



Brussels, 24.10.2022
C(2022) 7816 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 24.10.2022

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Ghana for 2022

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 23(2) and Article 24 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Ghana for 2022, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2022. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The actions provided for in this Decision contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme⁴ for the period 2021-2027⁵, which sets out the following priorities: 'Green growth for jobs', 'Smart and Sustainable cities' and 'Good Governance and security'.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme Sub-Saharan Africa are to contribute to a green economy and stimulate job creation, improve the resilience, greening and social

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

⁴ Decision C(2021)9398.

⁵ Commission Decision on the adoption of the National Indicative Programme between the European Union and Ghana C(2021)9398 final of 16.12.2021.

inclusiveness of secondary cities and regional capitals in Ghana, support democratic governance and strengthen the strategic partnership between the EU and Ghana.

- (6) The action entitled ‘EU-Ghana Pact for skills’ is a comprehensive programme that seeks to increase youth employment, including for potential and returning migrants, by reducing the mismatch between the skills offered by training providers and the requirements of the private sector and by improving employment services for an easier access to the job market. The programme thus aims to boost the creation of new careers in low-carbon and digital sectors.
- (7) The action entitled ‘Modernisation of electricity distribution network in northern Ghana’ aims to improve energy efficiency and access to energy as well as to decrease technical and commercial losses, therefore contributing to climate change mitigation and to economic growth in the north of the country.
- (8) The action entitled ‘EU-Ghana Partnership for Sustainable Cities - phase 1’ aims to improve urban sustainability and prosperity for all by improving governance for integrated urban development, capacities of stakeholders and monitoring and evaluation systems, both at central and local level.
- (9) The action entitled ‘Strengthening the Rule of Law and the Fight Against Corruption’ aims to promote good governance by reducing corruption and improving accountability and compliance with the rule of law through a multi-sectors and multi-stakeholders approach.
- (10) The action entitled ‘ATUU - A Ghanaian-European safe and prosperous people’s mobility project’ intends to strengthen migration governance and to facilitate the development benefits of international migration.
- (11) The measure entitled ‘Support Measures’ will support the civil society, establish a Technical cooperation and Dialogue facility and reinforce strategic communication and cultural diplomacy, trade and investment.
- (12) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (13) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁶ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (14) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (15) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.

⁶ Except for the cases referred to in Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (16) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Ghana for 2022, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) EU – Ghana Pact for Skills set out in Annex 1;
- (b) Modernisation of electricity distribution network in northern Ghana set out in Annex 2;
- (c) EU-Ghana partnership for sustainable Cities – phase 1 set out in Annex 3;
- (d) Strengthening the Rule of Law and the Fight Against Corruption set out in Annex 4;
- (e) ATUU - A Ghanaian-European safe and prosperous people’s mobility project set out in Annex 5;
- (f) Support measures set out in Annex 6.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2022 is set at EUR 78 160 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- budget line BGUE-B2022-14.020120-C1-INTPA: EUR 78 160 000;

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

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 of Annex 1, point 4.4.1 of Annex 2, points 4.4.1 of Annex 3, 4 and 5, and point 4.4.4 and point 4.4.5 of Annex 6.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁷ to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation

⁷ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 24.10.2022

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission