



Brussels, 15.11.2023  
C(2023) 7865 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 15.11.2023**

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the NDICI-Global Europe thematic  
programme on Global Challenges (Planet) for 2023-2026**

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 15.11.2023

### on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the NDICI-Global Europe thematic programme on Global Challenges (Planet) for 2023-2026

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)-Global Europe thematic programme on Global Challenges (Planet) for 2023-2026, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023-2026. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The actions provided for in this Decision contribute to incorporate climate action and to mainstream biodiversity into all EU policies, in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the thematic programme for Global Challenges<sup>4</sup>. Under the 'Planet' priority, the programme aims to push forward the global agenda for international and transcontinental action on the Green Deal priorities. It focuses on global action, by projecting EU priorities, strengthening the EU's role as a global actor and supplementing EU action at country and regional level.

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). 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, the OJ prevails.

<sup>4</sup> Decision C(2021)9157.

- (5) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 for the NDICI-Global Europe thematic programme ‘Global Challenges’ (Planet) are to strengthen and complement the country and regional dimensions of EU action in support of the European Green Deal in its external dimension, including the Global Gateway, and in support of universal global agendas and initiatives developed by the international community, particularly the Paris Agreement on climate change<sup>5</sup>, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>6</sup>, the Sendai Framework on disaster risk reduction<sup>7</sup> and other key multilateral/international agreements, notably on biodiversity, desertification, oceans, chemicals, waste water, agri-food systems, sustainable urban development and combatting wildlife crime.
- (6) The Action entitled “International Climate Governance” supports the implementation of the EU agenda and priorities in the framework of the global climate governance regime, contributing in particular to the EU’s commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change, the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali amendment<sup>8</sup>, and the international dimension of the EU Adaptation Strategy<sup>9</sup>.
- (7) The Action entitled “EU Climate Dialogues 2” stimulates climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as green transition at global level and in partner countries, focusing on non-EU G20 countries and selected countries amongst main global emitters. The Action will improve exchanges on climate policy options and good practices between the EU and non-EU major economies, bilateral trade, investment and innovation, and public awareness, while supporting the EU’s climate diplomacy at bilateral level and the implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- (8) The Action entitled “Improving global environmental governance through targeted support to multilateral environmental agreements and processes” acts at the global level to achieve better environmental governance for sound policymaking in different sectors (biodiversity, circular economy, chemicals, etc.), with a view to promote the external dimension of the European Green Deal.
- (9) The Action entitled “Capacity Development for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)” contributes to the implementation of this framework adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It will support partner countries with a robust package on capacity development for science and knowledge, policy development and resource mobilisation, as well as support initiatives for civil society organisations and Indigenous People and Local Communities. The Action will contribute to the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems and beyond, to poverty alleviation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, security and stability.
- (10) The Action entitled “Combatting wildlife trafficking” contributes to protect global biodiversity and will support the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)<sup>10</sup>, the Global Biodiversity Framework and the revised EU action plan against wildlife trafficking<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> [ADOPTION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT - Paris Agreement text English \(unfccc.int\)](https://www.unfccc.int/text/english/adopted/paris_agreement)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.unep.org/ozonaction/who-we-are/about-montreal-protocol>

<sup>9</sup> COM/2021/82 final [EUR-Lex - 52021DC0082 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/lexuris/ui/act/act-52021DC0082-EN)

<sup>10</sup> <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/disc/CITES-Convention-EN.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> Revision of the EU action plan against wildlife trafficking {SWD(2022) 354 final} - {SWD(2022) 355 final}

Its specific objective is to reduce wildlife crime at global level by supporting multi-agency cooperation and coordination at national, regional and cross-continental level, by strengthening national capacities in focus countries, including in the monitoring of the illegal killing of elephants, supporting demand reduction efforts and by establishing a rapid response mechanism.

- (11) The Action entitled “The Green Deal Knowledge Hub – Farm-to-Fork” supports the implementation of the external dimension of the European Green Deal by providing high quality assistance and capacity development for the preparation and implementation of EU-supported actions on agri-food systems as well as in-depth support on specific areas to partner countries, notably on sustainable agri-food systems intelligence, deforestation-free value chains, Value Chain Analysis for Development, nutrition and healthy diets.
- (12) The Action entitled “Green Deal Knowledge Hub - Sustainable mobility (Part I): urban nodes” aims to accelerate investments in low-carbon urban mobility solutions in the context of the Global Gateway by promoting early-stage project preparation and strengthening the capacity of urban mobility authorities to deliver them. It also intends to promote knowledge and application of European best practices on sustainable urban mobility in partner countries and improve policy dialogues and partnerships (particularly with financing institutions) on the green transition in relation to urban mobility.
- (13) The Action entitled “Support Measures” contributes to the implementation of the NDICI-Global Europe thematic programme on Global Challenges and to the achievement of its objectives in the area of environment, climate change and green transition through the procurement of specific support services.
- (14) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (15) The Commission should authorise the launch of a call for tender by means of a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision.
- (16) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (17) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation<sup>12</sup> and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (18) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (19) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (20) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the NDICI Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947,

---

<sup>12</sup> Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The action plan*

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual action plan for the implementation of the multiannual action plan for the NDICI-Global Europe thematic programme on Global Challenges (Planet) for 2023-2026, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) International Climate Governance, set out in Annex I;
- (b) EU Climate Dialogues 2, set out in Annex II;
- (c) Improving global environmental governance through targeted support to multilateral environmental agreements and processes, set out in Annex III;
- (d) Capacity Development for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), set out in Annex IV;
- (e) Combatting wildlife trafficking, set out in Annex V;
- (f) The Green Deal Knowledge Hub – Farm-to-Fork, set out in Annex VI;
- (g) Green Deal Knowledge Hub - Sustainable mobility (Part I): urban nodes, set out in Annex VII;
- (h) Support Measures, set out in Annex VIII;

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2023-2026 is set at EUR 215 516 966,91 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) Budget line 14.020241 – Global Challenges (Planet): EUR 145 516 966,91;
- (b) Budget line 14.020120 West Africa: EUR 9 800 000;
- (c) Budget line 14.020121 East and Central Africa: EUR 9 800 000;
- (d) Budget line 14.020122 Southern Africa: EUR 8 400 000;
- (e) Budget line 14.020130 Middle East and Central Asia: EUR 9 860 000;
- (f) Budget line 14.020131 South and East Asia: EUR 13 340 000;
- (g) Budget line 14.020132 Pacific: EUR 6 800 000;
- (h) Budget line 14.020140 The Americas: EUR 8 000 000;
- (i) Budget line 14.020141 The Caribbean: EUR 4 000 000.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024, 2025 and 2026 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

*Article 3*  
*Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.2 of the Annex I, point 4.3.2 of the Annex II, point 4.3.1 of the Annex III, point 4.3.2 of the Annex IV, point 4.3.1 of the Annex V, point 4.3.2 of the Annex VI, point 4.3.1 of the Annex VII.

*Article 4*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes<sup>13</sup> to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

*Article 5*  
*Grants and Procurement*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes I, IV, V and VI and may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes I, IV and VI selected in accordance with point 4.3.3 of the Annex I, point 4.3.1. of the Annex IV, point 4.3.2 of the Annex V, point 4.3.3 of the Annex VI.

Launching a call for tender under a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision shall be authorised as of the date set out in point 4.3.1 of Annex II.

Done at Brussels, 15.11.2023

*For the Commission*  
*Jutta URPILAINEN*  
*Member of the Commission*

---

<sup>13</sup> These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.