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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX 3

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measures in favour of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for 2022 (part 1)

Action Document for Support Measure - Cooperation Facility

ANNUAL MEASURE

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

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support Measure - Cooperation Facility CRIS number: NDICI AFRICA/2021/043-207 OPSYS ref.: ACT-60680 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) TEI.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Ethiopia
4. Programming document	Not applicable. Individual Measures outside the scope of programming documents (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u> Regulation, Article 23.3).
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Not applicable. Individual Measures outside the scope of programming documents (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u> Regulation, Article 23.3)
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): 17 (partnerships for the goals)
8 a) DAC code(s)	43010 - Multisector aid 100 %
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Other - 90000
9. Involvement of multilateral partners	No

10. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
11. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Internal markers and Tags	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship 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"/>
	Connectivity @	☒	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	transport people2people energy digital connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
13. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2022-14 02 01 21-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 2 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 2 500 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
14. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Procurement			
15. Type of measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperation facility <input type="checkbox"/> Measures in favour of Civil Society			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The Cooperation Facility will help ensure effective and gender responsive implementation of the EU-Ethiopia cooperation, under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe). While a Multiannual Indicative Programme MIP for Ethiopia has not been adopted, this support measure will be complementary to actions contained in the same set of Individual Measure, as well as support scoping multiple sectors in support of a possible future adoption of the MIP. Activities will address the need for the development of conflict sensitive and responsive future engagements, intensified strategic communication and public diplomacy activities and stronger coordination with Member States in designing Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs).

The action, with a budget of EUR 2 500 000, will fund the procurement of various Technical Assistance services to execute the assignments required to better design and implement future EU development cooperation in a future approved MIP, and related visibility and communication activities in the country.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe) replacing the EDF results in a shift in the EU-Ethiopia cooperation. Under this instrument the specific role of the National Authorising Officer will no longer exist and in this context the EUD will directly manage funds for studies, programming and identification/formulation of cooperation activities.

New scoping studies will be required to better design future EU development cooperation in Ethiopia, ensuring it is conflict sensitive and abides by the principle of ‘do no harm’. In addition, there is a need for reinforced strategic communication and public diplomacy about EU development cooperation in the country and its benefits.

The Cooperation Facility is primarily aimed at supporting the identification and formulation of future interventions and programmes. These will further support the additional strategic communication and public diplomacy efforts, as well as the coordination with Member States on the development and implementation of TEIs. The action will support the procurement of services for independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements; and also finance two final evaluations for the Individual Measures on Health and Education.

2.2 Problem Analysis

The EU aims to ensure effective delivery of the EU-Ethiopia cooperation, under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe). Within this context there is a need for scoping studies to better design EU development cooperation programmes in the current context, ensuring they are conflict sensitive and in line with a human rights based approach and gender mainstreaming commitments. The EU further wants to ensure efficient and effective strategic communication of its values and policies, including impact of our cooperation in the country.

The presence of a large number of development partners in the country requires a significant coordination effort ensuring coherence, synergies and complementarities. Furthermore, the TEIs will require intensive collaboration and coordination with the Member States.

More specifically the following issues will be addressed:

- Growing demand for project preparations, studies and context analysis:
There is a need to formulate and implement programmes, taking into account conflict sensitivity, gender and human rights sensitivity. The substantial EU support to Ethiopia calls for the support of specialized Technical Assistance (TA) in the areas of project preparation, studies and monitoring and evaluation of activities.
- Need for coordination and collaboration with Member States and other implementing partners:
The crisis calls for more intensified coordination and collaboration, especially since implementation will take place through different implementation channels.
- Increased awareness, understanding and support of the EU and its action:
A continuous engagement of different visibility promoting media services is needed to inform the wider public on the impact of the EU cooperation actions while at the same time ensuring their visibility.

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

This action will enable EU cooperation, bilateral and as part of the design of TEIs, to achieve its objectives efficiently, taking into account the constraints identified, and improving communication on EU External Action in Ethiopia.

A broad range of stakeholders are expected to benefit from the proposed Cooperation Facility instrument, including, but not limited to:

- i. Civil society, International organisations and private sector insofar concerned and are stakeholders of EU supported development projects and programmes;
- ii. EU Member States, and other development partners in the interest of upholding the aid effectiveness agenda.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to increase the impact of future EU cooperation actions.

The Specific Objective (Outcome) of this action is to enable the EU cooperation to achieve its objectives efficiently in an inclusive manner.

The Output to be delivered by this action contributing to the Specific Objective (Outcome) are:

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Sector, project and programme specific analysis and studies for future programming are successfully concluded.
- 1.2 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy activities are undertaken
- 1.3 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Audit or Verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements; and two final evaluations for the Individual Measures on Health and Education are carried out.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1 may include, amongst others:

- Identification of development programmes corresponding to the current needs and human rights specific situations; and/or
- Preparation and formulation of development programmes to be financed under NDICI.

Activities related to Output 1.2 may include, amongst others:

- Awareness raising campaign follow-up to the “We See Africa” campaign rolled out in 2021. All such campaigns will be data-driven, rigorously tracking hard KPIs that will allow content to be constantly adjusted in line with evidence of the material and approaches that resonate most successfully with the audience.
- Activities to promote the understanding and awareness of the Union's values, interests and specific policies, including human rights, foreign and security policy, science and research, gender equality, Team Europe visibility, fight against disinformation, as well its multilateral agenda.
- Activities to strengthen networks and long-term relationships with key target audiences and partners (e.g. youth, students, academics, think tanks, CSOs, business, creative industries), including leveraging existing EU programmes, in order to facilitate future cooperation across policy areas.

Activities related to Output 1.3 may include, amongst others:

- Procurement of services for independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements; and for two final evaluations for the Individual Measures on Health and Education.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project)

The EIA (Environment Impact Assessment) screening classified the action as Category C (no need for further assessment).

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project)

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G0. This implies that there is no direct contribution to gender equality. However, gender equality will be analysed in studies performed under these support measures.

Human Rights

The action will take a right based approach. It will be taken into account when identifying possible future actions the following principles: No-discrimination, meaningful participation, transparency, accountability and respect to all human rights.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the support measures do not contribute themselves to human rights. However, the need to take into account disabilities will be considered when identifying possible future actions.

Democracy

N/A

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

The action will specifically address conflict sensitivity analysis in all its activities and strive to contribute to reconciliation and peace efforts.

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
External environment	Availability of experts: Ethiopia remains vulnerable to significant shocks, natural and man-made. The impact of the ongoing active conflict and COVID-19 risks deteriorating the security environment and travel conditions, which could translate into unavailability or unwillingness of	M	L	Drafting of clear and detailed Terms of references (TORs), combining local with international expertise, flexibility in teleworking and use of electronic means of communication.

	experts to travel to Ethiopia.			
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Lessons Learnt:

The EU has been for the past several years funding Technical Cooperation Facilities (TCF), which fell under the responsibility of the National Authorising Officer. While the implementation modality is different, some lessons learnt from the implementation of TCF may be applicable to support measures. For instance, due to the COVID pandemic as well as the conflict, experience with telework and virtual meetings has been gained. Further, combining local with international expertise has enabled us to combine international best practices with substantial local insights and understanding. It also facilitated blended (virtual and in-person) information sharing and gathering. Finally, the flexibility of the direct management mode (and framework contracts) will enable the EUD to respond quickly to the changing environment and requirements regarding programming.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the EU-Ethiopia partnership. It will enable the EU to enable relevant stakeholders to be closely involved in the identification of potential intervention areas to be implemented as Individual Measures. Due to the need to act urgently to address the needs of the population most affected by the current crisis, this action will facilitate the development of appropriate programmes taking into account a human rights and gender approach.

This action will further strengthen the cooperation and coordination with Member States and other development partners, as well as the visibility of the EU action in Ethiopia. The action will aim to:

- Strengthen EU-Ethiopia cooperation through accompanying measures in priority areas.
- Strengthen EU-Ethiopia cooperation through the inclusion of cross-cutting issues.
- Allow a better understanding of its external action by a large public through strategic communication and public diplomacy actions.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

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 24 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 measures¹.

4.4.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

This implementation modality entails the procurement of TA services launched by the Delegation. The support measures will be managed by the EU Delegation in Ethiopia, through specific contracts (framework contract), local or international procedures and the use of the various thematic or specific facilities at headquarters. The action will allow the development of strategic communication and public diplomacy tools to better communicate on the EU-Ethiopia partnership.

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)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4	
Specific Objective 1: composed of	
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	2 500 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2	
Audit – cf. section 5.3	
Communication – cf. section 6	
Totals	2 500 000

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

This project will be implemented under direct management. The terms of reference for studies will be drafted in the Delegation and shared for comments with relevant stakeholders. Studies related to TEI will be shared for comments with MS. No specific Steering Committee will be established.

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

¹ 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.

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.

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, an evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components. However this action will finance two final evaluations for the Individual Measures on Health and Education.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

Regional and global strategic communication and public diplomacy funds will be managed from headquarters. At country level, action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication 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.

To that end, Delegations will first develop short strategic communication and public diplomacy plans that reflect the objectives of the Delegation as a whole in this domain, initially covering the period up to the Mid-Term Review (MTR). The plans will be endorsed by a coordination mechanism comprised of the EEAS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI, and will be reviewed, modified and extended as appropriate as part of the MTR process.

These plans will cover:

1. The audiences targeted
2. For each group targeted, the principal communication objective, in terms of measurable outcomes
3. The core narrative, formulated in terms not of what we do in the country concerned, but why we do it
4. Preliminary suggestions for content (messages, straplines, hashtags), partnerships (influencers) and channels
5. Key administrative information: timeline, budget and the programme manager responsible for implementation.