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ANNEX 1

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Republic of South Sudan for 2022 and 2023 part 1

Action Document for Strengthening local governance and resilience in South Sudan

MULTI ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the multi-annual work programme within the meaning of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, within the meaning of Article 23 of the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

<p>1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act</p>	<p>Strengthening local governance and resilience in South Sudan OPSYS number: ACT-60948 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)</p>
<p>2. Team Europe Initiative</p>	<p>Yes Team Europe Initiative “Good governance, peace and rule of law for a just society” in South Sudan This action will be part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) “Good governance, peace and rule of law for a just society” in South Sudan (under development). Member States contributing to the TEI are France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden. The TEI is covering interventions of approximately EUR 100 000 000, of which Member States’ contributions are expected to amount up to EUR 50 000 000 and the remaining EUR 50 000 000 will come from the EU budget (AAP 2021, AAP 2022, and CSO-LA 2021).</p>
<p>3. Zone benefiting from the action</p>	<p>The action shall be carried out in South Sudan</p>
<p>4. Programming document</p>	<p>Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for South Sudan, for the period 2021-2027</p>
<p>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results</p>	<p>Priority area 1. Green & Resilient Economy Specific objective 1: Improve food and nutrition security, prevention and preparedness for food crises Specific objective 3: Enhance women’s economic empowerment in agricultural development Priority area 3: Good governance, peace and rule of law for a fairer society Specific objective 1: Contribute to the peace and reconciliation Specific objective 2: Strengthen the rule of law and promote human rights with a focus on women and girls</p>

	<p>Specific objective 3: Improve/increase the capacity of public sector institutions, management transparency and accountability</p> <p>Specific objective 4: Increase public participation, in particular of women and youth</p>			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	<p>1. Green and resilient economy : Agriculture and food security</p> <p>2. Governance and conflict, peace and security</p>			
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	<p>Main SDG (1 only): 16 “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”</p> <p>Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets:</p> <p>SDG 2 “Zero hunger”, Target 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.</p> <p>SDG 5 “Gender equality”, target 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere; target 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.</p> <p>SDG 10 “Reducing Inequality”, target 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.</p>			
8 a) DAC code(s)	<p>151 - Government & Civil Society - 50%</p> <p>152 - Conflict, Peace and Security - 20%</p> <p>311 - Agriculture - 15%</p> <p>740 - Disaster Prevention & Preparedness - 15%</p>			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Donor Government – 11000			
9. Targets	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Migration</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance</p>			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy digital services	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity energy transport health education and research	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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): BGUE-B2023-14.020121-C1-INTPA</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 17 000 000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 17 000 000</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of of EUR 17 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023 subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective</p>			

	financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	
13. Type of financing¹	Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1 and 4.4.2.

1.2 Summary of the Action

As South Sudan is in a rather volatile transition phase from **conflict to peace**, there is momentum and need for a simultaneous shift **from humanitarian to longer term sustainable development** interventions within the triple nexus approach (Humanitarian assistance, Development, Peace Actions).

This action, aligned with **MIP priority** areas 1. Green & Resilient Economy, and 3. Good governance, peace and rule of law for a fairer society and contributing to **SDG 16** “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”, **SDG 2** “Zero hunger”, **SDG 5** “Gender equality”, and **SDG 10** “Reducing Inequality”, will be part of the Team Europe Initiative “Good governance, peace and rule of law for a just society” (under development) and will thereby further strengthen the support to the peace process in South Sudan. The Team Europe Initiative will work on both the national level to support key reform processes, as well on the subnational level to strengthen the resilience of local communities and address root causes of violence. The interventions will strengthen the peace process and will contribute to a more enabling environment for an inclusive transition to a peaceful and democratic nation.

The action intends to contribute to **resilient and peaceful communities** through interventions on livelihoods, peacebuilding and strengthening administrations at subnational level, mainly in the DAC sectors of Governance and Civil Society (151) and Peace and Security (152). An **integrated nexus approach** will be central to the action.

The rationale is to support a **broad consortium** of organisations (**in particular local and international CSOs/NGOs**), under the supervision of a pillar-assessed entity, drawing on the different areas of expertise contributing to **the nexus approach**. By building the capacities of and implementing jointly with **national NGOs and civil-society organizations**, the aim is to secure **institutional legitimacy** of the interventions at **subnational level**, to build **local ownership**, and to increase **sustainability** of interventions.

The intervention will be designed based on a multi-sectoral and integrated (nexus) interventions to foster resilience and peacebuilding in particular at governance and policy level, focusing on the governance in following key thematic areas:

- **Peacebuilding:** inter-and-intra communal peace dialogues among grassroots stakeholders and community representatives, also addressing discriminatory gender/social norms and other deeply entrenched attitudes.
- **Food Security & Green and Resilient Economy:** climate smart agriculture and livestock production, strengthening and supporting agriculture cooperatives and value chains and diversify economic opportunities for youth and women specifically, including interventions for a healthy workforce.
- **Institutional capacity building** at subnational level (‘County’ and ‘Payam’ administrations in South Sudan): Empowering youth and women through interventions on strengthening subnational administrative structures for basic services including trauma healing, sports clubs and education.

Central to the activities will be to **engage with relevant authorities (at subnational level)** and **civil society** as a basis to ensuring the long-term sustainability of supported **governance** systems and structures.

The action will be delivered in two components, one intervention focusing on peacebuilding, resilience interventions in particular on food security at subnational level, and a second intervention particularly focusing on capacity building of governance structures at subnational level to improve service delivery and accountability.

¹ Art. 27 NDICI

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Extension of the transitional government and elections with 24 months, protracted local **conflicts** and **violence**, a massive **displacement** situation, **human rights abuses** (especially affecting women and children), sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) as a weapon of war, violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), arbitrary arrests and detentions resulting in a **shrinking civic space**, **climate change** (increasing recurrence of floods) and a **dire humanitarian situation** of the majority of the population hamper progress towards stability.

Road **connectivity** is nearly **inexistent** and the **economy** is still largely dependent **on oil-related revenue** and **international aid**. This in combination with widespread **corruption** has a significant negative impact on economic growth, exchange rate, inflation and fiscal deficit. The state lacks both capacity and the political will to respond to the dire needs of the population.

The **transition period** (peace agreement signed in 2018, transitional government in place since 2020) is supposed to end with the organisation of general (national and subnational) **elections**. The implementation of the **peace agreement is lagging** mainly in the **absence of political buy-in**. In August 2022, the parties to the peace agreement agreed to launch the process of amending the peace agreement to extend the transitional period with two years, and thus also postponing elections to December 2024.

In 2021, some momentum was created around the inauguration of the revitalized transitional national legislative assembly (RTNLA), but RTNLA suffers from capacity flaws and lack of driving engagement of its members. The revised national development strategy (mainly UNDP held the pen) and the national budget (2021/2022) were adopted in the first quarter of 2022, but the adoption of critical acts related to security and elections are delayed.

In South Sudan, mainly **subnational conflicts** are preventing sustainable development. Therefore, in fragile, crisis and risk-prone situations, like in South Sudan, local authorities, as public institutions closest to the population, have a key role to play to safeguard vulnerable populations and communities, by steering the set-up of **local resilience strategies**. Indeed, counties and payams in South Sudan, at **subnational state level**, play an important part in **early warning** and **de-escalation of the first stages of violence**. As South Sudan is in a transition phase (be it still very fragile) from **conflict to peace**, there is a need for a simultaneous bottom-up (at subnational level) **shift from humanitarian to longer term more sustainable development approach**.

The role of local authorities' is frequently undermined by negative political factors, high levels of corruption and maladministration/dysfunctional administrations, clientelism, and informal economy. It is therefore fundamental to simultaneously **empower civil society** on institutional transparency, accountability, access to resources and basic services.

The action will contribute to the key priorities of the **Team Europe Initiative** on “Good governance, peace and rule of law for a just society”. In particular, the Action will complement the EU and Member States’ (DE, NL, and SE) joint investments in the South Sudan Reconciliation, Stabilization, and Resilience Trust Fund (RSRTF). The latter is linked to the UN mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and operates mainly in conflict areas through a nexus approach. As a result, the action will further **strengthen and consolidate EU’s and EU Member States’ key role** in the **dialogue with the government within the multilateral agenda**.

This Action is aligned with **MIP priority** areas 1. Green & Resilient Economy, and 3. Good governance, peace and rule of law for a fairer society and will contribute to **SDG 16** “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”, **SDG 2** “Zero hunger”, **SDG 5** “Gender equality”, and **SDG 10** “Reducing Inequality”. The Action will be aligned with the **Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS)** and 'A New Strategic Agenda for 2019-2024', adopted by the European Council and promoting global peace and stability with **democracy and human rights** as key objectives. The Action will further contribute to the policy objectives spelled out in the **New Consensus on Development** and the implementation of the **EU-Africa Comprehensive Strategy**,

in particular on **peace, security, governance and resilience**. The action will further be aligned with the priorities of the **Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in External Relations 2020–2025 (GAP III)**.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

In South Sudan, mainly **subnational conflicts and violence** are preventing sustainable development. In fragile, crisis and risk-prone situations, like South Sudan, local authorities as public institutions closest to the population have a key role to play to safeguard vulnerable populations and communities by steering the set-up of **local resilience strategies**. Therefore, counties and payams at the **subnational state level** could play an important part in **early warning** and **de-escalation of the first stages of violence**.

However, the role of local authorities is frequently undermined by negative political factors, such as high levels of corruption, maladministration, dysfunctional administrations, clientelism, and informal economy. It is therefore fundamental to simultaneously **empower civil society** on institutional transparency, accountability, access to resources and basic services.

At governance level, progress has been made in the nomination of state governors and the establishment of a more legitimate assembly. Whilst **multiple EU support actions** for **reform processes at national level** are already in place (**top down approach**), there is a need for **more focus at subnational state and community level**. Therefore this action will have a **conflict sensitive** and integrated **focus at subnational level (bottom up approach)**.

Identification of main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues (mandates, potential roles, and capacities) to be covered by the action: The main stakeholders of the action are authorities at subnational level (state, communities), local communities, civil society, youth and women.

A) Rights holders

Representatives of the South Sudanese society at subnational level have a crucial role in the ongoing and upcoming reforms and processes which provide for direct and indirect participation of right holders, including:

- **Youth:** South Sudan's young population needs to be empowered in the political, economic and rights-based approach agenda.
- **Women:** The considerable gender disparities need to be addressed. Girls and women in vulnerable situations need to be protected.
- **Civil society:** civic space needs to widen, in particular in the context of the permanent constitution making process, but also on Human Rights and public accountability.
- **Marginalised communities** and people that are living in the most vulnerable situations (such as displaced people, persons with disabilities, people living in remote, natural and man-made disaster and conflict-affected areas) need to be included.

B) Duty bearers:

The Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU), the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (RTNLA), the Council of States of South Sudan (and any succeeding parliamentary body) and subnational authorities.

The Local Government Board (LGB) of the Republic of South Sudan, which is mandated through the Local Government Act 2009 as an oversight and guiding institution for Local Governments as well as providing capacity building to local administrations.

National accountability institutions: the independent commissions and institutions provided for in the transitional constitution of South Sudan, e.g. Human Rights Commission, Anti-Corruption Commission, are weak (insufficient human and financial capacities).

Subnational governance structures: in particular counties and payams in South Sudan, at **subnational state level**, play an important part in **early warning** and **de-escalation of the first stages of violence**, and are accountable/ prime actors for **basic service delivery**.

South Sudanese parties and stakeholders to the R-ARCSS: need to step up engagement to move forward the implementation of the agreement and liaise with their constituencies.

International community: Multilateral partners, such as the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the United Nations (UN) agencies, World Bank (WB), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), regional partners, such as the African Union (AU) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and like-minded bilateral partners.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to local community peace and resilience in South Sudan.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this action are to

1. enhanced effectiveness of subnational governance structures on inter-and-intra communal peace dialogues and in addressing discriminatory gender/social norms,
2. enhanced effectiveness of local communities to address and improve food security and develop job opportunities for youth and women specifically,
3. improved efficiency and accessibility of basic services provided by subnational governance structures, in particularly addressing the needs of women and youth.

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

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1) Local mechanisms and structures for peace dialogue and reconciliation are promoted.
- 1.2 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1) Strengthened capacity of communities and civil society, including women, youth and those living in marginalised/vulnerable situations, to participate and engage in inclusive peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction.
- 2.1 contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2) The life skills of young adults and women at the local level are strengthened.
- 3.1 contributing to Outcome 3 (or Specific Objective 3) Capacities for participatory, inclusive development planning at the local level are strengthened.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1: Support to inter-and-intra communal peace dialogues among grassroots stakeholders and community representatives, promotion of an enabling and safe environment for civil society, women's organisations, women's human rights defenders, and peacebuilders.

Activities relating to Output 1.2: Competence development in peace education, non-violent conflict resolution and political education, training in psychosocial life skills (in particular targeting male youth to find alternatives to violence).

Activities relating to Output 2.1: Technical and methodological advice for the target group in the development of concrete project ideas and provision of funding for the implementation of projects, courses for functional literacy, development of business models and business plans adapted to local needs, technical advice to women's cooperatives on the processing and marketing of their products, support to start-up of small businesses, support agriculture cooperatives and value chains, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) for youth and women specifically.

Activities relating to Output 3.1: Capacity building training courses (public finance management, service delivery, role clarification, participatory and inclusive planning), training of trainers, technical advice and support to local governments in the implementation of the participatory development planning, including dialogue with different population groups, encourage women and youth's civic engagement, support community-based management

approaches as well as State, County and sub-national actors' capacity to deliver basic services (addressing food security, education and related health measures).

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from the members of this Team Europe Initiative (France, Germany, Netherlands and Sweden). 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.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the SEA screening (relevant for budget support and strategic-level interventions)

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening concluded that no further action was required.

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 the OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is an important and deliberate objective. Gender equality will be mainstreamed in the action. The specific needs and rights of women and girls will be taken into account, in line with the gender analysis prepared by the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) Eastern Africa "Gender Equality and Women, Peace and Security in South Sudan" (March 2021). The action will further be aligned with the priorities of GAP III.

Human Rights

Human rights and international humanitarian law will be addressed and mainstreamed throughout the action through both a top-down and bottom-up perspective, targeting both duty-bearers and rights-holders. The action adopts a human rights-based approach. Support to duty bearers will be directed towards fulfilling their human rights commitments and building their capacity to achieve these objectives in a transparent, non-discriminatory, and accountable manner. The intervention will put in practice the principle of "leave no one behind" and "do no harm".

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that the intervention contributes to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human and fundamental freedoms of all persons with disabilities and promote respect for their inherent dignity.

Democracy

The action aims to strengthen the governance structures at the subnational level to promote more inclusive, participatory, democratic and accountable local authorities in South Sudan. Democratic principles will be addressed throughout the action.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Peace and resilience are at the core of the action. Conflict sensitivity will be ensured on the basis of the conflict analysis screening finalised by EU and regularly to be updated.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Effects of climate change (flooding and droughts) can create conflict. Thus, resilience to human-made and natural disasters will be addressed, especially in the activities related to specific objectives 2 and 3.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
3-to people and the organisation	Spoilers attempt could slow or halt the activity implementation, intermittently or severely	High	High	Wide-ranging and regular contact and information sharing will be conducted at all levels with stakeholders, e.g. with parties and stakeholders of R-ARCSS in the framework of R-ARCSS oversight mechanism meetings, jointly with Member States under Team Europe approach and in close coordination with international community and donors.
2-to planning, processes and systems	Limited number of implementers in remote areas / insufficient capacities of local organisations to manage projects	Medium	Medium	Flexible procedures to facilitate swift cooperation with organisations and entities able to work in (marginalised regions in) South Sudan.
3-to people and the organisation	Continuation and escalation of conflicts, access constraints	High	High	Continuous conflict analysis, follow-up of the situations and do-no-harm approach by implementers with all stakeholders. The action will integrate IHL and human rights-based approach principles of participation, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency. The approach will be supported by a careful monitoring that is based on as a minimum sex, age and disability disaggregated data.
3-to people and the organisation	Climate related security risk (flooding, droughts)	Medium	Medium	Ensure integration of climate related security risk in the conflict analysis / monitoring of implementing partners.

Lessons Learnt:

Given the volatile and political unpredictable environment in South Sudan, a flexible approach for any intervention is needed. Therefore the descriptions of activities need to include flexibilities and mitigating measures for swift response and adapting to emerging and changing needs during implementation of the action.

Conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm needs to be factored in into all interventions, in line with the recommendations of the conflict analysis screening finalised by EU and to be regularly updated.

Continuous, consistent, long-term engagement and policy/political advocacy directly with public authorities in coordination with international, multilateral and regional partners (in particular AU and IGAD) can lead to substantial change of behaviour, e.g. increase transparency of process, publication of information.

The action will be complementary to ongoing and planned EU and other donor funded interventions, in particular the planned support under Annual Action Plan 2021 to RSRTF linked to operations of UNMISS and including a thematic window on elections), and will build synergies and links whenever possible.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that

IF the activities to strengthen resilient and peaceful communities are undertaken

AND the security situation in the country remains relatively stable and implementation is possible,

THEN the Outputs

1.1 Local mechanisms and structures for peace dialogue and reconciliation are promoted,

1.2 Strengthened capacity of communities and civil society, including women, youth and those living in marginalised/vulnerable situations, to participate and engage in inclusive peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction,

2.1 The life skills of young adults and women at the local level are strengthened,

3.1 Capacities for participatory, inclusive development planning at the local level are strengthened,
will be produced.

IF Outputs are delivered

AND there is interest within the local communities and political will at both the national and local levels to work with the action on the various processes within the selected local governments, particularly in relation to public finance and participation procedures,

THEN the Outcomes of

1. enhanced effectiveness of subnational governance structures on inter-and-intra communal peace dialogues and in addressing discriminatory gender/social norms,

2. enhanced effectiveness of local communities to address and improve food security and develop job opportunities for youth and women specifically,

3. improved efficiency and accessibility of basic services provided by subnational governance structures, in particularly addressing the needs of women and youth

will be realised.

IF the Outcome(s) are achieved

AND key stakeholders translate their commitment into practice and action,

THEN the action will contribute to local community peace and resilience in South Sudan.

BECAUSE triggers of prolonged and devastating conflicts have been addressed and diminished, and people have been reconciled with the past for a better future.

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 (a): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (a): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (2021)	Targets (2027)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To contribute to local community peace and resilience in South Sudan.	1 Fragile States Index	1 109.4	1 Improved	1 Fragile States index	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1 Enhanced effectiveness of subnational governance structures on inter-and-intra communal peace dialogues and in addressing discriminatory gender/social norms.	1.1 Number of communities (counties) with functional mechanism for conflict prevention, dialogue and conflict resolution	1.1 TBD	1.1 TBD	1.1 Partner reporting	There is political will at both the national and local levels to work with the action on the various processes. There is interest within the local communities, especially among young adults, women, to work on social development.
Outcome 2	2 Enhanced effectiveness of local communities to address and improve food security and develop job opportunities for youth and women specifically.	2.1 Number of women and at-risk youth provided access to career development and employment/ livelihood opportunities with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex, age, disability and migratory status. 2.2 Number of people with access to improved drinking water source and/or sanitation facility with EU support, disaggregated by sex (GERF 2.38) 2.3 Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance, disaggregated by sex (GERF 2.32)	2.1 0 2.2 0 2.3 0	2.1 TBD 2.2 TBD 2.3 TBD	2.1 Partner reporting 2.2 Partner reporting 2.3 Partner reporting	
Outcome 3	3 Improved efficiency and accessibility of basic services provided by subnational governance structures, in particularly addressing the needs of women and youth.	3.1 Number of instances in which subnational institutions and structures engage youth, women and civil society organizations in governance, rule of law, peacebuilding and human rights and decision making processes with	3.1 0 3.2 0	3.1 TBD 3.2 TBD	3.1 Partner reporting 3.2 Partner reporting	

		<p>support of the EU funded intervention.</p> <p>3.2 Number of local governance administrations strengthened with support of the EU-funded intervention to be more inclusive of women, minorities and other marginalised groups including refugees and IDPs.</p>				
Output 1 relating to Outcome 1	1.1 Local mechanisms and structures for peace dialogue and reconciliation are promoted	1.1.1 Number of people engaged in political, peace and security processes with support of the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex and age	1.1.1 0	1.1.1 TBD	1.1.1 Partner reporting	Project / activity implementers can access targeted locations and interlocutors.
Output 2 relating to Outcome 1	1.2 Strengthened capacity of communities and civil society, including women, youth and those living in marginalised/vulnerable situations, to participate and engage in inclusive peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction	<p>1.2.1 Number of people taking part in peace events in their local community with support of the EU funded intervention, disaggregated by sex and age</p> <p>1.2.2 Number of civil society actors supported by the EU funded intervention report improved capacity to contribute to the promotion of peaceful coexistence in their local community, disaggregated by sex and age</p>	1.2.1 0 1.2.2 0	1.2.1 TBD 1.2.2 TBD	1.2.1 Partner reporting 1.2.2 Partner reporting	
Output 1 relating to Outcome 2	2.1 Life skills of young adults and women at the local level are strengthened	<p>2.1.1 Number of people who have benefited from institution or workplace based VET/skills development interventions supported by the EU: (a) all VET/skills development, disaggregated by sex (GERF 2.14)</p> <p>2.1.2 Number of beneficiaries of support to start-up of small businesses through the EU-funded intervention, disaggregated by sex and age</p>	2.1.1 0 2.1.2 0 2.1.3 0	2.1.1 TBD 2.1.2 TBD 2.1.3 TBD	2.1.1 Partner reporting 2.1.2 Partner reporting 2.1.3 Partner reporting	There is an enabling environment for activities to be implemented and for targeted groups to participate.

		2.1.3 Number of smallholders reached with EU supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land, disaggregated by sex (GERF 2.1)				
Output 1 relating to Outcome 3	3.1 Capacities for participatory, inclusive development planning at the local level are strengthened.	<p>3.1.1 Number of service providers trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills in responding to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of their communities, disaggregated by sex, location and service sector</p> <p>3.1.2 Number of instances where youth and women led Civil Society Organizations and grass roots initiatives are supported by the EU-funded intervention to articulate their needs and demands to governance figures/ institutions</p>	<p>3.1.1 0</p> <p>3.1.2 0</p>	<p>3.1.1 TBD</p> <p>3.1.2 TBD</p>	<p>3.1.1 Partner reporting</p> <p>3.1.2 Partner reporting</p>	

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

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

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 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 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 measures².

4.4.1 Indirect Management with a pillar assessed entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- capacity to work in fragile contexts
- familiarity with the country context
- capacity to influence policies with authorities at subnational level
- capacity and proven experience to implement resilience (in particular on food security, livelihoods and health related measures) and peace building interventions in fragile and complex contexts,
- proven ability to connect with multiple local and international CSOs/NGOs for implementation of the action.

The implementation by this entity entails a component focusing on peacebuilding, food security and health related measures at subnational level through an NGO consortium, directly contributing to Specific Objectives 1 and 2 and related outputs as set out in section 3.1.

4.4.2 Indirect Management with a pillar assessed entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- capacity to work in fragile contexts
- familiarity with the country context
- capacity and proven experience to implement capacity building interventions on basic service delivery with local subnational authorities in fragile contexts
- demonstrated capacity to convene and coordinate with multilateral stakeholders.

² 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.

The implementation by this entity entails a component focusing on capacity building of administrative structures at subnational level, directly contributing to Specific Objectives 1 and 3 and related outputs as set out in section 3.1.

4.4.3 Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

If the preferred implementation modality cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, one part or the whole action could be implemented in direct management through grants targeting international and national NGOs, preferably consortiums, which will be selected based on the criteria mentioned in point 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 for both parts of the action.

4.5 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

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

4.6 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.4	
Strengthening local governance and resilience	17 000 000
Objective 1, Output 1.1: Local mechanisms and structures for peace dialogue and reconciliation are promoted	4 000 000
Indirect management a pillar assessed entity - cf. section 4.4.1	4 000 000
Objective 1, Output 1.2: Strengthened capacity of communities and civil society, including women, youth and those living in marginalised/vulnerable situations, to participate and engage in inclusive peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction	2 000 000
Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity - cf. section 4.4.2	2 000 000
Objective 2: Enhanced effectiveness of local communities to address and improve food security and develop job opportunities for youth and women specifically.	8 000 000
Indirect management a pillar assessed entity - cf. section 4.4.1	8 000 000

Objective 3: Improved efficiency and accessibility of basic services provided by subnational governance structures, in particularly addressing the needs of women and youth.	3 000 000
Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity - cf. section 4.4.2	3 000 000
Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity – total envelope under section 4.4.1	12 000 000
Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity – total envelope under section 4.4.2	5 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision
Totals	17 000 000

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The arrangements of the governance structures will be agreed at the contracting level. It is foreseen to establish steering committees for the two components and to engage the concerned stakeholders in the monitoring of the action. Both steering committees will be co-chaired by the EU together with the concerned subnational government structures and civil society concerned. The steering committees will indicatively meet at a quarterly basis.

Key project stakeholders (including marginalised regions, Civil Society for the most vulnerable, including women and girls) have been consulted in the formulation of this action, and where national strategies or policies exist, these have been incorporated into its outputs. Key stakeholders will be consulted in the development of annual workplans and will be provided with the opportunity to identify priorities. Activities will largely be envisaged and executed in partnership with project stakeholders and in such cases, concepts, agendas, knowledge products and reports will be developed in coordination with (the) lead stakeholder(s). Members of the public may be engaged through activities involving key project stakeholders and potentially through public perception surveys. Gender equality, human rights, international humanitarian law (IHL) and rights-based approach expertise will be mainstreamed during the implementation of the Action as possible.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

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

reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

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

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

The data collection, analysis and monitoring for the indicators in the logical framework will be the responsibility of the implementing partner. Thus, the logical framework will be aligned with the results framework of the intervention. Gender equality is a cross cutting issue for the action and indicators shall, when relevant, be disaggregated at least by sex. Also the monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach and gender mainstreaming.

The participation of stakeholders will be ensured at the contracting level, including specific provisions on the involvement and approach towards stakeholders and right holders of the interventions.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, an mid-term and final evaluations may be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants or through a joint mission contracted by the Commission or via an implementing partner.

A mid-term evaluation may be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to possible considerations of a second phase of the action. A final 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 includes innovative approaches to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 1 month in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

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

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

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

partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

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

Appendix 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention (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

Action level		
<input 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#):
Contract level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	Contribution Agreement with a pillar-assessed entity: Strengthening peacebuilding, food security and health related measures at subnational level through a NGO consortium, contributing to Specific Objective 1, Output 1.1, and Specific Objective 2 – EUR 12 000 000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	Contribution Agreement with a pillar-assessed entity: Capacity building of administrative structures at subnational level, contributing to Specific Objective 1, Output 1.2, and Specific Objective 3 - EUR 5 000 000