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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX VIII

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

Action Document for Support Measures

MULTIANNUAL PLAN

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

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support Measures OPSYS number: ACT-62130 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) TEI.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out at Global level
4. Programming document	NDICI – Global Europe Global Challenges Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-27 ¹ .
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	MIP Global Challenges – Priority Area Planet Specific objective 1: Climate action and Disaster Risk Reduction Specific objective 2: Environment and natural resources management Specific objective 3: Supporting the green transition in key areas
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: 13 (Climate) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 14 (Life below Water) and SDG15 (Life on Land), SDG 2 (Zero-Hunger), SDG 6 (Water), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
8 a) DAC code(s)	DAC code 41010 Environmental policy and administrative management – 75%

¹ Decision C(2021)9157

	DAC code 74020 Multi-hazard response preparedness – 25%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	11000 - Central Government Detailed channel: 11004 Other public entities in donor country			
9. Targets²	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

² Actual contribution to targets will be confirmed ex-post based on a standardised methodology.

	digital skills/literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	/
	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	transport	YES	NO	/
	people2people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET INFORMATION

12. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020241</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR EUR 716 966.91</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 716 966.91</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of EUR 300 000.00 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023 and for an amount of EUR 416 966.91 from the general budget of the European Union for 2024, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.</p>
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MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

13. Type of financing	Direct management through: Procurement
14. Type of measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperation facility

1.2 Summary of the Action

The Support Measures will cover expenditures associated with the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the NDICI-GE Global Challenges thematic programme and to the achievement of its objectives in the area of environment, climate change and supporting the green transition in key areas (Planet), therefore supporting the implementation of the external dimension of the European Green Deal and the Global Gateway. Such measures (audits, evaluations, identifications, studies, meetings, information sessions, training activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure etc.) contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis, and reporting of its impact.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The Support Measures of the environment and climate change area of the MIP Global Challenges are designed to cover expenditures associated with the preparation, design, follow up, monitoring, learning, evaluation and audit

activities, and associated meetings, related to the implementation of the MIP Global Challenges, Planet programme and to the achievement of its objectives in the area of environment and climate change as well as supporting the green transition in key areas. Such measures (audits, evaluations, identifications, studies, meetings, information sessions, training activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure etc.) contribute to the sound management of the programme, to the achievement of its expected results and objectives and to the measurement, analysis, and reporting on the impact.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

All areas of actions falling under the framework of the MIP Global Challenges, Environment and Climate change, are a priority area for support.

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

The Action will support the EU as a major player towards achieving a sustainable, inclusive green transition in partner countries, in line with the external dimension of the EU Green Deal and the Global Gateway, particularly in the areas of environment and climate change. This Action provides concrete support to the European Commission services both to Headquarters and EU Delegations and partner countries and regions, for the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the MIP Global Challenges in its Planet priority area, this way supporting partner countries to achieve their objectives and international obligations under the relevant conventions (Paris Agreement; CBD, etc.). Identification of main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues will be covered by the Action over the course of this MAAP2023-2026;

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective of this action is to contribute to the Specific Objectives 1, 2 and 3 of MIP Global Challenges in its Planet Priority Area (under the NDICI-Global Europe), by providing relevant support services.

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

1. Support climate change and environment related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through NDICI-GE with specific analyses, seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Biodiversity, Water, Disaster Risk Reduction, etc., but also Agri-food systems and Sustainable Urban Development and their mainstreaming into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable, further supporting global knowledge and normative work;
2. Reinforce auditing and evaluation activities of the MIP Global Challenges programmes and actions;
3. Provide support in the design of projects and programmes which require a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender and human rights
4. Provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years

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

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications;
- 2.1 contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2): Risk-based audits and evaluations;
- 3.1 contributing to Outcome 3 (or Specific Objective 3): Technical support for Identification and Formulation phase of new actions and programmes; including technical support for gender and human rights analysis where appropriate

4.1 contributing to Outcome 4 (or Specific Objective 4): Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme;

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1

Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications. The main objective of this type of activities is to support climate change, environment and green transition related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through the NDICI with specific analyses, with seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Biodiversity, Water, Disaster Risk Reduction, Agri-food systems, Sustainable Urban Development, etc., and their mainstreaming into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable, further supporting global knowledge and normative work;

Activities related to Output 2.1:

Risk-based audits and evaluations. The objective is to reinforce auditing and evaluation activities in order to ensure the proper and sound management of EU funds as well as the assessment of the impact of actions relevant to environment and climate change financed by the NDICI under its Planet priority area;

Activities related to Output 3.1:

Technical support for Identification and Formulation phase of new actions and programmes; including technical support for gender and human rights analysis, where appropriate.

The objective is to provide support in the design of projects and programmes which requires a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender and human rights..

Activities related to Output 4.1:

Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme. The objective is to provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

The Action contributes to achieving a sustainable, inclusive green transition in partner countries, supporting the realization of the international dimension of the EU Green Deal now complemented by the Global Gateway, promoting environmental protection and addressing climate change as its main objectives and thus directly contributing to the climate and biodiversity targets of the NDICI Global Europe. Climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation as well as aid to environment, biodiversity and combatting desertification, disaster risk reduction are targeted. The action will also complement initiatives funded by Member States in relation to biodiversity finance, knowledge management, protection of critical ecosystems and combatting wildlife trafficking.

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

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

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project)

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G0. This implies that the Action will not target directly gender equality as its principle objective; nevertheless and particularly on its capacity building and training parts, and/or via evaluations, the action will support the operationalisation of the EU Gender Action Plan III (GAP III, 2021-2025) with a focus on women empowerment in local communities and their rights: at all stages gender-responsive rights-based approach principles i.e. participation, non-discrimination/equality, accountability and transparency will guide the planning and implementation of the Action. In the capacity building part every effort will be made to ensure gender balance and to prioritise the active participation of women (indicators shall be disaggregated at least by sex and age). Technical support for gender analysis may be supported via this action.

Human Rights

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

The action will have a direct impact on the citizens and their fundamental rights to live in a safe environment and to have access to environmental information. Measures proposed to help effect such change include promoting inclusiveness and gender balance as well as participation of right-holders in all their diversity across outputs delivered via the action, ensuring strategies and agreements delivered via the action are incorporating the principle of ‘do no harm’ as interpreted in the human rights arena and leaving no one behind, as well as contributing to changing ideas and accepted norms and expectations through among others trainings, awareness raising activities, workshops, etc..

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the action is not considered relevant for the inclusion of person with disabilities.

Reduction of inequalities

NA

Democracy

NA

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

NA

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction is directly targeted by this action. The action will contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and will contribute to preparation and implementation of partner countries’ national and local disaster risk reduction strategies. The action will also contribute to the integration of disaster risk reduction in programmes and actions. The action is also complementary to ongoing programmes at regional level in particular Green Transition TEIs, the TEI Adaptation and Resilience in Africa and other initiatives including the Adaptation Without Borders, the Africa Adaptation Initiative, etc..

Other considerations if relevant**3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt**

Category	Risks	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating measures
		(High/	(High/	

		Medium/ Low)	Medium/ Low)	
People and the organisation	Low demand from Delegations (primarily) and headquarters for the use of support measures activities	Low	Low	At the beginning of each year, Headquarters inform Delegations and geographic directorates in headquarters, announcing the availability of support measures. This will stimulate demand. Furthermore, there is always demand due to necessary audits, evaluations, and technical support, etc.
Planning, processes and systems	High demand for activities and the exhaustion of support measures funds	Low	Medium	Experience shows that audits tend to use a significant part of the budget for support measures. Budget for these activities should first be looked for within the project itself. As an additional measure, support measures would only fund audits that are requested by Commission services, and not internal project audits.

Lessons Learnt:

This action will implement Support Measures for the NDICI – Global Europe (GE) instrument, in its thematic programme the Global Challenges - Planet priority area; funding will be allocated over two years (2023 and 2024). However, the Global Public Goods and Challenges and its predecessor, the Environment and sustainable management of Natural Resources, including Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Thematic Programme (ENRTP) ran for 14 years, 2007-2020: this could still result in support to those programmes via studies, audits, evaluations, etc.. Support Measures facilitate assessing individual actions and guide the programme and are a pertinent tool to fill Delegation gaps: anticipating needs, requests and timely contracting of support are important to ensure the smooth use and best impact of these funds.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the EU Delegations to implement key relevant support activities, in the EU interests, in order to contribute to achieve the goals set out in the Priority Area Planet of the ‘Global Challenges’ Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) under NDICI-Global Europe, directly addressing its Specific Objectives 1 (Climate change and disaster risk reduction), 2 (Environment and natural resources management) and 3 (Supporting the green transition in key areas).

The Support Measures will be used to finance, among others, activities such as:

Studies and advisory services, trainings, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings and production of related publications. The main objective of this type of activities is to support climate change and environment related activities and practitioners involved in actions funded through the NDICI with specific analyses, with seminars, workshops and training courses, possible response strategies and good practices regarding mainstreaming of Climate Change, Environment, Natural Resources, Biodiversity, Water, Disaster Risk Reduction, etc., Agri-food systems, Sustainable Urban Development, etc., into poverty reduction and development strategies, using ecosystem-based approaches where applicable, further supporting global knowledge and normative work;

Risk-based audits and evaluations. The objective is to reinforce auditing and evaluation activities in order to ensure the proper and sound management of EU funds as well as the assessment of the impact of actions relevant to environment and climate change financed by the NDCI under its Planet priority area.

Technical support for Identification and Formulation phase of new actions and programmes; technical support for gender and human rights analysis. The objective is to provide support in the design of projects and programmes which requires a more in-depth analysis, including on cross-cutting issues such as gender and human rights.

Technical support for the overall monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment of the programme. The objective is to provide support in the overall monitoring and evaluation of the programme, which will help capitalisation of lessons learnt for further implementation of the programme in the coming years.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with any 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 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission’s responsible authorising officer in duly justified cases.

4.3 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures³.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

The full set of objectives/results listed in section 3 will be supported in direct management through the procurement of services contracts.

4.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply, 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 realization of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.5 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components⁴	EU contribution (amount in EUR) 2023	EU contribution (amount in EUR) 2024
Procurement (direct management) – cf section 4.3.1	300 000.00	416 966.91
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	N.A.	N.A.
Strategic communication and public diplomacy	N.A.	N.A.
Contingencies	NA	N.A.
Totals	300 000.00	416 966.91

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

⁴ N.B: The final text on audit/verification depends on the outcome of ongoing discussions on pooling of funding in (one or a limited number of) Decision(s) and the subsequent financial management, i.e. for the conclusion of audit contracts and payments.

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical, and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced.

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

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a(n) evaluation(s) will not be carried out for this action or its components.

The Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

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

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

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle has adopted a new approach to strategic communication and public diplomacy activities at country, regional and global level. This means that Action Documents for specific country, regional or global sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication actions promoting the programmes concerned. Regional and global strategic communication activities will not be supported via this Action.

Regional and global strategic communication and public diplomacy funds will be managed from headquarters.