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ANNEX

to the Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2023) 1810 of 22.03.2023 on the financing of the individual measures in favour of the people of the Republic of the Sudan for 2023

Action Document for

Enhancing Food Security and Resilience of Rural Communities in Sudan

ANNUAL MEASURE

This document constitutes the 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

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Enhancing Food Security and Resilience of Rural Communities in Sudan OPSYS number: ACT-61521 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	Yes Team Europe Initiative 2 “Enhancing Food Security and Resilience of Rural Communities in Sudan”
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Republic of the Sudan to the benefit of the people of Sudan
4. Programming document	Individual measures (NDICI-Global Europe/East and Central Africa financial allocation)
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	N/A
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	311 Agriculture, 160 Infrastructure and social services, 410 Environmental protection, 430 Other multisector
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 1: No poverty Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: Zero hunger (SDG 2), Gender equality (SDG 5), Access to clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), Decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), Reduced inequality within and among countries (SDG 10), Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), Climate action (SDG 13) and Life on Land (SDG 15).
8 a) DAC code(s)	43072 Household food security 40% 31120 Agricultural Development 20% 31195 Livestock/Veterinary services 15% 16020 Employment creation 15%

	41030 Bio-diversity 10%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	International NGO (21000) United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN) (41000) Third Country Government (Delegated co-operation) (EU MS agency) (13000)			
9. Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective
Digitalisation		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy digital services		YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
Connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		YES	NO	

	digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	/
	energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research			
	Migration (methodology for tagging under development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 (article, item): BGUE-B2023-14.020121-C1-INTPA</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 90 000 000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 90 000 000</p> <p>The full amount is part of the TEI “<u>Agri-food Value Chains: Vector to Food Security and rural livelihoods’ resilience</u>”</p> <p>N.B.: EU Member States participating in the Team Europe Initiative – France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden – are providing parallel financing to a total amount of more than EUR 100 000 000</p>			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	<p>Direct management through:</p> <p>- Grants</p> <p>Indirect management with the entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in sections 4.4.2</p>			

1.2 Summary of the Action

As part of the Team Europe Initiative on Enhancing Food Security and Resilience of Rural Communities in Sudan, the action will take place in the most food insecure areas of Darfur, West and South Kordofan, Gedaref, Sinnar, Kassala, Red Sea, Northern States and Blue Nile. The action will aim at increasing food security and at protecting livelihoods by focusing on agro ecological practices. This approach is in line with the European Union (EU) Farm to Fork policy and will contribute to reduce Sudan’s dependence from importing agriculture inputs and to alleviate the pressure on natural resources. The main beneficiaries are smallholder farmers, herders and fishermen and their respective associations, communities and households, including IDPs and refugees.

The focus will be on existing local (short) value chains including livestock, staple, fruit and protein-plants, whose sustainability (environmental, social and economic) will be improved in view of increasing resilience and enhancing profitability for smallholder producers. The action will improve availability and access to healthy diets for the rural population. It will also create decent and sustainable job opportunities for youths, including refugees and IDPs, to counter rural exodus, irregular migration and enrolment in militias.

Particular emphasis will be placed on natural resource management with a specific focus on watershed management in some specific areas of intervention as for example Wadi El Ku area of North Darfur. In a country deeply affected by climate change and desertification, it is essential to manage access to land, water and pasture in order to ensure food security and at the same time manage potential conflicts between host and displaced communities as well as farmers and herders.

The action will be part of the overall action of the European Union in Sudan for 2022, complementing the school feeding program activities of the Education intervention and the nutrition activities of the Health intervention. The agro value chain reinforcement will aim at increasing the availability of nutritious food on the local markets.

The triple nexus humanitarian-development-peace has been embedded as a key component of this Action that has identified agri-food value chains as a key vector to food security and sustainable growth and jobs. Water and land are vital elements for promoting peace among central, regional and local parties and for determining inclusive socio-economic development. The Action will be based on an integrated territorial approach.

The overall objective of the action is to contribute to sustainable livelihoods and food security in rural communities most affected by food insecurity, climate change and conflicts.

This objective will be reached through the following three main outcomes:

- Productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains increased sustainably using agro ecological practices (in North, Central and South Darfur, West and South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala and Red Sea).
- Sustainable and decent jobs for youth (women and men), including from internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee populations and people with disabilities (PwD), created in rural and food insecure areas (in South Darfur, South Kordofan and Gedaref).
- Equal and sustainable access to natural resources increased in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people (in Darfur, South Kordofan, Northern State, Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala and Red Sea).

The Action, as part of the Team Europe Initiative, will build upon the achievements of previous/ongoing EU and Member States (MS) programmes or will complement EU and MS future budgeted programmes in order to consolidate or expand activities. So far, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden are participating in the TEI with parallel financing of more than EUR 100 000 000.

The Action will primarily contribute to SDG 1 (No poverty), but also to SDG 2 (Zero hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Access to clean water and sanitation), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (Reduced inequality within and among countries), SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (Climate action) and SDG 15 (Life on land). It directly contributes to pillar 1 of the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative accelerator and EU flagship programme supporting “Investment in small and medium-sized farms, promoting agro-ecological approaches resilient to climate change, and strengthening of value chains, local markets, organization of exports” and is aligned to its pillar 2 on “Land restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems, in order to improve livelihoods directly dependent on natural resources, increase stability and climate resilience” and pillar 3 promoting “Climate resilient infrastructures and access to renewable energy in order to alleviate rural poverty and youth unemployment, support prosperity and security”

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

More than two years after the 2019 revolution and the signing of the Constitutional Document establishing a Transitional Government, Sudan remains politically fragile. Sudan’s civilian led transitional government had made great strides in ambitious reforms and macroeconomic policies to rectify decades of economic mismanagement. They reduced unaffordable energy subsidies, transitioned to a market-determined exchange rate and implemented fiscal consolidation to put the economy back on a sustainable path. A gradual increase in social expenditure was also planned. The military coup of 25 October 2021 has put a sudden stop to the ongoing reform process of the transitional government which was dissolved and high-ranking officials arrested or replaced. The country lost an estimated USD 4.4 billion in foreign assistance which was frozen as a result of the military takeover, and processes to relief the country of its USD 60 billion debt were paused.

The economic recovery following the most painful macroeconomic reforms did not materialize as expected. Political unrest, port closures, disruption of transport links and supply chains weighed on the economic activity.

The socio-economic situation of children and families, already precarious since early 2020, has deteriorated further amid a continued severe and acute economic crisis. Poverty is high and rising, estimated at 57.8% (World Bank). Inflation averaged 359% in 2021 and is expected to remain above 200% on average in 2022. Hyperinflation combined with the end of subsidized goods led to huge erosion of purchasing power of the population, struggling to cater for basic needs of food, transport and shelter. The crisis was compounded by the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the country has ratified several international conventions (including CEDAW¹, ICCPR², ICESCR³ and CRPD⁴), implementing their provisions remains a major challenge. Weak institutional capacities obstruct the implementation of policies to protect human rights, especially the basic rights of women and children.

Furthermore, marginalized groups of society remain vulnerable to being left behind such as PwD. As per Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) of 2022, 14.3 million people needing humanitarian assistance, there are approximately 2.9 million internally displaced people (IDPs), 900,000 returnees, 1.2 million refugees, and 9.3 million crisis-affected or vulnerable residents. . Many areas of the country that have historically been marginalized by successive central Governments, including Darfur, the East and the Two Areas (South Kordofan and Blue Nile), saw increased intercommunal conflict in 2021. More than 3 million IDPs live in Sudan, many have for a long time been in camps or in camp-like protracted situation with low access to communal infrastructure and schools. IDPs, refugees, and returnees as well as other internal migrants are particularly vulnerable to impacts of degenerative economic trends, including reduction in purchasing power, service availability and access to livelihoods. Moreover, the continuous economic degradation, coupled with the competition for limited natural resources, has exacerbated forced displacement in Sudan.

Sudan is facing an acute food crisis. The 2021/22 cereal crop harvest is estimated to be more than 30% lower than the previous five-year average. For the first time in many years Sudan will have a deficit in sorghum and millet (in addition to the structural deficit in wheat). By September 2022, up to 18 million people would face high levels of acute food insecurity, according to the latest WFP/FAO estimate. With world cereal prices soaring due to the Ukraine war and a shortage of foreign exchange in Sudan there is a risk that food consumption needs may not be fully met. This comes on the background of already widespread malnutrition among children 3 million children being acutely malnourished, and a projected 650,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition. In rural locations, limited access to land for farming further increases refugees' and IDPs reliance on food assistance, necessitating continued humanitarian aid. Moreover, the WFP announced 50% food assistance ration cut for refugees who arrived more than 2 years ago, as of June 2022. This will undoubtedly exacerbate malnutrition for refugees living camps or outside camp settings.

Sudan has been for many years among the food insecure countries. About 45.7 percent of Sudanese aged between 15 and 64 years suffered from malnutrition during their childhood. Since 2019, Sudan figures among the 10 most food insecure countries in the world. In 2020, according to the Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan 2020, 6.2 million people were food insecure. In 2021, the end of subsidies on flour and fuel as well as other economic reforms have led to a sharp price increase of food commodities.

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Report of June 2022 indicates that around 11.7 million people across Sudan were highly food insecure and classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3 or worse) from April to May 2022. This includes 3.1 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 8.6 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). The prevalence of the population in IPC Phase 3 and above has moved from 13% (October 2021 – February 2022) to 20% (April-May 2022) to 24% (June-September 2022), driven by a plummeting economy, poor harvests and conflict. Northern (36%), Western (42%) and Central Darfur (35%) host the highest caseload of IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4 during the projection period from June to September 2022. The most affected groups are internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, those stranded in conflict areas, refugees from South Sudan, Ethiopia, and other neighbouring countries, and poor groups from agro-pastoral and pastoral communities in rural areas of Western, Eastern and Northern Sudan, whose livelihoods are directly affected by the impact of lean season and macroeconomic crises.

¹ Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

² International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

³ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

⁴ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Food insecurity is gendered. Households headed by women were more food insecure than households headed by men. 42 percent of the female-headed households are food insecure, as opposed to 31 percent of their counterparts. Of this, 9 percent of female-headed households are severely food insecure, while the figure stands at 5 percent for male-headed households. The states with the highest prevalence of food insecure female-headed households are West Darfur (72 percent), Central Darfur (63 percent) and North Darfur (61 percent). Female-headed households also have worse food intake compared to males. 33 percent of female-headed households have inadequate food consumption, while 20 percent of male-headed households have inadequate food consumption. The prevalence of poor food consumption is double the rate for female-headed households (10 percent) compared to male-headed households. Overall, the main income sources for the female-headed and male-headed households vary depending on gender. Male-headed households tend to engage in longer term and higher return livelihood activities such as salaried work, mining and non-agricultural wage labor compared to females. Households that rely on these activities as their primary income source are also more food secure. In the meanwhile, female-headed households rely, to a greater extent, on informal transfers, such as remittances. 11 percent of female-headed households relied on informal transfers such as remittances, which is three times the prevalence observed in male-headed households (4 percent). Limited and less sustainable livelihood opportunities, rooted in socioeconomic and political inequality and low levels of literacy, is thus a key obstacle that women face which impedes them from meeting their food security needs.⁵

Without specific action (considering different needs by sex, age and disability conditions) on food security and livelihood resilience the population will not be able to cover their basic needs, including decent nutrition for children and other vulnerable segments of population

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis: The agriculture sector in Sudan faces structural problems that are at the origin of declining food security. The sector was long neglected in the early 2000s in an economy dominated by oil and under prolonged sanctions. Its share in GDP declined from 42% on average in 1992-1995 to 31% in 2009 and 28% in 2014. Nowadays, and after the secession with South Sudan entailing a loss of 75 % of oil revenues, the economy of Sudan is highly dependent on agriculture and livestock contributing to a third of the country's GDP. 80% of the Sudanese population depend on agriculture for their livelihoods and jobs. Women integration in the productive sector is among the lowest in Eastern Africa (female labour force participation stands at 31.3%; in the formal non-agricultural sector, the percentage drops to 17%, demonstrating a female over-representation in agriculture and informal economy). Notably, women labour force participation rate in agricultural rural areas accounts for 80%, most women work as labourers in the farms of other farmers, rent agricultural lands to perform their own agricultural activities or work as unpaid family workers in their families' farms. Contemporarily, women owning farming lands, predominantly own medium and small lands with less productivity.⁶

Despite its potential (largest irrigated area in Africa after Egypt, large livestock and marine/inland fish populations), agricultural productivity in Sudan remains low. Average yields of sorghum and millet (the main staple food crops) have dropped from 350 kg/feddan (833 kg/ha) in the late 1950s to under 200 kg/feddan (476 kg/ha) in 2016 to 176 kg/feddan (419 kg/ha) for the period 1998-2013. Note that this last figure is half of what it was in the '50s! This is partly due to limited access to new technologies in the form of improved seeds and fertilizers, mechanised agricultural equipment, as well as the lack of research and extension services throughout the value chains. Access to finance is difficult for smallholder farmers, specially for women farmers, as a result of the poor health and weak resources of the Sudanese Agriculture Bank and limited outreach of the microfinance sector.

Crop production in the rainfed sectors, which account on average about 95 percent of the planted area, exhibits very wide annual fluctuations as a result of erratic rainfall amounts and distribution. According to the annual Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM), total cereal production for the 2021/22 summer and winter seasons is estimated at around 5.1 million metric tons, against a 7.6-million-ton cereal requirement and 36 percent below the five-year average. Following the below-average harvest in the 2021-22 agriculture season would likely

⁵ Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) - Sudan Summary Report, Q1 2022. World Food Programme

⁶ Country Level Implementation Plan – CLIP SUDAN. 2022

leave Sudan with around a 2.5-million-tonne cereal supply gap for the consumption year, January to December 2022. Of particular concern is the deficit in wheat, with the import requirement estimated at 1.7 million tonnes.

At the same time, smallholder farmers experience constraints in terms of access to land and land tenure security. Sudan's land tenure system is a major challenge for agriculture production and investment. Customary land tenure is the dominant tenure system for agricultural lands in Sudan, most particularly in the Darfur region. The customary land tenure system is not legally recognized by the Constitution. Customary rights are usually not registered, and the rights of holders are recognized only by the native administration under which the plot is located. Women have less access to land than men for a variety of legal and cultural reasons. Without secure title to land, women are often denied membership in cooperatives and other rural organizations and thus to the benefits of this membership. They also lack collateral which is generally indispensable for access to credit. A direct consequence of women's lack of access to land and membership in rural organizations is their lack of access to credit. Land is usually required as collateral for loans, on the one hand, and, on the other, credit schemes are often channeled through rural organizations to their members. This is a serious obstacle to improving women's agricultural productivity, as without credit women farmers are unable to buy inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and improved technologies, or to hire labor.⁷ All unregistered lands are under usufructuary right and can be dispossessed without compensation at any time by the government. Uncertainties of conflict related displacements in rural areas and urban expansion to agricultural lands continue to dispossess customarily owned land rights causing a vicious cycle of violent conflicts and impoverishment of rural farmers. Unclear land rights give rise to contention and dissent among rural communities, most prominently between agriculturalists and pastoralists.

Livestock production continues to be an important source of food and income for a large proportion of the country's population. Livestock is raised mostly by nomadic or semi-nomadic pastoralists who engage in transhumance movements both within the Sudan and to neighboring countries. The livestock sector is characterized by the prevalence of epidemic diseases. Lack of veterinary services and drugs at the community level, weak disease surveillance/reporting systems, limited practices to improve local breeds, as well as lack of livestock vaccination campaigns are factors affecting livestock health and production.

Sudan is also among the countries' most affected by climate change. Poor techniques have increased desertification and land degradation. Climate change is evidenced by recurrent weather events, reduced rainfall and desertification, the Sahara desert is advancing at a rate of about 1.5 km/year (WB, 2013). Most of Sudan's remaining semi-arid and low rainfall savannah, representing approximately 25 per cent of the country's agricultural land, is at significant risk of further degradation, according to a study by Göteborg University in Sweden (Dahlberg and Slunge 2007). It predicts that the desert boundary will continue to shift southwards due to climate change and changing rainfall patterns, leading to an estimated 20 per cent drop in food production. Land degradation and the decline in soil fertility can be mainly attributed to unsustainable soil preparation practices and absence of vegetative cover. In addition, biodiversity is seriously threatened. Forest cover has declined from more than 40 per cent of the country's land area in the 1950s to 27 per cent at the beginning of the millennium, to as little as 10.3 per cent by 2015. One major threat to biodiversity is the widespread, unchecked use of insecticides, herbicides and fungicides. Furthermore, agriculture and biodiversity in Sudan are threatened by several invasive species, which are replacing the native species or destroying their natural habitat.

Climate change and poor livestock, farming and arboriculture techniques increased desertification, land degradation and inadequate supplies of potable water. New migration routes and settlements (IDPs) are clashing with local communities over access to natural resources causing additional conflicts between farmers and pastoralists. Population pressure due to high demographic growth (2.4% p.a.) and compounded by increased numbers of forced displacement (including refugees and IDPs) have encouraged destructive forms of agriculture. Since the beginning of the year, conflicts have led to 151,155 newly displaced while close to 80,000 people have been forcibly displaced between May and July 2022. Vulnerable host communities in areas of displacement and return where services are overstretched are equally impacted by new or secondary displacements. It is important for the present action to include areas with high presence of IDPs and refugees.

Digital technology enables the smallholders to connect with institutions and information that eventually help in decreasing risk and uncertainty. Access to data and financial services with the help of specific digital technologies would improve the efficiency of fertilizing, planting, harvesting and selling products. At present, Sudan strategies do not prominently feature such types of technologies, however, there is an increase in the number of people

⁷ <http://www.nzdl.org/cgi-bin/library>. Rural Women and Food security

showing their interest in emerging economies. Furthermore, the smallholders in Sudan have restricted access and use of the financial services.

It is also paramount to make the agricultural sector more attractive for youth, inclined to engage in gold mining, migrate to Khartoum/major cities and onwards or to be recruited by militias. The continuous lack of economic opportunities for rural youth makes them vulnerable and jeopardises societal stability and peace. So far, there has been little responsiveness to the skills needs of the agricultural sector and the informal sector. The growing challenge of climate change and environmental pressures are likely to trigger a demand for new skills. It is important to expand technical and vocational training to agriculture, forestry and livestock, biodiversity, renewable energy and sectors connected to agricultural development; to focus more on self-employment and entrepreneurship; including for women and people with disabilities along selected value chains. Building competences, skills and knowledge can open up new job opportunities in the green economy and improve the chances that a farmer will adopt new techniques to adapt to climate change.

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

Key stakeholders include:

Producers and pastoralists Associations/Cooperatives, Entrepreneurs Associations/Unions, Women associations, Organisations of persons with disabilities, Microfinance Institutes/Guarantee Funds.

Academic institutions, NGOs, private sector and technical units of the local authorities will be considered as required. Civil society (included women's organizations and PwD organizations) will be consulted as part of the preparation of the action and during the course of its implementation. CSOs will also be invited to take part in monitoring by ensuring their active participation in steering committee and technical review meetings.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to sustainable and resilient livelihoods and food security in rural communities most affected by food insecurity, climate change and conflicts.

The Specific Objectives/Outcomes of this action are to:

1. Sustainably increase productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains using agro ecological practices adapted to climate change
2. Increase sustainable and decent jobs opportunities for both genders within the youth in displacement affected rural and food insecure areas.
3. Increase equal and sustainable access to natural resources in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people.

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

For Outcome 1:

- 1.1. Cluster of smallholder farmers' groups and Small and Medium Enterprises (with focus on women and youth) in nutritious value chains trained and upgraded with efficient agro-ecological practices adapted to climate change, storage, access to finance, renewable energy technologies, market knowledge for productivity enhancement and nutrition principles knowledge;
- 1.2. Agriculture and livestock inputs and mechanised equipments, information, market and veterinary service providers supported to expand their outreach and provision of agro-ecological and climate-adapted information, technologies, products and services to farmers and herders/pastoralists within short value chains

For Outcome 2:

- 2.1. Creation of business opportunities and decent employment for youth, men and women (including PwD, IDPs, refugees, returnees and host communities) along priority agriculture and livestock value chains;
- 2.2. Creation of temporary jobs through rehabilitation of infrastructures linked to access to markets and basic services.

For Outcome 3:

- 3.1 Enhancement of the access to land rights in an equitable manner for men and women and reduction of inter-communal violence;
- 3.2 Availability and use of water resources for domestic use, livestock and crop production and farmlands/shelter belts for social groups in conflict.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1:

1. Conduct agricultural and livestock value chain analysis for development and feasibility studies with focus on climate change adaptation;
2. Develop training programs to improve smallholder farmers and herders agricultural and livestock production through agroecological techniques and practices (integrated pest management with bio pesticides, production of bio-activators, soil water retention, diversification of crops, conservation tillage, water reuse and recycling...);
3. Introduce nitrogen-fixing crops (leguminous plants and shrubs/trees, plant proteins crops), cover crops, agroforestry in dry and humid areas and practices against soil erosion;
4. Scale up the use of water technologies such as drip irrigation, sand dams and solar pumps;
5. Diversification of financial products and services;
6. Formation of women's groups, cooperatives, and community-based organisations (including PwD organizations) and linking them with micro-finance institutions to promote production and marketing of products;
7. Storages building adopting climate-resilient/proofingness technologies and materials;
8. Training on nutrition and dietary diversification principles.

Activities relating to Output 1.2:

1. Facilitate input companies to expand last-mile seed and veterinary products sales points and promote diversity of seeds and animal breeds locally adapted for maintenance or increase of agrobiodiversity;
2. Financial support to smallholders farmers upon condition to use improved climate adapted seeds and small mechanisation at production and transformation level to encourage uptake and adoption by smallholder farmers;
3. In order to limit interference for middle men, develop direct contractual arrangements and services between agribusiness SME and farmers to supply SME with products (quantity, quality) based on climate adapted agroecological practices;
4. Financial support to herders to promote the use of veterinary products and feed/fodder as well as appropriate tools to encourage uptake and adoption by smallholder herders;
5. Upgrading animal health services, animal diseases control through the provision of vaccination and treatment services, training of veterinarians and community animal health workers and the promotion of disease surveillance and veterinary diagnostic capabilities;
6. Enhance measures for improved epidemio-surveillance of trans-boundary animal diseases and cross-border livestock movement control;
7. Promote and scale up of digital technologies linked to agriculture services as mainly digital tools for information on weather and climate.

Activities relating to Output 2.1:

1. Conduct value chain and labour market analysis (including refugees skills assessment) to identify local economic and job opportunities;
2. Develop agri TVET and provide training on improved agriculture practices, natural resources management, circular economy, entrepreneurship skills, and financial literacy training programs with specific curricula for youths, women, IDPs, refugees and people with disabilities;

3. Support development of technology based, digital capacities for youth, including with migrant background, and organise job fairs;
4. Support agri TVET students and companies with internship placements;
5. Provide technical support to microfinance institutions to tailor and/or expand “green” financial products to youth and women;
6. Support business incubation and accelerator centres, including for SMEs providing services or transforming and marketing agroecological products.

Activities relating to Output 2.2:

1. Conduct rural infrastructure assessment and develop renovation plans based on climate-resilience/proofingness principles;
2. Identification of unskilled labourers (including IDPs and refugees) for cash for work activities;
3. Training on roads construction/rehabilitation and maintenance;
4. Rehabilitation of roads through cash for work.

Activities related to Output 3.1:

1. Raise the community awareness on women’s equal rights with respect to the acquisition, administration, control, use and transfer of land;
2. Promote building gender-equitable participation into land policymaking processes;
3. Demarcation of animal migratory routes, animal gathering sites, construct veterinary clinics, animal health centres, veterinary check points along the corridors of animal migratory routes in hotspot areas through territorial approaches.

Activities related to Output 3.2:

1. Set up and train community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) groups to develop and follow up on CBNRM plans including mapping of areas vulnerable to risk of flood and droughts;
2. Conduct a feasibility study on ‘Payment for Ecosystem Services’ type schemes in order to assess the possibility of setting up this system in some specific areas of intervention;
3. Establishment of an Early Warning System and dissemination of information;
4. Construct/Rehabilitate water harvesting structures, water conservation and other water provision facilities;
5. Support small-scale farmers to get or increase available irrigation water through the maintenance of boreholes and improving equipment and installations using solar energy panels;
6. Set up a peace building and practical dispute resolution mechanism and strengthening local capacities to address violence between farmers and pastoralists on land, water and pasture.

The commitment of the EU’s contribution to the Team Europe Initiative to which this action refers, will build on and complement ongoing and future programs financed by EU MS. In the event that no planned EU Member States’ contributions materialise, the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

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

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

Environmental sustainability will also be at the heart of the short value chain activities, through environmentally friendly methods and to sustain production through agro-ecology principles which enhance agro-biodiversity. The Action will focus on better planning and implementation of agro-environmental measures like agro-forestry, terracing, etc...thus limiting disasters and increasing the adaptation and consequently the resilience to climate change. By promoting use of renewable energies and the sustainable use of natural resources, it will also contribute to climate change mitigation.

The Action will support the transition to a sustainable food production by reducing dependency on chemical pesticides and fertilizers, promoting organic farming and conserving biodiversity, thus aligning with the EU ‘Farm to Fork’ strategy, as well as directly contributing to the first pillar of the GGW accelerator by supporting “Investment in small and medium-sized farms, promoting agro-ecological approaches resilient to climate change, and strengthening of value chains, local markets, organization of exports”.

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).

The action will promote the functioning of an early warning system to alert producers from the risk of drought and allow them to identify alternative approaches.

The action will also develop and apply methods for linking climate data with animal diseases occurrence to prevent and/or manage climate-associated diseases.

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, mainstreamed in the action.

The action is gender sensitive and in line with GAP III priority 3 “Economic and social rights and the empowerment of women and girls”. In particular it focuses on enhanced economic opportunities for women and youth through improved access to resources (e.g. land, water, inputs, training and mechanization) that help women realize additional revenues. Consequently, it results in greater economic empowerment as women get access to their own income and have more say over household budgets. It further contributes to changes at community level as a result of women being perceived as equal actors in the overall socio-economic environment. In addition, women’s access to water for agricultural and productive uses has a significant impact on household incomes and food security since water is a key agricultural input. Indeed, it contributes to increased resilience of small-scale farmers and to increased incomes, particularly among women small-scale farmers, by enabling dry season agriculture and cultivation of high-value crops during the off-season, while protecting water sources for other uses. It is planned that during the inception phase of the different programs, each future implementing partners will have to conduct a gender assessment of the particular needs of women and girls, including refugees and IDPs, in the states where they will implement the action and provide gender disaggregated data.. The action will focus on enhanced economic opportunities for women through improved access to resources (e.g. land, water, inputs, training and mechanization) that help women to close the yield gap between men and women and realize women’s rights to land and other productive resources. In particular, it results in improved agency as women get access to their own income, have more say in developing household budgets and have reduced time poverty due to mechanization. It further contributes to changes at community level as a result of women being perceived as equal actors in the overall socio economic environment. In addition, women’s access to water for agricultural and productive uses has a significant impact on household incomes and food security since water is a key agricultural input. Indeed, it contributes to increased resilience of small-scale farmers and to increased incomes, particularly among women small-scale farmers, by enabling dry season agriculture and cultivation of high-value crops during the off-season, while protecting water sources for other uses. Also enhancing access to land will not only contribute to women’s economic empowerment and social stability but also to peace.⁸

Human Rights

The action will apply a “Do-No-Harm” approach to better understand the impact of aid on existing conflicts/tensions between host communities, refugees, IDPs and returnees, with the goal of improving social cohesion.

The action improves food security and equal access to food which are a basic human right. Land and Water are important components of this intervention and both impact directly on the fulfilment of a number of human rights. The action will reduce pressures on access to scarce resources, and improve land and water management, thus empowering land users, the right holders, keeping the duty bearers accountable and reducing conflict between farmers and herders through equal access to water. The action will fully respect the human rights of all forcibly displaced, as well as the non-discrimination principle for participation and benefit of displaced populations in the Action. As Sudan’s population grows and the demands for natural resources increase, protected areas are becoming

⁸ Country Level Implementation Plan – CLIP SUDAN. 2022

more important, but also more threatened. This project supports the conservation of two protected areas thus contributing to the safeguarding of human rights.

Certain human rights can empower individuals, local communities and environmental NGOs to enhance their role in conserving protected areas such as a human rights-based approach to conservation.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that inclusion and equality considerations will be built into the detailed project design and will be mainstreamed in all the activities planned during the Inception Phase of the project. Hence, they will be integrated into every phase of the action: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation – with a view to promoting equal rights and opportunities for women, men and vulnerable groups.

From an operational point of view, the differing needs and abilities of the most vulnerable women, men, girls and boys will be identified and assistance targeted accordingly. The action will ensure equal opportunities and access to services, person with disabilities human resource management, sensitive monitoring and evaluation systems including disaggregated data collection and performance indicators.

Democracy

Democratic principles will be addressed throughout the action. Land and Water form the foundation of rural lives, tenure security and water access often equal sustained food security, improved nutrition and predictable sources of income. Discrimination of displaced persons can be linked to lack of democratic processes and inclusion of displaced populations in rural areas. The proposed action will enhance productivity of the farmers and herders cooperatives and associations, improving land tenure governance, access to the water and conserving the biodiversity and ecosystem of the areas of intervention. Through its territorial approach, the action will support the protection of refugees, IDPs and returnees. Secure land rights will therefore enable the use of land as collateral to access other opportunities, such as credit markets. Moreover, agricultural productivity, and food security remove incentives for economic migration.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

The Delegation has recently conducted a conflict analysis, which has highlighted that pressure on natural resources (water and land) alongside fast population growth is one of the top five drivers of conflict. The agricultural sector is highly sensitive to climate change because of its high dependence on rainfall. Increased frequency in droughts and high rainfall variability over the past decade have stressed livelihoods, resulting in recurring food insecurity across the country. Furthermore, a decline in rainfall and frequent droughts have placed pressure on land and water resources in Sudan.

Increased competition over distribution of, use of, and access to natural resources has led to the growth of tensions and confrontation, in some cases instigating and perpetuating conflict. Therefore, resource scarcity will contribute to the initiation and protracted duration of political instability and conflict in Sudan.

This action will reduce competition over natural resources and therefore reduce conflicts as it:

- Strengthens the land tenure system and increases public knowledge of responsible land governance as a key aspect of combating desertification, land degradation and drought, particularly among vulnerable populations.
- Good land governance can address potential conflicts before they occur and provide mediation channels after conflicts arise. A balanced approach to assisting vulnerable people will help to avoid tensions and disparities between refugees, IDPs, returnees and host communities.
- Promotes sustainable management of scarce water by livestock owners as well as by farming communities specifically in the area of Darfur thus reducing competition over natural resources, which is threatening peace and stability in the area.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disasters impact crop production and animals directly, damage agriculture and livestock infrastructure and increase the risk of disease. A series of actions is needed with the aim of strengthening governance, building capacity and promoting prevention for disaster risk reduction in the agriculture and livestock sector, making it more resilient to both epidemic and non-epidemic emergencies.

By improving the resources management governance, equal access and sustainable use of land and water, the action will establish/strengthen communities and relevant technical stakeholders to deal with climate change and

build target groups' capacities in climate risk management, disaster risk prevention and preparedness. The action will mainstream the Disaster risk reduction by encouraging the adoption of appropriate land management standards, building norms, providing information on sustainable land/forest management thus making the land resilient to adverse weather conditions.

The promotion of agricultural sustainable practices, which is proposed by the action, will increase the organic matter and so the fertility in the soil, it will also reduce runoff with more soil cover and so will reduce soil erosion. Water storage in soil will also be increased by agricultural practices, supported locally by relevant infrastructures like terraces or irrigation schemes.

Other considerations if relevant

N/A

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
1 – external environment	Risk 1: Sudden and acute deterioration in the economic situation in Sudan	High	Medium	Potential inflation in the price of goods and supplies will be carefully considered in the development of the budget by the implementing partners.
1 – external environment	Risk 2: Sudden political change or increased conflict	High	Medium	Implementers will coordinate closely with the UN Department for Safety and Security to monitor the political situation and assess any potential risk to program staff and participant safety.
1 – external environment	Risk 3: Sudan is prone to several environmental factors that may result in natural disasters / hazards	High	High	Implementing partners will develop an information sharing system under the program to help smallholder farmers to mitigate against the risks of extreme weather.

Lessons Learnt:

The action will build upon the achievements of previous/ongoing EU and Member States (MS) programmes or will complement MS future budgeted programmes in order to consolidate or expand activities. The key lessons learnt coming from previous EU funded programs are the following:

- “Wadi El Ku Integrated Catchment Management Project” in North Darfur which is implemented by UNEP, has gained recognition as a model for catchment-based Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). The establishment of a layered governance structure ensures a flow of information and founding of solutions to both technical and political obstacles for project implementation.
- WFP program in East Sudan has shown that the direct engagement with community-based structures is an appropriate mechanism to increase income from agricultural and livestock production.
- The resilience program of Netherlands Red Cross in North and East Sudan demonstrated that water points often represent shared resources between communities as they are not bound by administrative or community boundaries. Water harvesting may have negative downstream impacts on water availability and livestock corridors. Community based natural resources mapping is therefore vital for selecting locations for new water facilities.
- Lessons learned from EU-funded projects in support of epidemicsurveillance and trans-boundary animal disease control in Sudan during the period from 2003 to 2022, demonstrated that the direct engagement with

state-, locality- and community-based structures is an appropriate mechanism to increase income from agricultural and livestock production through provision of better animal health- and veterinary extension services.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that if production and processing systems of the smallholder farmers, herders and fisherman cooperatives/associations in the nutritious value chains will be increased, and more sustainable and decent jobs will be created for youth in the agriculture sector, and equal access to natural resources will be guaranteed in conflict areas, then there will be a positive impact on food security and livelihood resilience.

Theory of change:

IF the productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains will increase in a sustainable way using climate change adapted agro ecological practices,

IF more youths, including from IDP, PwD and refugee populations, in rural and food insecure areas will have access to sustainable and decent jobs,

IF equal and sustainable access to natural resources will increase so to determine access to food, mitigation of conflict and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people,

THEN the action will contribute to increase food security, livelihood resilience and sustainable growth for rural communities in the areas most affected by food insecurity and by the effect of climate change.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

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

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

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

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

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

Results	Results chain: Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators: (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To contribute to sustainable and resilient livelihoods and food security in rural communities most affected by food insecurity, climate change and conflicts	<p>1. Decrease in Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)</p> <p>2. GEF 1.23 SDG 1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line</p> <p>3. GEF 1.11 SDG 8.5.2 Unemployment rate (% of total labor force)</p>	<p>34% of food insecure people in Sudan in 2022</p> <p>16,34% (\$1.90/day) (2022)</p> <p>49.43% (\$3.20/day) (2022)</p>	TBD	<p>FEWSNET report</p> <p>Integrated Phase of Food Security classification (IPC) report</p> <p>Food Security Technical Secretariat data and report</p> <p>SDG dashboard for Sudan</p>	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	Sustainably increase productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock short value chains using agro ecological practices	<p>1.1 % of farmers and market actors reporting improvements in productivity and market access disaggregated by sex</p> <p>1.2 GEF 2.6 Number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises applying Sustainable Consumption and Production practices with EU support (by sex of ownership)</p> <p>1.3 GEF 2.17 Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: (a) firms (by sex of ownership and type of beneficiary: farmers/service providers)</p> <p>1.4 No. of crop service providers supported that offer new technologies, products or services.</p> <p>1.5 No. of pastoralists and producers with access to veterinary services.</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Focus Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews, observation</p> <p>Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports</p>	<p>No further deterioration in the economic situation</p> <p>No imposition of new movement restrictions and lockdown measures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic</p>
Outcome 2	Increase sustainable and decent jobs opportunities for both genders within the	2.1 GEF 2.13 Number of (a) jobs, supported/sustained by the EU	TBD	TBD	Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports	No further deterioration in the economic situation

	youth in displacement affected rural and food insecure areas.	2.2 Net additional, full time/part time/short term/seasonal equivalent jobs created in target enterprises as a result of the program or intervention, per year and cumulatively and disaggregated by sex, age and migratory status and disability as relevant			Quantitative and/or qualitative surveys, in-depth interviews	No imposition of new movement restrictions and lockdown measures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
Outcome 3	Increase equal and sustainable access to natural resources in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people	<p>3.1. Number of persons using safely managed water for domestic, livestock and agriculture purposes, disaggregated by sex and migratory status</p> <p>3.2 % of natural and ecosystem resources and services maintained or strengthened</p> <p>3.3 Areas of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Interviews and surveys</p> <p>Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports</p>	No imposition of new movement restrictions and lockdown measures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	Cluster of smallholder farmers' groups and Small and Medium Enterprises (with focus on women and youth) in nutritious value chains trained and upgraded with efficient agro-ecological practices, storage, access to finance, renewable energy technologies, market knowledge for productivity enhancement and nutrition principles knowledge	<p>1.1.1 GERF 2.1 Number of smallholders reached with EU supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land, (by sex and department/district or administrative division applicable)</p> <p>1.1.2 No. of farmers or livestock cooperatives, associations or SMEs adopting new sustainable and green technologies adapted to climate change</p> <p>1.1.3 No. of target beneficiaries with increased knowledge on climate adapted agro-ecological practicestrained disaggregated by sex</p> <p>No.of beneficiaries, disaggregated at least by sex, with access to financial services (GAP III indicator)</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Intervention monitoring data, surveys, key informant interviews</p> <p>Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports</p>	<p>Climatic and ecological conditions remain fairly stable to support increase in yields.</p> <p>Political, social and macroeconomic situation remain fairly stable not to discourage investments by companies and farmers</p> <p>Individual farmers and communities appreciate the long term value of and are willing to invest in climate adaptation activities.</p> <p>Security situation in target areas remains fairly stable</p>

Output 2 related to Outcome 1	Agriculture and livestock inputs and mechanised equipment, information, market and veterinary service providers supported to expand their outreach and provision of agro-ecological and climate-adapted information, technologies, products and services to farmers and herders/pastoralists within short value chains	1.2.1 No. of farmers and herders, disaggregated by sex, accessing, purchasing or engaging with the new products/services promoted by the action 1.2.2 No. of crop service providers that offer new technologies, products or services 1.2.3 No. of pastoralists and producers with access to veterinary services 1.2.4 No. of veterinaries, Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) and veterinary assistants trained with increased knowledge and/or skills, disaggregated by sex	TBD	TBD	Intervention monitoring data, surveys, key informant interviews Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports	Individual farmers and communities appreciate the long term value and are willing to invest in climate adaptation activities. Security situation in target areas remains fairly stable
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	Creation of business opportunities and decent employment for young women and men along priority agriculture value chains	2.1.1. GERF 2.14 Number of people who have benefited from institution or workplace based VET/skills development interventions supported by the EU: (a) all VET/skills development % of program participants (apprentices, interns, trainees and training graduates, etc.) who make transitions to full-time/part-time/seasonal and short-term employment disaggregated by sex, age and migratory status, disability 2.1.2 No. of new youth and women microenterprises accessing a new or adapted financial product and/or service over a time period 2.1.3 No. of women beneficiaries of business development services who registered their own business (GAP III Indicator)	TBD	TBD	TVET School/Informal Education Records Quantitative Survey Financial providers MIS/records Institution records/report/financial product documentation Key Informant Interviews, Business registration documentation Qualitative surveys, in-depth interviews, business monitoring forms Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports	Political, social and macroeconomic situation remain fairly stable not to discourage investments by TVETs and students in education and business opportunities Political, social and macroeconomic situation remain fairly stable not to discourage investments by MFIs in serving rural areas and for women and youth from borrowing and investing in enterprises. Women and youth are able, willing and take up loans Political, social and macroeconomic situation remain fairly stable not to

						discourage investments and private sector willing and able to manage incubation centers.
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	Creation of temporary jobs through rehabilitation of infrastructures linked to access to market and basic services	<p>2.2.1 No. of climate resilient infrastructure works implemented, by type (number of kilometer completed each year)</p> <p>2.2.2 Percentage of people (disaggregated by sex, age, migratory status)) who reported enhanced access to market</p> <p>2.2.3 Total amount of cash transferred to targeted beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex, age, migratory status)</p> <p>2.2.4 Number of temporary jobs created (disaggregated by sex, age, migratory status, disability)</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Baseline and end line surveys</p> <p>Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports</p>	<p>Community participation in activity and site selection and management starts at project inception and remains ongoing.</p> <p>Value of assets creation entitlement is attractive against work norms.</p> <p>Households have access to local functioning markets.</p> <p>Limited price/currency inflation or fluctuation.</p> <p>Security environment improved.</p>
Output related outcome 3 1 to	Enhanced access to land rights in an equitable manner for men and women and reduction of inter communal violence	<p>3.1.1 No. of villages with clear land policies and boundaries for cropping and grazing</p> <p>3.1.2 No. of communities (IDPs and host communities) trained with increased knowledge and/or skills in VGGT, disaggregated by sex and migratory status</p> <p>3.1.3 % of women having access to land</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Baseline and end line surveys</p> <p>Progress reports, ROM, M & E reports</p>	<p>Political and security situation in the country is stable and allows access to project area</p> <p>Sufficient interest and participation of Communities to project activities</p> <p>Women / men are aware and interested to join project activities</p>
Output related outcome 3 2 to	Availability and use of water resources for domestic use, livestock and crop production and farmlands/shelter belts for social groups in conflict.	3.2.1 No. of sustainable natural resources management plans developed by the project	0	TBD	Baseline and end line surveys	Political and security situation in the country is stable and allows access to project area

		3.2.2 No. of accessible water structures / facilities rehabilitated /constructed by the project	0	TBD	progress reports, ROM, M & E reports	
		3.2.3 No. of conflict mitigation mechanisms platforms created	0	TBD		
		3.2.4 No of persons using safely managed water for domestic, livestock and agriculture purposes, disaggregated by sex and migratory status, disability	TBD	TBD		

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

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

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 84 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 measures⁹.

4.4.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will implement part of the two specific objectives of the action, which are:

SO1: Sustainably increase productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains using agro ecological practices,

SO2: Increase sustainable and decent jobs opportunities for both genders within the youth in displacement affected rural and food insecure areas.

SO3: Increase equal and sustainable access to natural resources in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

International NGOs

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to consortia of national and international NGOs selected using the following criteria: Implementers with in-depth experience in food security, agroecology, smallholder farmers cooperatives development, water management and conflict mitigation in Sudan, strong implementation capacities including for inputs delivery, infrastructure works and procurement components, solid capacities and representation in the field at states and locality level. Furthermore, implementers need to have specialized experience with empowerment of vulnerable groups, such as IDPs and refugee communities, women and youth and people with disabilities.

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because of the possibility to use flexible procurement and grant

⁹ <https://www.sanctionsmap.eu/#/main>

procedures in crisis situations as defined by the Financial Regulation (Article 195 (a)), provided that they are valid at the time of the attribution.

4.4.2 Indirect management with a pillar assessed entity

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

- Technical expertise and experience in sectors relevant to the intervention contributing to sustainable and resilient livelihoods and food security in rural communities most affected by food insecurity, climate change and conflicts
- Logistical and management capacities relevant to type and area of the intervention contributing to sustainable and resilient livelihoods and food security in rural communities most affected by food insecurity, climate change and conflicts

The implementation by those entities entails contribution to the following objectives:

SO1: Sustainably increase productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains using agro ecological practices

SO2: Create sustainable and decent jobs opportunities for youth, including IDPs and refugees, in rural and food insecure areas

SO3: Increase equal and sustainable access to natural resources in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people.

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

If direct management cannot be concluded due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control (for instance if negotiations for a direct award fail or the access to the country becomes difficult for international NGOs), that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an EU Member state implementing agency or an international organisation, in accordance with the criteria identified in section 4.4.2.

If indirect management with the selected entities cannot be concluded due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, that part of this action may be implemented in direct management with international or national NGOs, in accordance with the qualification criteria identified in section 4.4.1, point (c).

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

Activities	Budget before Addendum No. 1 EUR	Modification of Addendum No. 1 EUR	Budget after Addendum No 1 EUR
SO1: Sustainably increase productivity and profitability of smallholder agriculture and livestock nutritious short value chains using agro ecological practices – composed of:	34 200 000	8 160 000	42 360 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	19 500 000	5 360 000	24 860 000
Indirect management cf. section 4.4.2	14 700 000	2 800 000	17 500 000
SO2: Increase sustainable and decent jobs opportunities for both genders within the youth in displacement affected rural and food insecure areas. – composed of:	27 000 000	- 1 160 000	25 840 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	7 000 000	1 458 000	8 458 000
Indirect management cf. section 4.4.2	20 00 000	-2 618 000	17 382 000
SO3: Increase equal and sustainable access to natural resources in order to contribute to food security and mitigate conflicts and allow the voluntary return of conflict-displaced people – composed of:	28 000 000	-7 000 000	21 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.4.1	9 000 000	1 800 000	10 800 000
Indirect management cf. section 4.4.2	19 000 000	-8 800 000	10 200 000
Grants – total envelope under section 4.4.1	35 500 000	8 618 000	44 118 000
Monitoring of Programme and Team Europe Initiative – cf. section 5.1	800 000	0	800 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	may be covered by another Decision		
Totals	90 000 000	0	90 000 000

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

Considering the Action will be constituted by several relevant contracts, it will be necessary to have an organisational set-up based on a Program Advisory Committee and individual Projects Advisory Committees.

To guarantee an effective coordination and experiences/best practices sharing among partners and MS part of the TEI, a Program Advisory Committee will be created. This will include Heads of Cooperation and focal points from EU Delegation and MS contributing to the TEI; Country Director or any other delegated person from the Implementing Partners. The Committee will meet every six months, will provide strategic oversight and guidance, will favour coordination and coherence, sharing of methodologies, best practices and lessons learnt among the members and will analyse the food security situation in the country.

To guarantee an effective implementation of the Action that fosters collaboration and ownership of the project work among the target groups, Projects Advisory Committees will be created for each individual contract. This will include representatives from all direct target groups, implementing partners representatives, the Head of Cooperation and focal point from the EU Delegation and advisors from interested EU Member States. The Committees will meet on quarterly basis, will provide strategic oversight and guidance and will be responsible for reviewing the project work plan, progress on implementation, the progress towards achieving the project overall goal, guide the project team towards any needed amendments or modifications that might be needed to secure achieving the project goals and objectives.

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. A consultant company will collect information and data from the reports and coordinate the overall monitoring activities. The consultant company will ensure that all reports will demonstrate and measure the extent the Programme's overall objectives are being achieved.

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 arrangements for monitoring and reporting on indicators of the logframe matrix, including the collection of baselines and data collection (responsibilities, timing, and source of funding) are the responsibility of the contractor/implementing partner. Details will be agreed at contract level in the Description of the action. Likewise, all monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach and gender equality. Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by sex.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, a mid-term and/or final evaluation(s) may be carried out for this action or its components contracted by the Commission.

A mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to effectiveness of implementation and opportunity to prepare a possible second phase of the action.

A final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the Team Europe Initiative of which the Action is part, constitutes a major strategic innovation. The evaluation shall analyse coherence and complementarity

as well as impact of the current Action taking account of parallel interventions of the EU Member States. Evaluations jointly with contributing Member States will be the preferred option to provide an overview of the action within the larger impact of the TEI.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least one 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.

In addition, 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 human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
Contract level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single Contracts	Four individual contracts, six individual contribution agreements and one service contract for monitoring are foreseen