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

**ANNEX 4**

To the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the Annual Action Plan in favour of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for 2023 - Part 2

**Action Document for Supporting Sustainable and Innovative Social Protection Programmes (SUSI)**

**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 CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act</b>	Supporting Sustainable and Innovative Social Protection Programmes (SUSI) OPSYS number: ACT-61663  Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)/ Overseas Association Decision/European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation Regulation
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out in Nigeria
<b>4. Programming document</b>	Nigeria Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) of the NDICI 2021-2027
<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results</b>	The Action contributes to priority area 3 of the MIP under Human Development, in its specific objective 1 “ <b>Improving the Social Protection in Nigeria</b> ”. The action intends to support government to strengthen the social protection systems and contribute to reducing poverty and building resilience among the poor and vulnerable households, with a particular focus on women and girls in communities affected by climate change. This entails system strengthening and capacity building of government in the management and coordination of the social registers as well as direct support to poor and vulnerable beneficiaries as part of the national Safety Net strategy
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	Priority Area 3: Human Development [Social Protection] (DAC Code , 160)
<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG (1 only): SDG1 Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages)

	G 5 (Gender Equality and Empowerment of women and girls) SDG 15 (Life on Land)			
<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b>	DAC Code 1: 16015 - Social services (including youth development and women+ children) DAC Code 2: 16067 - Multisector aid for basic social services			
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	UN Entities – 41100 International NGO – 21000 NGOs and Civil Societies– 20000 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) 52			
<b>9. Targets</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<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		<b>YES</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>NO</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### BUDGET INFORMATION

<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2023-14.020120-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 62 830 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 46 000 000 This action is co-financed by the German Government for an amount of EUR 16 830 000
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### MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

<b>13. Type of financing</b>	Direct management through: - Grants  Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2 such as GIZ and UNICEF Contribution Agreements – co financed by BMZ
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## 1.2 Summary of the Action

<p><b>Specific Objective 1</b> that the National Social Register (NSR) is a shock responsive system and is used by policy makers and government at all levels as a functional national planning tool</p> <p><b>Specific Objective 2</b> that the social safety net system is used in selected States to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities, and in particular among women, girls and youth.</p> <p>Supporting Sustainable and Innovative Social Protection Programme is aimed at strengthening the social protection system at the national level and in selected states, as well as at supporting the design of social safety net programmes in Northern Nigeria. The action supports digital integrated system approach for social protection to inform policy and decision-making and the design and implementation of an adaptable social safety net programme for poor vulnerable households.</p> <p>This action will strengthen, expand, and digitalise the National Social Register (NSR) as an effective management information system with improved mechanisms, to make it a shock responsive system and a tool for policy planning towards poverty reduction and interoperable with other existing related databases.</p> <p>Expansion of the social register will involve mapping of the Poor and Vulnerable Households (PVHH) including climate affected communities across the states as well as engagement with other ministries and agencies managing other social registers for the interoperability of the various data systems. The goal is to create a central social register integrating data disaggregated by sex and age and disabilities in both rural and urban areas which will support the</p>
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government both at the national and state level towards informing policy decisions and design of interventions to address the poor and vulnerable. This action will be implemented at the national level and selected states across the country.

It will also test “social protection in practice” through the implementation of a social safety net programme to support social register beneficiaries/right holders and durably reduce poverty in selected communities and states. Priority will be given to vulnerable households and individuals, especially women and girls in communities particularly affected by climate change. It will provide sustainable livelihoods and durable ways out of poverty for communities and individual rights holders including at risk populations residing within the proximity of protected game reserves and national parks in Nigeria. This part of the programme will be implemented in the states of Adamawa, Borno and Kebbi.

Key project activities under SO2 include skills for green jobs, cash transfers, livelihoods, job creation, access to food through the establishment of community food banks. Under SO2 the action will benefit an estimated 2.1 million individuals in three States over 4 years.

The programme will be implemented through direct and indirect management.

Likewise, the action will contribute to the realisation of the EU Gender Action Plan 2021-2025 GAP III, in particular to its thematic area of engagement “Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women”.

## 2 RATIONALE

### 2.1 Context

With a fertility rate of 5.41 children born per woman and population growth rate of 2.6 per cent, half of Nigeria’s population, 111.5 million people are younger than 20 years; according to UNICEF report (2019), and 49.9 % of Nigerian households lived below the international poverty line of US \$1.9 per day in 2018<sup>1</sup>. The pandemic has further amplified poverty, sending millions of Nigerians below the poverty line<sup>2</sup>. Current projections paint a grim picture on the extent of poverty in Nigeria as it is estimated that the combined effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the national population growth could leave as many as 100 million people living below the national poverty line by the end of 2022. 1 in 5 poor people in Sub-Saharan Africa live in Nigeria<sup>3</sup>. Further still, as women constitute over 60% of the poorest people in the country, approximately 60 million women are in the clutches of extreme poverty<sup>4</sup>.

Nigeria’s economic potential has been unable to consistently reduce poverty. There has been clear and noticeable stagnation since 2015. Even before the COVID19 pandemic, Nigeria had not achieved the inclusive growth that would have led to a significant poverty reduction. Conflicts and climate crises are further slowing poverty reduction and it has been estimated<sup>5</sup>, that around five million people who were just above the poverty line before the COVID-19 pandemic will be pushed into poverty by the end of 2022.

Despite the high rate of monetary and multidimensional poverty<sup>6</sup> particularly among children and women, social protection remains limited as many poor households are not captured in the social register. According to ILO (2017) report, before Covid19, just 4.4% of the population was covered by at least one form of social benefit or assistance.<sup>7</sup> During the COVID 19 Pandemic, while social protection intervention was scaled up by the government at state and national level, it could not reach many poor households as a result of poor mapping and capturing in

<sup>1</sup> [www.unicef.org/nigeria/media/5851/file/Multidimensional%20Child%20Poverty%20in%20Nigeria%20Report%20.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/nigeria/media/5851/file/Multidimensional%20Child%20Poverty%20in%20Nigeria%20Report%20.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Andam, K., Edeh, H., Oboh, V., Pauw, K., & Thurlow, J. (2020). Impacts of COVID-19 on food systems and poverty in Nigeria. *Advances in Food Security and Sustainability*, 5, 145–173. <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.afs.2020.09.002>

<sup>3</sup> <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/37295>

<sup>4</sup> (PDF) [Poverty among Women in Nigeria–Psychological and Economic Perspective: A Study Based On South West, Nigeria](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/354111111) (researchgate.net)

<sup>5</sup> Nigeria poverty assessment 2022 World Bank p.10

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan Lain and Tara Vishwanath, “Tackling Poverty in Multiple Dimensions: A Proving Ground in Nigeria” (2021) <https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/tackling-poverty-multiple-dimensions-proving-ground-nigeria> accessed 9 July 2021. Quoted in the Gender Country Profile Nigeria, Gender Action Plan III 2021 – 2024

<sup>7</sup> [www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_604882.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_604882.pdf)

the national social register. Translating policy to action through practical implementation of social safety measures then largely misses its targets.

As political awareness of poverty and insecurity challenges increase, social protection and safety nets have become an important area of intervention for the government and for the EU to support, through the design of sustainable social protection programmes and the consolidation of a robust social protection system at the national and state level. This involves working with the relevant ministry and agencies in strengthening the system, expanding its data capabilities, ensuring the interoperability of data, capacity building, management and strengthening of the national social registers and generating knowledge and rigorous evidence to guide ongoing and future investments in social protection programmes.

The social safety net component of the programme is intended as a demonstration of what Social Protection can be, measuring the effectiveness of activities that contribute to the durable eradication of poverty.

## 2.2 Problem Analysis

The social protection system in Nigeria suffers from the following weaknesses:

**Data fragmentation:** The social registers in Nigeria remain fragmented, as they are kept and managed by various ministries agencies and development partners. This fragmentation of social registers makes it difficult to ascertain the number of households supported either by the government or development partners. A centralized database, disaggregated at least by sex, age and zones (urban/rural) will help determine the actual number of households reached, the type of intervention received and the needs/rights and gaps yet to be addressed. In general, this could inform planning and critical policy decisions as well as evidence-based advocacy and sensitisation.

**Inadequate coverage:** As of March 2022, there were 11,596,248 households comprising 47,741,200 individuals captured in the national registers in 752 out of the 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Nigeria. However, it is estimated that millions of households in the 752 LGAs have not yet been captured, alongside the Poor and Vulnerable Households (PVHHs) in 22 LGAs. The challenges induced by inadequate coverage were evidently seen during the Covid-19 pandemic when the government did not have an adequate database for the poor and vulnerable which resulted in chaotic service delivery.

**Inadequate awareness and sensitization:** Another important issue that social protection programmes face is low demand or take up from target populations, especially when the programme or a modality is new. With smartphones and social media penetration rates rapidly growing among urban poor in Nigeria, social media campaigns offer an opportunity for delivering social protection programmes.

**Poor Integration and digitalization:** The integration and digitalization of the social register is still largely rudimentary. This programme will be supporting the government at the federal and selected state levels in the mapping and expansion of data in the national social register that will enable both the government and partners working within the locality to access information and allow an efficient and effective programme delivery to the intended beneficiaries.

**People-centred intervention:** Social protection programmes do not always take into consideration the needs and rights of the target beneficiaries thereby leading to little impact and lack of ownership and sustainability. To ensure that programmes are designed based on the needs of the target audience, the programme will factor in the emerging information from broad consultations with the potential beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders. Additionally, impact evaluation activities will provide rigorous evidence of direct impacts on target beneficiaries.

**Inadequate capacity:** One of the challenges found over time in the management of the social register is the low capacity of the government to address capacity building of staff in order to ensure effective management and coordination of the social register. Thus, the action will support capacity building of government officials at state and LGA levels.

**Policy formulation and legislative frameworks:** There still exist gaps in policy and legislative framework for social protection implementation in Nigeria. Efforts will be made to support the ongoing social protection harmonisation bill in Nigeria at the National Assembly while supporting the process at state level, while supporting states to develop their own social protection policy.

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

**The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs Disaster Management and Social Development (FMHSD)** is in charge of coordinating social development and humanitarian activities in the country. The National **Social Safety-Nets Coordinating Office (NASSCO)** is under the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs office responsible for building the National Social Register and coordinating livelihood support to extremely poor and vulnerable households in Nigeria. They are the major stakeholders in this action as it will focus on the expansion, digitalization and use of the social register in reaching out to the poor and vulnerable households.

Besides NASSCO, and much as possible, the EU will collaborate with the National Cash Transfer Office (NCTO) under the FMHSD. NCTO is responsible for the coordination and disbursement of cash transfer to beneficiaries registered in the national social register across the states. Like NASSCO, they have offices at the state level that coordinates cash transfer at the state level.

**The Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning (FMFBNP)** has the responsibility of coordinating the social protection sector. In this regard, it will support the action in the design and coordination of activities, ensuring sustainability at the end of the programme by making budgetary provision for social protection.

**The Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment** handles its own social register of beneficiaries, which will be aligned and made interoperable with the National Social Register.

**The Federal Ministry of Education** will be engaged in the interoperability processes as it also implements cash transfers.

**The Federal Ministry of Health** is implementing the health insurance scheme which will be made interoperable with the National Social Register so that its beneficiaries are integrated into the social register.

INGOs, NGOs/CSOs specialised on social protection and related rights as well as including those supporting the realisation of human rights of women and persons with disabilities: The International Development Partners and civil society organisations will also play an integral role in the implementation of the action.

**The Ministry of Women Affairs** and any other entity (GO or CSO) supporting Persons with Disabilities such as the national Commission for Persons with disabilities (NCPD)<sup>8</sup>.

**State level:**

**State Ministries of budget and planning:** at the state level, each state ministry of budget and planning is in charge of handling the social protection programme across the state. They support and work closely with SOCU.

The state operations coordinating units (SOCU), in charge of management of social registry at the state level. The action will work closely with the teams at each state office to continually update and manage the social register by providing them the necessary support capacity building.

**State Ministries of Environment:** The action will work closely with the ministries in the development of social protection programmes that will ensure environmental protection, natural resources conservation and sustainable development while addressing the issue of poverty in vulnerable communities.

**State Emergency Management Agencies:** the agencies will be engaged at the state level in the design of innovative social safety nets programmes in order to raise their level of awareness and reduce the effects of disasters while addressing the issue of poverty.

**Others:**

Duty bearers such as community leaders, local CSOs, traditional organisations, end beneficiaries/rights holders.

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The overall Objective is to improve social protection in Nigeria

The Specific Objectives under this action are:

<sup>8</sup> Established by law (2018 DAPD) as supportive resources in terms of data and needs identification

**Specific Objective 1** that the National Social Register (NSR) is a shock responsive system and is used by policy makers and government at all levels as a functional national planning tool

**Specific Objective 2** that the social safety net system is used in selected States to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities, and in particular among women, girls and youth.

The expected Results (outputs) are:

**Under SO1:**

1.1: The National Social Register (NSR) is expanded to integrate more poor and vulnerable people, digitalised and institutionalised.

1.2: Staff at national and state levels have the capacity to use the NSR to its full advantage.

1.3: Policy makers have the capacity to champion the use of the NSR as a tool for policy planning

1.4: Stakeholders and the target population are better aware of what the NSR can offer

1.5: Social protection policies and legislative frameworks are developed with particular attention to vulnerable communities

**Under SO2:**

2.1: Social safety nets programmes are designed to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities

2.2 : The legal framework for access, use, storage and security of the social safety net registry is established in focal States

2.3: Local staff, local government officials, data officers and other key actors have the capacity for effective data capture and data handling for the NSR

2.4: Identified vulnerable communities have the capacity to adapt to climate-smart livelihood activities

Other relevant outputs could be added during the inception phase.

## 3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to output 1.1:

- Expansion and upgrade of targeting mechanism to improve the integration of households in the register
- Digitalisation of the National Social Register (NSR) and payment system to enhance efficiency and accountability
- Upgrade the NSR database and provide staff with up to date equipment and improved apps/tablets for the collection of data on households from the field
- Support the implementation of the draft framework on interoperability of databases by engagement with other ministries and agencies that have related databases

Activities related to output 1.2:

- Enhance capacity of staff at the national and state level

Activities related to output 1.3

- Engage with policy makers to champion the use of the social register as a tool for policy planning

Activities related to output 1.4

- Conduct advocacy activities and visits at different levels to policymakers and identified stakeholders as well as develop IEC materials for visibility and sensitisation.
- Organise national and international events that promote the core objectives of the project and share experience among states and stakeholders

Activities related to output 1.5

- Carry out research around social protection and poverty reduction programmes to support policy development and design of sustainable programmes, using gender and human right based methodology for quantitative and qualitative analysis to expand the social register.

- Provide support to States for the development and financing of social protection policies, legislative frameworks and programmes.

#### Activities related to output 2.1:

- Detailed mapping of poor and vulnerable households from the community level to the state register
- A social registry expansion plan, advocacy and of state specific poverty diary are developed and published.
- Identify problems, gaps and document emerging lessons for continuous improvement and advocate
- Support State governments to develop and publish a manual on best practices for social protection and safety net programming including poverty diary.

#### Activities related to output 2.2:

- Legal framework for access, use, storage and security of social safety net registry established at focal states.

#### Activities related to output 2.3

- Train local staff on the rationale for the social register, data gathering, data encoding into the social register and necessity of linking state and local government data.
- Capacity of staff, government officials, data officers and other key actors built to support continuous data capture to be disaggregated by sex, at the state and local government levels

#### Activities related to output 2.4

- Strengthen the capacity of identified vulnerable communities, groups and persons on climate smart livelihood activities including agriculture
- Establish community food banks to reduce the burden of hunger during the lean season
- Establish processes of financial inclusion and income generation at community level including support to new and existing informal private saving lending groups such as Village Savings Lending Associations at the community level with conditional cash transfers savings
- Strengthen the capacity of local government agriculture extension services to improve access to services by rural communities.
- Expand the scope of social protection to include activities to protect both the environment and the livelihoods of vulnerable households such as tree planting, waste recycling, flooding control and other actions that mitigate the impact of climate change

### 3.3 Mainstreaming

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

A key part of the focus of the social safety net component of this action is on livelihoods with the primary aim of sustainable use of land, encouraging climate-smart agriculture or gardening. The project will be contributing to climate adaptation through the introduction of efficient cook-stoves, planting of trees and improving food security through modernisation of agricultural practices.

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

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening concluded that key environmental and climate-related aspects need be addressed during design

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

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

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

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

#### **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 that gender equality and empowerment of women and girls are a significant objective of the action (featuring a respective indicator at this level). The action is designed to address gender equality through empower, income generation, financial inclusion and skills' development in various areas including mobile money, use of mobile phones for basic financial transactions and others. Specifically the action will adopt a gender-based and responsive approach throughout the design and implementation cycle when: 1) assisting beneficiaries and communities to assess and review specific gender needs while developing and implementing community based development plans (CDP); 2) training and capacity building activities of key stakeholders including women leaders, community leaders on issues causing poverty at community level for women and women headed households. The action aligns with the objectives of the EU *Gender Equality Strategy* (2020-2025) and the Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) III (2021-2025), especially as it relates to wealth creation and poverty eradication.

### **Human Rights**

Social protection is a human right that tends to address the issue of poverty reduction by supporting the poor and vulnerable in the communities with basic needs contributing to the realisation of their economic and social rights. This action therefore seeks to ensure that the rights of the women and men, persons with various vulnerabilities are guaranteed through engagement with the government at all levels. The action will support an inclusive and sustainable recovery to poor and vulnerable households to promote social justice and to realize the human right to social security for all. The programme will support the design and implementation of social protection systems on various aspects with a greater consideration towards realizing the human right to social security for poor and vulnerable households and communities affected by climate change

### **Disability**

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that the action will not targeting people living with disabilities exclusively, yet they will be integrated in the National register and also benefit from the programme during implementation as part of social inclusion and whenever feasible. Data on needs of persons with disabilities will provide informational basis for planning supports and services tailored for persons with different levels of functioning, which will help them to overcome barriers and to raise their possibilities for social inclusion. Where necessary specific vocational skills would be taught to persons with disabilities to improve their income generation capacity in addition to the reinforcing their participation and accessibility.

### **Reduction of inequalities**

Social protection programmes full address inequalities. Social safety nets cut across different sectors, education, health, agriculture etc. designing a sustainable social protection that targets the poorest and most vulnerable people.

### **Democracy**

NA

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

The programme will respect the do-no-harm principle while encouraging dialogue to resolve any potential or emerging issues of contention during the implementation period. The programme aims to undertake broad base dialogues with all relevant stakeholders and proffer workable solutions based on international best practices. The social safety net component aims to explore options to strengthen the resilience of the vulnerable while working on steps to foster peace between communities in climate-related conflicts based on renewable natural resources. In this case the programme foresees the need to bring the farmers and herds together as part of peace action that promotes economic well-being of all. The action will take forward the recommendations from the Conflict Analysis Screening (CAS) for Nigeria undertaken in 2021. It would strengthen the capacity of leaders at community levels and the local government to be more resilient towards conflict resolution while exploring creative strategy to overcome conflicts especially between farmers and herders in selected locations. The programme is foreseen to contribute to the outcome of the National Livestock Transformation Programme (NLTP) in the areas of conflict resolution and creation of alternative opportunities/livelihoods that mutually benefit stakeholders.

### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

While the programme is not exclusively focusing on disaster risk reduction, it will provide durable solution to some identified risk factors for environmental disaster such as flooding in selected communities. Activities such

as de-silting river beds and improvement in environmental hygiene would be promoted. The action aims to integrate activities that would promote safety principles and contribute to combating climate related disasters.

**Other considerations if relevant**

NA

### 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>
External	Political change and new administration might impact the political will of the government in power towards supporting and sustaining the existing relationship	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	Though the political heads of institutions might change as a result of the 2023 elections, we have already established a strong relationship at technical level with directors and their staff.
	Insecurity across the country and in the northern region that the project will concentrate on	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	The incessant raise in insecurity has become a concern to many stakeholders. There has been high level engagement towards addressing the insecurity; the partners will conduct a security assessment before the commencement of the project.
	High turnover of staff resulting in institutional knowledge instability	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	The action will select staff to train based on the identified capacity gap; the benefitting ministry could be requested to sign a MOU that will ensure that trained staff are not redeployed to another ministry.
Programming	Needs outweighing available resources	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	Available resources will probably not be sufficient to meet the needs. The action will collaborate with the government to scale up intervention to non-benefitting states/ communities.
	Data management	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	Safeguarding data is key when considering the issue of data protection and coordination. Efforts will be made to strengthen the existing coordination and management of data in the ministries.

### Lessons Learnt:

Lessons learnt from previous and current social protection/safety nets programmes supported by the European Union in the country will be taken into consideration.

The increase in crime across the country could be attributed to the high level of unemployment, including among graduates and secondary school leavers. Some of the unemployed youth were barred from work by lack of job opportunities or, sometimes, by lack of skills and finance to start their small businesses. This action will target the youth for its cash transfer activities as well as women and girls. Investing in women and girls has been shown to have trickle effect not only on the beneficiaries but other dependants.

Another key lessons learnt is the need to harmonize the existing and related databases with the social register to make it shock responsive and able to respond during emergencies. This became evident during the Covid-19 pandemic when the government found it difficult to reach out to poor and vulnerable households. Having accurate data and real-time tools make it easier to activate emergency response.

The challenge of designing programmes that are difficult to scale up and sustained has been another lesson learnt. To address this, the programme will be designed in conjunction with the relevant authorities in line with policy strategy of the federal and state government. This is necessary in order to ensure sustainability and ownership of the programmes at the expiration of the projects while ensuring that government continues with the gains of the programme by making budgetary allocation in the sector plans. This will also entail building strong collaborations and synergy with the relevant actors and stakeholders at the federal and state level during the phase of the programming.

### 3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that;

If the social register is expanded to better integrate poor and vulnerable households in the country; **And** the social register is digitalized and captures all the necessary variables across the sectors; **And** the variables used fully take into account the poverty dynamics across the regions of the country; **And** safety nets programmes are designed based on the needs of the targeted beneficiaries mined from the social register, **Then** poverty will be sustainably reduced in the selected areas.

### 3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

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

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

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

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

Results	Results chain: Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines In 2022	Targets In 2027	Sources of data	Assumptions
<b>Impact</b>	To improve Social Protection in Nigeria	<p>1. Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, Age, unemployed persons, (SDG 1.3.1 and GAP III Specific objective 1)</p> <p>2. Total number of households captured on the National Social Register.</p> <p>3. Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance (GERF 2.32) disaggregated by sex</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>2. 12,000,000</p> <p>3.</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>2. 18,000,000</p> <p>3.</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>2.The National social register</p> <p>3.</p>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Outcome 1</b>	The National Social Register is a shock responsive system and is used by policy makers and government at all levels as a functional national planning tool	<p>1.1 Number of times the NSR is used to respond to shocks</p> <p>1.2 % increase in budget allocation to social protection</p>	<p>1.1</p> <p>1.2 0</p>	<p>1.1</p> <p>1.2 5%</p>	<p>1.1</p> <p>1.2 Ministry of Finance and Budget Report</p>	More states using the social register for social development planning while making annual budgetary allocation for social protection in the states.
<b>Outcome 2</b>	The social safety net system is used in selected States to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities, and in	<p>2.1. % of poor people captured in the social register who benefit from the safety net programme</p> <p>2.2. % of women and girls captured in the social register</p>	2.1 TBD when focal local government and communities are selected	2.1 +20% increase of PVHs captured in the social register	2.1 M&E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette	Increase awareness and advocacy to policy makers and stakeholders on the use of the social register will

	particular among women, girls and youth	<p>who benefit from the safety net programme</p> <p>2.3. % of households vulnerable to climate change who benefit from the safety net programme</p> <p>2.4. % of households who are able to sustain themselves during the lean food season</p>	<p>2.2 TBD when focal local government and communities are selected</p> <p>2.3 TBD when focal local government and communities are selected</p> <p>2.4 TBD when focal local government and communities are selected</p>	<p>2.2 +15% increase of women and girls captured in the social register from the focal communities</p> <p>2.3 +10% increase of climate change vulnerable household beneficiaries</p> <p>2.4 At least 35% increase of targeted population lifted above poverty level</p>	<p>2.2</p> <p>M&amp;E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>M&amp;E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette</p> <p>2.4 M&amp;E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette</p>	inform policy design.
<b>Output 1 relating to Outcome 1</b>	1.1 The National Social Register is expanded to integrate more poor and vulnerable people, digitalised and institutionalised	<p>1.1.1 Increase in the number of households captured in the NSR</p> <p>1.1.2 Status of the draft framework on inter-operability</p> <p>1.1.3 % of partners using digital payment system for cash transfers in focal states</p>	<p>1.1.1 0</p> <p>1.1.2 Draft framework developed</p> <p>1.1.3 50%</p>	<p>1.1.1 20,000</p> <p>1.1.2. Full implementation of draft framework in at least 3 states</p> <p>1.1.3 100%</p>	<p>1.1.1 NASSCO database</p> <p>1.1.2 M&amp;E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette</p> <p>1.1.3 M&amp;E and Evaluation report, progress report, government gazette</p>	As a result of increase advocacy, partners will use digital payment for cash transfer programs.
<b>Output 2 relating to Outcome 1</b>	1.2 Staff at national and state levels have the	1.2.1 Number of government staff trained disaggregated by sex,	1.2.1 0	1.2.1 At least 400 staff trained	1.2.1 M&E and Evaluation report, progress	Low staff turnover after training to

	capacity to use the NSR to its full advantage	utilising the acquired knowledge, skills and tools			report, government gazette	another ministry or department
<b>Output 3 relating to Outcome 1</b>	1.3 Policy makers have the capacity to champion the use of the NSR as a tool for policy planning	1.3.1 Number of policy makers who are engaged with the NSR and see it as a useful tool in their work  1.3.2 Number of states utilizing data from the social register for planning	1.3.1  1.3.2 3 (2 states out of 36 states and FCT)	1.3.1  1.3.2 5	1.3.1  M&E and Evaluation report, progress report  1.3.2 M&E and Evaluation report, progress report	Increase awareness and advocacy to policy makers and stakeholders on the use of the social register will inform policy design.
<b>Output 4 relating to Outcome 1</b>	1.4 Stakeholders and the target population are better aware of what the NSR can offer	1.4.1 Number of key people reached by advocacy programmes  1.4.2 Number of key people receiving promotional materials	1.4.1 0  1.4.2	1.4.1 4,000  1.4.2	1.4.1 M&E and Evaluation report, progress report  1.4.2 M&E and Evaluation report, progress report	
<b>Output 5 relating to Outcome 1</b>	1.5 Social protection policies and legislative frameworks are developed with particular attention to vulnerable communities	1.5.1 Number of states supported to develop their social protection policy	1.5.1 0	1.5.1 3	1.5.1 Project progress reports	
<b>Output 1 relating to Outcome 2</b>	2.1 Social safety net programmes are designed to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities	2.1.1 Number of households from vulnerable communities whose data has been linked to the state level registry  2.1.2 Number of poverty diaries developed at state level	2.1.1 TBD when focal states are selected  2.1.2 0	2.1.1 2,000,000  2.1.2 3	2.1.1 NASSCO /SOCU report  2.1.2 NASSCO report	

<b>Output 2 relating to Outcome 2</b>	2.2 The legal framework for access, use, storage and security of the social safety net registry is established in focal States	2.2.1 Number of States developing an appropriate legal framework for the social safety net register	2.2.1	2.2.1	2.2.1 M&E and Evaluation report, progress report	
<b>Output 3 relating to Outcome 2</b>	2.3 Local staff, local government officials, data officers and other key actors have the capacity for effective data capture and data handling for the NSR	2.3.1 Number of key actors equipped with skills and knowledge to manage data capture and handling	2.3.1 TBD when focal states are selected	2.3.1 60	2.3.1 Project progress reports	Low staff turnover after training to another ministry or department  Strong advocacy to head of parastatals will lead to reduction in staff turnover and full utilization of skills.
<b>Output 4 relating to Outcome 2</b>	2.4 Identified vulnerable communities have the capacity to adopt climate-smart livelihood activities	2.4.1 % of vulnerable households trained in climate smart activities  2.4.2 Number of savings and loans associations established  2.4.3 Number of farmers supported by the agricultural extension workers	2.4.1 0%  2.4.2 0  2.4.3 0	2.4.1 85%  2.4.2 60  2.4.3 50	2.4.1  2.4.2  2.4.3	

## 4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country

### 4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is **60 months** from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

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

### 4.3 Implementation of the Budget Support Component [For Budget Support only]

N/A

### 4.4 Implementation Modalities [applicable for Project modality or for complementary support to a BS]

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures<sup>9</sup>.

#### 4.4.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

##### a) Purpose of the grants

The Direct management through grants will be contributing to objective 1 and 2 of the action. Under objective 1, the action will support the strengthening of social protection systems at state levels while under objective 2, the action will support the implementation of social safety net programmes in the selected communities and states.

##### b) Type of applicants targeted

The action is expected to be carried out by civil society organizations or local NGO's with experience

1. in implementing multi-year programmes and projects around the world (including Sub-Saharan Africa) and Nigeria,
2. in developed procedures to manage and sub-grant EU funds effectively,
3. in social protection and safety net programmes.

#### 4.4.2 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action will be implemented in indirect management with an entity which will be selected by the Commission's services with proven experience of supporting the social protection system strengthening at the national level and have implemented social safety nets programmes at the state level.

The action is expected to be carried out by entrusted entity with experience in implementing multi-year programmes and projects around the world (including Sub-Saharan Africa) and Nigeria in particular with developed procedures to manage and sub-grant EU funds effectively with vast experience in implementing social protection programmes

<sup>9</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

This implementation contributing to **Specific Objective 1** that the National Social Register (NSR) is a shock responsive system and is used by policy makers and government at all levels as a functional national planning tool.

The action will be implemented by an entrusted entity such as: Member State Agencies or United Nations Agencies (UNICEF, ILO), to be selected by the Commission’s services with:

1. strong experience in the social protection system strengthening in regards to having a robust functional database at the national and selected state levels.
2. active engagement in social protection with specific expertise in system strengthening and capacity building.

This implementation contributing to **Specific Objective 2** that the social safety net system is used in selected States to reduce the burden of poverty and hunger amongst vulnerable communities, and in particular among women, girls and youth.

The action will be implemented by an entrusted entity such as as GIZ or other Member State Agencies based on:

1. Experience designing of social safety nets,
2. Proven capacity of implementing similar programmes in the country.

#### 4.4.3 Changes from indirect to direct management (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances

If grants under direct management cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission’s control, this part of the action may be implemented in indirect management with entrusted entities already implementing the action (selection criteria cf 4.4.2)

#### 4.5. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

The Commission’s authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

#### 4.6. Indicative Budget

<b>Indicative Budget components</b>	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>	<b>Third-party contribution, in currency identified  (amount in EUR)</b>
<b>Implementation modalities –</b>		
<b>Component (Objective) 1</b>	<b>15 500 000</b>	
Indirect management with UNICEF – cf. section 4.4.2	13 000 000	

Direct management ( Grant) – cf. section 4.4.1	2 500 000	
<b>Component (Objective) 2:</b>	<b>29 500 000</b>	<b>16 830 000</b>
Indirect management with GIZ cf. section 4.4.2	19 500 000	16 830 000
Direct management with organisation – Grant cf. section 4.4.1	10 000 000	
<b>Grants</b> – total envelope c.f. section 4.4.1	12 500 000	
<b>Evaluation –Audit</b> – cf. section 5.2 and 5.3	450 000	
<b>Contingencies</b>	550 000	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>46 000 000</b>	<b>16 830 000</b>

#### 4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

A governance structure will be put in place for interventions at the state level with the establishment of project **Steering Committees**, which will include representatives from relevant government agencies, the right-holder institutions, European Union, implementing partner and other stakeholders relevant to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the action. Steering Committees will review and approve work plans and reports, review implementation and define actions to address issues identified.

Similar structure **might** also be set up at the national level with relevant agencies at the national level while working closely with the social protection Development Partners Groups. This forum will serve as a dialogue mechanism for the EU with relevant high level Nigerian Government and donor community counterparts working on social protection.

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.

#### 4.8 Pre-conditions

No pre-condition has to be met prior to implementation at federal level.

### 5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

#### 5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

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:

Baselines and targets will be established primarily based on the data collected during the first phase of the action through other surveys and needs/capacity assessments at inception phase and during the first year of implementation. Detailed annual plans and a results framework will be developed every year in consultation with PSC and PTC representatives in order to allow alignment with the respective strategies and plans of the stakeholders and allow the coordinating bodies to be in charge of the reforms agendas to track the performance. This will be managed by the implementing partners and paid for by the programme under the reporting, monitoring, evaluation and review budgetline of the programme.

The EU delegation might conduct a third party monitoring of the action apart from the expenditure verification report that will be received by the partner's auditor.

## 5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, a mid-term and final evaluation(s) may be carried out for this action or its components independent consultants contracted by the Commission

The mid-term evaluation : It will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to out to assess the level of progress achieved, gaps and need for possible review or adjustment to meet the overall goal.

For final evaluation: It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that

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

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 days in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

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

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

The evaluation will 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.

## 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 has adopted 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 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 Annual 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	Direct management with entrusted agency or UN agencies such as UNICEF, ILO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	Contribution agreement with GIZ
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	Grant through a call for proposal
	(...)	
<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	At least minimum of 3 contracts