 50	PNNC and research institutes' reports
		3.1.3 % increase in the number of women and young people leading rural businesses that are better prepared and adapted to the effects of climate change	Tbd	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	PNNC, ADR, ART, Fontur, research institutes
		3.1.4 # Number of green Business Development Services (BDS) providers supported by the EU-funded intervention in protected landscapes for peace	Nariño: Tbd PU (productive unit) Putumayo: Tbd PU Caquetá: tbd PU Guaviare: tbd PU	12/2026: Nariño: 60 PU - cocoa 100 PU tourism & 70 UP certified by FortaleSER	MINCIT- Innpulsa reports

				Putumayo: 310 people in bio-technologies Caquetá/Guaviare: 160 PU (non-wooden forest)	
<b>Output 3.2</b>	Increased public-private investment capacities and opportunities around the green economy and climate resilience in the prioritised territories.	3.2.1a Status of the financial strategy for conservation and climate action of protected areas within the framework of current and new climate finance	Do not exist	12/2025: Financial strategy of PNN drafted and validated with main stakeholders.	PNNC reports
		3.2.2 Number of inclusive green financial schemes established with support of the EU-funded intervention (OPSYS pre-defined indicator)	0 EU financed	12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	
		3.2.3a # of innovative funding initiatives and public-private partnerships for climate financing and strengthening of National Natural Parks within sustainable value chains in protected landscapes for peace	1 in Nariño, 0 in the 4 other departments	12/2026: 1 per department 12/2027: 2 per department	PNNC reports Single Registry of Public-Private Partnerships (RuAPP - DNP)
		3.2.3b Number of innovative funding initiatives created with the support of the EU fostering private and public partnerships	0 with EU support	12/2025: TBD 12/2026: TBD 12/2027: TBD	
		3.2.4 # of ecosystem services valuation models and compensation instruments developed for the Protected Areas associated with the Stabilization Corridors	Tbd	12/2025: - 12/2026:1 12/2027:1	PNNC reports
		3.2.5 # of productive units financially enlisted and connected to funding sources (Capital Lab in the Department of Nariño - Centre for Financial Readiness and Connection with Funding Sources)	Tbd	2025 – 2026:100	INNpulsas meeting minutes

\*) GHG projects or biodiversity projects, in which compliance with SDGs and NDCs is observed, implementing methodologies for the quantification of GHG reduction or removal and implementing agreements with certifying companies, Conformity Assessment Bodies and/or companies developing this type of project.

Tbd\*\*) To be determined in the inception phase.



## 4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Colombian Government.

### 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 when a financing agreement is concluded.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

### 4.3 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU 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<sup>21</sup>.

#### 4.3.1 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

The entrusted entity(ies) will be selected by the Commission's services from member states agencies using the following criteria:

- i) Fulfil legal requirements and comply with applicable conditions to work under indirect management.
- ii) Expertise in supporting the implementation of the Integral Rural Reform (point 1 of the 2016 Peace Agreement).
- iii) Have a long-standing tradition of cooperation with the Colombian Ministries (and/or related entities) of Environment and Sustainable Development and Agricultural and Rural development. Advisable cooperation background with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism (or related entities).
- iv) Permanent representation in Colombia and presence in territory through ongoing projects.
- v) Experience in managing EU funds.
- vi) Capacity to allocate significant co-financing funds for this action.
- vii) Potential for coordination and creating synergies with: Team Europe Initiatives, on-going EU funded projects or possible actions to be financed through blending or EFSD+ mechanism related with this action.
- viii) Absence of conflict of interest.

Implementation should maximise the amount of funds channelled through the Colombian actors, in a logic of leaving installed capacities and consolidating local expertise.

Implementation by abovementioned entity(ies) should cover the entire action described in the present document.

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<sup>21</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu).

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

If negotiations with the envisaged entity fail and no other entity under the same modality can be identified, the implementation modality will switch to direct management via grants using targeting Colombian public-private entities. The grant beneficiaries will be chosen using the same criteria as described under 4.3.1.

#### 4.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission's responsible authorising officer may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or 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

<b>Indicative Budget components</b>	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>	<b>Third-party contribution, in currency identified</b>
Indirect management with an entrusted entity(ies)- cf. section 4.3.1	15 700 000	-
GoC parallel co-financing	-	15 900 000
<b>Evaluation</b> – c.f. section 5.2	200 000	-
<b>Audit</b> – cf. section 5.3		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15 900 000</b>	<b>15 900 000</b>

#### 4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The implementing entity(ies) will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the Action. Considering the wide array of support to the prioritised territories from different donors, strong coordination will be a key aspect of this action.

The Action proposes to set up a structured policy dialogue at three levels: political, strategic and technical levels, to ensure the comprehensiveness of the action and compliance with the supported public policy objectives:

- EUDEL will continue conducting policy dialogue with the Ministries of Environment and Sustainable Development, Agricultural and Rural development and Commerce, Industry and Tourism, and related entities. Through high-level political dialogue, stakeholders will reinforce their firm commitment to peace, fundamental values, human rights, gender equality and participation and inclusion of women, youth and all ethnic communities as well as to international goals (SDGs, Paris Agreement, CDB, etc.). The HoD and the Ministers will chair at least two high level political dialogues per year involving the international community (HoM level), the national government (ministries, agency directors) and civil society in order to discuss sector policy challenges, financing mechanisms, and resources mobilisation and policy implementation progress.
- A Steering Committee will be set up with: Deputy Ministers of Environment, Agriculture and Commerce, the Director of National Natural Parks, The Presidency of Rural Development Agency, Director of National Lands Agency, Director of INNPULSA, the Director of the Agency for Territorial Renovation, and the EU Delegation. It shall convene once every six months to receive an update on the

implementation of the activities and progress towards results and take any necessary actions of a strategic nature.

Steering Committees at department level: They will be also set up under the representation of national and local authorities. Member States and like-minded donors who support the national and local stakeholders will also form part of the steering committees and other Member States who have an interest in the Action will be invited to take part as observers.

- A Technical Committee: It will ensure – through at least 3 sessions per year- technical follow-up of indicators and targets; supervision of results implementation; risk and mitigation measures identification; production, revision and presentation of reports; prepare disbursement requests and follow up; donor coordination, visibility and timely decisions to ensure a global satisfactory implementation. This Committee will be composed by the technical staff from the following institutions: Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, National Natural Parks, ADR, ANT, ART, INNPULSA and the EU Delegation.

Additionally, when convened, the technical committee of TEI Peace and TEI Environment will be informed about the progress of the Action to ensure proper coordination with Member States and like-minded donors.

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 and may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, for the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action and ensuring effective coordination.

## 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 end, 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 Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as a reference the log frame matrix included in section 3.6.

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:*

This action has been designed based on consultations with stakeholders, including government entities and local communities. It is in line with priorities identified as a result of the consultation and with government strategies and programmes. Due care will be taken to raise awareness about the action and its benefits to ensure active stakeholders' participation.

For results on impact and outcome levels, reports from the implementing national, and EU Member States' agencies will be used. Baselines and indicators will be collected through follow up by the MADS/PNN, MADR/ADR/ANT and MINCIT/INNPULSA and their implementing partners during the Action. When not already available, baselines will be collected at the beginning of the Action.

Given the complex context of this action and the many behavioural changes it aims to bring about especially on the local level, in addition to the tracking of the agreed list of indicators, an outcome harvesting modality is foreseen to monitor expected and unexpected changes from the outset. It is going to be implemented by an external/independent entity. Furthermore, the action will foster exchange and learning platforms to extract lessons learnt, common challenges and opportunities. This monitoring and learning mechanism will allow

quantitative but mostly qualitative reporting to inform the steering committees at national and departmental level.

Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by income. All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is considering inequality reduction. The Distributional Impact Assessment tool (DIA) will be applied, as a data source whenever other sources (national, regional, local data) are not available to monitor whether expected outputs have, to a large extent, benefited socio-economically disadvantaged groups, households and individuals. The DIA can also be performed at the start of the implementation phase to a) locate where the most vulnerable live and target them geographically; b) identify main drivers of inequalities (e.g. reasons for not accessing some services) c) unveil inter sectionalities (e.g. bottom 40 income who are women, children etc.).

All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is considering the principle of gender equality, human rights-based approach, and rights of persons with disabilities including inclusion and diversity. Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by sex whenever possible and meaningful and age and disability where feasible.

## 5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a midterm and/ or final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components.

The evaluation plan (or component in the foreseen evaluation) should assess the distributional impact of activities undertaken on the socio-economically disadvantaged individuals, households, or groups. This can be done through the Distributional Impact Assessment tool (DIA). The DIA analysis looks at the effective targeting of beneficiaries of development interventions, identifying if more than 40 per cent of beneficiaries are at the bottom two quintiles of the income or wealth distribution. It also allows to evaluate whether effective targeting has been done towards women, children and youth or other disadvantaged groups (e.g. ethnic minorities) or at territorial level. Expertise on inequality reduction will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The Commission will, during implementation, decide to undertake such evaluations for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

The evaluation reports may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination<sup>22</sup>. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

Evaluations shall assess to what extent the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment and disability inclusion. Expertise on human rights, disability and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

## 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.

In line with the 2022 “[Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions](#)”, 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

<sup>22</sup> See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

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 in principle 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

A Primary Intervention (project/programme) is a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Identifying the level of the primary intervention will allow for:

Articulating Actions or Contracts according to an expected chain of results and therefore allowing them to ensure efficient monitoring and reporting of performance;

Differentiating these Actions or Contracts from those that do not produce direct reportable development results, defined as support entities (i.e., audits, evaluations);

Having a complete and exhaustive mapping of all results-bearing Actions and Contracts.

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 chosen can be modified (directly in OPSYS) and the modification does not constitute an amendment of the action document.

The intervention level for the present Action identifies as (tick one of the 4 following options);

<b>Action level (i.e., Budget Support, blending)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
<b>Group of actions level (i.e., top-up cases, different phases of a single programme)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#):
<b>Contract level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	
<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Group of contracts level (i.e. series of programme estimates, cases in which an Action includes for example four contracts and two of them, a technical assistance contract and a contribution agreement, aim at the same objectives and complement each other)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	Indirect management with an entrusted entity(ies) PC-37021