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**ANNEX 1**

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the 2021 Annual Action Plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (Prosperity)

**Action Document for SUSTAINABLE AQUATIC AND AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (SAAFS)**

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

## 1. SYNOPSIS

### 1.1. Action Summary Table

<b>1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act</b>	SUSTAINABLE AQUATIC AND AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (SAAFS) CRIS number: 43464 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	Following the geographisation and subsidiarity principles underpinning the 2021-2027 programming, the Global Challenges programme will deploy its resources strategically to support truly <b>global action</b> , promoting EU's priorities and values.
<b>4. Programming document</b>	NDICI Global Challenges; Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027
<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results</b>	Priority Area 3: Prosperity; Resilient and Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems (SAAFS)
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	Priority Area 3: Prosperity; Resilient and Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems (SAAFS)
<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG: SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) Secondary SDGs: 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15
<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b>	31110 - Agricultural policy and administrative management 31182 - Agricultural research 31310 - Fishing policy and administrative management 52010 - Food aid/Food security programmes 12240 – Basic Nutrition 99810 - Sectors not specified
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel @</b>	European Commission budget – 42000 EU MS Public Agencies – 11004

<b>9. Targets</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input 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 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"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 @ Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>        	<input type="checkbox"/>        
Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>     	<input type="checkbox"/>     
Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2021-14.020242 Total estimated cost: EUR 87.561.470 The contribution is for an amount of EUR 87.561.470 from the general budget of the European Union for financial year 2021.			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing<sup>1</sup></b>	Direct management through: - procurement (section 4.3.1) Indirect Management with international organisation and EU Member States, with entity(ies) indicated and/or to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.2.			

## 1.2. Summary of the Action

### Main elements of the context and results chain:

Aquatic and agri-food systems sustain the livelihoods of over three billion people in developing countries, making inclusive and sustainable development of these sectors key to tackling poverty, the worst forms of child labour, access to decent work, inequality and strengthening resilience. Aquatic and agri-food systems hold the potential to be key drivers for poverty eradication, rural development, job creation, women's empowerment, economic growth and innovation, offering young people the prospect of remaining in rural areas. They are also essential to achieve the objectives of the three Rio Conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation. Shaping the direction of change of aquatic and agri-food systems is crucial to ensuring they contribute to sustainability, in terms of providing decent livelihoods, enhancing resilience to economic shocks and climate change impacts, preserving land and biodiversity, including agrobiodiversity and promoting low-carbon, circular economies, in line with the green transition. Food systems need to perform better to address food crises, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition. Hunger remains a critical concern in many developing countries, while overweight and obesity, leading to rising non-communicable diseases, are rapidly increasing all over the world, including in low- and middle-income countries. In 2019, almost 690 million people were undernourished, 60 million more than in 2014. Even before COVID-19 struck, 135 million people suffered from acute hunger and were in need of food assistance, a figure that has significantly increased since. Moreover, not one country is on course to meet the World Health Assembly (WHA) 2025 global nutrition targets. Agro-ecological approaches, based on the valorisation of nature dynamics and biodiversity and the circular economy, linking local knowledge and state-of-the-art scientific research, constitute the most viable alternatives for the future, in line with the Green Deal and its Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. And for supporting partner countries meeting their international commitments as per their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), as well as implementing their plans and strategies (such as National Adaptation Plan (NAP), National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)).

### The proposed Action comprises the following 5 components:

**Component 1: International Agriculture Research and Innovation (One CGIAR) Renewed Agenda.** Work under this component aims to enhance knowledge generation, dissemination and uptake, as well as innovative agro-ecological and sustainable food system policies (including aquatic food systems) and actions (e.g., new metrics to measure performance, innovative business models, revamped advisory and digital services, improved policy frameworks, support to innovation pathways) and sustainable practices (e.g., agronomy, animal husbandry, and aquaculture), linking production to consumption as part of a sustainable and resilient aquatic and agri-food systems' approach. Support will be in the form of a set of thematic global 'Initiatives' as part of the 2022-24 One CGIAR Research & Innovation investment plan. The proposed approach will enhance EU influence in building the One CGIAR portfolio, and facilitate partnerships with other international, European and third-country research bodies. It

<sup>1</sup> Art. 27 NDICI

will build on the close cooperation and dialogue with EU MS and other associated MS initiatives (such as the European Initiative on Agriculture Research for Development - EIARD).

**Component 2: Nutrition.** Work under this component aims to mobilise European support and expertise in policy development and capacity building for the effective and inclusive operationalisation of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 3.0 strategy<sup>2</sup>. The programme will develop and strengthen strategic partnerships with the SUN Movement, EU Member State agencies, targeted regional bodies and partner countries' structures for nutrition (e.g., SUN country coordinators) as well as other nutrition stakeholders (e.g., SUN Business and Civil Society Networks, SUN Donor Convenors). This component has two stated Specific Objectives: SO1: to support financially the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) in securing its strategic capabilities to enhance the SUN 3.0 strategy implementation, and SO2: to boost the EU contribution to an effective operationalisation of the SUN 3.0 Strategy through policy dialogue and capacity building for better nutrition outcomes.

**Component 3: Land<sup>3</sup>Governance and Inequality.** Work under this component aims to support global processes and networks to promote the adoption and application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the responsible Governance of Tenure of land (VGGTs), , on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, the principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture (RAI) and transparency and equality in land and ocean governance. Sustainable and transparent governance of tenure is essential to reduce inequalities, including gender inequalities, and build the mid- and long-term stability required for investments in the transition to greener economies and societies, in particular aquatic and agri-food systems.

**Component 4: Information and Data Exchange.** Work under this component will mainly support the Food Security Portal (FSP) to: i). continue being the key source of data for food price monitoring; ii) establish an inter-agency hub for a real-time, early warning system for food crises; iii) organise focused policy dialogues and stakeholder engagement in Sub-Saharan Africa on how to prevent food crises and follow through on the outcomes of the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit (FSS); iv) provide a platform for knowledge exchange on food trade dependence and resilience, and v) convert the FSP's COVID-19 food security hub into a Post-COVID Build Back Better hub.

**Component 5: GP4SAAFS – Global Partnership for Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems.** Following up on the UN FSS, the national pathways and the Coalitions/Initiatives for Action that were sparked by the UN FSS, work under this component aims to nourish global debate, consensus-building processes, and governance for the effective transition towards Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-food Systems (SAAFS) by: i) providing internationally agreed methodologies for evidence based aquatic and agri-food systems analysis, as well as assessments of the relevance and impact of private sector investments,; ii) drawing on the analysis component, a global platform/network will be developed by our technical partner in order to fill the gap for knowledge and learning exchange, inclusive FSS policies, as well as for institutional and investment designs that support an equitable and inclusive transition towards SAAFS (based on a human rights approach), while supporting coherence and coordination between other supported initiatives at the global level.

The proposed Action will contribute to the 3 expected results of Specific Objective 5 (Transition towards Resilient and Sustainable Agri-Food Systems) of the **Prosperity Priority** within the **Global Challenge Multiannual Indicative Programme**.

As regards alignment with EU and global political priorities, the proposed Action will build on, and expand past successful interventions, providing continuity for the EU. It will be key in terms of the external dimension of EU policy priorities (by promoting the transition to SAAFS), as well as policy coherence (in terms of land tenure and investments), in the context of major international events in 2021, such as the UN FSS and the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G), the COP15 on biodiversity and the COP26 on climate change. It follows up on the 2019 and 2020 Council Conclusions requesting the Commission to step up efforts to fight hunger and malnutrition, and to intensify its engagement at the global level. It is also coherent with the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child which requires EU development policies to promote a transformation of food systems in order to deliver nutritious, safe, affordable and sustainable diets that meet the needs and rights of children. It offers a unique opportunity for the EU to pursue a holistic implementation of the new SUN 3.0 strategy at global, regional and national levels, aiming to accelerate progress on the WHO global nutrition targets and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger). It is also aligned with the EU Green Deal, in particular its Farm-to-Fork strategy and the Council's commitment to global cooperation on SAAFs. This Action

<sup>2</sup> [SUN Strategy 3.0 \(2021-2025\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> Tenure and user rights in fisheries and aquaculture

will primarily contribute to SDG 2, and will complement actions addressing SDGs 1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15. It will contribute to positioning the EU in the international agenda of SAAFS by engaging with, and influencing, relevant multilateral networks, supporting the development of technical capacities, generating knowledge and evidence based analysis, supporting public policy decision-making processes, strengthening credible advocacy work, promoting dynamic resource mobilisation and supporting the impact analysis of private sector investment. It will also contribute to bring fisheries and aquaculture – which are often arbitrarily separated from other parts of the food and agricultural systems and not always well reflected in debates and policy-making on food systems – fully into the debate and draw attention on the contribution that effectively managed fisheries and sustainable aquaculture can make to food system transformation and sustainable development.

The action contributes to the consequent fulfilment of economic and social rights, and gender equality, in line with partner countries' international commitments. It also contributes to the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III, and to its key 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”.

## 2. RATIONALE

### 2.1. Context

#### **General context:**

The new Global Europe Instrument (NDICI) foresees a Global Challenges programme for 2021-2027 to complement and strengthen the country and regional dimensions of EU action in order to pursue and project the EU's interests and values in support of universal, global agendas and initiatives, multilateralism, and rules-based global order. Globally, aquatic and agri-food systems face sustainability challenges related to climate change, resource use, livelihoods, access to decent work and nutritional outcomes. Over the years, development models based on high levels of inputs and resource-intensive farming/aquaculture have on the one hand, contributed to increased food availability and lower food prices to feed a growing population, but on the other hand, neglected the impact of over-exploitation of resources, and environmental damage.

Whereas multiple studies have demonstrated the potential that agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture can offer for poverty reduction, inclusive growth and environmental services, and climate change mitigation, unsustainable agricultural, fisheries and aquaculture practices continue to be responsible for deforestation, biodiversity loss, fish and aquatic resource depletion and land and soil degradation. It is estimated that current food production and consumption patterns account for close to 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions, use 70% of global freshwater resources, and are responsible for a large share of air pollution. Climate change has intensified the frequency and intensity of natural disasters, which have consequences on crops, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture, and forestry, as well as adverse human, social, economic and environmental impacts. Small-scale farmers/fishers, who produce more than 80% of the world's food in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, are disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change and variability.

At the same time, although enough food is produced to feed the world's population, hunger and malnutrition are on the rise, up from about 630 million undernourished people in 2014, to almost 690 million in 2019. The prevalence of hunger and malnutrition is generally higher in conflict-affected, chronically poor, and indigenous communities, with women and children being the most exposed to food insecurity and malnutrition, suffering long-lasting consequences and affecting their development potential. Although the majority of the world's undernourished are found in Asia, Africa is the region of the world with the fastest growing number of undernourished people. Adding to these challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic is thought to have already pushed 32% more people into hunger, with numbers continuing to rise due to the pandemic and its impact on jobs, incomes and living conditions. According to the most recent data from the UN<sup>4</sup>, an additional 320 million people did not have regular access to food, as many as the increases for the previous five years combined. According to the UN report, 2020 saw the biggest rise in under-nourishment in two decades and the economic turmoil that caused sharp rises in food prices has left 2.4 billion people without adequate food. The pandemic further highlighted the inextricable links between healthy people, healthy societies and a healthy planet, and the importance of a global, robust and resilient food system. Inequalities at global level keep rising (two thirds of the world population live in countries where inequalities have increased)<sup>5</sup> and this has also been exacerbated by the Covid19 crisis. Poor people, smallholder farmers and indigenous people are the most

<sup>4</sup> Published in the Economist of 17 July 2021

<sup>5</sup> World Social Report 2020, UN-DESA

vulnerable to adversity. For food systems, this translates into unequal access to natural resources, in particular to land: land inequality is worsening, as evidenced by a recent global report.<sup>6</sup>

Reversing these trends and achieving SDG 2 will require the allocation of additional and well-targeted resources, otherwise food crises will become even more frequent, protracted and severe. As noted by the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC), the immediate drivers of food crises include conflicts, weather extremes and economic shocks (key primary drivers). Food crises are the acute manifestation of the structural dysfunctions of current aquatic and agri-food systems, compounded by low public spending, market failures, and deficiencies in the governance mechanisms of aquatic and agri-food systems at global, regional and national levels. Improving global food and nutrition security is key to achieving a more stable and equitable world, and more inclusive and sustainable growth. Inequalities in income, gender, social status and age, as well as geographic location, exacerbate the vulnerabilities to food and nutrition insecurity of specific populations, even more so in times of global shocks such as the enduring COVID-19 pandemic. The centrality of nutrition to both individual and collective resilience has never been clearer. Improving global food and nutrition security thus remains key for achieving a more stable and equitable world. The challenges described above are multidimensional and interrelated, and therefore require the adoption of a system-based approach that takes into account the interrelations between the different elements across the food system, rather than focusing only on one or a limited subset of food system components in isolation.

With voluntary and transformative approaches in the way we produce, process, distribute and consume food, it is possible to break the cycle of hunger and prevent the repetition of food crises. But this requires a holistic approach, promoting systemic changes that concurrently address the main drivers of risks, including in fragile countries affected by protracted crises. This Action will support global efforts to promote the transition to inclusive, climate-neutral, resilient, and sustainable aquatic and agri-food systems, with a particular focus on sustainable agriculture, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, nutrition and food security. It is structured around five inter-related and complementary components as outlined below.

### **Specific context of the proposed five components:**

#### Component 1 – Research and Innovation

Along with other donors, the European Commission (DG INTPA) supports the One CGIAR's (network of agricultural research centres for development) vision of "A world with sustainable and resilient food, land, and water systems that deliver diverse, healthy, safe, sufficient, and affordable diets, and ensure improved livelihoods and greater social equality, within planetary and regional environmental boundaries" and its stated mission: "to deliver science and innovation that advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis". The One CGIAR research programmes and infrastructure target five impact areas: nutrition, health and food security; poverty reduction, livelihoods and jobs; gender equality, youth and inclusion; climate adaptation and mitigation, and environmental health and biodiversity. It organises its work along three Action Areas in which accelerated innovation is required to create sustainable and resilient food, land, and water systems and to meet SDG targets. The three Action Areas are:

- Systems Transformation
- Resilient Aquatic and Agrifood Systems
- Genetic Innovation

Each Action Area is composed of "initiatives", and it is key to support some of these in line with the EU policy to address food system challenges. By participating in the One CGIAR governance bodies and working groups, INTPA will ensure EU involvement in the design and steering of the organisation's research and innovation agenda as well as supporting programmes which are consistent with European Green Deal and its strategies (in particular Farm to Fork, Biodiversity).

#### Component 2 - Nutrition

The proposed EU support aims to secure greater coherence between the EU and its Member States and to ensure that nutrition remains at the core of the EU's development cooperation agenda. Building on the European Consensus for Development, the EU Action Plan on Nutrition, the EU Farm-to-Fork strategy, the EU Gender Action Plan and the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child, this component aims to ensure the effective operationalisation of the new SUN 3.0 strategy. It will also mobilise European and partner countries' expertise in policy development and capacity building in nutrition and thereby steer, together with the key partners of the SUN Movement, the holistic implementation of the SUN strategy<sup>7</sup>. To be noted that the Commission Staff Working Document Action Plan on Nutrition 2014-2025 (SWD (2014) 234 final) foresees explicitly the Commission's participation in the SUN Movement contributing to broader international efforts on nutrition, in cooperation with both partner countries and

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.landcoalition.org/en/uneven-ground/>

<sup>7</sup> SUN Strategy 3.0 (2021-2025)

other donors in pursuance of SUN Movement objectives and in the tracking of financial contributions and monitoring of results.

### Component 3 – Land Governance and inequality

Over the last decade, land governance has been the subject of an ever-increasing interest at international level as regards large-scale land acquisitions in third countries – be it by individuals, the private sector or by foreign governments –. At the same time, the degradation of land resources, the often unstable legal environment for land tenure, and the increasing competition between uses, between food production and feed, fibre and fuel production are putting land and ocean under heavy pressure. Land inequality is growing despite international initiatives to promote sustainable land governance (such as the VGGTs). Sustainable, equitable and transparent land and ocean governance is a prerequisite for investing in climate adaptation, sustainable food systems, natural resources management but also for social welfare and economic development. In line with the increasing focus on Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems (SAAFS), improved land and ocean governance is a key contributing factor to all three sustainability dimensions – economic, social and environmental.

### Component 4 - Information and Data Exchange

Timely information about food price trends and the (potential) impact of market volatility, extreme weather shocks and other food system challenges is a key element in the transition from frequent, protracted and severe food crises to more inclusive, climate-neutral, resilient, and sustainable aquatic and agri-food systems at global, regional and national levels. The Food Security Portal (FSP), managed by IFPRI (the International Food Policy Research Institute), was established in the aftermath of the global food price crisis of 2007-8 with the objective to “support food security monitoring and analysis for appropriate policy responses” and has worked to help reduce informational gaps and serve as a platform for dialogue and exchange. The FSP provides up-to-date data and information about dynamic developments in the world food system and increases policymakers’ ability to respond quickly and adequately to emerging food crises.

### Component 5 - Global Partnership for Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems

The 2021 United Food Systems Summit underscored the centrality of food systems to economic and social life throughout the world. Addressing the challenges and opportunities in our food systems is an increasing priority with national governments but also at provincial and national levels.

A systemic approach to food systems is acknowledged as a way to:

- Renew the perspective of food security analysis in a context of global changes
- Embrace the multi-dimensionality of food systems
- Embrace all the food chains that make up food systems, the actors involved and activities they undertake, as well as the functions they perform to ensure the flow of food to consumers.
- Consider the “macro” and “direct” environments within which food systems’ actors and functions operate, and which shape their activities and the resulting outcomes.
- Analyse the complex relationships between the diverse components of food systems, their effects on food security and social, environmental and economic sustainability.
- Broaden policymakers’ and stakeholders’ sectoral viewpoints of the full scope of food systems and
- Identify trade-offs between conflicting outcomes and activities, as well as opportunities to create synergies and good strategies.

The on-going rapid food assessments (50+ countries in total) will provide a better understanding of these complex inter-relations and challenges as well as potential entry points. It is therefore crucial as first step that, with the global level support, methodologies and analytical frameworks are designed, tested at the relevant level, benefitting from the EU research centres network long-standing expertise, and agreed as a common/public good, to build on the evidence and specific challenges for adapted policies and investments in line with the sustainability objectives. This support for adequate policies, institutional and investment support, as well as the follow-up on the recommendations and conclusion of the UNFSS 2021 will be provided through a partnership with FAO, possibly taking into account the work of the Coalitions/Initiatives for Action sparked by the UNFSS. In addition, through its External Investment Plan (EIP) and other blending instruments, the EU aims at leveraging private investment in aquatic and agri-food systems, for growth and job creation by de-risking the investment operations of recipient financial institutions. The EC is already part of several agri-food investment operations. In this context, INTPA will have to assess the potential benefits of co-financed investments to make sure that the use of public funds is not only justified as a way to encourage private investments in risky contexts, but also to ensure the economic, social and environmental sustainability of those investments. The proposed partnership with FAO – notably its Investment Centre – will provide the necessary decision support and technical assistance, to enhance the sustainability of investment operations across instruments and programmes.



## 2.2. Problem Analysis

### **Summary of problem analysis per component:**

#### Component 1 (Research and Innovation)

Timely and targeted research is key to allow concerned global and national actors to effectively address the various challenges outlined above (climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty and inequalities, food and nutrition insecurity, etc.), and to support the required food systems transformation by producing relevant scientific knowledge, contributing to new and adapted technologies or practices, and supporting more appropriate public policy responses, that are based on scientific evidence. The proposed support is necessary in order to enhance EU influence development of the One CGIAR research portfolio, as well as facilitating partnerships with other international, European and third-country research bodies. The resulting knowledge generation will feed into the development of innovative policies, technologies and practices linking production to consumption as part of a sustainable and resilient aquatic and agri-food systems approach, with emphasis on agroecologically-based approaches. It will build on close cooperation and dialogue with EU MS and other associated MS entities (such as the European Initiative on Agriculture Research for Development - EIARD).

#### Component 2 (Nutrition)

The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to roll back many years of progress as strategies to reduce virus transmission are disrupting food and health systems and overloading social protection systems, with severe socio-economic impacts. The centrality of nutrition to both individual and collective resilience has never been clearer. Improving global food and nutrition security thus remains key for achieving a more stable and equitable world. The urgency for renewed international partnerships to build back better is greater than ever. This component foresees a stepping up of the EU's engagement in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in coordination with the EU Members States. The EU and the SUN Movement share the vision of a world free from hunger and malnutrition in all its forms. To achieve this, the new SUN 3.0 strategy (2021-2025) prioritises country leadership and focuses on supporting systemic change at country level.

#### Component 3 (Land Governance and inequality)

Land access and land tenure systems –as well as oceans- are coming increasingly under pressure as the world's growing population requires increasing quantities of food to assure its food security, and as environmental degradation and the effects of climate change reduce the availability of land for production purposes and impact the productivity and health of the oceans. Inadequate and insecure tenure rights increase vulnerability, hunger and poverty, and are frequently a source of conflict and environmental degradation, when competing users fight for control of these key resources. Land and oceans are a common good, providing water, food, and natural resources that sustain all life. They are the guarantor of biodiversity, health, resilience, and equitable and sustainable livelihoods. Governance of tenure is not only about secure access ; it plays a role in contributing to many of the objectives of the new EU Consensus for Development, such as resilience building, food security, sustainable agricultural development, and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. It also helps to address the root causes of forced migration,, thereby also addressing labour rights violations, and is important for the mobilisation of private investment for development. In line with the increasing focus on Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems (SAAFS), improved land governance is a key contributing factor to all three sustainability dimensions – economic, social and environmental. Global land governance can only be achieved through continued advocacy and dialogue with the main stakeholders but also in international fora, based on up-to-date information and transparency. Such sources of information are also essential for vulnerable groups to defend their land access and tenure rights and enhance accountability from public and private actors.

#### Component 4 Information and Data Exchange

One important lesson from the global food price crisis of 2007-2008 was that many countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, lacked timely information about food price trends and the (potential) impact of market volatility, weather shocks and other food system challenges on their country's food security and nutrition situation. The same challenges also highlighted the need for cross-country learning and dialogue to share knowledge about how to mitigate the impact of these shocks and invest in greater resilience. Both these functions remain no less relevant today. In a more complex world, food crisis risks have heightened, and, consequently, hunger has been on the rise again in recent years, driven largely by compounding factors of conflict, weather shocks, economic collapse and the COVID-19 pandemic. These setbacks come on top of the challenges of climate change, the increasing double burden of malnutrition, and the high cost of nutritious food. The 2021 UN Food System Summit will bring together world leaders in response to a call for action for transforming current food systems to address these challenges and transition to more sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems that provide affordable and healthy diets for all. To raise



awareness and guide decision-making and priority setting to accomplish this agenda, the demands for better and timely data and the space for continuous dialogue will only increase, underlining the relevance and importance of platforms like the Food Security Portal.

#### Component 5 Global Partnerships

The challenge for food systems is to not only produce food and have a direct impact on food and nutrition security, but also to contribute to sustainable decent employment and livelihoods and to building a sustainable planet. In every country, region, district, city, town or village, food system actors face locally specific challenges, with varied sector impacts. Finding pragmatic solutions to specific problems in the food system at these levels not only requires a good understanding of the linkages between system components but also governance structures capable of addressing trade-offs between system outcomes and sustainability dimensions. It is in this context that the European Commission has advocated for EU Delegations across the world to initiate food systems assessments as input into their future programming processes. In support of this strategic decision, the European Commission, the FAO and the European research centres consortium will i) provide internationally agreed methodologies for evidence based aquatic and agri-food systems analysis, including assessment of the relevance and impact of private sector investments.; ii) drawing on the analysis component, a global platform/network will be developed by our technical partner in order to fill the gap for knowledge and learning exchange, inclusive of FSS policies, as well as for institutional and investment designs that support an equitable and inclusive transition towards SAAFS (based on a human rights, including labour rights approach). Under this component complementarity and coordination will be pursued with other supported initiatives at the global level while ensuring the follow-up to the UNFSS 2021.

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

Component 1 (Research and innovation): CGIAR is a global partnership that unites organizations engaged in research and innovation targeting: nutrition, health and food security; poverty reduction, livelihoods and jobs; gender equality, youth and inclusion; climate adaptation and mitigation and environmental health and biodiversity. It has built its strength upon 15 international research centres that collaborate with partners from national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia, development organizations, and the private sector. The research centres are located across the globe, with most in the Global South. One CGIAR intervenes in more than 100 countries and includes around 10.000 staff with a budget around \$800 million per year. With the One-CGIAR reform the governance structure has evolved into an integrated operational structure with a common board and research and innovation strategy by 2030, to ensure impact and continued relevance of the CGIAR System in a rapidly changing landscape of agricultural research for development. One-CGIAR develops cooperation with national research organizations in the Global South and Advanced Research organizations including European organizations.

Component 2 (Nutrition): the programme will develop and strengthen strategic partnerships with the SUN Movement, EU Member State agencies, targeted regional bodies, partner countries' government structures for nutrition (e.g., SUN country coordinators), and other regional and national nutrition stakeholders and initiatives on nutrition (e.g., SUN Business and Civil Society Networks, SUN Donor Networks).

Component 3 (Land Governance and inequality): Land governance at global level is a highly specific area of work and several dedicated organisations have become central, if not unique in this context. This is the case for example of the International Land Coalition (ILC), which is formed by over 200 organisations worldwide. As land tenure is often a sensitive issue in terms of national policies, international investments and human rights, the possibility to work on these topics with a neutral approach is of high importance. Organisations such as the ILC, FAO and IFAD are therefore natural partners for EU support to global land governance. Several other organisations (often CSOs) and systems also play a unique role in collecting and disseminating information related to land governance (Land Portal, Prindex, Land Matrix...).

Component 4 (Information and Data Exchange): The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) is one of the CGIAR research centres. It was founded in the early 1970s to improve the understanding of national agricultural and food policies to promote the adoption of innovations in agricultural technology. IFPRI's stated mission is to provide research-based policy solutions that sustainably reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition. IFPRI carries out food policy research and disseminates it through hundreds of publications, bulletins, conferences, and other initiatives. It targets its policy and research products to many audiences, including developing-country policymakers, NGOs and civil-society organizations, "opinion leaders", donors, advisers, and media. Publications by IFPRI include books, research reports, newsletters, briefs, and fact sheets including the Global Food Policy Report and the Global Hunger Index.

#### Component 5 Global Partnerships:

Global Partnerships: FAO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger, achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. The organization maintains a presence globally with regional and sub-regional offices, as well as representations in almost every country. Each regional and sub-regional office maintains expertise in a variety of agricultural fields, complementing the expertise available at headquarters. FAO's regional offices equally have a large number of experts working on food systems issues in every continent. FAO HQ has a number of teams involved in the various sustainability dimensions of aquatic and agri-food food systems that can be mobilized depending on the policy and investment issues under consideration. In addition, FAO has experience in agricultural, fisheries and aquaculture investment support and a strong expertise in all facets of investment formulation, including value chain analysis – used for investment decision-making processes and/or for the identification of entry points for policy discussions. Mobilization of leading European research and education institutions involved in agricultural and aquatic food research and higher education for development is also envisioned to complement the implementation of this component, building on experiences in fields such as value chain analyses across a range of agricultural, fisheries and aquaculture commodities and countries from an economic, social and environmental perspective, and methodological framework and toolkit for food systems assessments.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this Action is to contribute to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems

The Specific Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this Action are:

SO1: More inclusive, sustainable and agroecological practices, in the fields of agronomy, animal husbandry, and aquaculture

SO2: Increased and improved nutrition interventions

SO3: Improved global land governance <sup>8</sup>

SO4: Increased resilience to food crises

SO5: Increased quality of investments in sustainable agri-food systems

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

#### **OP related to SO1 (More inclusive, sustainable and agroecological practices in the fields of agronomy, animal husbandry, and aquaculture)**

OP1.1 New technologies and innovations supportive of agroecological practices and approaches.

OP1.2 Articles, reports and communication material to disseminate research findings.

OP1.3 Articles, policy briefs and reports to inform policy dialogue.

OP1.4 Dialogues with partner governments and other partners (farmers' organisations, civil society, private sector).

OP1.5 Increased capacities at individual and organizational level (through training, communication, joint activities).

OP1.6 Increased awareness of new policies, technologies and innovations.

OP1.7 Multi-actor platforms set up at local, national or global level

#### **OP related to SO2 (Increased and improved nutrition interventions)**

OP2.1 Increased capacity of the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) to operationalise the SUN 3.0 Strategy

OP2.2 Increased awareness of policymakers and other key actors of the need for a multi-sectoral approach to achieve improved nutrition outcomes.

OP2.3 Partner countries' lessons-learned disseminated among countries and relevant actors of the SUN Movement.

OP2.4 Political dialogues on nutrition set up with regional bodies and country governments.

OP2.5 Strengthened links between the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) and SUN's MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning) programme.

OP2.6 Strengthened capacities and networking among SUN stakeholders working in networks.

**OP related to SO3 (improved land governance)**

- OP3.1 Strengthened global processes and initiatives supporting the implementation of the VGGTs.
- OP3.2 Capacities to collect, analyse and report on sex-disaggregated gender-sensitive information on global land governance are strengthened.
- OP3.3 Easily available land governance data and information.
- OP3.4 Best practices and solutions for equitable non-discriminative land governance identified targeting gender-specific barriers.
- OP3.5 Increased awareness of the need for Responsible Investment in Agriculture (RAI).

**OP related to SO4 (increased resilience to food crises)**

- OP4.1 Regular updated, gender-sensitive country profiles, briefs and alerts on food crises risks.
- OP4.2 An inter-agency hub serving as a real-time gender-responsive, early warning system for food crises.
- OP4.3 Platform for knowledge exchange on food trade dependence and resilience.
- OP4.4 Food Security Portal's COVID-19 food security hub converted into an upgraded hub incorporating the consequences of the COVID pandemic.
- OP4.5 Increased awareness of key stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa on how to prevent food crises and how to follow through on outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit.

**OP related to SO5 (Increased quality of investments in agri-food systems)**

- OP5.1 Food system assessments according to agreed methodologies.
- OP5.2 Increased capacities and policies or sustainable and inclusive SAAFS transformation.
- OP5.3 Strategic partnerships (between national governments, financing institutions (IFIs), private sector, civil society organizations and producer organizations, including with women's organisations and organisations representing rights of groups living in vulnerable situations), to ensure follow-up of the conclusions/recommendations of UN FSS 2021.
- OP5.4 Increased capacity of INTPA (including EU Delegations) to make informed decisions regarding specific investments of gender-sensitive agricultural value chains.
- OP5.5 Improved analytical tools (e.g., FSA, VCA4D and EX-ACT).
- OP5.6 Workshops/events for the validation/dissemination of FSA, VCAs with international and local stakeholders, in particular from the private sector.
- OP5.7 Stakeholder dialogues to identify strategic programme development, investment opportunities, investment support and/or policy support needs, in relation to FSA and VCAs prepared with EU funding.
- OP5.8 Global platform/network for knowledge and learning exchange, inclusive of FSS policies, follow-up of the recommendations/conclusions of the 2021 UN FSS.

The Advisory Services for Resilient Agri-Food Systems – ASRAFS – Facility will facilitate delivery of these outputs through the provision of support to EU Delegations and Commission services as well as beneficiary countries to design and deliver evidence-based, high quality, value for money programmes, and to engage in effective policy and political dialogue. The key results to be achieved by this Facility are:

Result 1: Capacities of Governments, EU Delegations, Headquarters as well as other actors involved in the wider SAAFS sector are improved with regard to policy debate and design as well as to programme/ project identification and formulation.

Result 2: SAAFS-related knowledge based on evidence, objectively verifiable indicators and best practices, is strengthened and disseminated, and contributes to decision-making processes and lessons learning.

**3.2. Indicative Activities**

There will be a particular focus on supporting women's participation in activities, policy dialogue and influence on decision-making processes in actions and policies at all levels.

**Activities related to SO1:**

- OP1.1 Trials, surveys, modelling, foresight to develop technologies and innovations supportive of agroecological practices and approaches
- OP1.2 Drafting of documents (articles, reports) and communication material to disseminate research findings
- OP1.3 Drafting of documents (articles, policy briefs, reports) to inform policy dialogue
- OP1.4 Dialogues with partner governments and other partners (farmers' organisations, civil society, private sector)
- OP1.5 Capacity development at individual and organizational level through training, communication, joined activities
- OP1.6 Awareness raising on new policies, technologies and innovations
- OP1.7 Setting up of multi-actor platforms at local, national or global level

**Activities related to SO2:**

- OP2.1 Capacity development of the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) to operationalise the SUN 3.0 strategy
- OP2.1 Operationalisation of the SUN 3.0 Strategy through policy dialogue and capacity building for better nutrition outcomes.
- OP2.2 Advocacy to focus attention of policymakers and actors on a multi-sectoral approach towards improved nutrition outcomes.
- OP2.3 Support analysis, consolidation and dissemination of partner countries' lessons-learned among countries and relevant actors of the Movement.
- OP2.4 Facilitate the political dialogue on nutrition with regional bodies and country governments, building on existing agreements, such as CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.
- OP2.5 Strengthen the links between the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) and SUN's MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning) programme.
- OP2.6 Strengthen capacities among SUN stakeholders working in networks (e.g., Country Coordinators, SUN Donor Networks including EU SUN Donor Convenors, SUN Business and Civil Society Networks) through technical assistance and grants.
- OP2.6 Strengthen networking and peer-to-peer learning among SUN stakeholders through technical assistance and grants.

**Activities related to SO3:**

- OP3.1 Strengthen global processes and initiatives supporting the implementation of the VGGTs
- OP3.2 Develop capacities to collect, analyse and report on sex-disaggregated gender-sensitive, information on global land governance
- OP3.3 Enhance the availability of and accessibility to land governance data and information
- OP3.4 Identify and disseminate gender-responsive best practices and solutions for equitable non-discriminative land governance that target gender-specific barriers
- OP3.5 Raise awareness of RAI

**Activities related to SO4:**

- OP4.1 Food price monitoring and regular updating of gender-sensitive country profiles, briefs and alerts on food crises risks.
- OP4.2 Set up the inter-agency hub serving as a real-time, gender-responsive, early warning system for food crises
- OP4.3 Set up the platform for knowledge exchange on food trade dependence and resilience
- OP4.4 Convert FSP's COVID-19 food security hub into a Post-COVID Build Back Better hub.
- OP4.5 Awareness raising activities and national policy dialogues with policy makers and stakeholders, including farmers and private business representatives.

**Activities related to SO5:**

- OP5.1. Carry out food system assessments and stakeholder consultations on demand, based on the revised approach and methodology prepared under the previous phase.
- OP5.2 Missions or virtual support to interact with Governments, food system stakeholders (incl. including with women's organisations and organisations representing rights of groups living in vulnerable situations, and food system workers associations) and EU Delegations e.g., to carry analysis of policy options, formulate food system policies, programmes and investments, prepare or amend investment plans that incorporate a food systems' dimension.
- OP5.3 Facilitate or negotiate public and private sector financing partnerships and conduct of analyses or negotiations to modify the policy or regulatory environment.
- OP5.4 Review of the documentation related to investment proposals at different stages of the approval process, and provision of advice (upon demand)
- OP5.4 Provision of advice as ways to mitigate identified risks related to the sustainability of the proposed investments, e.g., through packages of technical assistance
- OP5.5 Contribution of FAO to fully-fledged VCAs using the VCA4D methodology, including desk work and field missions
- OP5.5 Methodological exchanges to improve existing analytical tools (e.g., VCA4D and EX-ACT)
- OP5.6 Facilitation of rounds of validation/dissemination on the results of VCAs with international and local stakeholders, in particular from the private sector through dedicated workshops/events (upon demand)
- OP5.7 Facilitation of stakeholder dialogue to identify strategic programme development, investment opportunities, investment support and/or policy support needs, in relation to gender-sensitive VCAs prepared with EU funding.
- OP5.8 Development of a global platform for knowledge and learning exchange, inclusive of FSS policies.

OP5.9 Policy analysis, data management, writing of guidance notes and policy recommendations to the Commission's services  
OP5.10 Studies and trainings, seminars / webinars, meetings and production of related publications  
OP5.11 Support to programme identification, formulation and evaluation

### 3.3. Mainstreaming

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

Agriculture and food security are considered as environmentally sensitive, therefore justifying a screening of the proposed actions to identify potential impacts on climate and environment.

Given the strategic character of the proposed actions, the screening is to be carried out for an SEA - EIAs and CRAs are not relevant.

#### **Outcomes of the SEA screening**

In line with the mainstreaming guidelines and the five questions for SEA screening, the carrying out of a detailed SEA is not justified. The proposed intervention integrates environmental concerns in its design and seeks to bring a meaningful contribution to improve the state of the environment. The programme objectives do not directly and significantly depend on the availability of scarce natural resources for their achievement – on the contrary, the programme seeks to improve – even if indirectly - the sustainable management of - and access to natural resources in the SAAFS area. The implementation of the sector programme will likely not result in large-scale land use change but will contribute to better land use and management at global level. No significant cumulative environmental impacts are expected from the programme. And finally, the implementation of the sector programme/strategy will not promote large-scale use of environmentally damaging substances – on the contrary, by promoting sustainable agriculture schemes, notably through agroecology or improved land governance, it will actually seek to reduce or abandon the use of such substances.

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

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this Action is labelled as G1 which implies that gender equality is a significant objective. Each of the interventions covered under this Action aim to address gender inequality in one form or another e.g., in the case of Component 1, gender equality is identified as one of the five targeted impact areas. In the case of Component 2, the groups most vulnerable to malnutrition are women of reproductive age, adolescent girls and children under-five years of age. Women are not only more prone to undernutrition due to their inferior social status in many households and societies but are also responsible for caring for children and the elderly, as well as playing key roles in food production, processing and marketing and food preparation for the household. A priority for this intervention will be to encourage corrective policies and programmes to be put in place to address inequalities in nutrition and determinants of nutrition, including those between men and women. Under Component 3, women's access to land is a priority area of work.

#### **Human Rights**

In line with the EU consensus on development “our world, our dignity, our future” and the 2030 Agenda, the EU uses a rights-based approach as a working methodology. A rights-based approach underpins all of the interventions covered by this AD, through the promotion of ownership, transparency and accountability, and inclusive partnerships. The prioritisation of improved governance on the one hand (the duty bearers) and the rights of women, children, and other vulnerable groups on the other (the rights holders), is a core feature of the different components.

#### **Disability**

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0 as it doesn't directly target persons with disabilities. Nevertheless, some of the interventions under this action document will target all citizens and thus will have consequences that impact positively on the conditions of disabled people.

#### **Democracy**

The initiative will contribute to better governance in various sectors linked to SAAFs through the provision of knowledge and expertise to guide evidenced- based policy making and enhanced policy dialogues with partner governments. Under Component 5, analyses of policy options will be carried out with a view to formulating food system policies, programmes and investments and a global platform for knowledge and learning exchange inclusive of FSS policies will be created. Improved land governance is specifically targeted under Component 3.

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

Though not specifically addressed by this Action, as noted above, inadequate and insecure land tenure rights are frequently a source of conflict (and environmental degradation), when competing users fight for control of these key

resources. Through its focus on improved land governance, it is expected that Component 3 will contribute to a reduction in these forms of conflict over the longer term.

#### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

Work carried out under Component 1 aims to contribute to a reduction in environmental disasters through its focus on sustainable and resilient food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis, and more specifically through CGIAR's designation of climate adaptation and mitigation, and environmental health as two of its five targeted impact areas. Component 4 will reduce the impact of food crises through the creation of an inter-agency hub serving as a real-time early warning system for food crises and the increased awareness of key stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa on how to prevent food crises.

#### **Other considerations if relevant**

In line with the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and given that child labour is massively present in agriculture, 71% of child labourers, equivalent to 112 million children, are in child labour in agriculture and related sectors including fishery and livestock with high risks of hazardous work defined as the worst forms of child labour by the ILO Convention 182, due consideration is given to the issue of child labour.

Given the multi-dimensional nature of SAAFS, they hold the potential to be key drivers for several cross-cutting issues such as women's empowerment, and economic opportunities for young people. They are also essential to achieve the objectives of the three Rio Conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification/land degradation. Shaping the direction of change of agri-food systems is crucial to ensuring they contribute to sustainability, in terms of providing decent livelihoods, enhancing resilience to economic shocks and climate change impacts, preserving land and biodiversity, including agrobiodiversity and promoting low-carbon, circular economies, in line with the green transition.

### 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>
Operational	Too much of a time lag between the development of technologies/ innovations and their scaling up	Medium	High	Encouraging engagement by final users early in the process to facilitate relevance and timely uptake
Operational	Lack of progress with regard to the implementation of the ONE CGIAR reform	Medium	High	Mobilisation of the different donors e.g. EIARD, UN FSS, etc.)
Operational	Duplication of efforts under SUN's Strategic Objective 2 (e.g. on Capacity Development or Technical Assistance) with other actors	Medium	High	Share information about the EU support to ensure awareness of other stakeholders Coordination with relevant stakeholders Actively looking for complementarities and synergies when designing the action
Operational	Dependency on Technical Assistance hinders ownership and sustainability at national level	Medium	High	Government-led assessment of capacity gaps as a preliminary step to a request for Technical Assistance Ensure Technical Assistance is demand-driven to encourage ownership
Natural	The prolonged impact of COVID 19 on food security and nutrition levels	High	High	Collaborate with other key stakeholders (WHO, COVAX) to minimise the negative impact of COVID 19

Natural	Increased global vulnerabilities to natural risks translate into major global and/or country-level challenges	High	High	Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to mitigate their negative impact Ensure a nexus approach to nutrition Support the development of disaster risks management schemes and vulnerabilities mapping
Political	The political will to increase land tenure security is not there  Groups living in vulnerable situations are left behind and their rights are violated; for ex. indigenous peoples right to their land and traditional livelihood violated	High  Medium	High  Medium	Increase lobbying efforts to persuade partner governments of the environmental, economic and social benefits of increased land tenure security.  Ensure that affected groups/communities are involved in policy dialogue, planning and technical consultations, and compensation policy is integrated. Conduct human rights and gender analysis.
Political	Lack of alignment of R&D agenda with country needs and lack of political commitment to scaling up	Medium	High	Strengthening of national and regional dialogues.
Political	Commitment and priority given to nutrition is reduced in national agendas of SUN countries	High	High	While continuing to promote nutrition as a standalone agenda, simultaneously advocate for its integration into other key national agendas such as gender equality and women's empowerment, climate & ecological crises, COVID-19 pandemic, growth, employment and security.
Conflict	Increasing numbers of conflicts leading to increasing number of food crises	Medium	High	Preventative measures based on conflict and human rights analysis to minimise potential impact of conflict on food supply chains, with a focus on the situation of women and groups living in vulnerable situations.
Conflict	Conflict-affected countries continue to benefit less than others from the momentum of the SUN movement.	Medium	High	Ensure fragile and conflict-affected states are included in the target countries/ regions of SO2. Develop more effective and innovative ways to engage with conflict-affected countries
Economic	Lack of willingness of IFIs to invest in agri-food sector	Medium	High	Ensure high quality of investment proposals
Economic	External shocks (e.g., COVID-19 pandemic) reduce sustainability of funding at all levels of the SUN movement (e.g., SMS, country-level, donor)	High	High	Support partner countries to generate their own financing strategies  Advocate for nutrition as a human development priority



Economic	Risk of corruption	High	High	Carry out assessments of the risk of corruption (or draw on existing ones) to inform appropriate mitigation strategies.
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### Lessons Learnt:

One Lesson Learnt (LL) relates to the case of CGIAR which the EU has supported since its founding. Unlike more traditional projects, those supporting research need to be realistic in terms of timelines and take account of the fact that even the simplest of technologies, such as the introduction of a new seed variety, from conception through to farmer uptake can take between 15 and 30 years. The need for more extensive timeframes for research initiatives therefore needs to be addressed.

Another LL relates to the importance of joint programming e.g., in Laos and Ethiopia. Joint programming helps reduce aid fragmentation, and, in turn, improve alignment with national development plans.

In the case of nutrition, the following lessons learnt were identified in the SUN Mid-term Review and Strategic Review:

- SUN's contribution to raising the visibility of undernutrition
- The call to address key underlying and structural drivers of malnutrition through tailored approaches (including healthy diets as it is key to good nutrition but also because it receives international attention through the UN Food System Summit)
- The need for greater customisation to country specificities and less standardisation
- Country-led and country-driven approaches including greater ownership across the government
- Working across sectors to tackle a broad spectrum of malnutrition determinants including structural inequalities and addressing all forms of malnutrition in a sustainable manner via an integrated approach.

## 3.5. The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this Action is based on two fundamental principles. Firstly, **the subsidiarity principle** underpins all the foreseen initiatives insofar as they all require intervention on the global level which will complement and strengthen the country and regional dimensions of EU action in support of SAAFS. Secondly, the theory of change underpinning this action/intervention is based on the premise that investing in the sustainable transformation of aquatic and agri-food systems requires **a holistic approach** that impacts the food system from production through to processing to consumption. The challenge for agri-food systems is not only to produce food and have a direct impact on food and nutrition security, but also to contribute to sustainable employment and livelihoods and to building a sustainable planet by ensuring:

- Sustainable production
- Sustainable processing and
- Sustainable consumption

Through a better **understanding of food system dynamics and linkages** based on a solid methodology, countries will be better placed to develop appropriate transformation strategies. One of the key conditions to encourage more **sustainable including agroecological production** is security of land tenure. Insecure land tenure is a serious threat to the sustainable use of natural resources and is a factor which contributes to environmental destruction and climate change. When land governance systems, whether formal or informal, offer security of tenure to land users, those users are more likely and/or able to invest sustainably and productively in their land e.g., farmers with tenure security are generally more willing to invest in longer-term improvements to their farms. In general, land users with tenure security are also better positioned when other actors are interested in using their land for investment activities: they can decline to transfer some or all of their rights or can decide to do so in exchange for compensation, stronger environmental and social protections, and the sharing of other benefits on an ongoing basis as they deem appropriate. Conversely, where land governance systems are weak or conflicting, and when landholders have insecure land rights, land users may be less incentivized to invest sustainably in their land. They are also at greater risk of having their land rights—which may be legitimate but not formalized—violated when investors seek to use the land for other purposes. In such situations, insecure tenure combined with outside investment interests can lead to forced evictions, damaged livelihood strategies, and other land rights violations. By intervening on the global level to increase land tenure security (Component 3), the hypothesis is that the EU will encourage more sustainable land use as well as respect for human rights. Under Component 1 of this Action, the logic is the following. On one hand, through this Action, EU will gain the capacity to be part of the governance body of the One-CGIAR (System Council) and the different working groups put in place. This participation will make it possible to influence the research and innovation agenda to ensure that it is better aligned with EU policies (Green Deal and Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies and the Circular Economy Action Plan) and to fully address the challenges of sustainable food systems based on EU values (democratic participation, gender equality). On the other hand, by supporting targeted One-CGIAR research and innovation “initiatives” we will contribute to guiding the

research agenda through knowledge generation and dissemination, technologies and practices design and policies that are more in line with agro-ecological approaches which will further contribute to the improved management of natural resources and more sustainable production.

Under Component 5, the theory of change postulates that by supporting INTPA and EU Delegations in making informed decisions regarding specific investment operations, by contributing to the overall generation of knowledge and dialogue on agrifood value chains, and by improving the dissemination of Value Chain Analysis (VCA) findings, then both the quantity and quality of EU-co-financed investments in specific value chains will increase, leading to **more sustainable and inclusive processing**. By strengthening and sustaining advocacy for nutrition, by developing and aligning shared priorities for action for addressing the key nutrition challenges, by building and strengthening capacities and knowledge management to develop, implement and track country actions and by ensuring governance of SUN that promotes country leadership and responsibilities of government, the hypothesis is that Component 2 will contribute to more **sustainable consumption** within the food system. Similarly, through the work to be carried out under Component 4, such as the timely provision of information about food price trends and the (potential) impact of market volatility, weather shocks and other food system challenges by means of the Food Security Portal (FSP) policymakers' ability to respond quickly and adequately to emerging food crises will be improved further contributing to more stable and sustainable food consumption levels.

Basic assumptions that need to hold for this change process to deliver as planned include a commitment to shift to a systems approach that moves beyond the linear linking of the individual stages of the food value chain, from production to processing, through to distribution, and consumption. Partner country commitment to increased security of land tenure and to scaling up nutrition are also key to success as is the engagement of all key stakeholders in the change process and their commitment to coordinate actions in line with comparative advantages and according to the principle of subsidiarity and the availability of sufficient resources. Assumptions relating to the reduced impact of COVID-19 and number of conflicts also need to hold for the Action's objectives to materialise as planned.

### 3.6. Logical Framework Matrix<sup>9</sup>

Results	Results chain (a): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (a): (at least one indicator per expected result) <sup>1011</sup>	Baselines <sup>12</sup> (values and years)	Targets <sup>13</sup> (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
<b>Impact</b>	To contribute to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of Agri-Food Systems	1. Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural) * and ** 2. Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) ** 3. Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture** 4. Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age**				<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Outcome 1</b>	More inclusive, sustainable and agroecological practices and approaches, in the fields of agronomy, animal husbandry, and aquaculture	1.1 Agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support* 1.2 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels ** Several indicators that are excellent from GEWE and HRBA perspective. Here some additional GAP III indicators for your consideration, particularly to increase women's equal access to resources and participation in policy and decision making.			Tracked by Implementing Partner	Alignment of R&D agenda with country needs and political commitment to scaling up  Time lag between the development of technologies/ innovations and their scaling up is reduced  Progress with regard to the implementation of the ONE CGIAR reform
<b>Outcome 2</b>	Increased and improved nutrition interventions	2.1. Implementation status of a budgeted national multi-sector plan/strategy for nutrition (indicator in SUN 3.0 strategy)			Tracked by Implementing Partner and INTPA	Partner country commitment to scaling up nutrition

<sup>9</sup> Given the broad scope of this global Action (which in effect comprises 5 sub-Actions) it is not possible to respect the maximum of 10 results per LFM.

<sup>10</sup> \* indicates an EURF indicator while \*\* indicates an SDG one

<sup>11</sup> All indicators disaggregated by sex (where possible)

<sup>12</sup> To be determined at start up stage

<sup>13</sup> To be determined at start up stage

		2.2. Number of women of reproductive age, adolescent girls and children under 5 reached by nutrition related interventions supported by the EU*				The prolonged impact of COVID 19 on food security and nutrition levels can be contained
<b>Outcome 3</b>	Improved global land governance	<p>3.1 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognised documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure **</p> <p>3.2 % of investments made in line with VGGT and RAI principles</p> <p>3.2 Number of changes in legislation or new laws or amendments adopted in partner country to enshrine the equal access to property, including land, credit and inheritance rights of women and girls</p> <p>3.3. Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control **</p>			Tracked by Implementing Partner	Partner country commitment to increased security of land tenure
<b>Outcome 4</b>	Increased resilience to food crises	<p>4.1 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), disaggregated by location, household income, composition (including, for example, presence and number of small children, members with disabilities, elderly members), sex, age and education of the household head **</p> <p>4.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 *</p> <p>4.3 Number of individuals benefiting from access to government investment covering weather-related losses or other risk reduction measures, disaggregated at least by sex</p>			Tracked by Implementing Partner	<p>Limited numbers of conflicts leading to increasing number of food crises</p> <p>Impact of external shocks (e.g., COVID-19 pandemic) is manageable</p>

<b>Outcome 5</b>	Increased quality of investments in agri-food systems	5.1 Agricultural supply chains taking into account ‘due diligence frameworks’ (such as the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains) 5.2 Proportion of added value going to smallholder farmers, disaggregated by sex and agricultural product			Tracked by Implementing Partner	Willingness of IFIs to invest in agri-food sector
<b>Outputs related to Outcome 1</b>	OP1.1 New technologies and innovations supportive of agroecological practices and approaches OP1.2 Articles, reports and communication material to disseminate research findings OP1.3 Articles, policy briefs and reports to inform policy dialogue OP1.4 Dialogues with partner governments and other partners (farmers’ organisations, civil society, private sector) OP1.5 Increased capacities at individual and organizational level (through training, communication, joint activities) OP1.6 Increased awareness of new policies, technologies and innovations OP1.7 Setting up of multi-actor platforms at local, national or global level	1.1.1 Number of new technologies and innovations supportive of agroecological practices and approaches 1.1.2 Number of articles, reports and communication material to disseminate research findings 1.1.3 Number of articles, policy briefs and reports to inform policy dialogue 1.1.4 Number dialogues set up with partner governments and other partners (farmers’ organisations, civil society, private sector) 1.1.5 Number of persons and organisations receiving training, communication, or participation in joint activities disaggregated by sex 1.1.6 Level of awareness of new policies, technologies and innovations 1.1.7 Number of multi-actor platforms set up at local, national or global level			Tracked by Implementing Partner	Capacity of IP to deliver as planned  Adequate quality of outputs
<b>Outputs related to Outcome 2</b>	OP2.1 Increased capacity of the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) to operationalise the SUN 3.0 Strategy OP2.2 Increased awareness of policymakers and other key actors of the need for a multi-sectoral approach to achieve improved nutrition outcomes. OP2.3 Partner countries’ lessons-learned disseminated among countries	2.1.1 Rate of implementation of SUN 3.0 Strategy 2.2.2 Level of awareness of policymakers and other key actors of the need for a multi-sectoral approach to achieve improved nutrition outcomes. 2.2.3 Number of partner countries’ lessons-learned disseminated among countries and relevant actors of the SUN Movement.			Tracked by Implementing Partner	Capacity of IP to deliver as planned  Adequate quality of outputs

	<p>and relevant actors of the SUN Movement.</p> <p>OP2.4 Political dialogues on nutrition set up with regional bodies and country governments</p> <p>OP2.5 Strengthened links between the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) and SUN's MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning) programme.</p> <p>OP2.6 Strengthened capacities and networking among SUN stakeholders working in networks.</p>	<p>2.2.4 Number of political dialogues on nutrition set up with regional bodies and country governments</p> <p>2.2.5 Degree of collaboration between the NIPN and SUN's MEAL programme.</p> <p>2.2.6 Level of capacities and networking among SUN stakeholders working in networks.</p>				
<b>Outputs related to Outcome 3</b>	<p>OP3.1 Strengthened global processes and initiatives supporting the implementation of the VGGTs</p> <p>OP3.2 Capacities to collect, analyse and report on information on global land governance are strengthened</p> <p>OP3.3 Easily available land governance data and information</p> <p>OP3.4 Best practices and solutions for equitable land governance identified</p> <p>OP3.5 Increased awareness of the need for Responsible Investment in Agriculture (RAI)</p>	<p>3.3.1 Number of global processes and initiatives supporting the implementation of the VGGTs strengthened</p> <p>3.3.2 Level of capacities to collect, analyse and report on information on global land governance</p> <p>3.3.3 Availability of land governance data and information</p> <p>3.3.4 Number of best practices and solutions for equitable land governance identified</p> <p>3.3.5 Level of awareness of the need for Responsible Investment in Agriculture (RAI)</p>			Tracked by Implementing Partner	<p>Capacity of IP to deliver as planned</p> <p>Adequate quality of outputs</p>
<b>Outputs related to Outcome 4</b>	<p>OP4.1 Regular updated, country profiles, briefs and alerts on food crises risks</p> <p>OP4.2 An inter-agency hub serving as a real-time, gender responsive early warning system for food crises</p> <p>OP4.3 Platform for knowledge exchange on food trade dependence and resilience</p> <p>OP4.4 Food Security Portal's COVID-19 food security hub converted into an</p>	<p>4.4.1 Frequency of updating of country profiles, briefs and alerts on food crises risks</p> <p>4.4.2 Inter-agency hub serving as a real-time early warning system for food crises set up (Y/N)<sup>14</sup></p> <p>4.4.3 Platform for knowledge exchange on food trade dependence and resilience set up (Y/N)</p> <p>4.4.4 FSP's COVID-19 food security hub converted into a "Post-COVID Build Back Better" hub (Y/N)</p>			Tracked by Implementing Partner	<p>Capacity of IP to deliver as planned</p> <p>Capacity of partner countries to act on information provided</p> <p>Adequate quality of outputs</p>

<sup>14</sup> This is a binary indicator which can only be answered by Yes (Y) or No (N)

	upgraded hub incorporating the consequences of the COVID pandemic. OP4.5 Increased awareness of key stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa on how to prevent food crises and how to follow through on outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit	4.4.5 Level of awareness of key stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa on how to prevent food crises and how to follow through on outcomes of the UN FSS				
<b>Outputs related to Outcome 5</b>	<p>OP5.1 Food system assessments according to agreed methodologies</p> <p>OP5.2 Increased capacities, policy and programme support for sustainable and inclusive SAAFS transformation</p> <p>OP5.3 Strategic partnerships (between national governments, financing institutions (IFIs), private sector, civil society organizations and producer organizations and women's organisations)</p> <p>OP5.4 Increased capacity of INTPA (including EU Delegation's) to make informed decisions regarding specific investments of gender-sensitive agricultural value chains.</p> <p>OP5.5 Improved analytical tools (e.g., FSA, VCA4D and EX-ACT)</p> <p>OP5.6 Workshops/events for the validation/dissemination of FSA, VCAs with international and local stakeholders, in particular from the private sector.</p> <p>OP5.7 Stakeholder dialogues to identify strategic programme development, investment opportunities, investment support and/or policy support needs, in relation to FSA and gender-sensitive VCAs prepared with EU funding.</p> <p>OP5.8 Global platform/network for knowledge and learning exchange , inclusive of FSS policies, follow-up of the recommendations/conclusions of the 2021 UN FSS.</p>	<p>5.5.1 Number of food system assessments carried out according to agreed methodologies</p> <p>5.5.2 Levels of capacities, policy and programme support for sustainable and inclusive SAAFS transformation</p> <p>5.5.3 Number of strategic partnerships (between national governments, financing institutions (IFIs), private sector, civil society organizations and producer organizations)</p> <p>5.5.4 Level of capacity of INTPA to make informed decisions regarding specific investments in agricultural value chains</p> <p>5.5.5 Level of knowledge and understanding of agri-food value chains in countries of interest to INTPA</p> <p>5.5.6 Rate of dissemination of Value Chain Analyses findings</p> <p>5.5.7 Number of stakeholder dialogues to identify strategic programme development, investment opportunities, investment support and/or policy support needs, in relation to FSA and VCAs prepared with EU funding.</p> <p>5.5.8 Global platform for knowledge and learning exchange set up (Y/N)</p> <p>5.5.9. Number of policy notes developed</p> <p>5.5.10. Number of studies and trainings performed</p>			Tracked by Implementing Partner	<p>Commitment by partner countries to transition to SAAFS</p> <p>Capacity of IP to deliver as planned</p> <p>Adequate quality of outputs (training, methodologies etc.)</p>



	<p>OP5.9 Policy analysis, data management, writing of guidance notes and policy recommendations to the Commission's services</p> <p>OP5.10 Studies and trainings, seminars / webinars, meetings and production of related publications</p> <p>OP5.11 Support to programme identification, formulation and evaluation</p>	5.5.11. Number of interventions in programme cycle management				
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## 4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with a partner country /territory

### 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 72 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

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

### 4.3. Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures<sup>15</sup>.

#### 4.3.1. Direct Management (Procurement)

Procurement of services is envisaged to support to Specific Objective 5 on the quality of investments in agri-food systems as per Specific Objective 5.

Procurement may include amendment to existing service contract(s), which are in line with the objectives/outputs of Specific Objective 5.

#### 4.3.2. Indirect Management, with Member State Organisation(s) and/or international organisation (s)

In application of the provisions of Financial Regulation<sup>16</sup> on indirect management, especially with regard to the article 154, as follows:

##### 4.3.2.1. Specific Objective/ Component 1 (Research and Innovation)

The CGIAR System Organisation and the CGIAR Centres are funded through financial contributions via the CGIAR Trust Fund administered by the World Bank and through bilateral funding agreements signed directly with the CGIAR Centres or the CGIAR System Organisation. The CGIAR Trust Fund is a multi-donor, multi-year mechanism that delivers financial resources for CGIAR research and key system functions.

It is envisaged to make an EU contribution to the 2022-2024 CGIAR Investment Plan.

This part of the Action is expected to be implemented in indirect management with the World Bank as Trustee of the CGIAR multi-donor Trust Fund (and completed by a specific arrangement signed with the CGIAR System Organisation).

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, this part of the Action may be implemented in indirect management with another international organisation. The implementation by this alternative entity would be justified because of the following criteria: specific and successful experience in managing agricultural research, and position as a donor and

<sup>15</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.

<sup>16</sup> 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 966/2012.

technical partner of the CGIAR. The entrusted entity would assist the European Commission in the quality assurance of CGIAR initiatives to be funded, provide fiduciary liability for EU funds and thereby protecting the EU against financial risks, conclude grant agreements with CGIAR System Organisation (or equivalent) and/or CGIAR Centres within the framework of the CGIAR Research Strategy, review and approve the technical and financial reports submitted and prepare consolidated reports, ensure that adequate monitoring arrangements for the programmes are in place.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, part of this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.3 with an organisation with role and capacities in technical and financial management, monitoring and reporting of agricultural research projects in developing countries.

#### 4.3.2.2. Specific Objective/Component 2 (Nutrition)

This Specific Objective will consist in (i) supporting the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat and (ii) enhancing alignment with national development plans and reducing gaps and overlaps in collective interventions.

(i) A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). This entails the support to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat (SMS), which is a programme hosted and implemented by UNOPS, serving as a global coordinating mechanism to support countries to end all forms of malnutrition. SMS encourages coordinated and coherent support from actors across the Movement. It is responsible for liaising with SUN countries and ensuring the catalytic spirit of the Movement. The SMS will play an important coordination and facilitation role in the implementation of the SUN Movement Strategy 2021-2025 aiming to work towards its 4 Strategic Objectives: 1 - Strengthen and sustain strong policy and advocacy to position nutrition outcomes, 2 - Develop and align shared country priorities for action, 3 - Build and strengthen country capacity with technical assistance and knowledge management, 4 - Ensure SUN governance promotes country leadership and government responsibilities, aligns resources and strengthens mutual accountabilities.

The efforts of the Secretariat to align collective, coherent and evidence-based actions from the different stakeholders of the Movement will contribute to achieving increased and improved nutrition interventions (SO2) both at national and sub-national levels.

The envisaged entity has been selected using the following criteria: UNOPS is hosting the SMS and manages the contribution from all donors on its behalf. The EU and the SUN Movement share the vision of a world free from malnutrition in all its forms. Working within the established coordination mechanism contributes to a strategic approach to the EU's multilateral engagement and reinforces the EU position as a trusted and reliable partner in nutrition. The entrusted entity would carry out the budget-implementation tasks related to grants and procurement procedures, including award of contracts to individuals and/or companies for the delivery of goods and services supporting the implementation of the SUN Strategy 3.0.

In case the envisaged entity would need to be replaced, the Commission's services may select another replacement entity using the same criteria. If the entity is replaced, the decision to replace it needs to be justified.

(ii) Being a multi-stakeholder movement, besides the SMS every SUN stakeholder group has a role to play in contributing to its success. As the Commission and several EU Member States (namely France, Germany, Ireland, and Netherlands) are part of the SUN Donor Network (SDN), a joint effort to complement and further enhance the SMS's role in the successful implementation of the new strategy would be of clear added value for the SUN 3.0 operationalization. As such, a part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity (or entities), likely EU MS agencies, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria a) operational capacity to build and further expand on the existing supports in nutrition, b) potential to enable other EU Member States, so far not members of SDN, to engage in SUN and deliver on nutrition outcomes, c) capacity and experience in organising peer-learning, exchange of experiences and transfer of know how among public bodies, including triangular and South-South cooperation, d) value added in the key areas of programme intervention: multi-sectoral nutrition governance, public finance management, innovative financing, public-private partnerships, e) absence of conflict of interest. This is in line with the recommendations of the Commission's Joint Programming Guidance.

The objective of this implementation modality is to ensure more coherent, targeted intervention at global level and in partner countries. It will improve alignment with national development plans and reduce gaps and overlaps in collective intervention. The implementation by this entity will focus on institutional global knowledge sharing and technical assistance offered to SUN countries, inter-institutional coordination, training and transfer of know-how and expertise on nutrition-related issues. In particular, European experiences will be identified and mobilised to support reforms in SUN countries linking nutrition to social policies, education, public finance, etc. This includes peer-to-peer exchange

of knowledge and learning between public administrations of countries in demand-driven public policy reform processes, guided by their priorities and shared agendas.

If negotiations fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with UNOPS in addition to other activities contributing this Specific Objective.

#### 4.3.2.3. Specific Objective/Component 3 :Land Governance

A part of this Action may be implemented in indirect management with an international organisation. Given the sensitivity of land governance issues, it is advisable to support working through this modality since this type of entity is more neutral, which allows them to maintain independent dialogue and operations with different stakeholders.

The international organisation will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: i) proven experience in the field of global land governance, in particular on advocacy, data collection and analysis, knowledge building and sharing, policy development and communication, ii) value added in terms of supporting the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for the responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGTs) and promoting sustainable and transparent land governance, iii) management capacity demonstrated by previous actions and iv) capacity to coordinate and articulate operations by different specialised stakeholders.

Implementation by this entity entails a part of, or the totality of the actions, foreseen under Specific Objective 3 (Component 3).

#### 4.3.2.4. Specific Objective/Component 4: Information and data exchange

Activities related to the Food Security Portal work on food price monitoring, early warning systems for food crises, knowledge and policy exchange food trade, COVID-19 and post-COVID food security are part of longstanding and more recent CGIAR work.

This part of this Action is expected to be implemented in indirect management with the World Bank as Trustee of the CGIAR multi-donor Trust Fund (and possibly completed by a specific arrangement signed with the CGIAR System Organisation).

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, this part of the Action may be implemented in direct management with an organisation with expertise in this field, and with capacities in technical and financial management, monitoring and reporting. (see 4.3.3)

#### 4.3.2.5. Specific Objective/Component 5 (Global Partnerships)

A part of this Action is expected to be implemented in indirect management with the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation), based on the mandate that this UN specialised agency has for policy assistance, food systems and food security and sustainable agriculture. FAO is a key partner in addressing food security and nutrition crises and manages global information systems, including on agriculture, fisheries, forestry, genetic resources and food security. Selection criteria are also related to high technical expertise in various fields linked to this Specific Objective 5 and a very wide country network and representation.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, this part of the action may be implemented in indirect management with another international organisation which adequate technical expertise and country network and representation.

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

With reference to 4.3.2.1 and 4.3.2.4, following negotiations results and in case of exceptional circumstances outside the Commission's control, direct management through grants will be considered along defined criteria in section 4.3.2.1 and section 4.3.2.4 in support to specific objectives/outcomes 1 and 4.

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

#### 4.5. Indicative Budget

<b>Indicative Budget components<sup>17</sup></b>	<b>EU contribution (Amount in EUR)</b>
<b>Implementation modalities</b> – cf. section 4.4	
<b>Objective 1 (Research and Innovation)</b> composed of	<b>27.000.000</b>
Indirect management with the WB – Section 4.3.2.1	27.000.000
<b>Objective 2 (Nutrition)</b> composed of	<b>15.000.000</b>
Indirect management with an international organisation (UNOPS) – Section 4.3.2.2	6.000.000
Indirect management with Member State Organisation (s) – Section 4.3.2.2	9.000.000
<b>Objective 3 (Land governance)</b> composed of	<b>15.000.000</b>
Indirect management with an international organisation – Section 4.3.2.3	15.000.000
<b>Objective 4 (Information and data exchange)</b>	<b>4.000.000</b>
Indirect management with an international organisation (WB) – Section 4.3.2.4	4.000.000
<b>Objective 5 (Global partnerships)</b>	<b>26.561.470</b>
Indirect management with an international organisation (FAO) – Section 4.3.2.5	15.000.000
Direct management (procurement) – Section 4.3.1	11.561.470
<b>Evaluation</b>	will be covered by another Decision
<b>Audit</b>	
<b>Contingencies<sup>18</sup></b>	N.A.
<b>Totals</b>	<b>87.561.470</b>

#### 4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

**Component 1 (Research and Innovation):** The EU is one of 15 funders among the 20 voting members meeting as a CGIAR System Council, whose function is to keep under review the strategy, mission, impact and relevancy of the CGIAR system. The System Council works collaboratively with the CGIAR System Board to deliver on CGIAR's mission. The System Council's functions include Vision, Strategic Direction, and Advocacy; Governance; Partnership Engagement and Resource Mobilization; Financial and Programmatic Performance; and Evaluations and

<sup>17</sup> N.B: The final text on audit/verification depends on the outcome of ongoing discussions on pooling of funding in (one or a limited number of) Decision(s) and the subsequent financial management, i.e. for the conclusion of audit contracts and payments.

<sup>18</sup> Consider that contracts where no financing agreement is concluded, contingencies have to be covered by individual and legal commitments by 31 December of N+1.

Impact Assessment. It benefits from CGIAR Advisory Services (Independent Science for Development Council, Standing Panel on Impact Assessment, and an independent evaluation function) in terms of external, impartial, and expert advice related to strategy and positioning, program evaluation, and impact assessment. The European Initiative in Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD, 1997) still serves as a platform among EU member states and EU+ funders to CGIAR, facilitating knowledge and sharing views leading to concerted messages expressed at System Council meetings.

Component 2 (Nutrition): A Steering Committee will be set up for this Component including all implementing partners and other relevant stakeholders (e.g., a representative of the SUN Movement Secretariat, EU MS supporting the SUN Movement). The entity in charge of providing TA will set up and host the secretariat of this Steering Committee. The Action Plan on Nutrition (SWD (2014) 234 final) also foresees an active role for the Commission in the stewardship of the SUN movement by the Commissioner's participation in the SUN Lead Group and its support of the coordination role played by the SUN. A staff member of the Commission may also be nominated to represent the SUN donor network in the SUN Executive Committee.

Component 3 (Land Governance): The EU, as one of the early and main supporters of global land governance processes, has been consistently and actively involved in supporting and promoting the Voluntary Guidelines on the Governance of Tenure of land (VGGTs). The EU is an active member of the Global Donor Working Group on Land (GDWGL), a platform gathering the main donors and UN agencies active in Global Land Governance. Meeting at least 4 times per year, this group allows us to monitor the evolution of global land issues and reflect this in the steering of EU funded programmes. The EU is also a Strategic Partner in the steering committee of the International Land Coalition (ILC) and also meets regularly with other donors in the FAO land governance programme. In addition, each of the Land Governance actions funded by the EU gives way to regular ad-hoc meetings for monitoring. This 'shared' approach among donors allows for a close monitoring of the performance of these programmes, and a stronger influence on the implementation of related actions.

Component 4 (Information and data exchange)

The implementation arrangements will be a mix of the mechanisms in place in the context of the CGIAR – funder relations (in particular its System Council) as well as specific CGIAR advisory services, and a specific project steering mechanism that would be established by the entity in charge.

Component 5 (Increased quality of investments in agri-food systems) Dialogue with FAO will take place in the context of the EU FAO Strategic Dialogue and at programme level. Regular and ad hoc meetings will take place for a close monitoring of the different contracts. A steering committee will be put in place for a concerted and coordinated implementation of the actions, meeting at regular pace.

Gender equality, human rights and human rights-based approach expertise will be ensured during the implementation of the all five main components as possible. They will also be integrated in relevant technical assistance and capacity building activities and documents (i.e. ToRs etc) as minimum requirements of expertise.

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.

#### 4.7. Pre-conditions [Only for project modality]

N/A

## 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 different Implementing Partner's (IP) responsibilities. To this end, the IP will need to establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for their component based on a LogFrame Matrix (LFM) specifically drafted for that purpose. These Component (and in some cases Sub-Component) LFM's will need to be aligned to the overarching Action LFM presented in Section 3.6 of this document. Regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports that report on progress with regard to selected indicators will need to be prepared and submitted to the EC. 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 corresponding LFM.

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).

Monitoring and evaluation will assess gender equality results, impact on rights of groups living in the most vulnerable situations and the implementation of the human rights-based approach working principles (applying all human rights for all; meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making; non-discrimination and equality; accountability and rule of law for all; and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data). Monitoring and evaluation will be based on indicators that are disaggregated by sex, age, disability when applicable.

Human rights and gender equality competence is ensured in the monitoring and evaluation teams.

Monitoring at DG INTPA level will draw on the data provided by the different IPs and will be structured around the relevant EURF indicators as well as the three performance indicators retained in the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP):

1. Number of global services, platforms and networks improved with EU assistance to enhance knowledge, disaggregated data collection and evidence-based policy making on sustainable food systems and/or to prevent and respond to food crises.
2. Number of partner countries accessing global public goods, including knowledge platforms, on sustainable agriculture (including fisheries and aquaculture), food security and/or nutrition supported by the EU.
3. Number of initiatives undertaken with EU support to integrate agro-ecology and agro-ecological transitions in global and trans-regional research and innovation networks

## 5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, it is probable that mid-term and/or final evaluation(s) will be carried out for this Action or its Components via independent consultants and/or through joint missions contracted by the Commission or via an implementing partner.

In case a mid-term evaluation is envisaged it will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, and any other issues identified in the course of implementation.

In case a final or ex-post evaluation is envisaged it will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision).

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination<sup>19</sup>. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

## 5.3. Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

## 6. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

It will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service

<sup>19</sup> See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)



providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

However, action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication and visibility actions promoting the programmes concerned. These resources will instead be consolidated in Cooperation Facilities established by support measure action documents, allowing Delegations to plan and execute multiannual strategic communication and public diplomacy actions with sufficient critical mass to be effective on a national scale.

## APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

In the case of ‘Contract level’, add the reference to the corresponding budgetary items in point 4.6, Indicative Budget.

<b>Option 1: Action level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
<b>Option 2: Group of actions level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#): <Present action> <Other action>
<b>Option 3: Contract level</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	Research and Innovation - Indirect management with an international organisation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	Nutrition – Indirect management with an internal organisation and Member State Organisation (s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	Land organisation - Indirect management with an international organisation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 4	Information and data exchange - Indirect management with an international organisation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 5	Global partnerships- Indirect management with an international organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 1> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 2> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) #>