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ANNEX 3

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Republic of Uganda for 2023-2024

Action Document for the Water and Sanitation in Refugee Hosting Communities

MULTIANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the multiannual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and action plans 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	Water and Sanitation in Refugee Hosting Communities OPSYS number: ACT-61755 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)/ Overseas Association Decision/European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation Regulation
2. Team Europe Initiative	Yes
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Northern Uganda, Arua City and surrounding refugee hosting districts
4. Programming document	2021-2027 Multi-annual Indicative Programme for Uganda
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Specific objective 1.5 – To effectively contribute to streamlining the European Green Deal in sustainable urban and peri urban development for Uganda's move towards green, inclusive, smart and productive cities
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority area 1 (<i>Green and Climate transition</i>) – 410, 430 Priority area 3 (<i>Governance and Social inclusion</i>) – 720, 140
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 6 (“Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 1 (“No poverty”) SDG: 5 (“Gender Equality”) SDG 8 (“Decent Work and Economic Growth”) SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities”) SDG 13 (“Climate Action”) SDG 16 (“Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions”)

8 a) DAC code(s)	15190 - Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility – 50% 14020 - Water supply and sanitation - large systems – 40% 14050 - Waste management /disposal – 10%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	13000 - Third Country Government (Delegated co-operation)			
9. Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ digital connectivity digital governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

	digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy digital services		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020121</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 24 700 000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 15 000 000</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of EUR 15 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for year N, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.</p> <p>The Action forms part of the Demography and Social Inclusion Team Europe Initiative. The proportion of this Action's budget contributing to the TEI is 100%. The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe members. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each respective member's meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the event that the TEIs and/or these contributions do not materialise, the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.</p>			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The Action shall address high priority investment needs in the water and sanitation sector for refugees and the Ugandan population in North-Western Uganda and specifically the population of Arua city and surrounding refugee hosting districts in the follow up phases. Due to the effects of climate change in the form of more frequent and severe extreme weather events (droughts, rainstorms, floods), living conditions are deteriorating. This particularly affects water and sanitation infrastructure, which is already under massive pressure due to strong population growth and the sustained influx of refugees from the neighbouring countries. In addition, water resources are in danger of becoming polluted or drying up.

This is particularly evident in Arua, the largest city and economic centre of the northern West Nile sub-region. Due to its close proximity to neighbouring South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the city is already attracting many refugees and is also experiencing high population growth. Many people arriving in Arua are hoping for improved employment opportunities and improved infrastructure. This poses a challenge for the provision of basic services: The existing water and sanitation infrastructure is already inadequate to meet the high demand. In addition, surface water resources fail for several months a year, and the existing boreholes for groundwater resources cannot cover the shortfall. Water scarcity is becoming a growing problem for the city and surrounding areas, as it is already evident that groundwater resources will not be sufficient in the long term to ensure a supply of drinking water for the people. More frequent and prolonged droughts as a result of climate change will increasingly threaten existing surface resources. Additional challenges for the city arise from the lack of a waste management system as well as the lack of a surface water drainage. Heavy rains often cause flooding, clogged sewers and pollution to the surrounding nature and existing water resources. This poses a great threat to the environment as well as to the health situation of the population as well as ability of the city to attract investments for improved employment creation.

The proposed Action is integrated in a wider programme approach which aims with in a first effort to respond to short term needs to improve the supply situation of the population as quickly as possible in the areas of drinking water supply, basic sanitation, but also, surface water drainage, regulated waste disposal, and detailed urban planning in selected parts of the city. With the investments of phase 1 approximately 255,000 people are directly targeted for service level improvement out of which about 30,000 are refugees. The Action shall finance measures under Phase 1 and it will benefit both refugees and the Ugandan population. In addition, the capacities of the city administration to implement improved infrastructure planning are to be strengthened, taking into account diverse concerns in view of the growing number of people, increasing number of refugees in the city as well as the expected challenges in the wake of climate change and the urgency to design the urban space accordingly.

The Action will promote operationalising of the humanitarian-development-peace Nexus as the responsibility for the development, management and governance of these water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, including solid waste management, is transitioned from humanitarian institutions to local stakeholders / state institutions (e. g. Ministry of Water and Environment, private service providers and/or public utilities such as the National Water and Sewerage Corporation, NWSC), thus fostering a longer-term, sustainable approach to basic services in line with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, CRRF. A special focus will be on social inclusion and protection of the population. To maximize complementarities, the ongoing Greening Uganda's Urbanisation and Industrialisation project, which targets several secondary cities facing challenges in dealing with high influxes of refugees, will also inform the design of the Action.

The action will contribute to the realisation of the EU Gender Action Plan 2021-2025 GAP III, in particular to its thematic area of engagement "Strengthening economic and social rights and empowering girls and women"

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

After two years of turmoil following the 2021 elections and Covid-19, the high population growth, pressure on natural resources, and the lack of prospects for youth remain key challenges. Vulnerabilities have further increased with the global surge in food and fuel prices. This has exacerbated the already vulnerable situation of women and other marginalized groups increasing food insecurity, family malnutrition and risk behaviors (sexual and physical violence). Moreover, the World Bank approximates that 28.3% of Ugandan households are led by women due to a high number of single, widowed, and divorced mothers.¹ Meaning that nearly one-third of households are especially vulnerable to the issues associated with food insecurity for women.

Shrinking civic space, weakening public confidence in elections and a disenfranchised youth population have raised fears of a disorderly transition in 2026. Despite an extensive government apparatus, weak capacity, underfunding of public services and corruption hamper effective implementation of public policies. While the economic situation is improving, with growth for FY 2022/23 forecasted at 5.1% (up from 3.9% in FY 2021/22, the fiscal space has narrowed and public debt has seen a sharp rise, reaching a debt-to-GDP ratio of 52.9%. The

¹ WB. Gender Data portal. <https://genderdata.worldbank.org/indicators/sp-hou-fema-zs/>

IMF extended credit facility of USD 1Bn was approved in July 2021 and the review is currently ongoing. Macroeconomic risks are linked to high inflation and rising borrowing costs.

As highlighted by Uganda's Foreign Minister during his recent visit to EU, the integration of refugees from neighboring countries is facing increasing challenges. The high number of refugees, including an unprecedented inflow from DRC, puts pressure on natural resources and social services, in some cases creating tensions with the host communities. In addition to the gradual reduction of humanitarian funding, it puts at risk Uganda's open-door policy. Uganda remains an important player in the region, and the accession of DRC to EAC has created a political momentum for reinforced cooperation in the Great Lakes. This translates into increased opportunities in the areas of peace and security, regional infrastructure, trade and cross-border cooperation which are mostly being pursued through multi-country initiatives.

Refugee situation

Uganda hosts the largest refugee population in Africa with over 1,5 million refugees as February 2023. Due to the endless unrest in neighbouring countries like South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda has received a heightened influx of refugees over the past few years. The country's refugee protection policies are amongst the most progressive in the world, with an inclusive approach granting refugees with freedom of movement and the right to work, to establish businesses and access public services. While refugee and host communities in Uganda typically coexist peacefully, tensions arise, attributed to various factors including competition for natural resources, land disputes, destruction of crops by animals belonging to the host or refugee communities and/or perceived inequities in access to livelihoods, services and international aid. Such tensions have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The situation is often particularly precarious in larger cities, where refugees do not benefit from governmental or international aid, as these benefits are provided in official refugee settlements. Supporting access to basic services for both groups is thus crucial in urban areas. Furthermore, people are affected differently by forced displacement, depending on their age, gender, and diversity. Particularly women and girls are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The loss of income within the household has contributed to an increased incidence of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and negative coping mechanisms such as survival sex, sale of alcohol or child marriage. Women and girls traditionally face most of the unpaid work burden, such as cooking, housework, collecting firewood and fetching water exposing them to sexual violence and other forms exploitation.²

The Action is aligned with the country's many humanitarian response and development planning documents and strategies, that address the specific challenges arising from the past and continuous influx of refugees:

- the *Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) strategy*, which provides a national framework for making refugees part and parcel of the development agenda,
- Uganda's development agenda the *National Development Plan III (NDP III)*, that lists amongst others the necessity to integrate topics of migration and refuge planning and all other cross cutting issues in national, sectoral and local government plans,
- the *UN Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)*, for which Uganda is a pilot country,
- The *Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan (WESSRP)*, developed under the CRRF, which specifically addresses pressure on public services, e. g. water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, from refugee influxes.

Water sector

Over the past five years, access to safe water in Uganda has stagnated between 65 and 69% (according to Water and Environment sector performance reports) despite continuous investments in new infrastructure. This stagnation is attributed to the increased population growth (growth rate of 3% per UBOS 2021) over the same period which does not match the volume of investment and low functionality of the existing infrastructure. Unreliable and inequitable water supply, poor operation and maintenance especially at institutional level and inadequate funding to the sector compound the problem. There are special regional challenges: As a result of decades of conflict, Northern Uganda continues to have above-average poverty rates among the population and

² UNHCR. ● Inter-agency report: refugee women and girls in Uganda disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Retrieved at: <https://www.unhcr.org/africa/news/news-releases/inter-agency-report-refugee-women-and-girls-uganda-disproportionately-affected>

comparatively poor infrastructure provision. WASH services in Northern Uganda do not meet national standards at many places. In addition, the north is particularly affected by the influx of refugees. Current estimates suggest that about 57 % of the refugees in Uganda are settled in the north.

Moreover, the lack of access to sanitation and hygiene facilities and safe drinking water disproportionately impacts women and girls. First, women and girls are usually the ones responsible for gathering water for their families, increasing their exposure to violence and increasing the time dedicated to household work preventing them from getting education or gaining employment. Second, women and girls have specific hygienic needs when menstruating, pregnancy and birth. Unsanitary conditions can increase to protection and health risks for them.

The above-mentioned *Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan* (WESRRP) not only identifies the challenges of already inadequate infrastructure due to a constant influx of refugees, but also states the impact of climate change, as a key challenge for the country for the coming years.

Climate change

Extreme weather events such as heavy rains, droughts, storms or landslides have repeatedly affected all regions, large parts of the population and important sectors of the economy throughout Uganda's history. Extreme weather events are predicted to become more frequent and intense due to climate change. According to the *Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative's matrix* Uganda is on the one hand particularly affected by climate change ("high vulnerability") and on the other hand not sufficiently prepared for climate and environmental change ("low readiness"). Extreme weather events have a direct negative impact on water and sanitation infrastructure, that can be damaged and affect access to safe water for refugees and hosting communities. Water resources may become unavailable or can be contaminated, all of which raises health at risk and poses a threat to the environment. Women are also disproportionately affected by the impact of climate change. Their risks and vulnerabilities are visible in the several areas: in restricted land rights, lack of access to financial resources, training, and technology, and limited access to political decision-making spheres often prevent them from upholding their role in tackling climate change, environmental risks/disaster.³ Despite of this, women play a critical role in climate change adaptation and mitigation although their role has been limited due to traditional social norms and social practices that hinder women's capacities to participate in any decision-making process related.

In this context, the proposed Action is aligned with the Ugandan government's various policies to address the challenges due to negative impacts of climate change: The NDP III identifies climate change as the major regional and global challenge. In 2018, Uganda became the first country in Africa to adopt a Nationally Determined Contribution Partnership Plan to implement the goals of the Paris Agreement. Uganda's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), revised in September 2022, again identifies water as a key challenge. The National Climate Change act 2021 is the national framework for coordination of national climate actions and calls for actions on gender mainstreaming in climate change.

EU Policy Framework

The Action falls under the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Uganda (2021-2027) and directly contributes to MIP Priority Area 1 (Green and Climate Transition) and the MIP's specific objective „Promoting Smart Green Cities” as well as Priority area 3 (Governance and Social inclusion). In the context of an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach, the Action links up to several other objectives to some various extents: (1) “Contributing to a better conservation, restoration and protection of the natural resources and biodiversity of Uganda”, (2) “ Supporting Uganda to improve its disaster risk management approach“; under Priority Area 2 (Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Growth and Jobs) (3) „Promoting sustainable investments“ as well as (4) “Promoting decent employment“.

The Action is aligned with thematic area 1 (People – human development and dignity), area 2 (Planet – Protecting the environment, managing natural resources and tackling climate change) and area 3 (Prosperity - Inclusive and sustainable growth and job) of the European Consensus for Development. The action is also closely linked to the TEI on gender and social inclusion and specifically the Gender for Development Uganda (G4DU) program output on water and sanitation improvement in schools. This action will invest significantly to improve WASH services in all public schools in ACC and thus contribute to improvement of the learning environment for both refugees

³ GGGI. Uganda Women in Climate Change 2022 Declaration. <https://gggi.org/uganda-women-in-climate-change-2022-declaration/>

and host communities in the city which is equally the objective of the G4DU program. To the extent possible joint monitoring and cross learning between the action and G4DU is to be implemented.

It also illustrates the EU's commitment to addressing the refugee & forcibly displaced people issue. Through supporting the humanitarian-development-peace Nexus in Uganda, the EU aims to increase the effectiveness of its contribution to the rollout of the CRRF. The Action is also fully aligned with the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) programme in Uganda, which includes the reinforcement of refugees and host communities access to emergency basic services including WASH among its strategic priorities, as well as the support at initial stages of longer-term WASH interventions, as is already the case under the ongoing Isingiro project, where ECHO through UNHCR is supporting the realization of the initial design and feasibility studies.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

As outlined in the previous section, the main challenges for the provision of a reliable and safe drinking water supply and basic sanitation services in Northern Uganda are a) the steady influx of refugees, b) that the existing water and sanitation infrastructure is already inadequate and increasingly under pressure due to high population growth, and c) the negative impacts of climate change in the form of extreme weather events. In order to operationalise the above-mentioned *Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan*, the Ministry of Water and Environment conducted *The Infrastructure Development Plan for the West Nile Region (IsDP)*, a study funded by the German Government to assess water availability and demand in the region, which is majorly impacted by the ongoing influx of refugees. The study identifies necessary investment measures in the city of Arua and surrounding refugee hosting districts as a priority.

Arua obtained city status in July 2020, and its population is growing at a rate of 3% per annum – 1% higher than the capital city of Kampala. Arua is the economic center of the West Nile region and attracts many people hoping for improved infrastructure and economic prospects. The city's proximity to the borders of South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo has led to a growing number of refugees and an increased demand for social services and livelihoods support. A recent census estimates that more than 11% of the population are refugees.

The MWE's study underlined that Arua lacks a long-term, sustainable water source and faces severe water shortages during dry seasons. Boreholes currently only cover part of the actual water demand and groundwater resources won't suffice to supply the water demand of the projected population latest by the year 2040. Due to the hydrogeological conditions a further development of groundwater resources is counterproductive and undesirable in the long term.

Climate change aggravates the problem: increasing occurrence of heavy rains for instance poses challenges for Arua City where drainage is a major issue and leads itself to flooding. Longer and more frequent dry periods and droughts burden the supply of clean drinking water from the main supply source, river Enyau, which already today often falls dry during these periods.

The impacts of climate change are often felt most acutely at the local level by the most vulnerable groups, including people living in informal settlements and refugees. A lack of basic social services and damages to property due to extreme weather events affect them disproportionately more than other parts of the society that have sufficient (financial) means to provide for themselves. As recognised in the IWRM approach, women often face higher risks and greater burdens from the impacts of climate change in situations of poverty and due to existing roles, responsibilities, and cultural norms. In Uganda, women are majorly responsible for household energy, food, water, and care for the young and elderly. Additionally, it is noted that environmental degradation and reduced ground water recharge and supply has contributed to climate vulnerability, sexual and gender-based violence for women and children during firewood collection, reduced food and nutrition security and depleted sources of cooking fuel.⁴ Furthermore, women, particularly refugee women, tend to have less access to information about existing resources than men due to their restriction of movement, less access to radio, smartphones and lower literacy. As a consequence, women have less decision-making power than men and they have less capacity to participate in the management of WASH and land resources and infrastructures.

Lastly, the rapid and unstructured growth of Arua will hinder a sustainable development of the city and its infrastructure. Adapted and forward looking planning needs to consider different aspects of political, economic

⁴ Uganda: *Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan (WESRRP) 2019-2022*

and social development as well as climate change. The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), supported by the EU, has started this planning process with Arua City Council. However, funding for implementation is still needed. Experience from other donor-related projects shows that municipalities often do not have sufficient financial and human resources to successfully support planning processes.

The Action will address the following specific problems:

- Lack of solutions for reliable, hygienically safe water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure for both refugees and the Ugandan population in Arua City and surrounding districts,
- Deterioration in the living conditions and WASH supply for the population, especially women and other vulnerable groups, because of climate change in the form of more frequent and more severe extreme weather events (droughts, road rains, floods), threatening to pollute water resources, wetlands etc.,
- Lack of urban infrastructure planning that considers, on the one hand, the high population growth and, on the other hand, the expected effects of climate change and necessary improvements in terms of water and sanitation infrastructure, but also waste management and surface drainage.

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

- *The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED):* is mandated to coordinate the mobilisation of external resources (loans and grants) for financing Government priority programmes/projects, monitor aid effectiveness, follow up implementation of donor terms and conditions and resource use, and provide the first contact point within GOU for development partners.
- *The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE):* has the overall responsibility of the development, management, and regulation of water and environment resources in Uganda, MWE oversees the water, sanitation and solid waste management sectors and provides guidelines for infrastructure planning & development as well as policy recommendations. In addition, the MWE has the strong mandate to address the issue of climate change. It hosts the Climate Change Department (CCD), that aims to strengthen Uganda's implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (KP).
- *The National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC):* is a parastatal institution and according to its statutes, designed as an economically self-supporting organization. NWSC is responsible for the implementation and operation of water and sanitation infrastructure in large and medium-sized towns and considered as one of the leading water utilities in the region.
- *The Arua City Council (ACC):* Is an urban authority responsible for orderly provision of social services for its population as well as regulation of developments planning and implementation for the city infrastructure developments like roads solid waste management, drainage management.
- *The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)* is amongst others the key institution to coordinate the development of capacities for prevention, preparedness, and response to natural and human-induced Disasters and Refugees.
- *Target group of the Action:* is the population of Arua city and parts of surrounding areas, including refugees, particularly women and other vulnerable groups whose living conditions and resilience will be positively impacted by the Action.
- *Other key stakeholders* include the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), World bank USMID project, UNHCR, Arua district local government, Maracha district local government, Terego district local government, NEMA

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of the Action is to enhance the living conditions in displacement affected communities by building the resilience of water resources and the populations to the negative effects of climate change through construction of resilient urban development infrastructures.

The Specific Objective (Outcomes) of the Action is that refugees and hosting communities use climate-adapted and climate-smart water and sanitation infrastructure and other integrated measures (e.g., water resource protection, solid waste management, storm water drainage).

The Outputs of the Action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objective (Outcome) are:

- 1.1 Increased availability of improved and functioning water supply facilities.
- 1.2 Increased availability of improved and functioning sanitation facilities.
- 1.3 Increased availability of improved and functioning flood control and solid waste management infrastructure
- 1.4 Enhanced capacity of Arua city council in climate-resilient, inclusive and gender-responsive infrastructure planning.

3.2 Indicative Activities

All activities selected have been identified by a pre-feasibility study and in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders, the Ministry for Water and Environment (MWE), the National Water and Sewerage Cooperation (NWSC) and Arua City Council (ACC). According to the responsibilities, the role as Project Executing Agency (PEA) will be different for the respective measures. The selected measures will support the protection of the planned long-term water supply solution as source for the entire region to be financed in the follow-up of the programme approach, including the construction of a water reservoir and a dam across of river Enyau. Beside the conventional measures in water supply systems and sanitation infrastructure (output 1.1 and 1.2), the outputs 1.3 and 1.4 follow a Greener-City planning approach.

All measures of the initial effort sum up to an investment volume of approximately EUR 24.7m, thereof EUR 8.7 m will be covered by funds of the German development cooperation and EUR 1.0 m by Government of Uganda through NWSC.

Activities related to Output 1.1: *Increased availability of improved and functioning water supply facilities*

The selected measures will cover the rehabilitation and flood protection of the main water treatment plant of Arua City, intermediate increase of the water production via additional boreholes, extension of the water supply network in some city areas currently unserved and increase of house and yard connections as well as stand posts in informal settlements predominantly habited by refugees. The total investment sum will be approximately EUR 7.5 m. The target is to increase service levels for the catchment population of approximately 255,000 people currently (out of which approx. 30,000 are refugees) and 300,000 by 2030. The PEA will be NWSC.

Further investments in the networks and optimisation of the existing systems shall be undertaken by the responsible PEA NWSC as the Government of Uganda's contribution to the Action. The total volume of the NWSC investments is approximately EUR 1 m and includes rehabilitation and optimization of borehole pumping stations, water pumping mains rehabilitation and optimisation, extension of water supply systems and connections to poorer population segments, including urban refugees will be respected to achieve desired impact.

Activities related to Output 1.2: *Increased availability of improved and functioning sanitation facilities*

Main target of the selected measures is the protection of the catchment of the river Enyau against pollution by untreated raw sewage and to avoid the contamination of the future drinking water reservoir/dam to be constructed downstream.

The selected measures comprise the rehabilitation of existing sewage networks including related pumping stations and the extension of the networks by approx. 4km of new sewer lines to increase the number of connected inhabitants and commercial enterprises. For City areas without sewage networks the construction of public toilet facilities largely targeting public schools, and markets and the increase of onsite sanitation facilities is foreseen. With the financial allocation, 80% of the public schools shall be targeted to attain gender-responsive⁵ total sanitation based on national standards of pupil stance ratio of 40:1. Additionally, the one wastewater treatment plant of Arua City, located in the Enyau catchment and constructed as 3-stage pond treatment plant should be enlarged with a tertiary treatment by a constructed wetland, which filters the treated wastewater further and participates in nutrients removal. The total investment sum will be EUR 5.1 m. The PEA will be NWSC for the network related measures, the pumping stations and the wastewater treatment plant. Arua City Council (ACC) will be the PEA for the public toilets and the onsite sanitation measures according to the distribution of roles and responsibilities in the Ugandan WASH sector

⁵ Including clean, safe (well illuminated, set up in safe areas) and separate toilets, with access to water and garbage disposal.

Activities related to Output 1.3: Increased availability of improved and functioning flood control and solid waste management infrastructure

As the connection rate to any sewer collection system is quite low in Arua City a lot of untreated sewage is disposed in public rainwater drains. Furthermore, these drains are used as waste dumping sites as well. That's why a rehabilitation and upgrading of existing stormwater drains is urgently needed regarding the protection of the Enyau catchments and the increase of stormwater events in times of climate change. To protect the Enyau river three main drains in its catchment area have been selected for rehabilitation in compliance with modern methodologies like applying nature-based solutions and the Green-City approach, e. g. placement of physical catchment rehabilitation measures (such as gabion basket walls and cut off drains), planning and construction of sustainable urban surface drainage systems with local water harvesting and 'green space utilisation' for e.g. infiltration into the groundwater.

The total investment sum for Output 1.3.1 will be approximately EUR 1.2 m with which approximately 4.5km of critical drainage channel that drain into the Enyau catchment is to be constructed for flood control and pollution management and the PEA will be ACC.

To avoid future uncontrolled littering of solid household waste into the drains first steps towards a professional waste management system in Arua City shall be renewed and developed further, including the introduction of a circular economy for selected types of waste, e.g., organic waste. The selected measures include the rehabilitation of the existing composting site and construction of state-of-the-art waste dumping cells, the procurement of professional solid waste equipment to transport and treat solid waste and an innovative project to set in value of organic waste by using the Black-Soldier-Flies Technology. The selected measures for Output 1.3.2 will need an investment sum of approximately EUR 3.5 m. The PEA will be ACC.

Activities related to Output 1.4: Enhanced capacity of Arua city council in climate-resilient, inclusive and gender-responsive infrastructure planning.

The concept behind operationalising Output 1.4 is to select sites to create a comprehensive, and detailed green Infrastructure Development Plan. The selected measures are on the one hand consultancy services to develop these plans And on the other hand Capacity Building for ACC to support green urban town planning (e. g. technical expert) shall be delivered, and assistance to the ACC to draft and enforce planning bylaws that consider climate resilience, green spaces, urban drainage and overall project management. Activities will seek to include female participation in management committees and positions of responsibility to support improved functioning of water committees, water systems, and hygiene promotion.

The services sum up to costs of around EUR 1,05 m.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the SEA screening

Not applicable

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening

The Action is considered for delegation to an EU MS agency, KfW. The KfW Development Bank environmental and social impact assessment standards are the Environmental and Social Standards of the World Bank Group (i.e., for public agencies the Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) as well as relevant Operational Policies of the World Bank and the IFC Performance Standards (PS) for cooperation with the private sector, General and sector-specific Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines⁵ as well as the Core Labour Standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The initial screening of the Action showed that the planned measures for Arua City will be classified in category B/B+. Planned interventions of these categories require an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study including an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and accompanying plans (to be assessed during ESIA), including Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Resettlement Action Plan, Livelihood Restoration Plan, Indigenous Peoples Plan, Biodiversity Action Plan, Cultural Heritage Assessment Studies, Chance Finds Procedures for Cultural Heritage, Cultural Heritage Management and Action Plan etc.

The results of the Environmental and Social Due Diligence (ESDD) are transferred to the contractual framework for the Action. Necessary requirements as part of the ESDD for the planned measures for Arua City will be addressed during further preparation and detailed-design phase.

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). The environment and adapting to the negative effects of climate change are at the heart of the proposed action.

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 equality is a significant objective of the Action. It can be assumed that women and children will particularly benefit from the measures of the Action to improve WASH services and enhance (climate) resilience. Ugandan women and children are mainly responsible for fetching water. Since fetching water, sometimes over long distances, ties up large amounts of time, school attendance, additional income opportunities and leisure activities can be negatively affected by poor water supply. The long distances also pose risks of attacks by wild animals, accidents, theft and violence. In addition, they are usually responsible for the care of sick relatives. Women are disproportionately affected by the impacts of extreme weather events (such as floods, hurricanes, extreme rainfall events, sea-level rise) caused by climate change due to systemic gender discrimination/expectations related to gender roles (less access to land, assets, education, information, finance) and 14 times more likely to die during disasters than men.

This Action will apply an inclusive approach and take into account gender aspects by providing different responses and assistance based on the comprehensive assessment and analysis of the needs of women and other vulnerable groups. Gender will be mainstreamed through the Action with supportive provisions and measures designed based on the needs and opportunities assessed. For activities that require specific participants' selection (e.g. capacity building, resources management) the project will seek to achieve a gender balance

Human Rights

Based on the human rights standards and principles of the Human Rights Guidelines, a significant contribution to strengthening human rights can be assumed as a positive impact of the Action, among other things through the improvement of affordable and sustainable water and sanitation services for the population and through awareness-raising measures that contribute to an improved health situation. The Action will address intersectionality and multiple vulnerabilities, particularly those emanating from poverty, gender inequality or refugee status.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that inclusion of persons with disabilities is a significant objective of the Action. The needs of persons with disabilities will be considered in the design of planned infrastructure (e. g. public toilets and public drinking water supply) and promoted through awareness raising campaigns.

Democracy

The Action will address democracy as a cross-cutting principle, e. g. through strengthening capacity of state actors and institutions, involving local communities throughout the preparation of the Action, mainstreaming of support for democratic accountability, processes and institutions, in order to allow the population to have access to information and recourse to remedy in case of abuses.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Promoting peace and enhancing resilience of the population are significant objectives of the Action. The Action will apply a conflict-sensitive approach and implement the do-no-harm principle. The Action will also support refugees and the Ugandan population and contribute to peace and resilience by promoting access to WASH, and to enhance their resilience in the face of the negative impacts of climate change.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The Action targets to achieve a reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health. It promotes the implementation of integrated environmental and natural resource management approaches that incorporate disaster risk reduction. Measures for water resource protection and surface drainage in the framework of the Action can have a direct positive effect on reducing the impact of extreme weather events (droughts, floods).

Other considerations if relevant

Not applicable

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
1-the external environment	Disruptions linked to the covid-19 pandemic or an ebola outbreak, political unrest and/or other external factors, such as availability and escalation of prices of raw materials/equipment and materials due to impacts of the war in Ukraine	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The stakeholders and government institutions involved in the Action have set up various processes and collaboration models in recent years with various lockdowns and restrictions in the wake of the Covid19 pandemic in order to be able to ensure the implementation of infrastructure and provision of basic services. - Aadaptation of the budget and activities during the implementation of the Action will be possible.
2-planning, processes and systems	Limited capacity of implementing organizations, Overruns of time and cost schedules, and/or cost increases due to global developments (war in Ukraine, Covid19 pandemic),	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generally good experience with implementing agencies like NWSC, agencies will be supported by an international consultant during the whole implementation process; - Impact of the ongoing war in Ukraine on implementation will be taken into account through appropriate reserves in the budget
3-people and the organisation	Lack of political will from the Government and limited funding	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based on experience from past and ongoing projects as well as recent discussions with relevant stakeholders, the Action is of high political interest on the Ugandan side. The Government is keen on advancing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus,
4-legality and regularity aspects	General compliance or corruption risks (mismanagement of funds)	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct payment to providers of goods and services of funds by the member state organization under consideration for delegation, - regular monitoring of implementation progress and use of funds, - involvement of the international consultant in project monitoring and financial monitoring as well as award processes (according to the guidelines of the member state organization under consideration for delegation).
5-communication and information	Lack of transparency regarding the planned measures of the Action	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involvement of the target group in the preparation and implementation of the planned measures (community engagement, awareness raising campaigns),

				- Transparent and timely communication to the relevant stakeholders throughout the planning and implementation process.
				-

Lessons Learnt:

The following lessons learnt, and experiences shall be respected in the proposed Action:

Experience in the Ugandan context has shown that larger infrastructure measures, such as those planned under the Action, especially to improve water supply, can be an important driving vehicle for the implementation of measures related to water resources and water catchment protection in an IWRM approach, which are often discussed but rather implemented on a larger scale due to lack of funding. Similarly, sustainable and climate resilient town planning, surface drainage and green space development needs a larger infrastructure investment project to take off. The combination of WASH projects with sustainable and climate resilient town development has been proved to be successful in other secondary cities in Uganda, e. g. Gulu City. Experience from Gulu City shows, that city administration often needs assistance in the implementation of holistic project approaches considering the relevant gender aspects, as well as the integration of physical development planning in administration processes and legal frameworks which is why the Action shall provide such assistance.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The proposed Action as well as the programme approach by the Member State organization under consideration for delegation (KfW) follow an integrated approach to support short- and long-term access to improved basic services, including water supply, access to improved household and public sanitation facilities ensuring a functional faecal sludge management system, storm water / surface drainage infrastructure; and adapted solid waste management (SWM) solutions benefitting both refugees and the Ugandan population. The action shall finance the immediate measures here referred to initial effort.

The underlying intervention logic is based on the assumption that by improving access to safe and sufficient drinking water and to hygienic sanitary facilities through the rehabilitation, construction and extension of water supply (Output 1.1), and sanitation facilities(output 1.2) and through the rehabilitation and upgrading of storm water drains and solid waste management infrastructures in compliance with modern methodologies like applying nature-based solutions and the Green-City approach (Output 1.3), as well as by increasing the capacities of Arua City Council in terms of climate-resilient infrastructure planning (Output 1.4), the use of climate-adapted and climate-friendly water and sanitation infra-structure and other integrated measures by both refugees and the population of northern Uganda can be reached (Outcome 1).

Ultimately, this contributes to improving the living conditions in displacement affected communities and builds their resilience to the negative effects of climate change (impact), because of the proposed measures directly improves the healthy lifestyle of the target population and reduces the risk of diseases. Measures to protect water resources and other integrated measures in the field of climate-resilient development contribute on the one hand to the availability of natural resources in the future and on the other hand to people pursuing alternative, more climate-friendly lifestyles. In addition, water is more reliably available year-round. The Action thus contributes to increasing people's resilience to the negative impacts of climate change while protecting water resources. By supporting both the Ugandan and the refugee population and taking their concerns into account, the peaceful coexistence of the different groups is promoted.

Furthermore, it is expected that the proposed measures directly improve the healthy lifestyle of the target population and reduces the risk of diseases. Improved water supply services can set incentives for industries (such as agro processing) that are currently not settling in the area for lack of water. These industries might in the future be motivated to move into the area and provide employment opportunities, more regional self-sufficiency, and economic growth. Provision of employment opportunities and equitable distribution of water will contribute towards keeping social peace between the many refugees in the area and the Ugandan population.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

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

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

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

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

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

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
Impact	The living conditions in displacement affected communities and the resilience of water resources and populations to the negative effects of climate change enhanced .	1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (SDG 6.1.1., GEF 1.30) 2. Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (SDG 6.2.1 under (a), GEF 1.31)	1. TBD in the inception phase 2. TBD in the inception phase	1. TBD in the inception phase 2. TBD in the inception phase	1.1 Annual Sector Performance Report, 1.2 Reporting by project executing agencies (Annual reports)1.3 Final project completion report	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1. Refugees and hosting communities use climate-adapted and climate-smart water and sanitation infrastructure and other integrated measures.	1.1: Number of people with improved access to a safe water point and safely managed sanitation facilities constructed with EU support (GEF 2.38), disaggregated by first time access, wealth quintile, migration status <u>1.2:</u> Number of people with access to improved/functioning flood control and solid waste management infrastructure 1.3: Average hours of stable drinking water supply in the program regions in h/d	1.1 TBD in the inception phase 1.2: TBD in the inception phase 1.3: TBD in inception phase	1.1: TBD in the inception phase 1.2: TBD in the inception phase 1.3 TBD in the inception phase	1.1 Project Progress reports 1.2 Baseline and Endline surveys financed by EU 1.3 Data bases of participants 1.4 Utility operational reports	- Population and water demand increase as projected - Government funds are available in a timely manner and in sufficient amounts - Project Executing Agencies have sufficient financial, personnel and technical capacities to operate the new facilities sustainably
	1.1 Increased availability of improved and functioning water supply facilities.	<u>1.1.1:</u> Water production capacity per day in the facilities constructed with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.1.1: 5072m3/day	1.1.1: 10,970m3/day	1.1.1. Reports from subcontractors, infrastructure/equipment	

Output 1 related to Outcome 1		1.1.2: No. of new connections to water supply (household and water kiosks) created with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.1.2: 0	1.1.2: TBD in the inception phase	handover and inspection documents 1.1.2 Database of beneficiaries/participants	- cost estimates are correct, and budgets are met.
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Increased availability of improved and safely managed sanitation facilities.	1.2.1: No. of additional public institutions with safely managed sanitation facility with support of the EU-funded intervention	1.2.1: 0	1.2.1: TBD in the inception phase	1.2.1 Reports from the subcontractors, infrastructure/equipment handover and inspection documents	- There are no significant cost increases target groups are willing and able to pay for services.
Output 3 related to Outcome 1	1.3 Increased availability of improved and functioning flood control and solid waste management infrastructure	1.3.1: Length of existing stormwater drains rehabilitated with support of the EU-funded intervention 1.3.2 Number of functioning solid waste management facilities/equipments (Land fill, collection skips, waste bins, loader trucks ...) installed with EU support	1.3.1: 0 1.3.2: 0	1.3.1: TBD in the inception phase 1.3.2: TBD in inception phase	1.3.1/1.3.2 Reports from the subcontractors, infrastructure/equipment handover and inspection documents	land acquisition for project sites takes place in a timely manner; land rights and approval by state environmental authorities are available.
Output 4 related to Outcome 1	1.4 Enhanced capacity of Arua city council in terms of climate-resilient infrastructure planning.	1.4.1: Number of city council staff trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills in implementation modalities for urban development, disaggregated by sex 1.4.2 Number of detailed development plans completed with EU support.	1.4.1: 0 1.4.2: 0	1.4.1: TBD in the inception phase 1.4.2: 7	1.4.1 pre-and post-training test reports 1.4.2: Reports from the subcontractors, infrastructure/equipment handover and inspection documents	- planned activities are implemented without major delays

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

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

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities of the initial effort described in section 3.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 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 authorising officer responsible by amending this 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 measures⁶.

4.4.1 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

This action may be implemented in indirect management with KfW. The envisaged entity has been selected using the following criteria: financial and operational capacity including decentralized implementation structure across the country, presence and expertise in the country, solid expertise in the WASH sector, use of a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach.

In case the envisaged entity would need to be replaced, the Commission's services may select a replacement entity using the same criteria. If the entity is replaced, the decision to replace it needs to be justified.

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 realization of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

⁶ 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.

4.6 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Third-party contribution (German Development Cooperation [KfW], Government of Uganda, GoU)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.3		
Output 1 Water supply facilities Indirect management -cf. section 4.4.1	6 300 000	EUR 3 600 000 (KfW) EUR 1 000 000 (GoU)
Output 2 Sanitation facilities Indirect management -cf. section 4.4.1	4 100 000	EUR 2 500 000 (KfW)
Output 3 Measures to increase resilience of water resources/population Indirect management-cf.section 4.4.1	3 850 000	EUR 2 300 000 (KfW)
Output 4 capacity support Arua City Council Indirect management -cf. section 4.4.1	750 000	EUR 300 000 (KfW)
Totals	15 000 000	8 700 000 (KfW Initial effort); 1 000 000 (GoU)

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The entity under consideration for delegation is KfW. It will have the overall responsibility for the technical and financial monitoring of the Action and its timely implementation. The Contracting Authority (represented by the EU Delegation to Kampala) will be informed regularly and invited to participate in annual monitoring missions and related events in the project implementation calendar. The action is to be implemented through the established government structures led by ACC and NWSC. To ensure close monitoring of the project, a platform for coordination of key stakeholders is to be established at the inception phase of the project. The EU and KfW shall be members of such a coordination mechanism and the details of composition, key roles, frequency of meetings and responsibilities are to be defined at a later stage.

KfW will lead the preparation, oversight and monitoring of the project with a team consisting of staff at Frankfurt Headquarter and in KfW's National Office in Kampala, including technical, environmental and procurement experts. The PEA on the Ugandan side will be directly responsible for the implementation and management of the projects on the ground. The work will entail cooperation with an Implementation Consultant, which will support the PEA with detailed design and construction supervision of the infrastructure, quality assurance of processes, deliverables, accountability, monitoring and reporting. The implementation consultant's team will be selected through an international tender process following KfW's procurement guidelines and assembled based on the required skills and tasks.

The two PEAs will separately be responsible for the direct implementation of the respective activities of the project as highlighted in section 3.2 and supported by TIC. The PEAs shall procure goods, services and works using KfW procurement guidelines, lead day to day project implementation, monitor and report on progress to KfW. To ensure effective coordination of the two PEAs during implementation, a project management hub is to be established. Each PEA will contribute staff to the hub that will coordinate all activities and be supported by the project through technical assistance.

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, using as reference the log frame matrix. Due to the close linkage of this action to the Gender for development Uganda EU program both geographically and output wise, possibility for joint monitoring is to be considered to the extent practical. This will facilitate cross learning as we deliver as one under the auspice of Team Europe initiative.

Where relevant disaggregated data collection and subsequent reporting will be incorporated at implementation level, notably on gender, refugees and hosting communities.

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:

Baseline indicators and final targets will be defined following conclusion of the prefeasibility study and latest in the inception phase of implementation. Responsible for the subsequent and endline data collection, analysis and monitoring will be NWSC and Arua City Council with support of the international technical implementation consultant and in accordance with standard agreed procedures.

Monitoring will be based on the periodic assessment of progress on the delivery of Action results towards achievement of Action objectives. Reports shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

5.2 Evaluation

With due consideration to the nature of the action, a mid-term, as well as final and/or ex-post evaluations may be carried out for this action or its components via an implementing partner.

A mid-term evaluation may be carried out subject to the decision of the funders. In such case, the mid-term evaluation will be carried out for implementation improvement, learning purposes, and in particular with respect to investments under the inclusive green economy sectors.

A final and ex-post evaluation may be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the action is designed to advance the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 3 months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

It will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

However, action documents for specific sector programs are in principle no longer required to include a provision for communication and visibility actions promoting the programs 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 Intervention⁷ (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.

The present Action identifies as <delete the options that are not applicable to the Action>;

Action level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
Group of actions level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#): <Present action> <Other action>
Contract level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract)>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract)>
	(...)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	<foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 1> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) 2> <foreseen individual legal commitment (or contract) #>