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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX 8

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the Annual Action Plan for Planet
(Global Challenges) for 2021

Action Document for Support Measures

ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and action plans in the sense of Article 23(2) of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe Regulation.

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support Measures CRIS number:2021/043-611 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in all countries eligible for support under the thematic programme
4. Programming document	Global Challenges Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-27
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	MIP Global Challenges - Planet - Specific objective 1: Climate action and Disaster Risk Reduction: tackle climate change, progress towards climate neutrality and enhance climate resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction (SDG 13).
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): 17 (partnerships for the goals) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14 and 15
8 a) DAC code(s)	41010 (Environmental Policy and administrative management) – 75% 74010 (Disaster prevention and preparedness) – 25%

8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	-NA			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input 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"/>
11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

	energy digital connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020241 Total estimated cost: EUR 1,000,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 1,000,000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing¹	Direct management through: Procurement			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The Support Measures will cover expenditures associated with the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the NDICI and to the achievement of its objectives in the area of environment and climate change. Such measures (audits, evaluations, identifications, studies, meetings, information sessions training activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure etc.) contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis and reporting on the impact. This action will be implemented in a COVID-19 context and adapted as necessary for a successful completion.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The Support Measures of the environment and climate change area of the MIP Global Challenges are designed to cover expenditures associated with the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the NDICI MIP Global Challenges, Planet AAP 2021 and to the achievement of its objectives in the area of environment and climate change. Such measures

¹ Art. 27 NDICI

(audits, evaluations, identifications, studies, meetings, information sessions, training activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure etc.) contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis and reporting on the impact.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis: All actions falling under the framework of the MIP Global Challenges, Environment and Climate change, are a priority area for support.

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

This action provides support to the European Commission services at Headquarters and in EU Delegations, for the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the MIP Global Challenges AAP 2021 Planet and to the achievement of the European Union's Green Deal objectives in the area of environment and climate change.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to the Specific Objective 1 of MIP Global Challenges Planet by providing relevant support services.

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

1. Support climate change and environment related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through the NDICI with specific analyses, seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding mainstreaming of Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Water and Green Economy into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable;
2. Reinforce auditing and evaluation activities of the MIP Global Challenges programmes and actions;
3. Provide support in the design of projects and programmes which requires a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender.
4. Provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years.

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

- 1.1 Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications
- 2.1 Risk-based audits and evaluations
- 3.1 Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1

Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications. The main objective of this type of activities is to support climate change and environment related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through the NDICI (particularly the GPGC) with specific analyses, with seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding mainstreaming of Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Water and Green Economy into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable, to ensure delivery of the results of the programme while increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

Activities related to Output 2.1:

Risk-based audits and evaluations. The objective is to reinforce auditing and evaluation activities in order to ensure the proper and sound management of EU funds as well as the assessment of the impact of actions relevant to environment and climate change financed by the NDICI.

Activities related to Output 3.1:

Technical support for the Identification and Formulation phases of new actions. The objective is to provide support in the design of projects and programmes which requires a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender.

Activities related to Output 4.1:

Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme. The objective is to provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

The activities foreseen under this action will contribute to the 30% climate-related spending target of the NDICI – Global Europe. Additionally, the project is directly targeting climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. Aid to environment is a clear implicit goal. Biodiversity and Combatting desertification are also directly targeted.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is a significant objective of the action.

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1.

At all stages gender-responsive rights-based approach principles participation, non-discrimination/equality, accountability and transparency will guide the planning and implementation of the Action and specifically the desk review. In the capacity building part every effort will be made to ensure gender balance and to prioritise the active participation of women in the energy sector.

The action contributes to the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III, 2021-2025), more specifically objective 3 “Women in all their diversity increasingly participate in and have improved access to jobs,

entrepreneurship opportunities in the green economy and the circular economy” and objective 4 “Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, addressing climate change in their daily lives and preserving the natural environment are supported”.

Human Rights

Human rights-based approach and its key principles (participation, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency) will be integrated throughout the action. Particular focus will be given to inclusive policies targeting women and persons living in vulnerable situations such as indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities.

The action will have a direct impact on the citizens and their fundamental rights to live in a safe environment and to have access to environmental information. Measures proposed to help effect such change include: building alliances and coalitions through the user platform for change, ensuring inclusiveness and gender balance, creating new institutional actors and arrangements, adjusting legal rights and responsibilities to make information public and transparent, and changing ideas and accepted norms and expectations through, training, awareness and outreach communication programmes.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the action is not considered relevant for the inclusion of person with disabilities.

Democracy

Not targeted

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Not targeted

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction is directly targeted by this action. The action will contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and will contribute to preparation and implementation of partner countries’ national and local disaster risk reduction strategies. The action will also contribute to the integration of disaster risk reduction in programmes and actions.

Other considerations if relevant

N/A

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
	Low demand from Delegations (primarily) and headquarters for the use of support	Low	Low	At the beginning of each year, a letter is sent from headquarters to Delegations and geographic directorates in headquarters, announcing the availability of support measures. This will stimulate demand.

	measures activities			Furthermore, there is always demand due to necessary audits, evaluations and technical support, etc.
	High demand for activities and the exhaustion of support measures funds	Medium	High	Experience shows that audits tend to use a significant part of the budget for support measures. Budget for these activities should first be looked for within the project itself. As an additional measure, support measures would only fund audits that are requested by DEVCO services, and not internal project audits.
	Risk #			

Lessons Learnt:

This action will implement Support Measures for the first year of the new NDICI – Global Europe instrument. However, the Global Public Goods and Challenges and its predecessor, the Environment and sustainable management of Natural Resources, including Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Thematic Programme (ENRTP) ran for 14 years, 2007-2020. Each year, the AAP included support measures which resulted in more than 20 contracts from which to perform studies, audits, evaluations, etc. that in turn facilitated assessing individual actions and guided the programme. The mid-term review of the ENRTP carried out in 2009 provided an opportunity to streamline and refocus the programme for the remaining phase, 2011-2013. Lessons learnt from past and current interventions were again reflected in the design of the new multi-annual indicative programme under the GPGC.

3.5 The Intervention Logic²

The Support Measures will be used to finance, among others, activities such as:

1. *Risk-based audits and evaluations*. The objective is to reinforce auditing and evaluation activities in order to ensure the proper and sound management of EU funds as well as the assessment of the impact of actions relevant to environment and climate change financed by the DCI.
2. *Technical support for the Identification and Formulation phases of new actions*. The objective is to provide support in the design of projects and programmes which requires a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender.
3. *Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications*. The main objective of this type of activities is to support climate change and environment related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through the DCI (particularly the GPGC) with specific analyses, with seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding mainstreaming of Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Water and Green Economy into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable, to ensure delivery of the results of the programme while increasing efficiency and effectiveness.
4. *Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme*. The objective is to provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

Given the nature of this Action a Logical Framework Matrix is not required at Action level.

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

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

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

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

² [@TEI Methodological Note to Support Design](#)

EU restrictive measures³.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

The full set of objectives/results listed in section 3 will be supported through the procurement of services contracts managed directly by the European Commission.

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.

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

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified
Procurement (direct management) – cf section 5.3.1	1 000 000	N.A.
5.8 – Evaluation, 5.9 – Audit/Expenditure verification	will be covered by another decision	N.A.
Communication and visibility (cf. section 5.10)	N.A.	N.A.
Contingencies	N.A.	N.A.
Totals	1 000 000	N.A.

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

NA

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an

³ 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.

accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced.

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).

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a(n) evaluation(s) will not be carried out for this action or its components.

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

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁴. 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.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle has adopted a new approach to strategic communication and public diplomacy activities at country, regional and global level. This means that Action Documents for specific country, regional or global sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication actions promoting the programmes concerned.

Instead, all strategic communication and public diplomacy activities carried out at country level will be resourced through Cooperation Facilities established by support measure action documents. Regional and global strategic communication resources and activities will be managed from headquarters. All strategic communication and public diplomacy activities, whether at country, regional or global level, will be based on strategic plans to be developed.

It remains a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

⁴ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)