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ANNEX

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measure in favour of the Republic of the Sudan for 2024

Action Document for Socio-economic integration of children and young people and protection of the human rights of groups at risk in displacement affected communities in Sudan

ANNUAL MEASURE

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

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Socio-economic integration of children and young people and protection of the human rights of groups at risk in displacement affected communities in Sudan OPSYS number: ACT-62752 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)/ Overseas Association Decision/European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation Regulation
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Republic of The Sudan
4. Programming document	Individual measure (NDICI-Global Europe/East and Central Africa financial allocation)
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	N/A
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	

6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Basic Education – 112 Government and Civil Society – 150 Other social Infrastructure and Services – 160 Reconstruction, Relief and Rehabilitation – 730			
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 1 End poverty Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 2 Zero Hunger SDG 4 Quality Education SDG 5 Gender equality and empowerment SDG 8 Sustainable growth and employment SDG 9 Resilient infrastructure SDG 16 Peaceful and inclusive societies			
8 a) DAC code(s)	11250 School feeding - 28% 15160 Human rights - 10% 15180 Ending violence against women and girls - 7% 15190 Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility – 15% 16020 Employment creation - 27% 73010 Immediate post-emergency reconstruction and rehabilitation - 13%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	International NGO - 21000 Multilateral organisation – 40000			
9. Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance ¹			
10. Markers ²	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective

¹ Thematic target for geographic programmes (at least 15%) in delegated act.

² For guidance, see <https://www.oecd.org/development/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/> (go to “Data collection and resources for reporters”, select Addendum 2, annexes 18 (policy) and 19 (Rio) of the reporting directive).
 If an action is marked in the DAC form as contributing to one of the general policy objectives or to RIO principles as a principal objective or a significant objective, then this should be reflected in the logframe matrix (in the results chain and/or indicators).

(from DAC form)	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Internal markers³ and Tags⁴:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<div>digital connectivity</div> <div>digital governance</div> <div>digital entrepreneurship</div> <div>digital skills/literacy</div> <div>digital services</div>	<div>YES</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/></div>	<div>NO</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div>	

³ The internal markers have been created to report on the implementation of the Commission's own policy priorities in areas where no DAC reporting tool is available. For the sake of consistency and comparability, the methodology is equivalent to the DAC markers, with three possible positions (main target, significant target, not targeted)

⁴ Methodology for additional tagging providing granularity on internal markers is under development. When a marker is Significant or Principal Objective, please also choose the relevant yes/no tag.

	Connectivity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES	NO	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020121 Total estimated cost: EUR 95 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 95 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Grants Indirect management with the entity to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The action is designed to address the essential needs of vulnerable groups displaced by the armed conflict in Sudan, with a strong focus on children and young people, women and girls, as well as persons with disability. The primary goal is to protect their rights and enhance their living conditions while mitigating the associated risks of irregular migration, trafficking, criminality, and recruitment by the warring parties. This action centres around three specific objectives: first, protecting the rights and facilitating the (re)inclusion into society of specific groups at risk in line with *leave no one behind*; second, creating employment opportunities and income generation initiatives tailored to young people; and third, fostering the return of children to primary schools and safe learning environments through school feeding programs.

Within a strategic partnerships between UN organisations, international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and various Sudanese national and local NGOs and civil society organisations (CSOs), the EU will implement comprehensive three and four-year actions across urban and semi-urban areas spanning administrative districts in

key Sudanese regions. This support will complement the focus on rural areas provided under the 2023 Individual measures on food security (€90 million) and health/nutrition (€40 million).

The states indicatively pre-identified for the current action may include Khartoum, Kassala, South Kordofan, North Kordofan, Central Darfur, South Darfur, Red Sea, Northern State, and Gedaref as well as other possible displacement-affected states, as deemed appropriate according to the evolving conflict situation. The action specifically addresses the multifaceted challenges encountered by the most vulnerable populations in Sudan affected by displacement and conflict on top of social discrimination and weak services from before the war. The intervention will complement humanitarian assistance in these states in the logic of a humanitarian, development, peace nexus, notably through medium-term resilience building, job creation, school feeding and psycho-social and socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable groups. Flexibility and adaptability in implementation will be ensured through a localised, area-based approach, close implication of communities and local stakeholders, partnering with local NGOs, regular security and conflict sensitivity assessments and contingency plans as well as frequent monitoring meetings between the EU Delegation and implementing partners.

The overarching aim of this initiative is to mitigate a generational catastrophe as well as a political, economic environmental and social disaster that affects disproportionately the young generation⁵ and specific vulnerable groups whose human rights are at risk of being further violated in times of war. This initiative will contribute to avert the complete destabilisation of Sudan with dramatic repercussions in the Horn of Africa, the region and far beyond into Europe.

By forging strong partnerships and aligning with EU policy priorities, the action endeavours to empower individuals, urban and peri-urban communities, Civil society Organisations- including organisations for women's rights, for child protection and for rights of persons with disabilities, Community Based Organisations and community leaders to provide a sense of normality by restoring basic essential services and ensuring inclusivity and equality of opportunities in their communities.

This endeavour embodies the EU's commitment to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It notably contributes to poverty reduction, gender equality, disability inclusion, decent work, reduced inequalities, peace, and social cohesion, sustainable cities and communities, and responsible consumption and production. The intervention should contribute to EU obligations, strategies and policies, first and foremost, the European Consensus on Development and the Gender Action Plan (GAP) III⁶, specifically with its key thematic areas of engagement 'Integrating the women, peace, and security agenda', 'Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence', 'Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights', and 'Strengthening economic and social rights and empowering girls and women', the EU Youth Action Plan⁷ by empowering young people with enhanced opportunities, as well as the EU Guidance Note Disability inclusion in EU external Action⁸. It is in accordance with the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child⁹, EU Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030¹⁰, the EU's Action Plan on Democracy and Human Rights¹¹, the EU's Human Rights Guidelines¹², Equality Strategy 2020-2025¹³ and the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) and its toolbox¹⁴. Of particular importance is the commitment made by the EU when signing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The action aligns with the Green Deal. Specific objectives 2 and 3 feed into the Global Gateway¹⁵ strategy by

⁵ 73% of the population of Sudan is less than 24 years old

⁶ EU gender action plan (gap) iii – An ambitious agenda for gender equality and women's empowerment in eu external action, joint communication to the European parliament and the council, 25.11.2020

⁷ Youth Action Plan - European Commission (europa.eu)

⁸ Guidance note: Leaving no one behind | Disability inclusion in EU external action, European Commission

⁹ The EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and the European Child Guarantee - European Commission (europa.eu)

¹⁰ Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, European Commission

¹¹ EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy | EEAS (europa.eu)

¹² EU Human Rights guidelines | EEAS (europa.eu)

¹³ JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS - The Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (europa.eu)

¹⁴ Commission staff working document, 'Applying the Human Rights Based approach to international partnerships', reference SWD(2021) 179 final, 30.06.2021

¹⁵ Strategy for Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment 2018-2028 | African Union (au.int)

Moreover, this action is in alignment with the EU's Strategic Approach to Resilience and the New Pact on Migration and Asylum¹⁶. It places a particular emphasis on recognising young people as agents of change and peace, reflecting the principles outlined in UN Security Council Resolution 2250. This comprehensive approach underscores the importance of collaborative efforts in driving positive impact, promoting inclusive development, and addressing the complex challenges faced by vulnerable populations in Sudan.

Do-not-harm concerns and conflict sensitiveness are guiding principles of this action in order to counter the increasing risks of conflicts between internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities, between ethnic groups, and between individuals due to insecurity and lack or loss of livelihood as result of the war.

1.3 Zone benefitting from the Action

The individual measure “Socio-economic integration of children and young people and protection of the human rights of groups at risk in displacement affected communities” (OPSYS no. ACT-62752) shall be carried out in Sudan, country included in the list of ODA recipients. States of intervention within Sudan may indicatively include Khartoum, Kassala, South Kordofan, North Kordofan, Central Darfur, South Darfur, Red Sea, Northern State, and Gedaref as well as other possible displacement-affected states, as deemed appropriate according to the evolving conflict situation. The criteria for the final identification of the states for the intervention are: significant presence of IDPs, security and access conditions, capacity and presence of international and local organisations, degree of acceptance in local communities, and where possible presence of EU funded projects

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The current context in Sudan is defined by a complex array of challenges stemming from prolonged crisis and instability exacerbated by the ongoing conflict that erupted in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). For the first time, the capital Khartoum has become one of the main battlefields. The conflict quickly spread beyond Khartoum, reaching South Darfur by July 2023, which exacerbated economic instability and led to alarming spikes in food and fuel prices, plunging many into poverty. The war has also resulted in the largest displacement crises globally. As of mid-March 2024, the number of internally displaced persons (IDP) and mixed cross-border movements since mid-April 2023 has exceeded 8.2 million, with over 4 million children fleeing the conflict. The displacement has placed immense strain on already fragile essential services and infrastructure, exacerbating food insecurity and poverty, especially among vulnerable groups such as women, children, and young people. Moreover, the conflict has shattered community structures, leaving behind heightened risks of exploitation and violence, alongside a dangerous legacy of environmental damage including landmines and unexploded ordnance. In addition to the displacement crisis, Sudan's education sector has been severely disrupted, with 19 million children out of school due to ongoing hostilities and school closures, further compromising their future prospects. Economic challenges, such as high inflation and currency depreciation, have further compounded the hardship faced by the population.

More than one year into the fighting, at least 15,830 fatalities were reported until 05/04/2024 and over 5,500 have been injured. Children are disproportionately affected, with 1 in 2 children having been exposed to conflict and violence (ACLED data). Looting, perpetrated by militias and criminals, is widespread. Reports of sexual violence are increasing. Ethnic tensions are on the rise, notably in West Darfur. The risk of the conflict spilling over and destabilising neighbouring countries is high as are huge migratory movements, some to Europe. Sudan is of key

¹⁶ Pact on Migration and Asylum - European Commission (europa.eu)

strategic importance. It is the largest state in the region, bordering seven other states, and has a long coastline on the Red Sea. As of August 31, Frontex detected around 3 320 irregular border crossings from Sudan so far in 2023 at the EU external borders on the central, western and eastern Mediterranean routes, a 130% increase compared to the same period last year. Nearly 76% of the arrivals were recorded through the central Mediterranean route. Between January to October 2023, 6 471 asylum applications were lodged from Sudanese national in the EU+, representing an increase of about 96% compared to the same period in 2022. Half of the asylum applications are lodged in France.

The delivery of assistance has encountered significant obstacles, including ongoing insecurity, theft of supplies, attacks on aid workers, fuel shortages, and bureaucratic hurdles, severely impeding relief efforts both within Sudan and across its borders. The dire humanitarian situation has left around 25 million people in urgent need of assistance, with 19.3 million facing critical food shortages. The situation for millions of displaced individuals remains dire, with severe shortages of shelter and basic necessities exacerbating their already pre-war desperate living conditions.

In these desperate circumstances, marginalised groups are at risk of being left behind as for instance Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), stigmatised women (SGBV survivors), children and young people as well as people with disabilities (particularly women and girls).

Protection risks are rampant, with an estimated 7.7 million people facing heightened risks of family separation, trafficking, kidnapping, and sexual and gender-based violence. The conflict has a disproportionate impact on women who have limited access to services, especially sexual and reproductive healthcare, while facing increased risks, especially sexual and gender-based violence. About 3.1 million women and girls are at risk of gender-based violence, according to UNFPA. In addition, the socio-cultural context in Sudan, exacerbated by the conflict, is particularly prone to increases in cases of domestic violence, early and child marriage (with over a third of young women-aged 20-24 years- married by 18 years of age (17) female genital mutilation (FGM/C) and human trafficking. Regarding FGM/C, it is estimated that nine out of ten women (aged 15-49 years) have undergone the procedure (18). Sexual assaults by men in uniform from both sides were reported in Khartoum and other states.

The scale of this crisis underscores the urgent need for comprehensive humanitarian, development and peacebuilding support to address the multifaceted challenges faced by Sudan's civilian population during and after the conflict. In this vein, this action is coordinated with ECHO and FPI in an attempt to better integrate humanitarian, development and peace (HDP) activities. HDP coordination is also being ensured through relevant donor coordination mechanisms at HQ and at field and local level (thematic clusters); this being in line with the 2017 and 2018 Council conclusions of the EU instructing the Commission to 'Operationalise the Humanitarian-Development- Peace Nexus' and stated that: *The humanitarian system alone cannot address needs of such magnitude and diversity, especially as crises will reverse development progress as they become protracted. Development actors should maintain a presence during crises to support resilience and the transition to development from the early stages. The Council stresses the importance of **investing in prevention and addressing the underlying root causes of vulnerability**, fragility and conflict while simultaneously meeting humanitarian needs and strengthening resilience, thus reducing risks.* To that aim, the Council requested the Commission to select six pilot countries (Sudan, Uganda, Iraq, Nigeria, Myanmar, and Chad) in consultation with EU Member States (EUMS).

2.2 Problem Analysis

The conflict in Sudan has triggered a profound displacement crisis, impacting over 6 million people internally and forcing an additional 2 million to seek asylum in neighbouring nations, constituting one of the largest displacements globally. This displacement has particularly affected nearly 4 million children and youth, subjecting them to economic hardships, increased recruitment by armed groups, and heightened risks of terrorism and

¹⁷ Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) SUDAN, Gender Action Plan (GAP) III 2021-2025- EU Delegation to the Republic of Sudan, September 2022

¹⁸ IDEM

irregular migration. The conflict's devastating impact on Sudan's agricultural sector has exacerbated food insecurity, affecting approximately 17.7 million people and leading to widespread unemployment and poverty, especially among young people, compounded by soaring inflation and currency depreciation. As millions of people are experiencing severe food insecurity, Sudan is on the verge of a large-scale famine in the lean season of 2024. Prevention of food insecurity and food insecurity itself are addressed through the current contracting of food security and rural resilience programmes within the Individual Measure 2. The latter includes resilience building activities and agricultural production support through *inter alia* the distribution of seeds, animal health and livestock management, support to nutritious food value chains, and small rural infrastructure. Besides, these programmes take into account the immediate needs of the target groups through emergency support activities. Those include multi-purpose cash transfers for food security of most needy farmers and avoid further war induced erosion of assets, cash or in-kind distribution to vulnerable households according to the emergency criteria established by OCHA, initial micro grants and cash for work schemes support to alleviate the risks of imminent famine as well as nutrition support to health facilities, phase-out over one year (which could, if needed in a famine situation, be extended). Socially, the conflict has shattered community structures and support systems, amplifying vulnerabilities and escalating the risk of exploitation and violence, particularly against women, children and persons with disabilities. Additionally, severe environmental damage resulting from the conflict has ravaged infrastructure and natural resources, further undermining the resilience of affected communities. The legacy of landmines and unexploded ordnance poses severe risks to civilian populations, especially children, young people, and vulnerable communities.

Education for Sudan's children has been severely disrupted. The conflict has resulted in the closure of 10,400 schools in most states, with 1,540 currently serving as gathering sites for internally displaced persons (IDPs). It is estimated that 19 million children are currently out of school. This educational crisis exacerbates protection risks, including child labour, early marriage, and involvement in armed conflict and a surge in irregular migration and trafficking of human beings. Already before the war, alarming findings from the National Learning Assessment (NLA) in 2015 revealed significant proportions of grade 3 learners struggling with basic literacy and numeracy skills. It is urgent to avoid the emergence of a "lost generation" in Sudan. It is reported that children are enrolled by both sides and other armed groups at the age of 12 years old. They hide during the day especially in the morning to avoid forced enrolment.

Women and girls in Sudan have borne a disproportionate burden of the conflict's impact, facing severe hardship such as hostilities, displacement, hunger, disrupted livelihoods, and heightened risks of gender-based violence (GBV). 53 per cent of those internally displaced are women and girls, and there is a growing risk that the violence will soon create the world's larger hunger crisis¹⁹. The conflict has worsened these challenges, leading to increased protection threats, reduced access to essential services, and heightened vulnerability to exploitation. Despite the resilience demonstrated by Sudanese women, evidenced through initiatives like Women's Emergency Response Rooms (ERRs), reports from human rights and women-led organisations highlight the urgent need for gender-responsive interventions that support women and girls' resilience and well-being. Additionally, the conflict has disproportionately affected female-headed households, widows, and adolescent girls. Furthermore, the UN has reported that the use of sexual violence as a 'weapon of war' and trafficking, and sexual exploitation has been common since the beginning of the conflict. As of December 2023, 118 reports of conflict-related sexual violence including rape, had been received by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, with real numbers likely to reach the thousands. Older women, adolescent girls and women and girls with disabilities face additional GBV concerns, while women rights defenders and those delivering aid services including healthcare have also been specifically targeted²⁰.

The only official statistics on disability date from the census in 2008, when 4.8% (equal to 1,854,985 individuals) of Sudan's population were reported as being affected by a disability. This percentage has certainly risen and will rise further as a consequence of the war. The major challenges in Sudan are negative social attitudes, structural discrimination and the lack of adequate services and protection of rights of PwD. Disabled young people face

¹⁹ [A year of suffering for Sudanese women and girls, UN WOMEN, 14 April 2024](#)

²⁰ [Because They Are Women: How the Sudan conflict has created a war on women and girls, CARE International, April 2024](#)

heightened risks in the current conflict and their situation is a particular source of concern. Women and girls with disabilities are at greater risk of sexual and gender-based violence. In the aftermath of armed conflict, people with disabilities are routinely denied access to justice and excluded from peace processes. In Khartoum, hospitals and clinics have suffered heavy bombing and their staff have fled in search for safe havens. *“People with mental illnesses are getting released from psychiatric institutions unable to look after them.”*²¹

Moreover, the conflict has severely disrupted livelihoods and markets, particularly in urban and semi-urban centres hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs). Displacement has strained local economies, leading to widespread unemployment, and reduced economic activity. Many IDPs have lost their livelihoods and struggle to meet basic needs, exacerbating poverty and food insecurity. The influx of displaced populations into urban areas has overwhelmed infrastructure and services, placing additional pressure on already strained resources. As a result, vulnerable individuals and communities face heightened risks of exploitation and limited access to essential services. Addressing these challenges requires urgent interventions to revitalise local economies, support livelihood recovery, and strengthen social protection mechanisms for displaced populations, ensuring their integration and resilience within urban and semi-urban settings. Collaboration among key stakeholders (duty-bearers) is crucial to mitigate the multifaceted impacts of the conflict and promote sustainable development across Sudan. Aligning with EU strategic objectives for sustainable recovery and development in Sudan is essential to ensure comprehensive and effective interventions that mitigate the impacts of the conflict and pave the way for a future for vulnerable groups.

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

The stakeholder analysis for this proposal encompasses a diverse range of actors crucial to the project's success. Local communities, leaders, and community-based organisations (CBOs) such as Emergency Response Rooms, women-led organisations, and groups for persons with disabilities play essential roles in providing insights into community needs and facilitating inclusive participation. The Sudanese private sector from the diaspora and the resilient local businesses and micro enterprises contribute to economic development and job creation. The diaspora support resource mobilisation. International NGOs (INGOs), local NGOs, and sub national administration at local level are vital implementing partners responsible for basic service delivery and coordination. Additionally, engagement with Parent and Teacher Associations (PTAs), technical services of the sub-national administration (Education, Social Development, and Agriculture), smallholder farmers' associations, and UN agencies (UNICEF, FAO, IFAD, UNMAS, UNDP, UNOCHA, UNHCR, UN Women and World Health Organisation (WHO)) ensures alignment with national priorities, technical expertise, and comprehensive and inclusive support across education, agriculture, mine action, livelihoods, and humanitarian coordination, integrating a gender perspective. Collaboration with this diverse array of stakeholders enhances project effectiveness, inclusivity, and sustainability, fostering holistic development outcomes for the target communities and rights holders. In addition, the programme will ensure coordination and synergies with other EU programmes, such as the EU funded education programmes with UNICEF and Save the Children to offer comprehensive solutions to the livelihood and education crisis affecting children and young people.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to strengthen the protection of human rights and improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups affected and/or displaced by the armed conflict in Sudan, in particular

²¹ Anonymous testimony

children, young people and groups at risk, and to mitigate the risks of irregular migration, trafficking of human beings, criminality, and recruitment by the warring parties.

The Specific Objectives of this action are to:

1. Enhance human rights protection, social and economic (re) integration of the most vulnerable groups such as single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and children at risk, and persons with disabilities in displacement-affected communities.
2. Generate employment and income opportunities for young people affected by displacement and their host communities.
3. Support the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding in displacement affected communities, including children with disabilities.

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

For Specific Objective 1:

1.1: Increased access to safe, gender-sensitive and age-appropriate protection services, including gender-based violence and child protection services with a specific focus on addressing the needs of the most vulnerable individuals, including single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and street children, and persons with disabilities.

1.2: Improved livelihood opportunities with particular focus on the equal inclusion of the most vulnerable groups.

For Specific Objective 2:

2.1: Increased labour-intensive, community-based public works schemes with particular focus on youth and displaced persons.

2.2: Strengthened technical and financial capacities of self-employed and of micro and small businesses, including in urban and peri-urban agriculture and food systems.

For Specific Objective 3:

3.1: Increased availability of school meals that incorporate diversified local diet suitable for children's nutrition and health.

3.2: Increased income opportunities for smallholder farmers, suppliers, and caterers with particular focus on young people, women, and persons with disabilities.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1:

Activity 1.1.1 Establish Safe Spaces/shelters and secure night-time environments for female and minor street-begging populations, survivors of SGBV, and persons with disabilities engaged in street-begging ensuring immediate protection and assistance.

Activity 1.1.2 Improve the living conditions of vulnerable people living in institutions such as persons with disabilities, orphans and strengthen those institutions to improve their gender and age response.

Activity 1.1.3 Partner with institutions under 1.1.2 and other local actors to establish a foster care network for abandoned children and facilitate family reunification.

Activity 1.1.4 Enhance access to age and gender-appropriate case management services for vulnerable groups, including children, girls, and survivors of GBV and their families, with a focus on those with disabilities, IDPs, child labour survivors, early marriage victims, Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAAFAGs), and Unaccompanied and separated Children (UASC) and strengthen the mapped referral institutions/services on gender and age-appropriate response, safeguarding and other key aspects of quality SGBV and CP response.

Activity 1.1.5 Raise awareness about the risks imposed by unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices, especially for children.

Activity 1.1.6 Deliver cash assistance to highly vulnerable households (involving persons with disabilities, women, or child head of household) in peri-urban and urban areas, encompassing both IDPs and host communities, to address immediate needs.

Activities relating to Output 1.2

Activity 1.2.1 Provide vulnerable women (victims of SGBV, and young people with disability, widows) with access to economic opportunities linked to sustainable market systems in targeted peri-urban and urban areas i.e. provision of tailored business start-up grants and support for income generation activities.

Activity 1.2.2 Refer and accompany vulnerable women, and women and young people with disability through financial literacy, life skills training, on-the-job training (internship) opportunities as well as start-up kits.

Activity 1.2.3 Establish and/or strengthen safety nets and shock-responsive social protection mechanisms (saving groups, self-help groups) for women, persons with disabilities and other groups at risks.

Activity 1.2.4 Refer and accompany the (re)integration of children with disability and unaccompanied children into formal and informal education.

Activities related to Output 2.1:

Activity 2.1.1 Identify priority needs with communities, assessment and design of infrastructure works in local neighbourhoods.

Activity 2.1.2 Identify skilled youth workers, form training groups with unskilled workers and displaced/conflict-affected young people.

Activity 2.1.3 Conduct labour-intensive community works to provide short-term income opportunities and foster skills development for employment.

Activity 2.1.4 Provide technical support and specialised services to ensure compliance and assist in establishing management and maintenance systems involving community members and leadership.

Activity 2.1.5 Conduct explosive ordnance risk education for community members, including affected young people, and collaborate with schools to implement sensitisation programmes.

Activities relating to Output 2.2:

Activity 2.2.1 Support displaced and conflict-affected young people through tailored career counselling, life skills education, soft skills training, technical vocational programmes, and entrepreneurship initiatives.

Activity 2.2.2 Empower young people through entrepreneurship programmes, start-up kits and financial literacy training, while fostering collaboration with local organisations for long-term sustainability.

Activity 2.2.3 Support MSMEs through a structured, phased approach involving capacity-building training, provision of small grants, technical and financial literacy, establishing Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), and fostering business development and, where and when feasible, facilitating linkages with financial institutions.

Activity 2.2.4 Create job platforms, enhancing business products and outreach, offering tailored business support, and identifying businesses with growth potential to boost employment opportunities for displaced and conflict-affected youth.

Activity 2.2.5 On-the-job training, work-based learning opportunities, partnering with the private sector to facilitate apprenticeships, organise joint professional training activities and skills development for young people affected by displacement and conflict.

Adaptation to the crisis context and examples of activities:

The action adapts to a war/post war context by providing quick income to large numbers of idle unskilled youth to construct/ rehabilitate damaged small social infrastructure and other community assets (rehabilitation/construction of water canals, health posts, classrooms, clean up campaigns). Small-scale agriculture activities in peri-urban areas could be supported, e.g through agri-TVET activities and basic investment support to women, youth and displaced people and host communities. This can yield immediate benefits to the population in the crisis context by absorbing labour demand, increase local food production, and stabilize soaring food prices. It will give young people some perspectives for the future by fostering their self-esteem for becoming an actor of change in their society. Activities will be carried out largely with the private sector from the diaspora or resilient micro and small enterprises from local communities and with local authorities and traditional leaders. No engagement or implementation with central government ministries is foreseen in current circumstances.

Skills development (e.g plumbing, electricity...) will focus on practice oriented short-term courses which are more adapted to the crisis context. Apprenticeships and joint activities with the local private sector can encourage professional insertion. Moreover, entrepreneurship trainings, project development, and provision of small grants for initial professional kits will support the target groups to set up or develop their micro and small businesses.

The approach supports MSMEs and could supports the reinsertion of ex-combatants and returning displaced persons. Collaboration with local CSOs ensures long-term employability, while training on post-war and mine hazards enhances workplace safety.

Activities related to Output 3.1:

Activity 3.1.1 Conduct school assessments and baseline study, accompanied by a video documentary, case studies, and comprehensive reports.

Activity 3.1.2 Capacity strengthening, training and nutrition education as well as Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) to education and agriculture stakeholders (duty-bearers), including also Parent and Teacher Associations and local food suppliers, on project objectives, agriculture techniques in addition to School Menu Planner Plus (SMP Plus) for cost-efficient and nutritious school menus and

management of school kitchens, taking into account the gender, human rights and disability-inclusive perspective.

Activity 3.1.3 Procure cereals, pulses, oil, and salt over three years through a hybrid model. Whenever possible, fresh food, including vegetables, will be procured from local smallholder farmers under activity 3.2.5.

Activity 3.1.4 Provide Nutritious School Meals to beneficiaries in four states, with a contingency for disabled children and support staff.

Activity 3.1.5 Implement school gardens to teach children agriculture and nutrition, drawing on successful practices and focusing on food preservation and hygiene.

Activities related to Output 3.2:

Activity 3.2.1 Assess capacities of local smallholder farmers' groups, especially those led by young people, persons with disabilities, and women along the HGSF value chains (production, storage, access to banking services)

Activity 3.2.2 Facilitate linkages between local technical services and farmers, including women producers to improve the quality of production and productivity through training and equipment.

Activity 3.2.3 Train Smallholder Farmers to enhance agricultural practices, post-harvest handling, and food safety standards, including climate-smart techniques and financial literacy.

Activity 3.2.4 Conduct regular Market Assessments to set prices, with a focus on perishables delivered weekly. Female farmers will be prioritised to enhance their economic participation.

Activity 3.2.5 Procure food from smallholder farmers for schools, with the actual number and gender distribution of farmers to be identified during implementation.

Adaptation to the crisis context: the Action will apply a new hybrid model of school feeding. In states with stability and agriculture potential home-grown school feeding (HGSF) will be implemented linking up with local farmers and food systems. In areas affected by conflict or insufficient food production the regular school feeding may be used. HGSF will shorten the logistical chains, provide market access for local smallholder farmers and create jobs for young people and women. WFP estimates that for every 100,000 schoolchildren on school meals, 1,377 direct jobs are created. The areas of intervention will be adapted to localities with high influx of displaced people. Constant monitoring via local conflict sensitivity assessments with local partners will be undertaken to ensure “Do no harm” and be able to flexibly adapt the scope of the operation, as needed.

Example: Smallholder farmers will benefit from a holistic approach: as far as possible, the school feeding programme will be aligned with existing smallholder farmer-focused activities of the EU (Team Europe Initiative Food security, IM 2) and of EU MS and other donors. The TEI will provide *supply-side support* through e.g. the provision of inputs (seeds, fertilizer etc.) to farmers, training, equipment and climate-smart technologies to increase production. The school feeding programme will provide *demand-side support* creating reliable markets for local farmers with a steady demand. This market access will enhance opportunities for steady income sources and investment by smallholders. It will also recruit, train and equip local women and youth as food suppliers (including for vegetables and fruit), food processors or cooks in the schools.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening:

The EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) screening classified the action as Category B (not requiring an EIA, but for which environment aspects will be addressed during design).

A comprehensive environmental assessment for the entire initiative may not be necessary, given factors such as the modest scale of most investments and the focus on rehabilitating existing infrastructure rather than initiating new construction projects. The Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (NEAT+) would be employed on an as-needed basis for individual projects to assist staff in evaluating environmental impacts and determining whether full environmental assessments at the project/activity level are required, particularly for infrastructure projects. This approach ensures that environmental considerations are factored into decision-making processes while optimising resources and prioritising rehabilitation efforts across all implementing partners.

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening

The Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening concluded that the action poses no or low risk, eliminating the need for further assessment. As determined by the screening process, the action highlights the impact of climate changes in increasing vulnerability towards food security and resilience. The context and problem analysis demonstrate awareness of climate risks and their potential level of negative impact. The action will embed climate risk concerns into project baseline surveys and collect information from beneficiaries on the impacts of climate change on their lives, providing relevant data to develop a climate adaptation strategy.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

The action is classified as G1 under the OECD Gender DAC codes, indicating a primary focus on women as a priority target group throughout the action activities. This classification underscores a robust commitment to addressing gender considerations comprehensively within the action. To ensure the integration of gender equality principles, the action employs multifaceted approaches. Firstly, it prioritises women's leadership²² and participation across all action phases, empowering them to engage in decision-making processes. This includes initiatives such as capacity-building workshops, mentorship programmes, and leadership training aimed at enhancing women's representation and influence within the action framework. Secondly, the action adopts inclusive strategies to engage men and boys²³ as allies in promoting gender equality. Through targeted awareness campaigns, dialogue sessions, and community engagement activities, the action challenges harmful gender norms and stereotypes while fostering supportive relationships and promoting positive male attitudes. Furthermore, the action incorporates gender-sensitive programming tailored to address the specific needs and challenges faced by women and girls in the action context. This includes initiatives to enhance access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and social services, with a particular focus on marginalised and vulnerable groups. Moreover, alignment with the EU Gender Action Plan 2021-2025 further reinforces the action's

²² Women Lead in Emergencies

²³ Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality

commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. By addressing thematic areas such as economic and social rights, as well as embracing the green transition and digital transformation, the action seeks to advance gender equality objectives in a holistic manner. As per the key thematic areas of GAP III, the action also contributes to its key thematic areas 'Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence', Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights', and 'Integrating the women, peace, and security agenda'. The EU is committed to elimination of all forms of Gender Based Violence, including sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and sexual harassment in the humanitarian, development and peace setting. Overall, the action's G1 classification signifies a comprehensive approach to gender mainstreaming, with initiatives designed to empower women, engage men and boys, and promote gender equality across all aspects of project implementation.

Human Rights

This action gives priority to addressing the fundamental human rights of vulnerable groups, particularly displaced women, children, and young people affected by armed conflict in Sudan, with the goal of safeguarding and improving their living conditions. It is aligned with the EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy (2020-2024)²⁴. Through targeted interventions, the action aims to reduce the risks associated with irregular migration, criminal activity, and terrorism. Specifically, it seeks to provide protection and socio-economic reintegration for at-risk groups within displacement-affected communities, ensuring their inclusion and participation in community activities. Moreover, the action endeavours to create employment and income-generating opportunities for young people, including IDPs, refugees, and returnees, to empower them economically and facilitate their integration into society. Additionally, the action supports the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding programmes in displacement-affected communities, addressing their nutritional needs and promoting their right to education in a secure environment.

Aligned with human rights principles, this action respects the dignity and rights of all individuals, regardless of their migratory status, sex, disability, race and ethnic group. By promoting social inclusion and economic empowerment, it aims to enhance community resilience and reduce vulnerabilities to conflict and instability. Finally, this action will apply the working principles of the human rights-based approach (HRBA) throughout the design and implementation of the intervention, as well as an intersectional approach.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that the action prioritises disability inclusion as indicated by the D1 classification in alignment with OECD Disability DAC codes. It integrates gender-sensitive approaches and age, gender, and diversity mainstreaming to ensure equitable access to services. Additionally, the action aims to target at least 5-15% of beneficiaries (rights holders) as persons with disabilities, acknowledging their specific needs and promoting inclusivity in all aspects of the action. Finally, attention will be paid to ensure and enable the participation of persons with disabilities in the activities (accessibility of actions, consulting with organisations of persons with disabilities and encourage inclusive communication). The action will be aligned with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the EU Strategy for

²⁴ EEAS, 'EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy', 19.11.2020

the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2021-2030), and the EU Guidance Note on Disability Inclusion in EU external action²⁵.

The rights of the child and protection of children

The action will endeavour to protect children from all possible forms of violence and risks. In conditions of war as in Sudan, children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation, sexual violence, forced recruitment, early marriage, as well as to accidents due to unexploded ordnances.

Reduction of inequalities

The action incorporates a comprehensive framework guided by global organisational and programmatic Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) Minimum Standards. This ensures inclusivity and accountability at all levels. Efforts include capacity building for inclusive programmes and creating a diverse workplace. Programmatically, the action follows seven AGDM Minimum Standards to ensure equal access to assistance, protection, and participation. Adequate funding supports AGDM goals, aiming to overcome discriminatory barriers and provide accessible assistance. The Action is labelled I-1.

Democracy

The action's specific objectives of providing protection, socio-economic reintegration, employment, income generation opportunities, and supporting education align with democratic principles. By prioritising inclusivity, participation, and empowerment, it fosters social cohesion, economic empowerment, and civic engagement within displacement-affected communities. These efforts contribute to mainstreaming democracy by nurturing active and informed citizens, strengthening democratic governance, and building resilient communities.

Do no harm, conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

In Sudan's intricate landscape, the action emphasises the crucial necessity of adopting conflict-sensitive approaches to interventions. It underscores the importance of understanding and addressing existing tensions as well as tensions triggered by the displacement to ensure positive contributions to peace and sustainable development. The action will follow a "Do-No-Harm" approach, thoroughly assessing the impact of aid on existing conflicts and tensions among host communities, refugees, IDPs, and returnees, aiming to foster social cohesion. The strategy involves thorough contextual understanding, prioritising actions that do no harm, engaging stakeholders (duty-bearers), facilitating dialogue, and continuously monitoring and evaluating efforts. By integrating conflict sensitivity into operations and utilising tools like conflict analysis and sensitivity toolkits, the action aims to foster peace, stability, and resilience among conflict-affected populations.

Disaster Risk Reduction

²⁵ Leaving no one behind: Disability inclusion in EU external action, European Commission, 2021

The action recognises its paramount importance in mitigating the impact of natural disasters and enhancing community resilience. Understanding the complex dynamics of disasters and their potential to exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, the action adopts proactive measures to reduce risks and build resilience at the local level. Key elements of the action's approach to DRR include Risk Assessment: Conducting comprehensive risk assessments to identify hazards, vulnerabilities, and capacities within communities. This involves analysing historical data, mapping hazards, and engaging local stakeholders including duty-bearers to understand their experiences and perspectives. Early Warning Systems: Establishing robust early warning systems to provide timely and accurate information to communities at risk. This includes training local personnel and ensuring effective communication channels to disseminate warnings and evacuation procedures. Community Engagement: Engaging communities in the planning and implementation of DRR measures, recognising their invaluable knowledge and resources. This involves promoting community-based approaches, facilitating participatory decision-making processes, and fostering partnerships with local organisations and authorities. Infrastructure and Capacity Building: Investing in infrastructure and capacity building initiatives to strengthen the resilience of critical sectors such as housing, infrastructure, health, and education. The action aims to minimise the impact of disasters, protect lives and livelihoods, and contribute to sustainable development in disaster-prone areas.

Other considerations if relevant

The Action prioritises the needs and aspirations of young people, aiming to empower them for sustainable development. It fosters inclusive structures, integrates youth perspectives into initiatives, and ensures their active involvement in decision-making. By adhering to guidelines like the Compact for Youth in Humanitarian Action, it promotes accountability and recognises youth voices in advocacy processes. Through partnerships and evidence-based methodologies, the Action addresses Sudan's unique challenges effectively, exploring the intersection of youth and climate change while aligning corporate identity with shared youth values.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
External Environment	Conflict related and security Risks: Given the ongoing conflict in Sudan, risks such as armed violence, accessibility,	High	High	Implement strict security protocols (integrating a gender and inclusive approach) and procedures for project staff, including regular security briefings, travel advisories, and the establishment of secure communication channels. Work closely with local authorities and

	looting, theft, and civil unrest pose significant threats to the safety and security of project staff and beneficiaries (rights holders), in addition to an increase in food insecurity in the general population. .			<p>community leaders to mitigate security risks and ensure the safety of project operations in addition to relying on security advice provided regularly by the UN security system. Involve communities in control of food distribution. Collaborate with local authorities to investigate and address any allegations or incidents of food diversion, looting or theft. A Complaints Feedback Mechanism (CFM) will be operationalised in the targeted localities to enable beneficiaries (rights holders) and community members to raise concerns and seek swift resolutions to complaints.</p> <p>Provision of on-site meals as that contributes to the beneficiary's food intake and provides them with essential micronutrients</p>
External environment	Continued closure of schools and/or inaccessibility due to occupation by IDPs	Medium	Medium	<p>Accompany Safe Learning Spaces (SLS) outside school premises</p> <p>Coordinate with the education cluster, other education projects and stakeholders</p> <p>Advocacy with the State Ministry of Education to open school structures</p>
External environment	Expansion or shift of the combats hot spots in States and locations previously (relatively) safe	High	High	<p>Partnership with IPs with a solid expanded network in the country thus able to relocate staff and activities</p> <p>Thorough war situation assessment prior to implementation and continue war situation monitoring</p>
People and the Organisation	Financial Risks such as fluctuating exchange rates, inflation, and budgetary constraints may affect the availability of funds for project implementation and result in cost overruns or delays.	Medium	Medium	<p>Monitor exchange rate fluctuations and inflation rates regularly to anticipate potential financial risks and adjust project budgets accordingly. Diversify funding sources and explore innovative financing mechanisms to mitigate the impact of budgetary constraints.</p> <p>Ensure internal control policies create appropriate accountability including risk assessment, control activities,</p>

				information and communication, and oversight.
Fiduciary risks	Fraud, corruption, looting, diversion of food or inputs provided by the project	Medium	High	<p>Training on anti-fraud and anti-corruption (AFAC) to CP, distributors /staff working in the project</p> <p>Regular fraud risk assessments</p> <p>Commodity tracking, transporter accountability measures</p> <p>Due diligence of security firms</p> <p>Minimize storage time before delivery</p> <p>Field monitors at distribution points</p> <p>Food management committees at schools</p>
Planning, Processes, and Systems	Operational Risks: Logistical challenges, delays in procurement, bureaucratic hurdles, and food quality of food procured from smallholder farmers may affect the availability of funds for project implementation and result in cost overruns or delays.	Medium	Medium	Develop contingency plans to address potential operational challenges, such as alternative procurement strategies, backup suppliers, and flexible project timelines. Strengthen partnerships with local implementing partners (duty-bearers) to leverage their local knowledge and networks to overcome operational obstacles.
Gender equality	A gender-blind, neutral, or negative context and problem analysis could reinforce existing gender inequalities and non-realisation of human rights in the sector, and hinder the efficiency and sustainability of the action	Medium	Medium	<p>Knowledge and tools of gender mainstreaming are available.</p> <p>Gender-sensitive monitoring, use of sex-disaggregated data, and gender-sensitive Indicators.</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming is applied in all phases of the support services.</p>

Lessons Learnt:

1. Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Displacement Crisis:

Implementing a holistic approach that addresses the immediate needs of displaced and at-risk populations while also focusing on medium-term socio-economic reintegration is crucial. This includes providing comprehensive gender and age-appropriate protection services, equitable access to basic services, and opportunities for self-employment and livelihood diversification.

2. Importance of Local Ownership and Partnerships:

Emphasising local ownership and building partnerships with local authorities, community-based organisations, private sector, and other NGOs is essential for the sustainability and effectiveness of interventions. Engaging community leaders and stakeholders (duty-bearers) in decision-making processes helps ensure that interventions are culturally sensitive and contextually relevant.

3. Nexus Approach to Humanitarian-Development Interventions:

Adopting a nexus approach that bridges humanitarian and development efforts is imperative for addressing the complex and interconnected challenges faced by displacement-affected communities. Integrating activities focused on recovery and resilience-building into all outcomes helps lay the groundwork for sustainable development and community-led initiatives.

4. Adaptability and Flexibility in Programming:

Flexibility and adaptability are essential for responding to evolving needs and changing circumstances on the ground. Being responsive to feedback from beneficiaries and conducting regular needs assessments allow for adjustments to be made to interventions, ensuring they remain relevant and effective.

5. Strengthening Coordination and Referral Systems:

Strengthening coordination mechanisms and referral systems with other NGOs, private sector, and other stakeholders (duty-bearers) amplifies the impact of interventions and ensures a more comprehensive response to the needs of vulnerable populations. This includes establishing clear protocols for case management and leveraging existing initiatives to avoid duplication of efforts.

6. Community Engagement and Participation:

Actively involving the target communities (rights holders) in programme decision-making processes fosters a sense of ownership and empowers beneficiaries to take charge of their own development. Using participatory approaches- integrating a gender, HRBA, disability-inclusive perspective, and conflict sensitivity perspective-, such as community consultations and focus groups, helps ensure that interventions are demand-driven and responsive to local needs.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is rooted in the assumption that effective implementation of targeted outputs will lead to desired outcomes and impacts. By providing protection and socio-economic reintegration services to the most vulnerable displaced and conflict affected groups (Specific Objective 1), such as vulnerable individuals, including displaced women, children, persons with disabilities, and young people, beneficiaries (rights holders) will experience improved safety, well-being, and social inclusion. Simultaneously, offering employment and income generation opportunities to displaced and conflict affected young people,

including IDPs, refugees, and returnees (Specific Objective 2), will reduce dependency on aid, enhance economic stability, and decrease vulnerability to exploitation, criminal activities, and recruitment by armed groups. Furthermore, supporting the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding initiatives (Specific Objective 3) will increase access to education, leading to improved academic performance, nutrition, and overall well-being and mitigate rights child abuse (early marriage, child labour and enrolment into militias). The successful achievement of these pathways will contribute to the overarching impact of protecting and improving the basic living conditions of vulnerable groups affected by armed conflict in Sudan, while mitigating risks related to irregular migration, criminality, and terrorism, ultimately promoting sustainable development and resilience in displacement-affected communities. However, this Theory of Change relies on the assumption of commitment and engagement from stakeholders including duty bearers, access to essential resources and funding, and a favourable socio-political environment, with potential risks including challenges in accessing vulnerable populations, and external factors such as security threats, due to extension of armed conflict or criminal activities or political instability impacting project outcomes.

Theory of Change:

1. **IF** protection of human rights and socio-economic reintegration services to groups at risk in displacement affected communities are provided (Specific Objective 1),
 - **THEN** vulnerable individuals, including displaced women, persons with disabilities, children, and young people, will experience improved safety, well-being, and social inclusion.
2. **IF** employment and income generation opportunities are provided to young people affected by displacement and their host communities (Specific Objective 2),
 - **THEN** there will be reduced dependency on aid, increased economic stability, and less vulnerability to exploitation, criminal activities and recruitment by armed groups.
3. **IF** support is provided to ensure the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding initiatives in displacement affected communities (Specific Objective 3),

THEN children's access to education will increase, leading to improved academic performance, nutrition, and overall well-being.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

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

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

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

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

This project proposal prioritises inclusivity and equal opportunities for the target group across the three Specific Objectives, with a strong emphasis on achieving gender balance by empowering 60% females and 40% males in project activities. Furthermore, the demographic distribution will be inclusive, comprising 50% internally displaced persons (IDPs), 25% refugees, and 25% individuals from host communities. Additionally, each of the objectives will prioritize the inclusion of persons with disabilities, with representation varied across different outputs.

PROJECT MODALITY (3 levels of results / indicators / Source of Data / Assumptions - no activities)

Results	Results chain (@):	Indicators (@):	Baselines	Targets	Sources of data	Assumptions
	Main expected results (maximum 10)	(at least one indicator per expected result)	(values and years)	(values and years)		
Impact	Overall Objective: to strengthen the protection of human rights and improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups affected and/or displaced by the armed conflict in Sudan, in particular children, young people and groups at risk, and to mitigate the risks of irregular migration, trafficking of human beings, criminality, and recruitment by the warring parties.	0.1 Unemployment rate of displaced persons compared to the resident/host communities, disaggregated by sex, age group, disability status (Percentage point difference)	TBD during inception phase	TBD	Household surveys, UN/World Bank data	Not applicable
		0.2 Percentage of displaced persons living below the national poverty line, compared to the national average, disaggregated by sex, age group, rural/urban	TBD during inception phase	TBD	Poverty survey, UN/World Bank data	
		Reduction of cross-border movements of displaced persons	TBD by baseline	TBD	IOM data	
	1. Specific Objective 1: Enhance human rights protection, social and economic (re) integration	1.1: Percentage of vulnerable people, disaggregated by migratory status, sex, and disability, reporting having improved access to gender and age-appropriate protection services	1.1 TBD by baseline study	TBD	1.1 Baseline and endline surveys, conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention, marketing study survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict does not escalate causing further displacement and dispersion of the target group • Socio-cultural stigma does not prevent reaching out to the target group

	of the most vulnerable groups such as single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and street children, persons with disabilities etc), in displacement-affected communities.	1.2 GEF 2.37 Number of people benefitting from EU-funded interventions to counter sexual and gender-based violence				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to project location is maintained • Authorisation to operate smoothly is granted to the IPs by the local and de facto national authorities • Human resources continue to be available in quality and quantities needed
		1.3 GEF 2.20 Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support [NDICI-Global Europe][SP]†				
		1.4: Percentage of vulnerable people, disaggregated by sex, migratory status and disability, living in safe and dignified shelters in secure settlements according to the standard for shelter as a result of EU support.	TBD by baseline study	TBD	baseline and endline survey	
		1.5 Number of vulnerable groups and families accessing gender and age-appropriate case management disaggregated by	TBD by baseline	TBD	baseline and endline survey	

		sex, disability, migration status, and age				
	1. Specific Objective 2: Generate employment and income opportunities for young people affected by displacement and their host communities.	2.1: Percentage of targeted households reporting improved economic self-efficacy.	TBD by baseline	TBD	Survey Report, Project Documents, Follow-up Records.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The economic and political situation in the country allow for business growth and employment • No mass IDP / refugees will take place before or during the intervention • Conflict does not escalate causing further displacement; • Access to project locations is maintained; • No large-scale natural disasters (drought/flood) affecting the areas of interventions; • IDPs and Returnees, particularly vulnerable groups, are able to access land; • Local markets
		2.2: Percentage of targeted individuals reporting increased access to livelihood opportunities, disaggregated by sex, disability status, and migratory status.	TBD by baseline	TBD	Survey Report, Project Documents, Follow-up Records.	
		2.3: Percentage Increased Economic Resilience and Sustainability in Peri-Urban Communities through the re-establishment of Micro and Small Businesses.	TBD by baseline	TBD	Survey Report on business plans, follow-up records, post-activity survey and other criteria for resilience, Project Documents, Follow-up Records.	

		2.4: Number of people deriving a temporary income as a result of the EU support, disaggregated by sex, disability status, and migratory status.	0	18,220	Project Reports and Documents	have capacity to supply the necessary equipment /technologies/services ;
		2.5: Number of Young people successfully completing Entrepreneurship Programmes and Receiving Business Management Training, Coaching and start-up kits with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex, migratory and disability status.	0	4,000	Programme Registration Database, Pre- and Post-Training Test Reports, Training Completion Certificates. Distribution lists, receipt acknowledgments from recipients, monitoring reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All levels of government and partners remain supportive and collaborative; Human resources continue to be available in quality and quantities needed
	Specific Objective 3: Support the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding in	3.1: GERF 2.36 Number of students enrolled in education with EU support: (a) primary education, (disaggregated by	3.1 TBD during inception phase	3.1 TBD during inception phase	3.1 School records	1 - Capable partners are available to support interventions. 2- Security environment improved.

	displacement affected communities.	grade, sex, age group, migratory and disability status)				
		3.2: Attendance Rate(disaggregated by grade and sex, migratory and disability status)	3.2 TBD during inception phase	3.2 TBD during inception phase	3.2 School records per school year TBD during inception phase	
		3.3: Percentage of food procured from smallholder farmer aggregation systems to support HGSP	3.3 TBD during inception phase	3.3 TBD during inception phase	3.3 Data to be extracted from WINGS	
Output 1 Relating to Outcome 1	Output 1.1: Increased access to safe, gender-sensitive and age-appropriate protection services, including gender-based violence and child protection services with a specific focus on addressing the needs of the most vulnerable individuals, including single household women, SGBV survivors, unaaccompanied and street children and persons with disabilities. .	1.1.1: Number of formal and informal systems in facilitating referral, monitoring, and follow-up for SGBV cases, set up with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.1.1 0	1.1.1 28	1.1.1 Referral SoPs, referral form Referral Database (with Tracking up to the service delivery), case management database	1. the security situation assist the implementation of intervention,
		1.1.2 Number of vulnerable individuals supported with safe spaces in the rehabilitated community centres, with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex, age, and disability status	1.1.2 0	1.1.2 5,000	Construction certificates, photo, monitoring visit report Registration Database/Attendance Sheet, Feedback/Satisfaction Forms	2, institutions stakeholders (duty-bearers) committed and actively contributes and support on the implementation of the intervention 3 target groups and individuals are not discriminated and stigmatized
		1.1.3: Number of vulnerable individuals residing in institutions with	1.1.3 0	1.1.3 2000	Attendance Participants list progress report	4 solidarity spirit to ensure protection and fostering support to unaccompanied and/or orphan children is still strong

		improved living conditions, with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex , age, and disability status.			Mid-term and end line studies, focus group discussion, individual interviews	5 security for free mobility of women, children and PwD is satisfactory
		1.1.4: Number of families of non-institutionalized persons with disabilities and isolated women receiving cash and voucher assistance in selected communities, disaggregated by disability status, sex, household ownership, and migration status	1.1.4 0	1.1.4 10,000	Case Management, Form, Referral Forms, Project Database, distribution lists	
		1.1.5: Number of foster families or foster mothers recruited specifically for abandoned children with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.1.5 0	1.1.5 TBD	Foster families data base	
		1.1.6 Number of individuals from vulnerable groups accessing MHPSS services combined with ASRH	1.1.6 TBD by baseline study	1.1.5 TBD	Project reports	

		information, disaggregated by sex, disability status, migration status, and age				
		1.1.7 Number of children and parents disaggregated by location, aware about the risks imposed by unexploded ordnance, segregated by location	1.1.7 TBD by baseline study	1.1.7 TBD		
		1.1.9: Number of women, men, adolescents, in all their diversity, with increased access to sexual and reproductive health care and services (GAP III indicator)	0	TBD	Project reports	
		1.1.10: Number of adequate, easily accessible and protected shelters for victims of gender-based violence available (GAP III indicator)	0	TBD		
		1.1.11: Number of vulnerable HH of IDPs and host community	0	TBD		

		supported with cash for asset of immediate needs segregated by migration status				
Output 2 Relating to Outcome 1	Output 1.2: Improved livelihood opportunities with particular focus on the equal inclusion of the most vulnerable groups.	1.2.1: Number of vulnerable women, men and youth supported, by the EU-funded intervention with tailored business start-up grants and income generation activities disaggregated by sex, migration status,, age, disability, migration and marital status.	0	TBD	Beneficiaries Distribution List, PDM and verification reports, activity progress report	- Market assessments are conducted to identify viable economic opportunities for women in targeted peri-urban and urban areas. - the women are interested and allowed by their families to attend the training.
		1.2.2 : Number of people trained by the EU-funded intervention having increased knowledge and /or skills on life skills and, financial literacy, disaggregated by sex, age and migration status	0	3,000	1.2.2 pre-and post-training reports Attendance participant list, training report	- Vocational training programs are tailored to meet the diverse needs and preferences of youth from both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities - Cash for asset creation activities are designed to address immediate needs while also building the long-term resilience and economic capacity of vulnerable households
		1.2.3: Number of women supported with start-up kits, disaggregated by migration status.	0	2,000		- the women are interested and allowed by their families to attend the training.
		1.2.4: Number of vulnerable HH of	0	2,000	Beneficiaries' registration	

		IDPs and host community supported with cash for asset of immediate needs disaggregated by migration status			distribution list, progress report, monitoring visit report	
		1.2.6: Number of children with disability and unaccompanied children referred into formal and informal education with support of the EU-funded intervention	0	TBD	Attendance participant list, Training report	
Output 1 Relating to Outcome 2	Output 2.1: Increased labour-intensive, community-based public works schemes with particular focus on youth and displaced persons	2.1.1: Number of Infrastructure projects completed with support of the EU-funded intervention	0	28	Completion Reports, Photographs.	Target groups are engaged with project activities
		2.1.2: Number of people benefitting from infrastructures development	0	TBD (inception phase)	Beneficiary Surveys.	Availability and accessibility of activities and materials remains stable
		2.1.3: Number of people who receive temporary income for participating in community-based cash for work activities, with support of the EU-funded intervention disaggregated by	0	2,880	Cash Distribution Lists, Payroll Forms, Work Attendance Sheets.	Beneficiaries are willing to engage in project data collection activities Paid employment opportunities are available in the local market The legal and

		sex, migratory and disability status				financial environment support the creation and maintenance of VSLAs Beneficiaries are willing to avail of legal and financial services
		2.1.4: Number of people participating in community-based cash for work activities trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills, disaggregated by sex, age and disability status	0	500	Pre- and post-training test reports Attendance sheet , payslip/ FSP report	
		2.1.5: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting satisfaction with community based works	0	80%	Satisfaction Surveys, Feedback Forms, CFM Database.	
		2.1.6: Number of participants trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills in Mine Risk Education, disaggregated by sex, age and disability status.	0	140	Attendance sheets, Donation records of IEC material, Pre and Post training tests reports	
Output 2 Relating to Outcome 2	Output 2.2: Strengthened technical and	2.2.1: Number of Young people Assessed and	0	3,800	Registration forms, assessment tools and reports,	* Demand for livelihoods services exists among

	financial capacities of self-employed and of micro and small businesses, including in urban and peri-urban agriculture and food systems	Supported with Tailored Career Counselling, disaggregated by sex, migratory and disability status.			attendance records from career counselling sessions.	beneficiaries targeted under the intervention. * Knowledge of beneficiaries will increase as a result of the training sessions. *Marketable skills will lead to employment
		2.2.3: GEF 2.14 Number of people who have benefitted from institution or workplace-based VET/skills development interventions supported by the EU disaggregated by sex, migratory and disability status.	0	TBD	Pre- and post-training test reports Enrolment records, completion certificates, attendance logs.	
		2.2.4: Number of Individuals trained by the EU-funded intervention with improved knowledge and/or skills on Financial Literacy on Budgeting, Negotiation, Debt, and Savings Management, disaggregated by sex, migratory and disability status	0	4,000	Pre and Post Training Tests reports, Participant Lists, Training Facilitator Evaluation Survey.	

		2.2.5: Number of cooperatives and business associations supported by the EU-funded intervention increased functionality.	0	TBD	Support documents, annual reports from supported organizations, lists of supported cooperatives/associations.
		2.2.6: Number of beneficiaries trained by the EU-funded intervention with improved knowledge and/or skills in income-generation, disaggregated by sex, migratory and disability status	0	800	Pre and Post Training Tests reports, Participant Lists, Training Facilitator Evaluation Survey.
		2.2.7: Number of VSLAs supported by the EU-funded intervention with increased functionality	0	64	Meeting Minutes, Attendance Sheets.
		2.2.8: Number of MSME that received grants or technical support of the EU-funded intervention to start or expand their business operation	0	220	Grant Agreement Documents, Technical Support Sessions' Records.
		2.2.9: GERF 2.17 Number of beneficiaries with access to financial	0	TBD	Disbursement records, financial statements,

		services with EU support: (b) people (all financial services), (c) people (digital financial services)			beneficiary feedback.	
Output 1 Relating to Outcome 3	Output 3.1: Increased availability of school meals that incorporate diversified local diet suitable for children's nutrition and health	3.1.1 GERF 2.32 GERF 2.32 Number of food insecure school-aged children receiving food from EU assistance (disaggregated by sex, age group, disability status and migratory status).	0	207,992	CP Report	
		3.1.2 Quantity of food provided to schools with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by type (MT).	0	Total: 15,590 MT The project will procure 11,064 MT of cereals, 2,313 MT of pulses, 553 MT of salt, and 1,660 MT of oil over three years.	CP Report	
		3.1.3 Number of schools provided with fresh vegetables.	0	80	CP Report	
		3.1.4 Number of schools with vegetable gardens set up with support	0	80	Activity Monitoring	

		of the EU-funded intervention.				
		3.1.6 Number of people reached through interpersonal Social Behaviour Change (SBC) approaches, with support of the EU-funded intervention disaggregated by sex, age, and migratory status.	0	1,255,000	CP Report	
	Output 3.2: Increased income opportunities for smallholder farmers, suppliers, and caterers with particular focus on young people and women	3.2.1 Number of smallholder farmers engaged in the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) program, with support of the EU-funded intervention disaggregated by sex, disability and migratory status.	0	TBD	CP Report	
		3.2.2: Number of schools supported by the EU-funded intervention through the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) model.	0	416	CP Report	
		3.2.3 Number of women's groups trained in appropriate practices and properly equipped	0	832	CP Report	

		with support of the EU-funded intervention to supply quality food produce to schools. (disaggregated by disability status)				
		3.2.4 Number of women trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills on farming and/or school feeding services	0	28	CP Report 3.2.4 Pre- and post-training test reports	

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Republic of the Sudan

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 66 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 of the Budget Support Component [N/A]

4.4 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures²⁶.

4.4.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will implement the two specific objectives:

SO 1: Protect the human rights of groups at risk and (re)integrate them into society and economic life (e.g. single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and street children at risk, persons with disabilities etc), in displacement-affected communities.

SO 2: Provide employment and income generation opportunities for young people affected by displacement and their host communities.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

International NGOs or consortia of NGOs with a continued and strong local presence throughout the war, good networks with Sudanese NGOs and CBOs, experience in working with vulnerable populations and area-based approaches and strong implementation track record with larger projects.

²⁶ 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.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to consortia of international and national NGOs selected using the following criteria. Implementers with in-depth experience in job creation, entrepreneurship programmes, access to finance, local infrastructure development through cash for work, human rights and protection as well as conflict mitigation in Sudan. Implementers should have solid implementation capacities including for inputs delivery, infrastructure works and procurement components. Representation in the field at states and locality level and good reputation in communities is essential. They need to have specialised experience with empowerment of vulnerable groups, such as IDPs and refugee communities, women and young people and people with disabilities. A consortia approach of several specialised organisations will be encouraged when appropriate.

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because of the possibility to use flexible procurement and grant procedures in crisis situations as defined by the Financial Regulation (Article 195 (a)).

4.4.2 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management. Indirect management entails implementation of specific objective SO 3: Support the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding in displacement affected communities.

The entrusted entity is selected by the Commission services using the following criteria:

- Implementer with in-depth experience in sectors relevant to the intervention contributing to return of children to primary schools, safe learning spaces and school feeding.
- Implementer with solid procurement experience and systems.
- Implementer who maintained a capacity for stakeholder management constructive working relations with government actors at both state and local levels, and has acquired acceptance from all stakeholders, including national NGOs and implementers, farmer organisations and local communities.
- Representation in the field at states and locality level and experience with conflict sensitive approaches and empowerment of vulnerable groups, such as women, young people, IDPs and refugee communities.

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

If indirect management with the international organisation cannot be concluded due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management with international or national NGOs, in accordance with the qualification criteria identified in section 4.4.1, point (b), notably with strong local presence, good networks with Sudanese NGOs and CBOs, experience in implementing school feeding, education and food security programmes, solid procurement systems and strong implementation track record with larger projects.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

International NGOs or consortia of NGOs

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded

without a call for proposals to consortia of international and national NGOs selected using the following criteria. Implementers with in-depth experience in job creation, entrepreneurship programmes, access to finance, local infrastructure development through cash for work, human rights and protection as well as conflict mitigation in Sudan. Implementers should have solid implementation capacities including for inputs delivery, infrastructure works and procurement components. Representation in the field at states and locality level and good reputation in communities is essential. They need to have specialised experience with empowerment of vulnerable groups, such as IDPs and refugee communities, women and young people and people with disabilities. A consortia approach of several specialised organisations will be encouraged when appropriate.

- Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because of the possibility to use flexible procurement and grant procedures in crisis situations as defined by the Financial Regulation (Article 195 (a)), provided and valid at the time of the attribution.

If direct management cannot be concluded due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control (for instance if negotiations for a direct award fail or the access to the country becomes difficult for international NGOs), that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an EU Member state implementing agency or an international organisation, in accordance with the qualification criteria identified in section 4.4.2 :

- Implementer with in-depth should also have experience in food aid job creation, micro entrepreneurship programmes, and food security, including nutrition, school feeding including local, home-grown approaches, as well as smallholder farmer community infrastructure development.
- Implementer with solid procurement experience and systems.
- Implementer who maintained a capacity through cash for stakeholder management actors at both state and national levels, and has acquired acceptance from all stakeholders, including national NGOs and implementers, farmer organisations and local communities.
- Representation in the field at states and locality level and experience with conflict sensitive approaches and work, empowerment of vulnerable groups, such as women, young people, IDPs and refugee communities.
- Record in human rights and protection as well as conflict mitigation in Sudan.

4.5. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

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

4.6. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4	
SO 1: Protect the human rights of groups at risk and (re)integrate them into society and economic life (e.g. single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and children at risk, persons with disabilities etc), in displacement-affected communities, composed of: Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	20 000 000
SO2: Provide employment and income generation opportunities for young people affected by displacement and their host communities, composed of: Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	45 000 000
SO 3: Support the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding in displacement affected communities, including children with disabilities, composed of: Indirect management – cf. section 4.4.2	30 000 000
Grants – total envelope under section 4.4.1	65 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	may be covered by another Decision
Total	95 000 000

4.7

Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

Given that the Action will be constituted by several contracts and components, it will be necessary to have an organisational set-up based on an overall Programme Advisory Committee and individual projects Steering Committees.

A Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) at overall programme level may be set up to supervise the strategic direction and implementation of the programme and ensure coherence and synergies among the different programme components in favour of young people. It shall also guide impact monitoring and lessons learning from implementation. The PAC will comprise representatives at senior management level of each

Implementing Partner and other stakeholders (duty-bearers), as appropriate. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least biannually or more frequently, as needed.

At individual project level operational steering committees will be set up per each specific objective. They will be composed of senior representatives of the respective implementing entities and their partners as well as other stakeholders (duty-bearers), as appropriate. The steering committees shall guide the work of the respective projects and review work plans and budgets. They will also supervise adequate participation and ownership of beneficiaries and local stakeholders (duty-bearers) in project activities.

Project steering committees may be complemented by Technical Working Groups, made up of technical specialists/coordinators, to provide specific recommendations on technical matters to enhance project effectiveness and efficiency and work on effective monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEAL), including across programme components.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

4.8 Pre-conditions [Only for project modality]

Pre-conditions that must be met at any time prior and during implementation of the programme, are the accessibility of project areas and sufficient security for operation and supply of necessary project inputs. Project locations will be chosen according to these criteria and will focus on areas of high presence of IDPs. The Commission and the implementers will constantly follow the evolution of security and accessibility on the ground and take appropriate measures, as necessary (see section risk mitigation).

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 partners responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partners shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the Action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of the implementation of the Action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix. Likewise, all monitoring and reporting shall assess how the Action is taking into account the human rights-based approach (including vulnerable groups, disability, migration status etc.) and gender equality. Indicators shall be gender and target-group wise, i.e disaggregated by sex, age, location etc..

Joint baseline and end line surveys will be conducted by independent consultants recruited by the implementers during the inception and closure phases of their individual contract.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and/or through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews outside of the budget for this action.

Monitoring and evaluation exercises, whether internal or undertaken by the Commission, shall involve social science experts (sociologists or anthropologists) who by default apply a gender based approach.

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

The arrangements for monitoring and reporting on indicators of the logframe matrix, including the collection of baseline data are of the responsibility of the implementers. Arrangements and details will be agreed upon at contracting level.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, mid-term and final evaluations may be carried out for this action or its components contracted by the Commission.

The mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to coordination and coherence of different implementers and strategic lessons for a possible second phase of the Action, for example with respect to the involvement of smallholder farmer associations and how the home-grown school feeding approach is faring in new districts and new schools.

The final or ex-post evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), considering innovations in programme design, such as the cash for work component, as well as the fact that a post-war government may build on this action to expand school feeding to more schools.

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

The evaluation reports may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders (duty-bearers) following the best practice of evaluation dissemination. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments. The financing of the evaluation may be covered by another Decision.

In addition, all evaluations shall assess to what extent the Action is taking into account the human rights-based approach (including vulnerable groups, disability, migration status etc.) as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. Expertise on human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

In line with the 2022 “Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions”, it will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union’s support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

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

➤ Appendix 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

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

- Articulating Actions or Contracts according to an expected chain of results and therefore allowing them to ensure efficient monitoring and reporting of performance;
- Differentiating these Actions or Contracts from those that do not produce direct reportable development results, defined as support entities (i.e. audits, evaluations);
- Having a complete and exhaustive mapping of all results-bearing Actions and Contracts.

Primary Interventions are identified during the design of each action by the responsible service (Delegation or Headquarters operational Unit). The level of the Primary Intervention chosen can be modified (directly in OPSYS) and the modification does not constitute an amendment of the action document.

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

Action level (i.e. Budget Support, blending)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
Contract level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	Protection of the human rights of groups at risk and (re)integration into society and economic life (e.g. single household women, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and street children, persons with disabilities etc), in displacement-affected communities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	Employment and income generation opportunities for young people affected by displacement and their host communities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	Support the return of children to primary schools and safe learning spaces through school feeding in displacement-affected communities