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ANNEX VII

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the Global Challenges (People) thematic programme for 2025-2027

Action Document for Support Measures

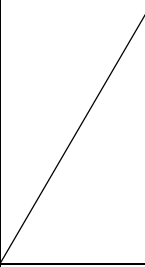
MULTIANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the multiannual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and action plans of Article 24 of the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support Measures OPSYS number: ACT-62994 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) TEI.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out at global level
4. Programming document	Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the NDICI-Global Europe ‘Global Challenges’ – Thematic Programme 2021-2027 - People
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	This action will contribute to the People priority of the MIP on Global Challenges.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: 17 (partnerships for the goals) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10
8 a) DAC code(s)	110 Education – 25% 120 – Health – 25% 150 – Government and Civil Society – 25% 160 - Other Social Infrastructure & Services – 25%
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	60000 Private sector institution

9. Target	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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
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 type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
Migration @		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reduction of Inequalities @		<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	Budget line(s) (article, item): Budget heading 14.020240- Global Challenges People Total estimated cost: EUR 5 400 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 5 400 000 The contribution is for an amount of EUR 1 800 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2025 and for an amount of EUR 1 800 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2026 and for an amount of EUR 1 800 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2027, 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.			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Implementation modality	Direct management through procurement Indirect management with entrusted entities. The entity(ies) are to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section [4.4.]			
14. Type of measure	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation facility <input type="checkbox"/> Measures in favour of Civil Society			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The proposed Action will provide the necessary support for the sound implementation of the Global Challenges (People) Thematic Programme (and ancestor programmes), the achievement of its expected objectives and results, and the measurement, analysis and reporting on its impact. This action will cover expenditure associated with the programme implementation in Headquarters (HQ) and EU Delegations, including projects preparation, monitoring, evaluation and audit, and related activities such as sector policy analysis and dialogue. The action will also support communication actions designed to raise awareness, understanding and support for the EU's priorities on Human Development and Migration.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Through the People chapter of the thematic programme on Global Challenges, the European Union (EU) aims to help address global problems through global development outcomes that will be inclusive and sustainable.

The programme seeks to foster economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development in an integrated and holistic way. This will be done through coherent, coordinated and focused action, in complementarity with geographic programmes, in a number of key areas, including human development.

Poverty eradication and sustainable development will only be possible if global social challenges are adequately addressed through policies aimed at ensuring a decent life for all. The action will support quality development and implementation of EU actions in the area of human development.

The Support Measures of the People area of the Multiannual Indicative Programme of Global Challenges are designed to cover expenditures associated with the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the People part of the NDICI MIP Global Challenges, and to the achievement of its objectives. Such measures contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis and reporting on the impact.

2.2 Lessons learnt

This action will implement Support Measures for the final years of the NDICI – Global Europe instrument. There has been a high level of absorption of the Support Measures for the first part of the NDICI – Global Europe (EUR 5 600 000), but it remains challenging to manage a budget that has a wide variety of usages and purposes.

Through these support measures, the European Commission could ensure strengthened preparation and monitoring of programmes for better results, including on fiduciary matters safeguarding the EUs general budget.

2.3 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis: All actions falling under the framework of the Multiannual Indicative Action programme Global Challenges, are a priority area for support under the People component. Support measures are aimed at providing the means to adequately prepare and design those actions, ensure robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and financial verifications, and ensure that EU actions are evidence-based, effective or efficient and EU financial interests protected.

Identification of main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues (mandates, potential roles, and capacities) to be covered by the action: The action support the actors managing or implementing EU cooperation programmes including the European Commission services at Headquarters and in EU Delegations, and implementing partners at large for the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the Multiannual action programme of the Global Challenges 2022-2024 (People), and to the achievement of the European Union's objectives on human development.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The overall objective is to increase the effectiveness and help achieve the objectives and specific results of the Global Challenges-People budget line (and ancestor lines) generally, and more specifically the Multiannual action Plan 2025-2027 as well as actions related to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and research, highlighting the human rights-based approach, the promotion of gender equality and the disability inclusion as core values of the EU's external action. Actions will support the European Commission, including EU Delegations, to implement the programme.

The Specific Objective (Outcome) of this action is: to enable and improve the preparation, support, follow-up, monitoring, audit and evaluation activities, directly necessary for the implementation of the programme as well as of actions related to TVET and research.

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objective (Outcome) are e.g. gender responsive studies and reports, events, study visits, capacity building/training sessions, strategic communication and visibility products, audits and evaluations.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Indicative activities include for example:

- studies, meetings, information, awareness-raising, training, preparation and exchange of lessons learnt and best practices, publication activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure necessary for the programming and management of actions, including remunerated external experts.
- Research and innovation activities and studies on relevant issues and the dissemination thereof.
- Conferences, seminars, workshops, training sessions, and study visits: This will include inter alia organising and financing conferences, seminars, workshops, community building activities, publications and digital/audio-visual contents, surveys, media relations and media monitoring, training sessions and study tours, including all related travel, accommodation, conference material, and information costs needed to ensure the events are effective.

- Expenditure related to the provision of information and communication actions, including the development of communication strategies and corporate communication and visibility of the political priorities of the Union.
- Audits & evaluations: This may cover audits and evaluations of activities financed by the programme.
- Ad hoc expertise (e.g. assessors in calls for proposals, knowledge building...)

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change

This action will not specifically focus on environmental protection and climate change but will integrate these themes wherever relevant.

Outcomes of the SEA screening

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

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening

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

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is a significant objective of the action. At all stages gender-responsive rights-based approach principles participation, non-discrimination/equality, accountability and transparency will guide the planning and implementation of the Action and specifically the desk review. Every effort will be made to ensure gender balance and to prioritise the active participation of women in the action. The action contributes to the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III, 2021-2027), particularly its thematic area of engagement “Promoting equal participation and leadership.

Human Rights

The human rights-based approach and its key principles (participation, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency) will be integrated throughout the action. Particular focus will be given to ensure inclusive policies targeting women and persons living in vulnerable situations such as indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that the action is considered relevant for the inclusion of person with disabilities. The action will take into consideration that all its public activities will facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities as e.g., in its seminars and workshops and in its awareness and communication campaigns. CSOs with and for persons with disabilities will be included in the consultation processes. Furthermore, capacity-building activities supported by the action will be accessible and addressed to these organisations as well. This will require ensuring fully accessible venues, training material, transport and budget for reasonable accommodation.

Reduction of inequalities

Support measures available through this action may help analyse and address inequalities issues from the identification to the evaluation of interventions funded under the Global Challenges People programme.

Democracy

Not targeted

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience Not targeted
Disaster Risk Reduction Not targeted
Other considerations if relevant N/A

3.4 Risks

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Operational	Low demand from Delegations (primarily) and headquarters for the use of support measures activities	Low	Low	Information and planning of activities under the action.
Operational	High demand for activities and the exhaustion of support measures funds	Medium	High	Planning of activities and prioritisation based on availability of other sources of funding (e.g. funding of evaluations and audits should first be looked at within the project itself.

3.5 The Intervention Logic¹

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the implementation of the Global Challenges-People budget line (and ancestor lines) generally, and more specifically the Multiannual action Plan 2025-2027 as well as actions related to TVET and research. It will enable the EU to react promptly and substantially when required and to reflect the EU's policy priorities with regard to its internal policies, international obligations and commitments by helping prepare, monitor, evaluate and audit the activities financed by the Global Challenges People programmes, assuming their results will be more effective, provide the added value, complementarity and consistency with geographical programmes expected, while enhancing EU capacity. In the long-term, the Support Measures aim to reinforce the effectiveness of programmes funded by the Global Challenges People component and that EU financial interests are safeguarded.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

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

¹ [@TEI Methodological Note to Support Design](#)

4.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 72 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

4.3 Implementation 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.

4.3.1 Direct management (Procurement)

A part of this action may be implemented in direct management by the competent European Commission services.

4.3.2 Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entrusted entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: particular expertise, operational capacity and value added.

The implementation by these entities may entail all activities and will contribute to achieving the overall and specific objective.

4.3.3 Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances

If the implementation modalities in direct management cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of Commission's control, alternative implementation modalities in indirect management with an entrusted entity may be considered.

In this case, the implementing entities would be selected on the basis of their particular expertise, operational capacity and value added.

4.3.4 Other actions or expenditure

Part of this action may be implemented through a Service Level Agreement with the JRC in order to mobilise its expertise in the achievement of the overall and specific objective.

4.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

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

² See 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.

4.5 Indicative budget

	2025	2026	2027
Indicative budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.3			
Objective 1	1 800 000	1 800 000	1 800 000
Procurement (direct management)/Indirect management – cf section 4.3.1	1 800 000	1 800 000	1 800 000
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.4.	1 800 000	1 800 000	1 800 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Contingencies	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Totals	1 800 000	1 800 000	1 800 000

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action and may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, for the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action and ensuring effective coordination.

The strategic communication and public diplomacy envelope will be managed by the Head of Cooperation, in agreement with the responsible communication unit in DG INTPA, fully respecting the cooperation facility Guidelines.

4.7 Pre-conditions

N.A.

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.

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).

All monitoring and reporting shall assess how well the action promotes the principle of gender equality which lies at the heart of this programme and takes a human rights-based approach and enables the rights of persons with disabilities including through strengthening inclusion and diversity. Data collected, where appropriate and possible, will be disaggregated by sex and age, and by disability if tenable.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, an evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components. In case an evaluation is not planned, the Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

The evaluation reports may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination³. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

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

N.A.

³ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)