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ANNEX II

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2021

Action Document for Knowledge Hub for Human Development

ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and action plan in the sense of Article 23(2) of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (Regulation (EU) 2021/947)

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSY business reference Basic Act	Knowledge Hub for Human Development CRIS: 43-607 Financed under Regulation (EU) 2021/947 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Global
4. Programming document	NDICI Global Europe – Global Challenges Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP 2021-2027)
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	Within the framework of this Multi Indicative Programme for Global Challenges, the priority area on People will focus on global level action to address the identified gaps and challenges in relation to health, education, gender equality, social protection, children, youth, culture and migration. It will contribute to the specific objectives 1 (Health), 2 (Education), 3 (Gender Equality), 4 (Youth and children), 6 (Social Protection, inequalities and inclusion) and 7 (Culture) of the People's chapter of the Multi Indicative Programme on Global Challenges.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority area(s) and sectors (3-digit DAC) as identified in the relevant programming document 110 Education 120 Health 130 Population Policies/Programme & Reproductive Health 160 Other Social Infrastructure and Services

7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 1: End poverty in all its form everywhere SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages SDG 4 Quality education SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls SDG 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all SDG 10 Reduced inequalities SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities			
8 a) DAC code(s) ¹	Not applicable			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel @	Project Modality Direct management (Procurement –Service contract)			
9. Targets²	<input 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 ³ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance ⁴			
10. Markers ⁵ (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	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"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ DAC sectors (codes and descriptions) are indicated in the first and fourth columns of the tab 'purpose codes' in the following document: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/dacandcrscodelists.htm>

² Actual contribution to targets will be confirmed ex-post based on a standardised methodology.

³ This target is specific to INTPA. If the action is marked as contributing to the Education target, please make sure the target on "Social inclusion and Human Development" is also marked.

⁴ Thematic target for geographic programmes (at least 15%) in delegated act.

⁵ 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).

	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 markers⁶ and Tags⁷:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): Budget heading 14.020240 – Global Challenges People Total estimated cost: EUR 19 550 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 19 550 000 The contribution is for an amount of EUR 17 550 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2021 and for an amount of EUR 2 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2022, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing⁸	Direct management through: Procurement –contract(s) for services			

⁶ 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)

⁷ Methodology for additional tagging providing granularity on internal markers is under development.

⁸ Art. 27 NDICI

1.2. Summary of the Action

Human development is at the core of our multilateral commitment towards achieving the SDGs by 2030 and leaving no one behind. This means taking a human rights based approach to guarantee that all individuals can be healthy and thrive and can have equal opportunities. Investing in the future of people and human development is also investing in children and in youth, as key agents of development and, as such, essential contributors to the 2030 Agenda, including through their ability to innovate.

The overall objective of this action is to increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level. The specific objective (SO) is the provision of expertise and production of new knowledge in the areas of the human rights based approach, mainstreaming of inequality reduction and gender equality, youth and children participation and empowerment, health and social protection programmes, and education and culture programmes.

With the support of these facilities the implementation of both the human rights based approach and the Gender Action Plan will be strengthened. Inequality-reduction will be mainstreamed in all and at all levels of our interventions. A people centred approach with a focus on marginalized groups such as people with disabilities will be applied. The attainment of quality education worldwide, universal health care and universal social protection coverage will be accelerated. Opportunities to strengthen humanitarian-development-peace nexus will be sought. Insofar the youth component is concerned, the facility will reinforce our work on children and youth at all levels and focus more particularly on the Youth Action Plan and the reinforcement of youth and children participation and empowerment. The support on culture will strengthen our work with and for cultural and creative sectors and contribute to promote cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue

The technical assistance and expertise provided through the Knowledge Hub for Human Development will contribute to making progress towards many of the SDGs such as ending poverty (SDG 1) and hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), achieving gender equality (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) and reducing inequalities (SDG 10).

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

In a world highly interconnected, interdependent and facing numerous global challenges, climate change, environmental degradation, conflicts, pandemics, non-communicable diseases, population growth and migration are pressing and disruptive global threats. These global challenges pose new risks to the equality, security and rights of citizens. While accelerated globalisation, digital transformation and connectivity offer great potential to foster innovation and sustainable development, it also leads to new forms of work and of inequality. Tackling these global challenges will require better multilateral coordination and global solutions.

The NDICI-Global Europe Global Challenges MIP for 2021-2027 will mainly fund initiatives at global level and complement and strengthen the country and regional dimensions of EU action to pursue and project EU's interests and values in support of universal global agendas and initiatives, multilateralism and rules-based global order, and position the EU as a global leader to spearhead collaborative and transformative changes that help building back better following the COVID-19 crisis. In line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the European Consensus on Development and the geopolitical priorities of the European Commission, the programme Global Challenges will support actions of a global nature, contributing to the objective of 'A Stronger Europe in the World'.

The structure of the Global Challenges programme reflects the key intertwined themes of the 2030 Agenda that shape the SDGs: People, Planet, Prosperity and Partnership⁹.

⁹ The fifth 'P', Peace, is tackled by the specific dedicated programme 'Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention'.

Human development is at the core of our multilateral commitment towards achieving the SDGs by 2030 and leaving no one behind. The SDGs express the world's determination "to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment." This means taking a human rights centred approach to guarantee that all individuals can thrive and have equal opportunities.

The European Consensus for Development recognises the importance of addressing inequality, calling on the EU and its Member States to 'assess the determinants of and trends in economic and social inequality and [to] strengthen their tools and approaches to make them more effective in addressing inequality'. The Consensus also advocates for gender equality, women and youth empowerment and the setting up of a safe and nurturing environment for children. The Consensus further calls for equitable access to health services, universal health coverage and adequate and sustainable social protection. Education is the basis for a dignified future for all, in particular youth, and for a more sustainable planet. Culture as an enabler and driver of sustainable development contributes to jobs creation and to social cohesion. Investing in people and human development is an EU interest, as it is the smartest long-term economic and political investment in sustainable development. Ensuring stability and multilateralism is a key vehicle for achieving the geopolitical priorities of the Commission

The NDICI-Global Europe Regulation explicitly mentions the promotion of fundamental values such as equality and solidarity, human dignity, gender equality and women empowerment, the importance of application of a human rights based approach with a focus on vulnerable marginalized groups such as people with disabilities.

With the adoption of the EU Gender Equality Strategy and the EU Gender Action Plan III (2021-2025), the EU has a fully fledged policy framework to be a game changer contributing to reverse the worrying negative global trends, originated by backlash on women's rights and amplified by the COVID crisis, towards achieving SDG 5.

Youth is a crosscutting priority for the EU and increased youth and children engagement and empowerment is one of the key objectives in our work with partner countries; in line with the June 2020 Council Conclusions on youth in external action. It also echoes the Commission's political priority put on youth within the Union.

Quality education plays a key role in sustainable development, fostering economic growth, creating just and equal societies and fulfilling lives of individuals. Education is also a fundamental right of every individual. The global learning crisis was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis which created an enormous disruption in the education systems.

Culture is a driver and component of sustainable development and is an essential element of the EU external action, as indicated by the 2016 Joint Communication "Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations". Through culture, the EC contributes to economic development and jobs creation, social cohesion and peacebuilding, and reinforced international cooperation

2.2. Problem Analysis

Taking a people centred approach to development means guaranteeing that all individuals, including the most vulnerable and marginalized, can thrive and have equal opportunities. Achieving Universal Health Coverage (SDG 3) is an essential investment in human capital as well as global access to Social inclusion (SDG 10.2) and Protection (SDG 1.3) which is critical not only for the social, but also the economic and political dimensions of the SDG agenda, acting as a powerful socio-economic stabilizer and reducer of inequality.

Reducing inequality is a fundamental goal (SDG 10), with focus on ensuring inclusive access to assets, non-discrimination, avoid a digital divide and improve decent working conditions. It is also a cross-cutting issue linked to the achievement of poverty reduction and sustainable and inclusive growth (Goals 1, 8, 9), quality education (Goal 4), gender equality and inclusion (Goal 5), environmental sustainability (Goals 6, 7, 11-15, 17) goals, support to cultural diversity and promotion of sustainable cities and communities through cultural heritage (Goal 11), health, nutrition and education (Goals 2, 3 and 4), and conflict and access to justice (Goal 16)..

Gender inequality is one of the most persistent forms of inequality of opportunity in the world and one of the greatest barriers to human development (UNDP 2019). Gender equality (SDG 5) has a multiplier effect in achieving poverty eradication, education, jobs and growth and is key to unlock the development of democratic societies based on human rights, social justice and sustainability.

Investing in the future of people and human development is also investing in children and in youth, as key agents of development and, as such, essential contributors to the 2030 Agenda, including through their ability to innovate.

The many challenges identified in the area of human development and migration require a transformative and multi-layered response, one where global action complements, reinforces and scales up action at country, multi-country and regional levels. Within the framework of this Multi Indicative Programme for Global Challenges, the priority area on People will focus on global level action to address the identified gaps and challenges in relation to health, education, gender equality, social protection, children, youth, culture and migration, keeping in mind the coordination with humanitarian and peace agendas.

Robust knowledge, innovation and technical assistance will be provided to support transformative action in all the above areas, supporting international policy and normative work and providing expertise, knowledge and capacity development to partner countries and EU Delegations.

The action is designed to support the actors managing or implementing EU cooperation programmes at global, regional and country level to prepare, monitor, evaluate and audit human development actions and reach its objectives. This specific support targets the areas of health, social protection, inequality-reduction, including gender inequality, quality education, youth and the human right based approach including the most vulnerable and marginalized and culture. The actors concerned are EU Delegation, EU Headquarters and to a lesser degree partner countries. The final beneficiaries as rights holders are citizens of the partner countries for whom these cooperation programmes are designed.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Knowledge Hub for Human development will be established to ensure access to international expertise and EU know-how for the effective implementation of EU commitments in a number of thematic areas under the People chapter, including the human rights based approach.

Health, quality education, demography, social protection, reducing inequality, the application of a human rights based approach, the promotion of gender equality and women equality, as well as youth, children and the most vulnerable and marginalized empowerment and participation are all key drivers for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Technical assistance and expertise in different areas will contribute to making progress towards many of the SDGs such as ending poverty (SDG 1) and hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4) achieving gender equality (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), reducing inequalities (SDG 10) and sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11).

The overall objective (OO) is to increase the benefits for the target population, including women and the most vulnerable, of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level.

The specific objective (SO) of this action is to increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of EU programmes at global, regional and country level, providing also for coordinated responses in fragile contexts.

It will contribute to the specific objectives 1 (Health), 2 (Education), 3 (Gender Equality), 4 (Youth and children), 6 (Social Protection, inequalities and inclusion) and 7 (Culture) of the People's chapter of the Multi Indicative Programme on Global Challenges.

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objective are:

- 1.1. Expertise integrated and new knowledge produced in the areas of the application of the human rights based approach, mainstreaming of inequalities and gender, youth and children participation and empowerment, education, health programmes and social protection, and culture programmes
- 1.2. Increased knowledge and capacities of the actors involved in the implementation and management of actions at global level, regional level and country level in the areas of human development (applying of the human rights based approach, mainstreaming of inequality reduction and gender equality, women, youth and children participation and empowerment, including the most vulnerable and marginalised, as well as in health, education, social protection and culture programmes)

- 1.3 Enhanced capacity of the projects to promote gender equality and women empowerment and apply a human rights based approach
- 1.4. Increased involvement of young people in shaping and implementing the EU external action.

This action will support the application of a human rights based approach and will help ensuring that the spending target on human development (20%) is met. The action will also help reaching the targets set in the Gender Action Plan III: 85% of our projects should significantly target gender equality and women empowerment and 5% of these projects should target gender equality and women empowerment as a principal objective.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Indicative activities planned to reach the expected output are as follows:

Indicative activities related to Output 1.1

- ✓ Studies and technical assistance. This will cover external technical and administrative expertise needed at any stage of the project or programme cycle, or in support of policy initiatives. The expertise may include studies, guidelines, project identification, technical human and social analyses, policy analysis, organising stakeholders' consultations, project monitoring, distributional impact assessments, project drafting, drafting terms of reference, evaluating tenders and calls for proposal, and advice on project implementation.
- ✓ It may also include supporting monitoring, resource tracking and reporting by the Commission services, for instance for the Gender Action Plan III, the Inequality Marker, or the Youth Action Plan to be developed. It may also include the support to running the secretariat of the Youth Sounding Board for International Partnerships.
- ✓ Visibility, information and publications. Visibility programmes will cover matters such as publications, social media, website and database management, information activities, media relations and media monitoring, and the production of audio-visual material.
- ✓ Efforts will be made to increase evidence-based knowledge and the analytical capacity of delegations and headquarters on Human Development areas covered by this action.
- ✓ Conferences, seminars, workshops, training sessions, and study visits. This will include inter alia technical support to organising and financing conferences, seminars, workshops, training sessions/programmes and study tours etc, to build the necessary capacity and share knowledge relevant to the pertinent Global Challenges programmes.

Indicative activities related to Output 1.2:

- ✓ Design and implement capacity-building activities for EU staff, both at Headquarters and country level, to help partner countries build resilient national systems, design sustainable and inclusive policies, and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the NDICI-Global Europe objectives. When considered relevant, partner countries' institutions can benefit from capacity-building activities

Indicative activities related to Output 1.3:

- ✓ Support to quality review of EU programmes

Indicative activities related to Output 1.4:

- ✓ Technical assistance for the establishment of Youth Sounding Board

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Since the technical assistance will support human rights, democracy and gender equality, health, education, social protection, youth and children, culture, etc. there is a need to mainstream environmental protection and climate change topics in the implementation of this activities where relevant. As stated in EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024, human rights are increasingly intertwined with global environmental challenges, including climate change. Similarly, the Gender Action Plan III recognizes the role of women and girls in promoting a fair and inclusive green transition. Education and health also have strong linkages with environment and climate change as evidenced throughout the Green Deal. Therefore, when designing and implementing capacity building, technical assistance and other activities, due consideration should be made for integrating the Green Deal throughout relevant activities in human development domains, such as health and ecosystem services, environmental democracy, human

right to a healthy environment, environmental and climate education, the One Health approach, children's vulnerability to climate change, etc. Where appropriate, the human development knowledge hub will ensure coherence with the Green Deal knowledge hub and vice versa.

Outcomes of the SEA screening : Not applicable

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening : Not applicable

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening : Not applicable

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

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

Part of the technical assistance and expertise will support better gender mainstreaming and expertise in EU actions.

Human Rights

Part of the technical assistance and expertise will aim at ensuring that EU actions apply a human rights based approach.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that part of the technical assistance and expertise will support better integration of disability issues in EU actions.

Democracy

Part of the technical assistance and expertise will aim at ensuring that EU actions apply a human rights based approach thus supporting a democratic approach.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Covered through ensuring the widest use possible of HRBA methodology

Disaster Risk Reduction

N.A.

Other considerations if relevant

N/A

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Finding quality expertise	Risk 1	L	H	Elaborating clear Terms of references, putting clear requirements and guidance and closely monitoring the contract once implementation starts.

Lessons Learnt:

The People's chapter under the Global Challenges programme replaces the Human Development theme of the Global Public Goods and Challenges programme. Under the Human Development theme of the GPGC, each annual action plan provided for support measure to deliver expertise, perform studies, trainings and knowledge sharing tools, audits, impact assessments and evaluations to assess individual actions and steer the programme.

Through these support measures, actors involved in the implementation, management, reporting, audit and evaluation of the above-mentioned areas of intervention have acquired useful knowledge and improved capacities to reach its objectives more effectively.

3.5. The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that if

- ✓ Technical expertise is integrated and new knowledge produced in the field of human development ,
- ✓ EU staff has increased knowledge and capacities in the field of human development,
- ✓ EU staff is better able to apply a gender equality and human right based approach
- ✓ Youth is better associated in shaping and implementing the EU external action.

Then the effectiveness of the human development aspects of EU programmes at global, regional and country level will be enhanced and will contribute to greater benefits for the target population, including women, of EU human development programmes.

This action will support EU colleagues both at headquarters and in delegations in developing and implementing actions and programmes, possibly including Team Europe Initiatives or approaches, through provision of technical assistance in the areas of health, demography, inequality, social protection, gender and youth. It will also ensure the implementation of the objectives of the Gender Action Plan III and the application of a human rights based approach throughout our cooperation.

3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

Results	Results chain (a): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (a): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To increase the benefits for the target population, including women, of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level	1. Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age (SDG 1.2.1)	1. 9.3 per cent in 2017	1. SDG -target	1. https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2021/goal-01/	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	To increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of EU programmes at global, regional and country level.	1. Aid quality ranking indicator	1. EU institutions ranked 16 (2021 consultation of the website/article 2018)	1. Improve ranking (2025)	1. Global Center for Development: https://www.cgdev.org/blog/how-do-you-measure-aid-quality-and-who-ranks-highest	
Output 1	Expertise integrated and new knowledge produced in the areas of the application of the human rights based approach, mainstreaming of inequalities and gender, youth and children participation and empowerment, education, health programmes and social protection, and culture programmes	1.1 Level of operationalization of Technical assistance	1.1 – 0	1.1 Fully operational for all areas by April 2022	1.1 Internal EC (Through regular progress reports)	
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Increased knowledge and capacities of the actors involved in the implementation and management of actions at global level, regional level and country level	1.2.1. Number of knowledge products developed 1.2.2 Number of staff trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/skills in knowledge products	1.2.1 TBD for each components 1.2.2. 0	1.2.1. TBD for each component at inception phase 1.2.2. TBD for each component at inception phase	1.2.1. TBD for each component at inception phase 1.2.2. Internal EC (Trainings feedback questionnaires)	

Output related Outcome 1	3 to 1.3. Enhanced capacity of the projects to promote gender equality and women empowerment and apply a human rights based approach	1.3 Number of actions marked with the OECD gender marker G1 or G2	1.3 68% (GAP II report 2020)	1.3. 85% by 2025	1.3. GAP III reports	
Output related Outcome 1	4 1.4. Increased involvement of young people in shaping and implementing the EU external action.	1.4 Number of initiatives (e.g. policy documents, public consultations, large events, projects, etc.) in which the INTPA Youth Sounding Board was meaningfully involved with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.4. 0	1.4. 10 by July 2023	1.5.1. Internal EC (YSB reports)	

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

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

4.2. Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 72 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

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

4.3. Implementation of the Budget Support Component : N/A

4.4. Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures¹⁰.

4.4.1. Direct Management (Procurement)

The objectives mentioned in section 3 will be mainly reached through the procurement of services contracts directly managed by the European Commission.

The relevant call(s) may be launched under a suspensive clause prior to the adoption of this Decision. This is justified given the transitional period and to ensure the continuity of a number of support actions to ensure the integration of policy priorities in our actions. A number of technical facilities will come to an end during the second trimester of 2022 and other thematic topics such as addressing inequalities and youth should urgently be put in place now that the programming of the funding has been finalised.

4.4.2. Indirect Management with an international organisation

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: operational capacity in the area of technical assistance to partner countries; experience in support to culture in third countries; ability to provide flexible and timely expertise to partner countries in the area of policy development, reform, implementation. The implementation by this entity entails the provision of technical assistance to partner countries in the field of culture. Indicative activities can include, among others: capacity building of partner countries; studies and technical assistance; increase evidence-based knowledge; conferences, seminars, workshops, training sessions, and study visits; etc. The implementation will contribute to the specific objective (SO) of the integration of expertise and new knowledge produced in the area of culture programmes and to the specific objectives 7 (Culture) of the People's chapter of the Multi Indicative Programme on Global Challenges.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.4.1.

¹⁰ 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.

4.5. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

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

4.6. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Third-party contribution, in currency identified [(If not relevant please delete this column)]
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4		
Direct Management - Procurement (section 4.4.1)	14 550 000	
Indirect Management - (section 4.4.2)	5 000 000	
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision ¹¹	N.A.
Totals ¹²	19 550 000	N.A

4.7. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

This action will be implemented by the relevant Commission services in charge of the Human Development (INTPA G).

No specific governance structures will be set-up given the nature of the action but regular meetings will take place with the experts in charge and the corresponding Commission services.

4.8. Pre-conditions N.A

5. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1. Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and

¹¹ Where the action is not covered by a financing agreement (see section 4.1), but 'will be covered by another Decision' as it is unlikely that evaluation and audit contracts on this action would be concluded within N+1. These contracts have to be authorised by another Financing Decision.

¹² In accordance with point 12 budgetary information, EUR 17,550 Million is expected to come from the general budget for 2021 and EUR 2 million are expected to be transferred from DG NEAR in 2022.

direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, (a) final evaluation(s) might be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants. In that case, it will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision).

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 shall be shared with key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination¹³. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

5.3. Audit and Verifications

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

6. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

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

¹³ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention¹⁴ (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Option 1: Action level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
Option 2: Group of actions level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#):
Option 3: Contract level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	PINTV Technical facility Education (G3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	PINTV Technical facility Culture (G3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	PINTV Technical facility Health/Social Protection (G4)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 4	PINTV Technical facility Gender/RBA/Inequalities(tbc) (G1/G4)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 5	PINTV Technical facility Youth (G3)

¹⁴ [ARES \(2021\)4204912](#) - For the purpose of consistency between terms in OPSYS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI have harmonised 5 key terms, including ‘action’ and ‘Intervention’ where an ‘action’ is the content (or part of the content) of a Commission Financing Decision and ‘Intervention’ is a coherent set of activities and results which constitutes an effective level for the operational follow-up by the EC of its operations on the ground. See more on the [concept of intervention](#).