



**EN**

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

**ANNEX IV**

to 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 Youth Engagement Hub**

**MULTIANNUAL PLAN**

This document constitutes the multiannual 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

<b>1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act</b>	Youth Engagment Hub OPSYS number: ACT-62980 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out at Global level
<b>4. Programming document</b>	NDICI Global Challenges Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027
<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results</b>	The action intends to contribute to <b>Specific objective 4 (children and youth)</b> of the People priority of the Global Challenges MIP and to the following results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Result 1: global outreach on children and youth participation and engagement.</li> <li>- Result 2: innovative pilot actions are implemented to accelerate the implementation of the youth action plan, including programmes aimed at knowledge sharing, building leadership skills and capacities, and cross-country mentoring opportunities in partnership with the Members States and global youth actors and networks.</li> </ul>
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	151 Government & Civil Society - General
<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions  Other significant SDGs: SDG 4 – Quality Education SDG 5 – Gender Equality SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 10 – Reduce inequalities

	SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production SDG 13 – Climate Action SDG 15 – Life on Land SDG 17 – Partnerships for the goals			
<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b>	11231 – Basic life skills for youth 15% 15150 – Democratic participation and civil society 70% 15160 – Human rights 10% 15170 – Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions 5%			
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	10000 Public sector institutions 20000 Non-governmental institutions and civil society 40000 Other multilateral institutions 60000 Private sector institution			
<b>9. Targets</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
<b>10. Markers (from DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective @</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	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"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Biological diversity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>11. Internal markers</b>	<b>Policy objectives</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>

<b>and Tags:</b>	Digitalisation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital skills/literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020240 – Global Challenges People Total estimated cost: EUR 4.000.000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 4.000.000 The contribution is for an amount of EUR 4.000.000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2025.			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Implementation modality</b>	<b>Direct management</b> through: Procurement <b>Indirect management</b> with the entities selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.3.			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

The Youth Engagement Hub (YEH) aims at facilitating the integration of youth perspective in policy development and implementation and youth-led initiatives at country level, leveraging young people's insights, innovation capacity, and building trustful relationships. Complementing already ongoing initiatives such as the Women and Youth in Democratic Engagement, the Youth Empowerment Fund and national level actions by EU Delegations, the action will support the implementation of the Youth Action Plan in EU external action for 2022-2027<sup>1</sup> in the roll out of the Global Gateway strategy. It will also contribute to the commitments in the European Commission President's Political Guidelines 2024-2029 by ensuring intergenerational fairness and making "sure that young people can use their voice – their own voice – to help shape our future"<sup>2</sup>.

The action responds to the demands of young people to be engaged in policy-making and contribute to the EU priorities and provides support to EU Delegation to strengthen their institutional youth engagement by implementing initiatives developed with the advice of their Youth Sounding Boards. The action also responds to the needs of the EU, including the European Commission and EU Delegations, to further embed youth engagement in the EU policy processes and the Global Gateway priorities. The YEH will connect young people's needs and interests with Global Gateway priorities at country level.

With the objective to strengthen the partnership between the EU and young people through enhanced youth engagement with a focus on policy development, the action will aim at:

<sup>1</sup> European Commission and EEAS, 'Youth Action Plan (YAP) in EU external action 2022–2027', <https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-10/Joint%20Communication%20-%20Youth%20Action%20Plan%20in%20EU%20external%20action%202022%20%E2%80%93%202027.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> European Commission, 'Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024-2029', [https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648\\_en?filename=Political%20Guidelines%202024-2029\\_EN.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en?filename=Political%20Guidelines%202024-2029_EN.pdf)

1. Increasing institutional youth engagement in policy development and implementation, in particular to advance the roll out of the Global Gateway strategy in line with the Youth Action Plan and EUDs priorities.
2. Supporting youth-led initiatives, including those developed with the advice of Youth Sounding Boards.

Building on the principle of partnership, the action will allow for strong(er) cooperation between EU Delegations, Youth Sounding Boards and young people as well as promoting broader inclusion of young people and the participation of EU MSs, the private sector, partner countries and other interested stakeholders. The action will strengthen capacity-building around youth participation and empowerment of all involved actors and strengthen the youth relevance of EU actions across Global Gateway priorities.

The action supports the contribution of young generations as key agents for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promoting stronger, peaceful, democratic and inclusive societies for sustainable development and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16 “Peace, justice and strong institutions”). It contributes to the EU commitments to support the broad implementation of the United Nations SDGs (4 “Quality Education”, 5 “Gender Equality”, 8 “Decent Work and Economic Growth”, 10 “Reduce inequalities”, 11 “Sustainable cities and Communities”, 13 “Climate Action”, 17 “Partnerships” etc.) and the UN Youth, Peace and Security Agenda.

### 1.3 Zone benefitting from the Action

The Action will be carried out at global level, in countries included in the list of ODA recipients.

## 2 RATIONALE

### 2.1 Context

#### 1. Young People as Actors for Change – the role of young people in today’s world

Nearly half of the world’s population is under 30<sup>3</sup>, with 90% living in less developed partner countries. By 2030, 20% of the world’s population will be African, with over 55% of Africa’s population younger than 20<sup>4</sup>. This significant demographic change is critically shaping global economic relations and politics. In a multipolar world marked by growing geopolitical and geoeconomic competition, alternative models of development, and transactional approaches by all, investing in and partnering with young people is a must – notably in the roll out of our Global Gateway strategy.

The focus on youth is a game-changer: a well-educated and healthy young population is the bedrock of a stable society and economy. In a world facing colossal transformations, nurturing genuine partnerships, and working with and empowering young people is not only responding to their legitimate demands, but also a much-needed strategic investment to our common future.

By directly engaging young people in policy development and implementation processes recognizing their agency and equipping the younger generations with the relevant skills, open and critical thinking to navigate mis- and disinformation, the action not only responds to youth’s legitimate demands but also positions the EU as a trusted and important partner in partner countries.

<sup>3</sup> Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, 2022. [un.org/youthenvoy/2022/05/launch-of-the-be-seen-be-heard-campaign/](https://un.org/youthenvoy/2022/05/launch-of-the-be-seen-be-heard-campaign/)

<sup>4</sup> Mo Ibrahim Foundation, “Africa in the World and the World in Africa”, 2023. <https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2023-04/2023-facts-figures-global-africa.pdf>

## 2. Young People as Partners – EU Policy Framework

The action is aligned with the European Consensus on Development and the geopolitical priorities of the European Commission, contributing to ‘A Stronger Europe in the World’<sup>5</sup>. A cornerstone in the implementation of the Youth Action Plan in EU external action of 4 October 2022, it contributes to the Global Gateway strategy<sup>6</sup> and its 360 approach by bringing young people to the center of EU policy making. It will also contribute to the commitments in the European Commission President’s Political Guidelines 2024-2029 by ensuring intergenerational fairness and making “sure that young people can use their voice – their own voice – to help shape our future”<sup>7</sup>.

This action will support inclusive youth participation, with particular attention to girls and young women, young people with disability and marginalised youth, and include policy-related initiatives addressing gender equality and inequality reduction aiming at increasing social cohesion and political stability. The EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024 stresses the need to ensure youth’s equal, full, effective and meaningful participation in all spheres and levels of public and political life.<sup>8</sup> The action will also support the EU’s Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in External Action 2021–2025 (GAP III) specifically to its key thematic areas of engagement ‘Strengthening economic and social rights and empowering girls and women’ and ‘Advancing equal participation and leadership’. The principles of the EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 will underpin the action.<sup>9</sup> The action is fully in line with the EU Youth Strategy<sup>10</sup>, that is the framework for EU youth policy cooperation for 2019-2027, and contributes to the legacy of the 2022 European Year of Youth.

The action supports the contribution of young generations as key agents for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promoting stronger, peaceful, democratic and inclusive societies for sustainable development and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16 “Peace, justice and strong institutions”). It contributes to the EU commitments to support the broad implementation of the United Nations SDGs (4 “Quality Education”, 5 “Gender Equality”, 8 “Decent Work and Economic Growth”, 10 “Reduce inequalities”, 11 “Sustainable cities and Communities”, 13 “Climate Action”, 17 “Partnerships” etc.) and the UN Youth, Peace and Security Agenda.

## 3. Results of consultations and needs assessment

The results of numerous consultation processes in the framework of the development and implementation of the Youth Action Plan in EU external action, including in bilateral regional processes and most recently for the Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event, show the importance of a comprehensive approach to youth policies, plans and programmes and of ensuring youth participation, inclusion and equality.

The 2024 “Youth Recommendations on International Partnerships for the next European Commission”<sup>11</sup> draw a comprehensive picture of the current situation and challenges of young people and include specific proposals on the way forward in relation to the work of the EU on external action, building on existing initiatives and proposing new ones. From “Promoting Continuous Youth-Policymaker Dialogue” to “Facilitating Access and Participation of Marginalized Youth”, from “Integrating youth and enhance youth-specific projects within Global Gateway

<sup>5</sup> European Commission, ‘A Stronger Europe in the World’. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world_en)

<sup>6</sup> European Commission, ‘The Global Gateway’, 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/joint\\_communication\\_global\\_gateway.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/joint_communication_global_gateway.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> European Commission, ‘Political Guidelines for the next European Commission 2024-2029’, [https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648\\_en?filename=Political%20Guidelines%202024-2029\\_EN.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en?filename=Political%20Guidelines%202024-2029_EN.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> European Commission, ‘EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024’, 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/api/files/JOIN\(2020\)5\\_0/de00000000005737?rendition=false](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/api/files/JOIN(2020)5_0/de00000000005737?rendition=false)

<sup>9</sup> European Commission, ‘Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030’, 2021.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=8376&furtherPubs=yes>

<sup>10</sup> EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027m [https://youth.europa.eu/strategy\\_en](https://youth.europa.eu/strategy_en)

<sup>11</sup> Youth Recommendations on International Partnerships for the next European Commission, 2024. [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/document/download/775aa0fb-7788-438c-b6cf-45adc920da20\\_en?filename=global-gateway-high-level-youth-event-2024-youth-recommendations\\_en.pdf](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/document/download/775aa0fb-7788-438c-b6cf-45adc920da20_en?filename=global-gateway-high-level-youth-event-2024-youth-recommendations_en.pdf)

infrastructure initiatives” to “Building Leadership Skills and Increasing Capacity of Youth”, the YEH will contribute to address and implement those proposals coming from young people from across the world.

The action responds to the needs of EU Delegations for further tools, strategies and sustainable support to meaningfully integrate youth engagement in policy making and support youth-led initiatives.

Building on the advice of Youth Sounding Boards, the action also highlights the need to take into account the specific and diverse needs of young people in their particular contexts, which are neither homogenous nor static. The focus on young people in situations of vulnerability or from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, on youth that face challenges related to gender equality and on young people disability, will increase the inclusiveness of the action. It will include a human rights-based approach (HRBA), as well as a gender and disability-inclusive perspective.

## 2.2 Lessons learnt

Young people express the need for participation and the need for inclusive spaces for genuine, regular input from young people into policy and decision-making. The action is based on the result of participative approach and large consultation of young people and youth organisations in different structures through different processes from the development of the Youth Action Plan to the Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event. Needs and aspirations of young people are taken into account, and should continue to be taken into account in the implementation of the action.

Experiences from both the global and regional processes (Youth Sounding Board for International Partnerships, EU-AU Summit, EU-CELAC Summit, EU-ASEAN Summit, Global Gateway High-Level Event, COPs) and national level initiatives (YSBs, CSOs consultations, events) showcase the importance and added value to engage young people in policy processes, provide space and support for youth-led activities and ensure their voices are integrated into the development and design of actions and initiatives. Yet more targeted and specific support is needed for EU Delegations to implement broad youth engagement in policy initiatives including in the context of the Global Gateway strategy and ensure those are meaningful and effective.

In addition, young people express the need to be engaged and empowered, not only on the traditional ‘youth-specific’ sectors (education, leisure, employment), but also to allow young people to identify the most relevant objectives and activities for them and their communities across sectors and realise their own initiatives and projects to contribute to the SDGs and support their communities.

In a survey conducted in July 2024 among EU Delegations with ongoing Youth Sounding Boards, youth focal points in EU Delegations also voiced the need for more structured and sustainable support to enhance meaningful youth participation in the EU external action at country level. They notably highlighted how the potential of these boards at country and regional levels can be boosted with a more structured and integrated approach and guaranteeing that a minimum of technical and logistic resources are available. Such support would impact aspects such as: inclusion of a more diverse representation of young people, such as those more marginalized or hard-to-reach; in-person coordination at country and regional levels; outreach capacity to enlarge consultation and coordination with other youths in the countries and to better communicate results; increased capacity and opportunities for young advocates and EU staff to work together in a more effective way; more autonomy of young people and capacity to implement self-managed initiatives.

EU Delegations also need to be guided and supported on how to integrate the youth perspective in the planning and implementation of Global Gateway at country level. This includes taking into account youth needs, challenges and innovative ideas in the different priority areas of the Global Gateway strategy, exploring concrete ways to meaningfully engage them in the success of specific Global Gateway Investment Actions and contributing to communicate better on this initiative.



Another important lesson learnt relates to the extra support needed in terms of guidance and support for the implementation of the youth policy and initiatives in fragile settings.

## 2.3 Problem Analysis

### Short problem analysis:

The Youth Engagement Hub (YEH) aims at addressing the critical challenge of youth inclusion in policy-making and leveraging on the opportunities that meaningful youth engagement offers in terms of innovation, accountability and trust-building. The programme recognizes that meaningful engagement of young people is essential to addressing current global challenges and aligns with EU strategic priorities, including the Global Gateway strategy and the Youth Action Plan.

Economically, the exclusion of young people from policy development stifles innovation, entrepreneurship, and job creation - key areas where youth bring valuable perspectives, drive and out-of-the-box solutions. Socially, marginalized youth, particularly young women and girls, youth with disabilities, and those in vulnerable communities, are often left out of policy-making and governance processes, further widening inequality and hindering social cohesion. The YEH addresses these disparities by strengthening youth-led, policy-related initiatives that amplify diverse voices, thus supporting more inclusive and stable societies.

Moreover, young people are disproportionately affected by climate change, yet – despite their voiced concerns and engagement - they are rarely given the opportunity to influence related policy decisions or support their own initiatives. Being priorities within the Global Gateway strategies and important thematic areas of EU Delegations' actions, the YEH will foster youth participation in policy dialogues and initiatives around green and digital transitions, contributing to sustainable development in alignment with the EU's environmental commitments.

The decision to address youth exclusion, informed by gender analysis, tackles the heightened barriers faced by young women and underrepresented youth. Gender disparities impact access to educational and leadership opportunities, creating systemic inequalities in policy participation. YEH emphasizes inclusivity by actively engaging Youth Sounding Boards to design initiatives that reflect the needs of diverse youth groups, thereby promoting equal opportunities and gender-sensitive policy development. This approach not only strengthens the EU's geopolitical position as a partner committed to inclusive growth but also builds resilient and empowered communities capable of navigating future challenges.

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

The action responds to the demands of young people to directly contribute to the SDGs, be engaged in policy-making and provides support to EU Delegations to strengthen their institutional youth engagement by implementing initiatives developed through the advice of their Youth Sounding Boards (YSBs). The action will strengthen capacity-building around youth participation and empowerment of all involved actors and targets – both duty-bearers and right-holders - which will be beneficial in the long-term to strengthen the youth dimension of future EU actions across Global Gateway priorities.

Key stakeholders – and beneficiaries – are therefore:

- **EU Delegations:** EU Delegations are key stakeholders as the programme is designed to support the advancement of the youth agenda within the roll-out of their priorities and the Global Gateway strategy. Working closely with YSBs and/or youth organisations and networks, EUDs will be able, through YEH initiatives on the ground, to engage young people in specific policy dialogues, getting input for policy or programme development, implementation, mappings, or visibility and outreach. The YEH will support, on demand, EUDs and youth in their policy-related initiatives with a strong focus on meaningful youth engagement.

- **Youth Sounding Boards:** Building on the principle of partnership, the action will provide additional means of cooperation between EU Delegations and Youth Sounding Boards (wherever established or in the process of creation). YEH will better allow YSBs to play a role in advising EUDs on initiatives to be implemented in terms of, for example: scope of action, stakeholders (young people, youth organisations or others) to engage, bring their knowledge of national and local context, supporting with visibility and outreach activities. The YSBs will also actively take part in the YEH initiatives bringing their perspective and inputs, including from their broader networks.
- **Young people and Youth Organisations:** Young people, youth-led and youth-focused organisations are both key stakeholders and target groups of the YEH. The action responds to the demands of young people to be engaged in policy-making and provides support to youth-led initiatives to strengthen youth inclusion and engagement across thematic areas. These groups hold a crucial role in advocating for youth perspectives in policy dialogues and developing innovative solutions, serving as essential bridges between young people and decision-making processes. Specific focus will be dedicated to organizations representing groups, such as girls, young women, youth with disabilities, youth from rural areas and those from economically disadvantaged or conflict-affected regions. The YEH will empower these groups by supporting youth-led policy initiatives, promoting equitable engagement, and ensuring representation from diverse backgrounds to address exclusion and systemic barriers in policy settings.

Other stakeholders include:

- **CSOs active in the area of youth participation and empowerment** - playing a vital role in bridging the gap between young people and institutions, providing support and mentorship, and ensuring youth voices are heard and valued in the policy landscape.
- **EU Member States and their cooperation agencies**, in a Team Europe approach, as well as **International Organisations** as partners to implement initiatives and contribute resources;
- **Partner country national and local authorities** that could contribute to the implementation and sustainability. YEH initiative could provide input feeding in national and local decision-making processes;
- **Private sector, in particular youth-led, and philanthropic organisations** that could contribute resources and expertise to the YEH initiatives.

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to strengthen the partnership between the EU and young people through enhanced youth engagement with a focus on policy development.

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

1. Increase institutional youth engagement in policy development and implementation, in particular to advance the roll out of the Global Gateway strategy in line with the Youth Action Plan and EUDs priorities.
2. Support youth-led initiatives, including those developed with the advice of their Youth Sounding Boards.

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

- 1.1 Increased opportunities for inclusive participation of young people in policy initiatives supported by EU Delegations, contributing to Specific Objective 1.
- 1.2 Enhanced capacities of EU Delegations and young people to implement inclusive policy-relevant youth initiatives, contributing to Specific Objective 1.



- 2.1 Strengthened and extended cooperation between the EU and young people through effective participation in EU policy initiatives and support to youth-led initiatives, contributing to Specific Objective 2.

### 3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1 (Increased opportunities for inclusive participation of young people in policy initiatives supported by EU Delegations)

- Organisation of broad youth consultations to gather the views and recommendations of young people in relation to specific Global Gateway flagships and investment areas and EUD priorities.
- Gathering of targeted input on specific topics through focus expert groups composed of diverse young people.
- Support the development of policy briefs and reports using findings from youth-led research that can be used in policy dialogues and programming decisions by EU Delegations.

Activities relating to Output 1.2 (Enhanced capacities of EU Delegations and young people to implement inclusive policy-relevant youth initiatives)

- Co-design workshops and consultations with YSBs, young people and youth organisations, ensuring initiatives are responsive to youth needs
- Support to EU Delegations to develop and implement youth engagement actions such as broad youth consultations, workshops, devising youth-led policy roadmaps, developing youth-led contributions or enhance youth participation to policy dialogues, conducting targeted research, studies and mappings
- Mapping of youth organisations and relevant stakeholders – including informal networks and youth leaders – to be engaged in EUD initiatives at national, bilateral or regional level
- Develop feedback mechanisms: Create channels for young people to provide ongoing feedback on their perceptions of the EU's youth agenda, ensuring that their insights inform future initiatives.

Activities relating to Output 2.1 (Strengthened and extended cooperation between the EU and young people through effective participation in EU policy initiatives and support to youth-led initiatives)

- Support EUDs to provide training programs for young leaders to build skills in advocacy, policy analysis, leadership, EU policy priorities to empower young people to engage effectively in policy processes.
- Support youth-led research initiatives – including through partnerships between youth organizations and research institutions - to carry out studies and analysis on key policy issues relevant for the EUD in the country, enabling young people to contribute evidence-based perspectives to policy discussions.
- Support to youth initiatives in areas contributing to the SDGs, EUDs priorities and Global Gateway sectors
- Accelerator-type support to impactful initiatives (trainings, peer-learning, mentoring, networking).

### 3.3 Mainstreaming

#### Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Climate change and environmental protection are key priorities of the work of the EU in International Partnerships, the Global Gateway strategy and focus area of many EU Delegations. Depending on the EU Delegations' proposals, environmental protection and climate change could be the focus of some youth engagement initiatives gathering the views and proposals of young people on this thematic area and ensuring that the policies and programmes responds to young people's needs.

While this action does not specifically target climate or environmental issues as a significant focus, these issues will be integrated and promoted as far as possible. **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**

This action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is a significant objective. The equal participation in the action's activities of young women and men in all their diversity is foreseen. The action will support initiatives that aim at increasing gender equality and women empowerment, as well as initiatives led by young people that face discrimination related to gender or sexual orientation. The action will have an intersectional approach, considering young people in all their diversity.

---

### **Human Rights**

The action adopts a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and includes support to applying all rights equally, leaving no one behind, increased accountability and transparency, as well as inclusiveness, non-discrimination and participation. Inclusiveness is addressed throughout the intervention logic.

---

### **Disability**

This action is labelled as D1. This implies that young people with disability are targeted significantly in this action. The action aims to include youth with disability in youth engagement initiatives. Reasonable accommodation, accessibility and support will be provided to make sure youth with disabilities are able to participate in all project outputs and activities.

---

### **Reduction of inequalities**

This action is labelled as I-0. Despite inequality reduction is not a significant objective, the action will still contribute to reduction of inequalities. This action will support inclusive youth participation, with particular attention to girls and young women, young people with disability and marginalised youth, and include policy-related initiative addressing gender equality and inequality reduction aiming at increasing social cohesion and political stability. The activities described target inequality reduction by ensuring the meaningful inclusion of young people from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds in policy development processes. By addressing barriers such as economic hardship, geographic remoteness, and social exclusion, the activities promote equitable access to decision-making and capacity-building opportunities. This approach empowers underrepresented youth to voice their needs, influence policies, and co-create solutions that address structural inequalities, fostering more inclusive and equitable societies.

Young people are affected by multidimensional and intersectional inequalities: from being excluded from participating in political life to have poor or no access to basic services, from limited access to employment opportunities to being affected by conflict and instability. The action will both address thematic areas which will contribute to reduce inequalities and also engage directly affected young people.

---

### **Democracy**

The action will contribute to the empowerment of young people for their active participation in society. The involvement of young people in YSBs and in the youth engagement initiatives implemented will strengthen young

people's role in political and civic spaces. Moreover, the action will strengthen the role of young people in contributing to policy development both in EU processes and in their countries. Synergies with existing programmes such as the Women and Youth in Democratic Engagement – WYDE - will be sought.

---

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

A conflict analysis or a conflict sensitivity assessment has not been carried out, as the action is planned globally. However, the action will take conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience into account in the implementation phase. In accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250, young people are seen as key actors in ensuring peace and security, not least because their lives are most affected by the impact of conflicts and insecurity. Certain policy initiatives within the programme might relate to the thematic area of peace and security, in particular YPS. Specific consideration will be given to the fact that youth in fragile and conflict areas might need specific outreach mechanisms and support actions adapted to context.

---

### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

Although the action does not specifically target disaster risk reduction, some policy initiatives might relate to disaster risk reduction or to disaster management.

---

### **Other considerations if relevant**

## **3.4 Risks**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
Duplication	Risk of duplicating existing programs by other actors or EU/MS initiatives targeting CSOs and youth engagement.	Low	Medium	Conduct regular coordination meetings and exchanges of information with existing programs (e.g., WYDE, AU-EU Youth Lab, Erasmus+).
Prioritization	Risk of difficulty in selecting high-impact interventions aligned with EU and Global Gateway priorities.	Medium	High	Establish clear prioritization and selection criteria, involve EU Delegations directly in the proposals, and have HQ staff provide additional guidance for coherence and evaluation processes.
Inclusion & Diversity	Risk of excluding marginalized youth, including those with limited education or from hard-to-reach communities.	High	High	Ensure diversity within Youth Sounding Boards, actively include representatives of marginalized groups, and design outreach efforts specifically for harder-to-reach youth.
Institutional Capacity	Risk of EU Delegations and Youth Sounding Boards lacking capacity to effectively	Low	Medium	The assessment of requests will take into account the interest and capacity of the delegation to

	implement youth engagement initiatives.			implement its proposal. Tailor-made technical support will be provided to the EU Delegations and/or Youth Sounding Boards for a successful implementation of the proposed initiatives, building their capacity alongside implementation.
Political Stability	Risk of programme disruptions in fragile or conflict-affected regions.	High	High	Develop contingency plans and flexible implementation approaches for fragile contexts; engage local partners with expertise in conflict-sensitive program management.

### 3.5 The Intervention Logic

If, through targeted support, EU Delegations have increased capacity to work with young people, develop youth engagement actions and incorporate youth perspectives into policy development and implementation, then the EU Delegations will be better able to implement youth-relevant policy initiatives (because they will be able to design more meaningful initiatives and link them better with the EU policy-making processes).

If young people's capacity to effectively engage in EU policy processes increases and there are more opportunities to support youth-led initiatives, then it will result in an increased institutional youth engagement linked with EUDs' priorities and Global Gateway strategy because youth will be more closely associated to EU work in dedicated and inclusive spaces allowing for youth perspectives.

If EU Delegations increase their institutional youth engagement linked to EUDs' priorities and the Global Gateway strategy and there is further EU support for youth-led initiatives, then the partnership between the EU and young people will be strengthened because there will be more understanding, trust and accountability and the EU will position itself as a trusted ally of young people in partner countries.

Under the assumption that young people are eager to engage in shaping policies that affect them and contribute with youth-led initiatives to sustainable development and economic growth and that EU Delegations, with the advice of their Youth Sounding Boards, create spaces for meaningful youth engagement linked to policy priorities, the following intervention logic is proposed: If EU Delegations receive tailored support to design and implement inclusive youth engagement processes and young people have the capacity to contribute with youth-led initiatives to sustainable development and engage in EU processes, then the action will strengthen institutional youth engagement and enhance the partnership between youth and the EU.

The intervention logic relies on the assumptions that young people are willing to engage but often lack the information, support, and mechanisms to do so effectively; that EU institutions recognize the importance of youth perspectives in decision-making and are open to include youth's input and support youth-led initiatives; and that youth engagement initiatives are inclusive of marginalized groups. If the institutional capacity of EU Delegations to engage youth is improved, if the effectiveness and inclusivity of youth participation in policy development are strengthened, and if young people from diverse backgrounds are empowered and given the space to advocate for their interests, then the overall partnership between the EU and youth will be strengthened, leading to more inclusive and effective policies that reflect the needs and aspirations of young people.

### 3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

This indicative logical framework constitutes the basis to design more detailed logical framework matrix(-ces) at contracting which will be use for monitoring, reporting and evaluation. The logical framework matrix(-ces) at contract level should include relevant indicators identified in this section.

The expected outputs and related indicators (with baselines and targets) may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the Financing Decision.

In case baselines and targets are not available for the action at the time of adoption of the Financing Decision, they should be provided for each indicator at signature of the contract(s) linked to this Financing Decision, or in the first progress report at the latest. New columns may be added to set intermediary targets for the output and outcome indicators whenever relevant.

PROJECT and BUDGET SUPPORT MODALITIES						
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	To strengthen the partnership between the EU and young people through enhanced youth engagement with a focus on policy development	1 # of dialogue and consultations set up with YEH EU support  2 Level of young people's satisfaction with the EU efforts to engage young people in policy development disaggregated by income level, sex, age, area of residence, disability, ethnicity (through YEH)	1 tbc  2 tbc	1 tbc  2 tbc	1 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention  2 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	<i>Not applicable</i>
OUTCOMES						

Outcome 1	1 Increased institutional youth engagement in policy development and implementation, in particular to advance the roll out of the Global Gateway strategy, in line with the Youth Action Plan and EUDs' priorities	1.1 Number of EU policy processes and initiatives incorporating youth input.			1.1 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	<p>The EU maintains commitment to youth engagement, participation and empowerment.</p> <p>The EU commits to integrate input from youth engagement initiatives in policy development.</p> <p>EU Delegations are committed to establish and strengthen Youth Sounding Boards.</p> <p>YSBs remain active and diverse in representation.</p> <p>Youth are interested and willing to engage in policy development and benefit from the opportunities offered.</p>
		1.2 Level to which recommendations from dialogues were taken into account			1.2 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	
		1.3 # of young people that are participating/consulted in the formulation of EU development policies/programmes, peacebuilding, and disaster recovery/reconstruction strategies, disaggregated by income level, sex, age, area of residence, disability, ethnicity	1.1 tbc	1.1 tbc	1.3 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	
		1.4 Extent of incorporation of local YSBs during the consultation on TEIs	1.2 tbc	1.2 tbc	1.4 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	
		1.5 Extent of incorporation of YSBs during the consultation on MIP actions/programs	1.3 tbc	1.3 tbc	1.5 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	
		1.6 Level of satisfaction of young people participating in the Youth advisory structures in HQ and EUDs disaggregated by income level, sex, age, area of residence, disability, ethnicity	1.4 tbc	1.4 tbc	1.6 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention	
			1.5 tbc	1.5 tbc		
			1.6 tbc	1.6 tbc		



Outcome 2	2 Support youth-led initiatives, including those developed with the advice of their Youth Sounding Boards	2.1 Number of requests for support for youth-led initiatives.	2.1 tbc	2.1 tbc	2.1 Implementation report	Youth acts upon the opportunities provided.
		2.2 Number of initiatives implemented annually.	2.2 tbc	2.2 tbc	2.2 Implementation report	Young people will be able and interested to participate in engagement activities.
		2.3 Number of youth initiatives advised by the YSB.	2.3 tbc	2.3 tbc	2.3 Implementation report	There are sufficient youth-led initiatives that can be supported by the action.
						EUDs are committed to co-create initiatives with the YSBs and the YSBs provide relevant and actionable advice.
OUTPUTS (for an action implemented as a project)						

<b>Output 1 relating to outcome 1</b>	1.1 Increased opportunities for inclusive participation of young people in policy initiatives supported by EU Delegations	<p>1.1.1 # of EU Delegations promoting youth and women participation in their political and policy dialogue at country and regional level</p> <p>1.1.2 Number of youth participating in policy initiatives - with disaggregation of data by: age, sex, disability, urban/rural, persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities; migrants; refugees, asylum-seekers and Internally Displaced People; young people living in extreme poverty. activities (<i>contributing to YAP M indicator</i>: Estimated # of young people engaged through YSB, YAS, Youth Dialogue platform, Policy labs, biregional and multilateral institutional dialogues, Etc)</p> <p>1.1.3 # and type of youth organisations that reflect diversity (grassroots, local youth organisations, organisations advocating for gender equality, disability and inclusion, etc.)</p>	1.1.1 tbc 1.1.2 tbc 1.1.3 tbc	1.1.1 tbc 1.1.2 tbc 1.1.3 tbc	<p>1.1.1 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.1.2 Implementation report</p> <p>1.1.3 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p>	<p>EU Delegation, with the advice of the YSBs, are able to reach out and involve borad and diverse groups of young people.</p> <p>EUDs are attentive to create inclusive environments for meaningful youth participation.</p>
---	---	--	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---	---

<b>Output 2 relating to outcome 1</b>	1.2 Enhanced capacities of EU Delegations and young people to implement inclusive policy-relevant youth initiatives	<p>1.2.1 Number of EU Delegations reporting increased capacity for youth engagement initiatives.</p> <p>1.2.2 Level of young people's satisfaction with inclusivity of policy-relevant youth initiatives</p> <p>1.2.3 Level to which EU DEL incorporated contributions or provided feedback on the recommendations</p>	1.2.1 tbc 1.2.2 tbc 1.2.3 tbc	1.2.1 tbc 1.2.2 tbc 1.2.3 tbc	<p>1.2.1 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.2.2 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>1.2.3 Survey at the end of the single YEH activities - Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p>	<p>The EU supports other capacity-building activities for EU staff.</p> <p>EU Delegations staff are willing to further strengthen their capacity on youth engagement and participation.</p> <p>EUDs are attentive to create inclusive environments for meaningful youth participation and are capable of managing expectations and providing feedback to young people.</p>
<b>Output 1 relating to outcome 2</b>	2.1 Strengthened and extended cooperation between the EU and young people through effective participation in EU policy initiatives and support to youth-led initiatives	<p>2.1.1 Qualitative indicator on meaningfulness Key processes/ items we have engaged youth people on MIPs, TEI, actions/policies</p> <p>2.1.2 Number of youth reached through YEH activities disaggregated by income level, sex, age, area of residence, disability, ethnicity</p>	2.1.1 tbc 2.1.2 tbc	2.1.1 tbc 2.1.2 tbc	<p>2.1.1 Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>2.1.2 Implementation report</p>	<p>The EU continues to invest in the ambitions and the implementation of the Youth Action Plan.</p> <p>Sustained interest among youth to engage with the EU.</p>

## 4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1 Financing Agreement

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

### 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 Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures<sup>12</sup>.

#### 4.3.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

A part of this action will be implemented through procurement and will contribute to achieve the specific objective 1.

#### 4.3.2 Indirect Management with an entrusted 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 of youth outreach, youth engagement and empowerment at global and country level, experience and capacity to manage small grants and/or funds, awareness of local contexts. The implementation by this entity entails the activities identified under specific objective 2.

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

If the planned implementation modalities cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of Commission's control, alternative implementation modalities in direct management (grants) or indirect management with a Member State organisation or an international organisation might be considered.

In this case, the implementing entities would be selected on the basis of their specific technical competences and/or sectorial capacity(ies) and/or sectorial experience in the specific field and area of interest under the specific objectives 1 and 2, including, but not only, their capacity to (i) support the work of EU in relations to the implementation of the Global Gateway strategy and their policy priorities (ii) implement inclusive youth policy engagement initiatives (iii) support the work of Youth Sounding Boards or similar advisory structures (iv) capacity of youth outreach, youth engagement and empowerment at global and country level, experience and capacity to manage small grants and/or funds, awareness of local contexts.

### 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.

---

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

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).

#### 4.5 Indicative Budget

<b>Indicative Budget components</b>	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>
<b>Implementation modalities</b> – cf. section 4.3	
<b>Objective 1</b> composed of	2 000 000
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	2 000 000
<b>Objective 2</b> composed of	2 000 000
Indirect management with an international organisation – cf. section 4.3.2	2 000 000
<b>Evaluation</b> – cf. section 5.2 <b>Audit</b> – cf. section 5.3	may be covered by another Decision
<b>Totals</b>	4 000 000

#### 4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The action might foresee a Steering Committee to guide the action, including members of DG INTPA and possibly other European Commission departments or institutions and the project implementers.

Based on experience in other programmes such as WYDE and YEF, participation mechanisms for young people, notably those currently benefitting from actions or from former beneficiaries (alumni) will be explored. Participation of young people in situations of vulnerability or from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds or those that face disadvantages related to gender equality and young people with disabilities will equally be explored.

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 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.

## 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).

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:

- Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring will be established within the implementing partner organisation.
- Regular reports will be presented summarising the main activities and the values of outputs' and direct/intermediate Outcomes' indicators.
- Stakeholders, notably youth and YSBs, will be consulted regularly by the implementer. Innovative features such as youth-led monitoring or reporting might be foreseen.
- Reporting of beneficiaries shall be adapted to the needs and capacities of young people, taking into account diverse realities and overall youth-friendliness of reporting mechanisms.

All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is considering the principle of gender equality, human rights-based approach, and rights of persons with disabilities including inclusion and diversity. Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by income, sex and age, and disability if possible.

## 5.2 Evaluation

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

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that youth actions generate long term results and short-term results are visible as opportunities for development, rather than statistical improvements in the situation of young people. In such case, the use of participative evaluation methods, qualitative approaches and storytelling is recommended, as the evaluation itself can contribute to youth learning and empowerment.<sup>13</sup>

All evaluations shall assess to what extent the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. Expertise on inequality reduction, human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 days 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.

---

<sup>13</sup> see as a good practice: Ord, Jon, Marc Carletti, Susan Cooper, Christophe Dansac, Daniele Morciano, Lasse Siurala and Marti Taru (2018) *The Impact of Youth Work in Europe: A Study of Five European Countries*, Humak University of Applied Sciences Publications, Helsinki.



## 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.

In line with the 2022 “[Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions](#)”, 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.