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**THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**ANNEX III**

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Asia region for 2021-2022

**Action Document for Support to encamped Myanmar refugees in Thailand**

**ANNUAL PLAN**

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

## 1. SYNOPSIS

### 1.1. Action Summary Table

<b>1. Title</b> <b>CRIS/OPSYS</b> <b>business reference</b> <b>Basic Act</b>	<b>Support to encamped Myanmar refugees in Thailand</b> CRIS number: NDICI Asia 2021/043-301 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out in Thailand and Myanmar (depending on political developments in Myanmar)
<b>4. Programming document</b>	Multiannual Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific for the period 2021-2027
<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results</b>	This action responds to the priority area “ <i>Migration, forced displacement and mobility</i> ” of the Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific.
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	151 - Government & Civil Society-general
<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG: 10.7 - Migration Other significant SDGs:  SDG 1 - No poverty SDG 2 - Zero hunger SDG 3 - Good health and well-being SDG 4 - Quality education SDG 5 - Empowering women and girls SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth SDG 10 - Reduced inequalities SDG 13 - Integrating climate action in livelihood initiatives

<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b> <sup>1</sup>	15190 Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility			
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel</b> @	20000 - Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society			
<b>9. Targets</b> <sup>2</sup>	<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 <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance <sup>4</sup>			
<b>10. Markers</b> <sup>5</sup> (from DAC form)	<b>General policy objective</b> @	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	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"/>
	<b>11. Internal markers</b> <sup>6</sup> <b>and Tags</b> <sup>7</sup> :	<b>Policy objectives</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>
Digitalisation @ Tags: digital connectivity		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> 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/dac-anders-codelists.htm>

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.

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

<sup>5</sup> 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).

<sup>6</sup> 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)

<sup>7</sup> Methodology for additional tagging providing granularity on internal markers is under development.

	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"/>
	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 checked="" 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"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020131(NDICI South and East Asia) Total estimated cost: EUR 12,000,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 12,000,000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Direct management</b> through: Grants			

## 1.2. Summary of the Action

The Action will address the protracted crisis of Myanmar refugees living in nine camps in Thailand along the Thai-Myanmar border. The Action will build on former and existing EU initiatives to support Myanmar refugees under the Aid to Uprooted People (AUP) programme. As the voluntary return of Myanmar refugees may not happen in the short-term due to political situation in Myanmar, the Action will focus on basic services provision, livelihood skills development, as well as health protection of refugees in the camps in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This Action will increase resilience of Myanmar refugees encamped in Thailand at the border with Myanmar and of the host communities in the areas by meeting their needs and rights, and providing them with empowerment and opportunities for self-reliance in view of their eventual return.

The overall objective is to **support Myanmar refugees in camps in Thailand along the border with Myanmar so that they can fully benefit from their rights in their host/resident societies.**

The specific objectives are:

SO1: To enhance resilience of refugees through the provision of basic services and awareness raising activities;  
 SO2: To empower refugees through their active involvement to improve camp governance and protection measures;  
 SO3: To enhance self-reliance of refugees in preparation for durable solutions, including the eventual voluntary return

<sup>8</sup> Art. 27 NDICI

This Action responds to the priority area “Migration, forced displacement and mobility” of the Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific, therefore, contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 10.7 - Migration, while also contributing to other SDGs (SDG 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,10, and 13).

## 2. RATIONALE

### 2.1. Context

Since 1984, Myanmar ethnic minority populations, including Karen and Karenni, from South-East Myanmar have fled the areas of tensions and have received protection and assistance in the refugee camps in Thailand.

Although Thailand has not ratified the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, it hosts refugees from Myanmar in nine temporary camps along the border. In April 2021, it was estimated that 91,795 people are accommodated in the camps.

Under the applicable legal framework, they are not permitted to access national institutions (e.g. health, education) nor to move outside the camps, including for the purpose of accessing livelihood opportunities.

Although efforts are ongoing to unlock a multi-solutions approach to find a dignified, sustainable and comprehensive end to this situation of protracted encampment, no durable solutions are available at this point. The Royal Thai Government (RTG) administers the camps and provides support on livelihood projects, but relies on the international community to provide support for basic services. The RTG raised concerns over the gradual reduction of support from development partners in the past years. While Thailand has no policy to pressure refugees to return, the closure of the camps is the long-term objective of the RTG.

Since 2010, positive developments in Myanmar had made the return of refugees possible. Led by UNHCR, voluntary return started in 2016 but with limited success. In the past years, the RTG had offered an incentive for Myanmar displaced population to re-enter Thailand once they are documented as regularised labour migrants (‘U-turn policy’). However, since mid-2020, the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic in Myanmar has delayed the return process.

Furthermore, the military take-over in Myanmar on 1 February 2021 has effectively halted the peace process and has resulted in increased displacement within Myanmar and to Thailand. The ongoing political crisis following the military takeover has put an immediate stop to the voluntary return process and is increasingly leading to a significant deterioration in human rights and humanitarian conditions nationally and risks destabilising the South-East Asia region, which is already hosting a large number of refugees from Myanmar. The situation in Myanmar is likely to continue to deteriorate resulting in heightened displacement and refugee movements towards the Thai border. Although the U-turn policy is currently not viable, the presence of refugee camps and the more stable environment in Thailand could become a pull factor and lead people to cross the border to enter Thailand.

Based on the 10% spending target on migration of the Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) and to complement actions implemented at national level, this Action responds to the priority area “*Migration, forced displacement and mobility*” of the Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific.

The EU has included Partnerships for Migration and Mobility as one of the five major policy priorities for the 2021-2027 period for its external action and recognises the importance of addressing forced displacement. The Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme (RIP) for Asia-Pacific reflects this priority by supporting orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility while maximising its benefits and addressing the challenges of irregular migration and forced displacement to help building more inclusive and resilient communities that protect human rights and accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The EU is strongly engaged in the regional Myanmar crisis. The military takeover means that the voluntary return to Myanmar is no longer an immediate solution for the displaced population in the refugee camps. Therefore this Action will continue to support existing Myanmar refugees in the camps in Thailand on the border with Myanmar.

This Action will address the protracted crisis of Myanmar refugees living in camps along the Thai-Myanmar border. The programme will support basic needs of the camp population: education, health (including sexual and reproductive health), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH), assistance to people with disabilities. The Action will include support to COVID-19 prevention and response in the refugee camps.

Furthermore, it is intended to increase the resilience of Myanmar refugees encamped in Thailand (at the border with Myanmar) and of the host communities, by meeting their needs and providing them with opportunities for self-reliance. The long-term goal is to work towards durable solutions, including voluntary return. Activities undertaken under this programme will build on former and existing EU initiatives to support Myanmar refugees/displaced population (Aid to uprooted people - AUP programme) and will align and build synergies with the programme *"Towards durable solutions for displaced Myanmar populations along the Thai-Myanmar border"*, the ECHO top up allocation for Myanmar crisis (EUR 7.5M for Myanmar, and EUR 1.5M for Regional Implication of the Myanmar crisis), as well as the Nexus Response Mechanism (NRM).

The Action will contribute to the European Consensus on Development (with a focus on people, peace and partnerships) and to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 10.7 (Migration), while also contributing to SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 10 (reduced inequalities). The Action will also focus on empowering women and girls (SDG 5) and integrating climate action (SDG 13) in livelihood initiatives.

In light of the new political context in Myanmar in 2021 and the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU will provide support in order to empower the camp population, support self-reliance and resilience, and work towards durable solutions for the 90,000 displaced Myanmar population in the camps.

In mid-2021, the COVID-19 situation in the ASEAN region worsened significantly. In Myanmar, the conditions became even more worrying as the military abolished all prevention and epidemic management measures, whilst medical staff were among the pioneers and most active professions behind the Civil Disobedience Movement. The military imposed a strict lockdown, but this measure came late and it is unlikely that the authorities will be able to provide efficient and quick responses to the pandemic. In this context, spill over effects on populations along the Thai border are expected and they will likely be followed by requests from the RTG to get support from donors in order to prevent a wide contamination on the Thai side.

The EU will not limit its support to the camps but will include Thai host communities as beneficiaries of this Action, in particular of COVID-19 activities in order to support the RTG to curb the spread of the outbreak at the border areas. This is part of the EU's wider commitments under the Global Compact on Refugees. In terms of methods, the EU intervention will follow the humanitarian-development-peace nexus with the aim of better linking our development actions to the political processes and humanitarian relief efforts.

## 2.2. Problem Analysis

The 91,795<sup>9</sup> encamped Myanmar refugees in Thailand are residing in nine camps. Most have been in the camps for decades, or have been born there. They are mainly Karen (84%) and Karenni (10%) but also ethnic Bamar (4%), Mon and others of undeclared ethnicity (2%).

The continued uncertainty of the political situation in Myanmar, leading to long term confinement of refugees is a serious issue affecting many camp residents both physically and psychologically. Encamped refugees have relied on donors' assistance as they are not allowed to move outside the camps for income generating activities.

Voluntary repatriation, which remains the durable solution of choice for most refugees since 2016, has been halted due to the military take-over in Myanmar in February 2021. In light of the current situation, continued support to basic needs of refugees on education, health (including support to COVID-19 prevention and response in camps), and WaSH sectors remains crucial.

Support to self-reliance and resilience, and work towards durable solutions for the camp population are also key issues. Access to livelihood opportunities is a challenge that needs to be addressed. This Action will support skills

<sup>9</sup> RTG-UNHCR Verified Refugee Population April 2021

development of refugees to ensure their self-reliance and resilience to food crises and climate change. The skills development would also contribute to preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return of refugees once conditions allow.

At present, protection and management capacity by local camp-based organisations is a cross-cutting challenge for all sectors in the camps (education, health, WaSH, people with disabilities, livelihoods) that needs to be addressed. Good camp management will be a key factor for self-reliance and empowerment of encamped refugees.

The main stakeholder group of this Action is Myanmar refugees living in the camps in Thailand, primarily belonging to Karen, Karenni, Bamar, and Mon ethnic groups. Special attention will be paid to the most vulnerable groups such as women, children, and people with disabilities.

Another stakeholder group is local hosting communities affected by the influx/presence of refugees, especially along the Thai-Myanmar border. Local communities will also be able to benefit from some of the actions, where appropriate.

The RTG also plays a key role through the Ministry of Interior (MoI). At central level, MOI provides policies for camps and gives authorisation to implementing partners so that they can work in the camps. At local level, the district chief officer appointed as camp commander is responsible for the administration of the camp. Other Ministries are also involved in the implementation of certain sectors, i.e. the Ministry of Education (MoE), coordinates at central level with implementing partners on education policies while the MoE works at local level with the implementing partners to strengthen capacity for refugees and facilitates accreditation on livelihoods and vocational education. The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) works closely at local level with health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) projects to prevent possible diseases outbreaks and to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in and outside the camps.

The Project implementing partners may include international and Thai NGOs, UN agencies and other international organisations as well as the RTG agencies both at central and local levels. The success of the programme ultimately depends on the capacity of these actors to involve both the refugee population and the Thai hosting communities' population in project activities.

The Committee for Coordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT) established in 1975 is an important coordination structure which comprises 13 member agencies that hold regular meetings with UNHCR, and other international organisations, plus donor agencies. All implementing partners in the camps have to be members of the CCSDPT, and to get authorised access to the camps from MoI.

In the refugee camps, the camp-based organisations linked to the Myanmar Non State Political Actors of the ethnic minorities (such as the Karen Education and Health Departments, Karen Women and Karen Youth Organisations) are expected to be fully accountable and to represent the interest of the beneficiaries including those living in the most vulnerable situations.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this Action is to **support the Myanmar refugees in camps in Thailand, along the border with Myanmar, so that they can fully benefit from their rights in their host/resident societies.**

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this Action are:

1. To enhance resilience of refugees through the provision of basic services and awareness raising activities.
2. To empower refugees through their active involvement to improve camp governance and protection measures.
3. To enhance self-reliance of refugees in preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return.

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

- 1.1. Contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Basic services in education, health (including sexual and reproductive health), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) and assistance to people with disabilities for refugees in the nine camps along the Thai-Myanmar border and their hosting communities are provided and delivered continuously.
- 2.1 Contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2): Improved involvement/participation of refugees including those living in the most vulnerable situations, in the development and implementation of sector-based interventions (e.g. education, health, WaSH, people with disabilities, livelihood sectors).
- 3.1 Contributing to Outcome 3 (or Specific Objective 3): Strengthen livelihood skills of refugees to ensure their self-reliance and resilience to crises and leading to preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return of refugees, once conditions allow.

### 3.2. Indicative Activities

#### Indicative activities related to Output 1.1

- Maintain essential health (including sexual and reproductive services) and WaSH services in the camp.
- Improve hygiene practices of refugees in order to reduce exposure to COVID-19 in camps.
- Sensitisation of surrounding Thai host communities to reduce exposure to COVID-19 in surrounding Thai villages close to the border and the camps.
- Health screening of people entering in the camps (training of camp-based health staff on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, screening procedures, record keeping and referral of suspected cases to camp hospital and personal protection).
- Strengthen health services/facilities for prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 in camps.
- Ensure continuum of care for persons with specific medical needs and people with disabilities.
- Maintain the systematic health related information sharing mechanism.
- Build up and strengthen the capacity of refugee health work-force.
- Issue transcripts and certificates for basic education students.
- Provide basic education to avoid the risk of child labour
- Support Karen and Karenni Education Stakeholders to lead information sharing and advocacy initiatives that support refugee student return and transition in Myanmar.
- Support teachers and administrators to create portfolios documenting their skills, experience and qualifications in the camps and to provide them with career planning within the education sector.
- Strengthen awareness raising/safe migration initiatives; strengthen and stabilise target communities, thereby reducing the likelihood of taking risky employment opportunities that may lead to trafficking in human beings and gender based violence.
- Mainstream mine risk education throughout all education services, including for children, youth, teachers and parents, etc.
- Raise awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation and through skills development of refugees and Thai host communities to ensure their self-reliance and resilience to food crises and climate change.
- Sensitisation and introduction of solid and liquid waste management and introduction of clean cooking technologies, thus saving on fuel wood.

#### *Indicative activities related to Output 1.1, if/when conditions in Myanmar allow:*

- Improve cross- border public health and WaSH coordination mechanism, when feasible.
- Maintain the collaboration with all key stakeholders and contribute to health (including sexual and reproductive services) and WaSH convergence efforts.
- Provide parents and caretakers with education options for their children upon return.

- Organise awareness raising activities and information campaigns so that camp residents have access to timely, reliable and pertinent information on their rights, options and potential risks in advance of any voluntary return and reintegration or other possible durable solutions, through safe and appropriate formats and channels.

Indicative activities related to Output 2.1:

- Promote participatory decision-making in service delivery and resource allocation through e.g. community-managed targeting of assistance.
- Build community and individual capacity towards resilience and self-determination.
- Promote participation of women/ethnic minority women in the governance structures of the camps.
- Promote youth involvement through a youth sounding board<sup>10</sup>.
- Set up and promote safe, accessible and functional mechanisms for camp residents to report protection concerns (including gender-based violence and child protection), while ensuring adequate psycho-social support.
- Promote equal access for all camp residents to fair and effective justice mechanisms.
- Prevent/combat trafficking in human beings through awareness raising activities and increasing economic opportunities inside the camps strengthening target communities' stabilisation, thereby reducing the risks of trafficking.
- Set up a referral mechanism with adequate and trained resources to increase the protection of vulnerable children, in particular unaccompanied and separated children.
- Ensure birth registration of all new-borns in the camps.

Indicative activities related to Output 3.1:

- Develop livelihood skills among refugees that lead to self-reliance and resilience to food crises, and contributing to income generating opportunities of refugees.
- Develop vocational skills for refugees leading to future decent employment.
- Strengthen the capacities of refugees to conduct livelihood programs and network with a variety of stakeholders.
- Provide livelihood strategies assistance to Thai host populations thus diffusing tensions with refugees.
- Strengthen the Livelihoods Working Group as a forum for information sharing, cross-learning, advocacy on livelihood programming, and cross-border collaboration (when conditions allow).
- Build environmental awareness and transfer of skills to refugees and local communities regarding use and protection of natural resources.

All activities will be conducted taking into account the best practices to promote inclusivity and ensure representativeness in respect of sensitivity guidelines concerning sex, gender, age and minority status among others.

Additional assessment on gender will be conducted through the country level implementation plan (CLIP) for Thailand under the Gender Action Plan III or through other funds from the Thailand Cooperation Facility to identify in depth the gender problems in the nine camps. For example: women's participation in camp management, gender based violence, early marriage, human trafficking, health needs, education, etc.

### 3.3. Mainstreaming

Cross-cutting issues will be integrated in the different components of the Action. Gender equality, education and conflict sensitivity will be mainstreamed in all actions. In addition, activities that enhance women's role as community leaders will be supported under camp governance and protection component (output 2.1), and activities to support women-led households will be prioritised under livelihood skills development of output 3.1. Activities that promote protection of the environment/sustainable management of natural resources as well as climate change mitigation/adaptation will be stimulated through health and WaSH project (output 1.1) and livelihood project (output 3.1). Human rights, particularly

<sup>10</sup> The Youth Sounding Board is a structure that offers opportunities for engaging with youth. It shall be a space for creative exchanges and meaningful conversations to promote successful and useful youth participation.



children's rights, and the rights of persons with disabilities, are key, and will be prioritised in all elements of the Action in order to leave no one behind.

The Action will be implemented through projects/actions selected through a call for proposals and each project will integrate mainstreaming and crosscutting components. In addition, through the Thailand cooperation facility some overarching activities may be performed like a gender analysis or an assessment of the implementation and achievement of SDGs in the camps.

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## **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).

### **Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening**

The Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening concluded that this Action is no or low risk (no need for further assessment).

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

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this Action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender considerations will be taken into account throughout implementation in all activities undertaken under this Action. This Action also plans to support protection concerns, including gender-based violence, in refugee camps, in compliance with the GAP III and the country-level implementation plan of the GAP III, for doing this a sectoral gender analysis may be developed with funds from the Thailand Cooperation facility.

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### **Human Rights**

Respect for human rights is a fundamental value of the European Union. The Action is formulated in such a way that fundamental rights of refugees are protected against violence, discrimination, and societal exclusion. Human rights, particularly children's rights, and rights of persons with disabilities, are key and will be prioritised in order to leave no one behind. Dialogue with the Government of Thailand on rights and durable options for refugees will be promoted. A Human rights-based approach and its key principles (applying all human rights for all; meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making; non-discrimination and equality; accountability and rule of law for all; and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data) will be applied throughout the Action.

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### **Disability**

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this Action is labelled as D1. This implies that inclusion of people with disabilities (PWDs) in all activities implemented under this Action, i.e. education, livelihoods, protection, will be ensured. In addition, assistance to PWDs (rehabilitation and counselling services; capacity building of PWDs to gain more self-reliance and autonomy) will be an integral part of health and WaSH project.

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### **Democracy**

Good governance is the principal objective of the Action. This Action aims at strengthening a democratic system of the camps through participatory decision-making. Particular focus will be on promoting participation of women/ethnic minority women in the governance structures of the camps, and on inclusiveness of vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, elderly, vulnerable women, children and youth) in decision-making process so as to build community and individual capacity towards resilience and self-determination.

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

The EU has provided assistance to Myanmar refugees living in the camps along the Thai-Myanmar border since 1995. This Action will address the protracted crisis of Myanmar refugees in the camps in Thailand through the adoption of conflict sensitive approach. The Action will apply gender sensitivity and promote gender equality, while increase protection of vulnerable children and promote non-discrimination of the extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs). This Action will also promote resilience through capacity building and skills development, and will support conflict prevention and peace through inclusion of Thai host communities in project activities.

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### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

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Tension and conflicts between refugees and Thai host communities are often linked to environmental resources. This Action aims to address this issue through protection of the environment, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and building resilience of refugees and Thai host communities living in close proximity to forest and water resources.

#### Other considerations if relevant:

#### COVID-19 pandemic

COVID-19 continues to impact negatively the entire region, including Thailand. The Action aims to address COVID-19 prevention and response in camps, in close coordination with MoPH and MOI, UN agencies, NGOs serving in refugee camps. Systematic health related information sharing mechanisms will be supported while health services/facilities for prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 in camps will be strengthened. Special focus will be on persons with specific medical needs.

### 3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
1 external environment <sup>11</sup>	Political and security developments in Myanmar have a direct impact on the number of refugees and on the possibility of voluntary repatriation. This risk is beyond the control of the international community.	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	Mitigation consists in maintaining a flexible programme and project structure so that the EU and implementing partners will be ready to adapt programme/projects to respond to rapid changes that may occur in Myanmar. This programme should cover support to basic needs in the camps and might gradually shift towards preparing and accompanying durable solutions including voluntary return.
1 external environment	Engagement with the Myanmar Military Government remains impossible, rendering the specific objective of returns to Myanmar more difficult.	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	Political support and active engagement in the EU programme from all concerned parties will be sought within the political boundaries set by the EU, with a view to engaging with legitimate authorities in the longer term in view of returns once conditions allow and subject to a thorough conflict sensitivity assessment.
1 external environment	Decisions on camps closure and mass refoulement of refugees are taken by the Royal Thai Government.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	Mitigating actions encompass concerted international coordination, and joint advocacy efforts with a view to engage the Royal Thai Government to move towards feasible and durable solutions for encamped refugees.
1 external environment	COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact negatively the entire region for a significant period of time.	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	The Action will encompass prevention and socio-economic recovery activities and should be approved rapidly to cater for existing COVID-19 related needs.
1 external environment	Weather related events (floods, droughts, etc.) could have an impact on the camps	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	Work will be ensured together with camp authorities and camp stakeholders to promote disaster risk preparedness and reduction.
2	Durable solutions on voluntary return may not be available in the near future.	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	The environment for durable solutions, including the option for voluntary return once the conditions allow, will be

<sup>11</sup> Risk categories: 1 = external environment; 2 = planning, processes and systems; 3 = people and the organisation

planning, processes and systems				enhanced by increasing capacities of refugees through education, technical and vocational training. A specific focus on gender and age will be carefully considered.
3 people and the organisation	Thai host communities nearby are negatively affected by the camps.	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	Ensuring a good relationship with host communities is crucial for smooth implementation of the programme. Inclusion of Thai host communities in project activities have proven to reduce tension and build trust between refugees and host communities. Dialogue with Thai authorities at national and local levels will also continue to be sought.

#### **Lessons Learnt:**

- Political support and active engagement from all concerned parties to the EU programme is essential for its success. Close collaboration between the RTG and humanitarian actors including donors on basic services and humanitarian protection of camp residents should be ensured.
- Coordination among agencies is key for effective service provisions in refugee camps, particularly during the COVID-19 outbreak. The coordination structure in the camps (CCSDPT) is an important forum for information sharing and discussion among donors and implementing agencies on camp issues.
- Transparency of camp management in delivery of services is essential. Impartiality, accountability and good community governance, are vital to ensure 'peace' and well-being among the refugees. Efforts need to be made to promote participatory decision-making, service delivery and resource allocation e.g. through Community managed assistance.
- The concept of life-long learning and continuous skill upgrade and diversification should be promoted among the refugees to cultivate the self-reliance mind-set and prepare them for changes.
- Cross-cutting issues such as gender equality and environmental aspects were taken into account in the on-going Aid to uprooted people (AUP) programme with specific activities for women and policies for environmental sustainability of actions. Men could and should be involved more, especially in the promotion component.
- Sustainability of the programme is difficult to achieve as refugees' survival mostly depends on external assistance. The new programme considers other options to provide some degree of sustainability by looking at implementing activities and components which are more community-based and contemplate steps and actions to make beneficiaries more responsible for themselves, to dignify them and to make them less dependent from unconditional aid.
- To promote the self-sufficiency and sustainability, a concept of village-fund for business start-ups or small enterprise will be explored so that the refugees can provide and receive assistance within their communities.

### 3.5. The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this Action is that activities will address the protracted crisis of Myanmar refugees living in the camps along the Thai-Myanmar border. While the provision of basic services will remain important, this new programme will also include activities aiming to prepare refugees for durable solutions. The Action will support basic needs and fundamental rights of the camp population such as basic education, health (including sexual and reproductive services), WaSH, assistance to people with disabilities), including support to COVID-19 prevention and response in the refugee camps. Furthermore, the Action will include activities to improve livelihood skills of refugees as well as activities to improve accountability of camp management. Those activities are key to empower refugees towards self-reliance and resilience leading to preparing and accompanying durable solutions including eventual voluntary return when conditions allow. Activities will be implemented to promote inclusivity and ensure representativeness in respect of sensitivity guidelines concerning sex, gender, age, and minority status among others.

Activities undertaken under this Action will build on former and existing EU initiatives to support Myanmar refugees/displaced population (AUP programme) and are fully aligned with the Action to support recently displaced populations due to the 2021 military takeover in Myanmar on both sides of the Thai/Myanmar border (Towards durable solutions for displaced Myanmar populations along the Thai-Myanmar border - ACA/2020/041-892).

This Action will ensure inclusion of Thai host communities in project activities to reduce tension and build trust between refugees and host communities. The intervention is in line with the RTG's policies and plans, without supporting the encampment policy but with a view of promoting and preparing for durable solutions for the encamped refugees. Close collaboration and dialogues with Thai authorities both at central and local levels will be maintained.

**Specific objective 1:** Military take-over in Myanmar in February 2021 halted the voluntary repatriation process and kept the refugee camps in the status quo. In the current situation where voluntary return is not a conceivable solution for the encamped refugees, EU's continued support to basic needs and rights of refugees remains crucial so as not to leave camp residents without support when the current Aid to uprooted people (AUP) programme ends in early 2023.

IF service provision and awareness raising activities are guaranteed THEN the resilience of the refugees will be enhanced and supported.

**Specific objective 2:** At present, increasing protection and management capacity by local camp-based organisations is a challenge that needs to be addressed across the different sectors (WASH, education, health, etc.). Accountability, inclusive participation and transparency of camp management will be key factors for self-reliance and empowerment of encamped refugees. This Action will improve camp governance and protection through sector-based interventions, leading to more self-reliant and empowered encamped refugees, including a special attention to those living in the most vulnerable situations.

IF refugees are actively involved in the camp management THEN the governance of the camp and protection of the camp residents will be strengthened.

**Specific objective 3:** Support to self-reliance and resilience, and work towards durable solutions for the camp population are key. Access to livelihood opportunities is a challenge that needs to be addressed. This Action will support skills development of refugees to ensure their self-reliance and resilience to food crises and climate change. The skills development would also contribute to preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return of refugees once conditions allow.

IF skills of refugees are developed and supported THEN it will be easier for the communities to be more self-reliant and to have access to livelihood opportunities. In the long term skills development will pave the way for more durable solutions, including voluntary return if conditions allow.

### 3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

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

Results	Results chain (e): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (e): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
<b>Impact</b>	To support the Myanmar refugees in camps in Thailand along the border with Myanmar so that they can fully benefit from their rights in their host/resident societies.	a) Well-being, self-reliance, and resilience of Myanmar refugees in camps b) Percentage of displaced persons living below the national poverty line, compared to the host communities, disaggregated by sex, age group	To be defined based on logframes of actions selected for co-financing	To be defined based on logframes of actions selected for co-financing	a) UNHCR Operational Data Portal b) For host/resident community data - national statistics. For the forcefully displaced population – baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention.	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Outcome 1</b>	To enhance resilience of refugees through the provision of basic services and awareness raising activities;	a) Number of refugees and host communities assisted with EU support b) Percentage of host community members who would welcome a forcibly displaced person as a neighbour, disaggregated by sex	Drawn from implementing partners' baseline survey drafted at a later stage	To be defined based on logframes of actions selected for co-financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU intervention monitoring and reporting systems: annual and final reports from implementing organisations (e.g. governments, international organisations, non-state actors), ROM reviews, evaluations, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security situation remains stable in project intervention areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome 2</b>	To empower refugees through their active involvement to improve camp governance and protection measures;	a) Households' and individual perceptions of improved protection measures (female/male; number of dependants, ages, etc) b) Number of persons who consider their living conditions improved disaggregated by sex, age and disability or minority status	Drawn from Implementing partners' baseline survey drafted at a later stage	To be defined based on logframes of actions selected for co-financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baseline and end line surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RTG allows implementation of livelihoods activities and access for equipment in the camps.</li> <li>External aid interventions do not weaken local development in the camps/host communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome 3</b>	To enhance self-reliance of refugees in preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return	Number of persons with access to sustainable livelihoods in camps by sex, disability and age	Drawn from Implementing partners' baseline survey drafted at a later stage	To be defined based on logframes of actions selected for co-financing		

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
Output related to Outcome 1	1.1 Basic services in education, health (including sexual and reproductive health), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) and assistance to people with disabilities for refugees in the nine camps along the Thai-Myanmar border and their hosting communities are provided and delivered continuously.	1.1.1 Number of refugees (disaggregated by sex and age group) and host communities having access to education/health -including sexual and reproductive services/WaSH basic services, in line with International Standards and in the respect of sex and gender sensitivity guidelines 1.1.2 Number of skilled workers (disaggregated by sex and age group) in the health/education sectors 1.1.3 Number of refugees trained on Disaster risk reduction, environmental awareness and protection of natural resources 1.1.4 Number of children receiving basic education to mitigate risks of child labour	Drawn from implementing partners' baseline survey/assessment reports on each service sector	Increase in numbers of refugees benefiting from activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project field monitoring data</li> <li>Training records / reports.</li> <li>Project reports</li> <li>Mid-term and final evaluation reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoI's legislation facilitates access to intervention areas.</li> <li>Local politics remain conducive to working with communities.</li> </ul>
Output related to Outcome 2	2.1 Improved involvement/participation of refugees including those living in the most vulnerable situations, in the development and implementation of sector-based interventions (e.g. education, health, WaSH, people with disabilities, livelihood sectors).	2.1.1 Number of refugee women camp representatives by age and disability and refugee women mediators in gender-based violence cases 2.1.2 Perception of representation in the camps by its residents by sex and age 2.1.3 Number of joint initiatives involving participation (male/female/child/disabled/youth/elderly) from different ethnic groups in the camp 2.1.4 Number of open and inclusive dialogues (ethnicity/male/female/child/youth/disabled/elderly)	Drawn from implementing partners' baseline survey/assessment reports	Increase in numbers of refugees benefiting from activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project field monitoring data</li> <li>Interviews with refugees, local communities and other stakeholders</li> <li>Reports from UNHCR, implementing partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to the intervention areas remains possible for monitoring of projects.</li> <li>Official support to provide assistance to the camps prevails.</li> <li>Community based participatory decision making is not hindered by external factors.</li> </ul>
Output related to Outcome 3	3.1 Strengthen livelihood skills of refugees to ensure their self-reliance and resilience to crises and leading to preparation for durable solutions including the eventual voluntary return of refugees, once conditions allow	3.1.1 Number of self-reliant (disaggregated by sex and age group) refugees that benefit from livelihoods projects 3.1.2 Number of skilled workers (disaggregated by sex and age group), in line with Thai and Myanmar livelihood standards 3.1.3 Number of coordination meetings with vocational training stakeholders in Thailand and Myanmar to assess	Drawn from implementing partners' baseline survey/assessment reports	Increase in numbers of refugees benefiting from activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project field monitoring data</li> <li>Training records / reports.</li> <li>Project reports</li> <li>Mid-term and final evaluation reports</li> <li>Livelihood assessment reports</li> </ul>	

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
		implementation, alignment, and to ensure future collaboration of the two countries in developing international standards of vocational training curriculum.				

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this Action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with Thailand.

### 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

Not applicable.

### 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 measures<sup>12</sup>.

#### 4.4.1. Direct Management (Grants)

##### **Grants: (direct management)**

##### **(a) Purpose of the grant(s)**

The grants will contribute to the achieving of specific objectives 1, 2, and 3 of the Action and their related outputs as described in section 3.

##### **(b) Type of applicants targeted**

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must:

- be a legal person, and
- be a national or international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or a civil society organisation (CSO) or international (inter-governmental) organisation, and
- be an organisation based in Thailand or in the EU Member States, well established and active in the field of the intervention, so that it will be in a position to immediately implement the actions and deliver results, and
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the Action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), not acting as an intermediary.

<sup>12</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.



#### 4.4.2. Changes from direct to indirect management mode due to exceptional circumstances

Not applicable.

#### 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 <sup>13</sup>	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Third-party contribution, in EUR
<b>Implementation modalities</b> – cf. section 4.4		
Grants – total envelop under section 4.4.1	12 000 000	N.A.
<b>Evaluation</b> – cf. section 5.2 <b>Audit</b> – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision	N.A
<b>Communication and visibility</b> – cf. section <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b> <sup>14</sup>	will be covered by another Decision	N.A
<b>Total</b>	12 000 000	N.A.

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

A project steering committee covering the whole Action is not envisaged. The Ministry of Interior of Thailand will approve work plans for the projects in the camps, but will not be directly involved in the steering committees at the project level.

The EU will centrally manage all projects under this Action and will consequently ensure coordination with other relevant projects.

The Committee for Coordination of Services to Refugees in Thailand (CCSDPT) will be used as a forum for implementing partners, UN agencies, and donors to discuss political sensitive issues of implementation in the refugee camps (refer to section 2.2).

Moreover, specific key stakeholder's coordination groups are formed to discuss the concerned issues of refugee camps and to ensure better coordination among implementing partners and donors. During COVID-19 outbreak, the COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordination Group was formed consists of UNHCR, WHO, IOM, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), relevant Thai authorities at national level, and NGOs serving in the refugee camps, as well as the European Union Delegation in Thailand and the Department of State: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (US PRM). The meetings are to share information on the response, capacities, and resources available, and to share concerns regarding the implementation of the implementing partners on COVID-19 issue in the camps.

<sup>13</sup> N.B: The final text on audit/verification depends on the outcome of ongoing discussions on pooling of funding in (one or a limited number of) Decision(s) and the subsequent financial management, i.e. for the conclusion of audit contracts and payments.

<sup>14</sup> Communication and visibility activities and related budget will be included in each grant agreement, as per contractual obligations.

In case governance structures for this Action are set up, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in such structures for governing the implementation of the Action.

## 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 direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators disaggregated by sex, age when possible, using as reference the logframe matrix.

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).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

Performance and result monitoring arrangements for indicators of the logical framework under this Action are as follows:

At project level: performance and result monitoring will be emphasised in the Guidelines for Grant Applicants and during contract preparation period to ensure that the important elements of baselines and data collection (including responsible agencies, timeline and budget allocation) will be included in all actions.

At Delegation level, EU Delegation will closely monitor the implementation of projects under this programme. Joint-monitoring missions between EU Delegation Task Manager and Finance Officer will be conducted on a yearly basis. Joint-monitoring missions with the EU Delegation in Myanmar and ECHO will also be organised, if possible.

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

### 5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the Action, a final evaluation may be carried out for this Action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

The final evaluation would be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the situation in Myanmar may change rapidly, and the Commission and implementing partners should be ready to respond to the changes.

If a final evaluation is carried out, the Commission shall inform the relevant implementing partner(s) at least 2 months in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation mission. The implementing partner(s) 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 the concerned RTG agencies and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination<sup>15</sup>. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

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

<sup>15</sup> See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

### 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.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

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

## APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention<sup>16</sup> (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

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

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

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

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

In the case of 'Group of actions' level, add references to the present Action and other Action concerning the same Primary Intervention.

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

<b>Option 1: Action level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present Action: all contracts in the present Action
<b>Option 2: Group of actions level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS# 043-301)
<b>Option 3: Contract level</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	Grants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	
	(...)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	

<sup>16</sup> [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](#).