



Brussels, 16.12.2021  
C(2021) 9642 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 16.12.2021**

**on the financing of the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global  
Challenges (People) for 2021**

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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### on the financing of the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2021

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2021, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the thematic programme for Global challenges<sup>4</sup>. Under the ‘People’ priority the programme aims to push forward the global agenda for inclusive and equal societies with human development for all, notably by supporting health and education, with a specific focus on women and girls, children, young people, and other populations living in vulnerable situations, including migrants and forcibly displaced.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under this Decision are to contribute to the partnership designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and to increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). 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, the OJ prevails.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Thematic Programme “Global Challenges” for the period 2021-2027, C(2021)9157 final of 15.12.2021.

- (5) The action entitled '*Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to the Global Fund*' (Annex I) will contribute to the partnership designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. It will seek to: maximise the impact against HIV, TB and Malaria; build resilient and sustainable systems for health; and promote and protect human rights and gender equality.
- (6) The action entitled '*Knowledge Hub for Human Development*' (Annex II) aims to increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level. It will be established to ensure access to international expertise and EU know-how for the effective implementation of EU commitments in 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.
- (7) The Commission should authorise the launch of a call for tender by means of a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (9) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046<sup>5</sup> and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (10) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (11) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (12) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1* *The action plan*

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2021, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

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<sup>5</sup> Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (a) ‘Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to the Global Fund’ set out in Annex I;
- (b) ‘Knowledge Hub for Human Development’ set out in Annex II.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2021 is set at EUR 414 343 398, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14.020240 – Global Challenges People: EUR 412 343 398 of 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.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2022 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

*Article 3*  
*Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.1 of Annex I and 4.4.1. of Annex II.

*Article 4*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 16.12.2021

*For the Commission*  
*Jutta URPILAINEN*  
*Member of the Commission*