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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX 3

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Namibia for 2022

Action Document for EU-Namibia Cooperation Facility

ANNUAL PLAN

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	EU-Namibia Cooperation Facility OPSYS number: ACT-61257 CRIS number: 2021/043-555 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (<u>NDICI-Global Europe</u>)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) TEI.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Namibia
4. Programming document	Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 for Namibia
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Accompanying Measures
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Foundational Skills – Education Inclusive Green Growth Good Governance and Gender Equality
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): 17 (partnerships for the goals) Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG4, SDG5, SDG6, SDG7, SDG10, SDG12, SDG13, SDG15, SDG16
8 a) DAC code(s)	Main DAC code – 43010 – Multisector DAC code: 232 - Sustainable Energy DAC code: 410 - Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Tourism

	DAC code: 331 - Investment Promotion and Trade DAC code: 110 - Digital Transformation DAC code: 150 - Government and Civil Society DAC code: 11240 - Early Childhood Education (Integrated Early Childhood Dev) DAC code: Internal Marker - Skills Development			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	European Commission – Development Share of Budget – 42001 Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society – 20000			
9. Involvement of multilateral partners	No			
10. Targets	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
11. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Internal markers and Tags:	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation @ digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

	digital skills/literacy digital services		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity @ transport people2people energy digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
13. Amounts concerned	Budget line (article, item): BGUE-B2022-14.020122-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 5 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 5 500 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
14. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Grants (twinning) - Procurement Indirect management with Namibia			
15. Type of measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperation facility <input type="checkbox"/> Measures in favour of Civil Society			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The overall objective of the support measures is to contribute to the efficient and effective roll-out and implementation of Namibia's development priorities as underpinned in the MIP and to accommodate the EU's and Namibia's interests in areas which go beyond the proposed priority areas, by promoting dialogue, exchange of expertise, engaging in strategic communication, fostering a conducive trade and investment climate and engagement with civil society including the private sector.

This Action includes one main component:

- 1) The Cooperation Facility (EUR 5 500 000) directed towards supporting capacity development and institutional support of Government institutions and relevant organizations, policy dialogues in strategic areas of interest, studies, mappings, supporting the identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of actions under the MIP, organising economic diplomacy actions and promoting trade and investment, including the Economic Partnership Agreement; facilitate specific activities to further boost EU-Namibia partnership, Team Europe Initiatives, multilateralism and strategic communication to raise awareness about EU-Namibia partnership.

The main outcome expected from this Action is:

- The efficient, effective and successful implementation of the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027, ongoing 11th EDF programmes and supporting initiatives of common interest between the EU and Namibia beyond proposed priority areas (i.e. Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen amongst others) through the support provided via the Cooperation Facility

This action will include amongst others funding for technical assistance, institutional strengthening and capacity building measures, strategic communication, research, studies, policy analysis, conferences and other related activities.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Namibia has matured as a democracy since its independence in 1990 and has been enjoying stability and relative prosperity. It has been hit hard by the **COVID-19 pandemic**, deepening an economic recession ongoing since 2016. **The economy** is mainly based on the exploitation of its natural resources (diamond and uranium mining, tourism, fisheries and agriculture). Namibia has been in recession or only registered negligible economic growth since 2016, leading to a high and rising public debt (above 60% in 2021). The pandemic's disruption of the mining and tourism industry has sharply deteriorated Namibia's economic fundamentals (-8% GDP growth in 2020 and 1.4% estimated in 2021), affecting debt sustainability and leading it to request its first ever International Monetary Fund loan (Rapid Financing Instrument) of US\$ 273 million. Moderate economic growth is projected for 2022, driven by the mining sector.

The European Union (EU) enjoys good political relations with Namibia. The EU is an important trade and investment partner, accounting for one fifth of total Namibian exports. The **relations between EU and Namibia** have strengthened (for example recent de-listing from NCTJ¹). Furthermore, the EU's Covid response (especially during 2021, when Namibia experienced its 3rd wave of coronavirus infections) was much appreciated by the Government. Namibia is a natural ally of the EU's Green Deal, paving the way for cooperation on climate change, raw materials value chains and their integration with the EU, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and water. The MIP priorities are well aligned with the political ambitions and needs. It is in the strategic interest of the EU to deepen the partnership with Namibia: to support its political stability, democratic, inclusive and sustainable development while encouraging economic diversification, investments, trade and business partnerships focusing on a green recovery from COVID-19.

Rationale and Assessment

The MIP Namibia identifies three priority areas of intervention, all closely related to the National Development Plans 5 (NDP5), Harambee Prosperity Plan II and Vision 2030. "Game changers" such as *investment in infrastructure* (particularly water and energy), *value addition in natural resources*, *social progression* (access to quality education, combatting gender-based violence and violence against children) and *effective governance* (anti-corruption, accountability and transparency, participation and engagement) are identified as vitally important for any social and economic development of the country.

The Namibia MIP priority areas 1) **Foundational Skills/Education** 2) **Inclusive Green Growth** and 3) **Governance and Gender Equality** directly respond to the identified needs of the country and are in line with the EU's strategic interest in the country. The AAP 2022 actions will see a continuation of the *EU's Education Sector support programme* in the Foundational Skills sector to ensure a continuity of our efforts and investment. *Supporting Good Governance and Gender Equality* will be instrumental in strengthening the transparency,

¹ Non-Compliant Tax Jurisdictions

accountability, efficiency and service-delivery of a whole range of Namibian public institutions and will contribute to governance system strengthening.

This action will be an important instrument to support a successful implementation of the MIP. This *Cooperation Facility* will enable accompanying measures for the identification and monitoring of the programmes, support strategic communication and strengthen civil society's role, especially in the priority areas. It will also facilitate some individual activities relevant to support further developments of the EU-Namibia Partnership, such as the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen; support the implementation of Team Europe Initiatives; conduct policy dialogues and other formats of our public and economic diplomacy, provide institutional support to strengthen the implementation of EU funded programmes (NDICI-Global Europe programmes and ongoing 11th EDF programmes) as well as structured dialogue with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in key focal sectors. It may also serve to fund Twinning or TAIEX.

Contribution to Team Europe Initiative

A TEI is foreseen for priority sector 2 of the MIP, Inclusive Green Growth (EU indicative contribution of EUR 12 million). The scope for a TEI in Namibia has been constrained due to the limited presence of EU Member States (Germany, Spain, Finland, France, and Portugal). Furthermore, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has confirmed its interest in participating in the TEI. This TEI will support Namibia reaching its potential for renewable energy (including Green Hydrogen). Actions are expected for AAP 2023-24. The Cooperation Facility will enable the identification of related actions by all actors.

Likewise, the Cooperation Facility may be used for upstream preparatory studies needed to scaling up EIB or EU Development Finance Institutions (DFI) presence in the country and facilitate joint initiatives in the areas of green or digital transition.

List of Activities

A non-exhaustive type of activities to be supported under the support measures are as follows :

- I. Support for the implementation of the MIP and other partnership initiatives:
 - Support for the efficient and effective implementation of NDICI-Global Europe programmes and ongoing 11th EDF programmes
 - Support for developing in-country capacities in the context of the implementation of the MIP and National Development Plan 6 programmes
 - Support for identification, formulation, monitoring, results data collection, auditing, evaluation;
 - Support for Team Europe coordination;
 - Support the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen
 - Support for capacity development and institutional building, including through technical assistance and exchange of public expertise, in the areas covered by the MIP as well as in other relevant policy areas, such as gender equality, governance and Public Financial Management (PFM), education, social protection, youth and culture.
- II. Support for policy dialogues with governments and other key stakeholders:
 - Organisation of events, conferences, studies, fellowships, exchange platforms to support sector dialogue leading to policy reforms and engagement with governments and other stakeholders.
 - Support structured dialogue with Civil Society in key focal sectors as outlined in the CSO Roadmap
- III. Support for strategic communication and public diplomacy:

- The design and implementation of strategic communication actions, including public campaigns, to raise awareness, understanding and support for the EU and its policies and initiatives abroad, including the Global Gateway and Team Europe.
- Organise Economic Diplomacy activities, including on the Economic Partnership Agreement and in complementarity with Regional Programming
- Develop long-term initiatives with key audiences and stakeholders, to build trust and mutual understanding about the EU and its partnership with third countries.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Namibia has made steady progress on some of the SDGs notably in the fight against poverty and food hunger through the promotion of agricultural activities as well as in Education and specifically Early Childhood Development ECD. Good progress has also been made in the social protection sphere and in ensuring gender equality. Notwithstanding these gains, the country faces considerable challenges such as high unemployment levels, persistent drought, low economic growth and high debt levels, which was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Namibia is a small open economy impacted by climate change and heavily reliant on the agriculture sector, which is plagued by recurrent droughts, linked to climate change. In addition, the country does not generate sufficient local electricity and imports between 50% and 60% of its energy requirements from South Africa. On the positive side, Namibia is endowed with large solar and wind resources and plans to establish a green economy that will drive economic recovery. This involves producing green hydrogen, which holds potential for achieving a number of development objectives, such as increasing employment opportunities, new industries, reduce greenhouse gasses and securing energy, which is also aligned to the EU's objectives to boost the efficient use of resources and move to a clean circular economy. In this respect, Namibia and the EU's longstanding partnership and common interests call for broadening the scope of collaboration and partnership. That is why the European Union is currently negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen.

The Cooperation Facility (CF) will be used to **further develop an already fruitful partnership** in a range of topics and will serve to accommodate EU and Namibian interests in areas which go beyond the proposed priority areas in the MIP. This well-endowed CF will also be used to improve the quality of programming, implementation, monitoring, auditing and evaluation. It will also enable the EU Delegation to positively respond to ad-hoc demands from our Namibian partners in specific and justified cases.

The Cooperation Facility will enable us to collaborate with the Namibian Government, civil society and the private sector to achieve the objectives outlined in National Development Plans in general and in particular the EU-Namibia MIP 2021-2027. It will facilitate substantive public and economic diplomacy strategic communication and will contribute towards strengthening the quality of our programming efforts and ultimately improved relations with Namibia.

It is envisaged to support the following types of actions:

- Organise **Economic Diplomacy activities**, including on the **Economic Partnership Agreement and in complementarity with Regional Programming**
- Support the implementation of the **Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen** and development of the latter
- Reinforcement of regional integration, including the **African Continental Free Trade Agreement**
- Engage in developing a **strategic communication strategy in line with the “whole of Delegation approach” and develop specific communication** and outreach activities which measurably increase public awareness, understanding and support for the EU-Namibia partnership in the country, including the design and roll-out of national campaigns under the Global Gateway umbrella.

- Support **structured dialogue with Civil Society** in key focal sectors as outlined in the CSO Roadmap
- Support the National Planning Commission (NPC) in activities related to national planning as well as mobilising, managing, implementing and coordinating development aid (including their role in supporting the implementation and management of NDICI-Global Europe programmes and 11th EDF Programmes)
- Support the technical and operational capacity of the NPC as the custodian of national development, and in accordance with its statutory responsibility to mobilise, manage and coordinate international development cooperation.
- Provide management and implementation advice and support to the NPC, Offices, Ministries and Agencies (OMAs) and other entities responsible for the implementation of EDF and NDICI-Global Europe programmes and 11th EDF programmes at all stages of the Project Cycle, to increase efficiency and effectiveness
- Supporting PFM and policy or sectoral development in targeted areas related to EU-Namibia partnership
- Support **the identification, formulation, implementation and oversight of actions under the MIP** and under other financial instruments managed by the EUD Namibia

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 be able to respond to requests for support from a variety of stakeholders including the Government of Namibia, International Financing Institutions, in particular European Development Finance Institutions (DFIs). Other key stakeholders include the EUMS; the civil society organisations, especially those, involved in work on policies of EU interests, global challenges or fundamental values, as well as the private sector, and private sector associations (local and potentially European Business Organisations) which will play a key role across all priority areas. The Cooperation Facility will maintain an open approach to engage and benefit a wide range of stakeholders as appropriate.

The ultimate beneficiaries will be the citizens of Namibia who will benefit from the improved effectiveness and implementation of the country's development strategy and from an enhanced effectiveness of the EU - Namibia partnership.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective of this action is to contribute to the socio-economic development of the country and to strengthen the EU - Namibia partnership.

The Specific Objective (Outcome) of this action is

- 1 Contribute to the successful implementation of the Government's development strategy through the support of sound development programmes and ad hoc activities financed from the NDICI-Global Europe and other EU sources, as well as the implementation of the Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy.

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the Specific Objective (Outcome) are :

Specific Outputs 1

- 1.1. Capacity development and institutional building within the NPC to design and manage reforms, operationalise public policy priorities and solve implementation bottlenecks in the context of the efficient, effective and responsive implementation of the MIP and 11th EDF programmes
- 1.2. Reinforced policy and political dialogue on key areas covered by the MIP
- 1.3. Support for the design, monitoring, and evaluation of EU partnership with Namibia
- 1.4. Peer to peer expertise exchanges
- 1.5. Enhanced awareness, understanding and support to the EU through strategic communication and public diplomacy initiatives

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe members. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each respective member's meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the event that the TEIs and/or these contributions do not materialise, the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to

1.1 Capacity development and institutional building to design and manage reforms, operationalise public policy priorities and solve implementation bottlenecks across the Government

1.1.1 Support and capacity building to the NPC that will contribute to the preparation of the 6th National Development Plan, the SDGs and support the NPC in carrying out their mandate in overseeing and coordinating Development Partner programmes (including EU funded programmes) as well as spearheading the course of National Development. These will include inter alia short-term training in areas such as macro-economic and/or sectoral planning and analysis, regional planning, programme/project management and monitoring and evaluation).

1.2 Reinforced policy and political dialogue on key areas covered by the MIP

1.2.1 Support to sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with government and other stakeholders, as well as sensitisation on related policies and laws, in sectors covered by the MIP

1.3 Support for the design, monitoring, and evaluation of EU partnership with Namibia

1.3.1 Support for identification, formulation, monitoring, results data collection, auditing, evaluation of EU partnership in line with EU procedures, agreements and contracts

1.3.2 Support the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen

1.3.3 Support to facilitate Joint Programming / Team Europe coordination and promote specific TEI activities at country level, joint projects with DFIs and EU MS

1.3.4 Studies, meetings, conferences, workshops, fellowships, exchange platforms to support sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with governments and other stakeholders.

1.3.5 Actions may also support the participation of the country in EU Programmes and cooperation with EU Agencies, where relevant.

1.4 Peer to peer expertise exchanges

1.4.1 Provision of technical assistance and exchange of public expertise in the areas covered by the MIP as well as in other relevant policy areas, such as trade and investment, the use of international standards, PFM, Labour Standards and employment aspects, social protection and inclusion, youth and culture, responsible business conduct.

1.5 Enhanced awareness, understanding and support to the EU through strategic communication and public diplomacy initiatives

1.5.1 Economic diplomacy activities (fairs, visits, matchmaking events, investment promotion actions together with EU MS, etc.)

1.5.2 Intercultural exchanges, dialogues with think-tanks, youth representatives, media engagement and training

1.5.3 Design and roll out strategic communication and public diplomacy campaigns including the procurement related to visibility-related purposes (Video and visual materials; Social media promotion; others)

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe members. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each respective member's meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the event that the TEIs and/or these contributions do not materialise, the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Namibia takes climate change issues and environmental protection seriously as seen by its ambitious climate targets, policies and programmes and reflected in the MIP.

The Cooperation Facility supported under this Action will be used to finance specific studies, dialogue and expertise to e.g. support Namibia in developing its Green Hydrogen strategy or roadmap, related regulatory framework and capacitating key agencies or staff members in moving this project forward.

This will complement and strengthen actions foreseen under the priority area “Inclusive Green Growth” namely in the areas of renewable energy, water, biodiversity protection and conservation agriculture.

The Cooperation Facility, as a tool to convey the external dimension of EU internal policies, will promote the principles of the Green Deal, focusing on accelerating paths towards more environmentally sustainable societies, with low-carbon economies, resilient to the impacts of climate change and protecting their ecosystems and biodiversity. The EU added value of the action will be reflected in the promotion of the EU Green Deal and especially key EU policy documents as the Adaptation, Biodiversity, Farm to Fork and Circularity strategies. As part of the policy dialogue with Namibia, and aligning to the MIPs and TEI on Green Growth, the Cooperation Facility will align its support in promoting the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions of the Country (updated in 2021²).

Finally, during its management, the Facility will take in consideration measures to minimise carbon emissions (e.g. optimisations of flight travels, CO2 compensation measures); make use of renewable energies and energy saving measures; reduce waste and to assist with reuse and recycling.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that Gender will be a significant objective. The MIP addresses gender equality and the fight against gender-based in its Priority Area 3. It supports the implementation of the related policies and action plans and through targeted capacity building of the relevant institutions. This action will also take into consideration these issues during the implementation of its activities by ensuring that women will not be left out and are effectively able to benefit from the opportunities created by this action. The same applies to youth and most marginalized groups. The action will advance the priorities of the EU’s Gender Action Plan (GAP) III.

Human Rights

The Action operationalises the human rights-based approach by ensuring that all rights are respected and that empowerment, participation, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency are promoted. It will capacitate "rights-holders", including civil society organisations, in claiming their rights and "duty-bearers" in meeting their obligations.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D1. This implies that people with disabilities will be included in all planned activities.

Democracy

²https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Namibia%27s%20Updated%20NDC_%20FINAL%2025%20July%202021.pdf

Much action is needed in the area of strengthening of political and civil society, including civic education so as to empower rights holders to demand their rights and duty bearers to better fulfil their obligations. Some actions will be directed to the promotion of selected human rights, such as freedom of expression and information.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Not applicable

Disaster Risk Reduction

Actions targeting Disaster Risk Reduction mainstreaming could be included in the Financing Agreement of this AAP. These actions could be complementary to what is already planned at the regional level or through ECHO in the region.

Wherever possible, the Action will include crisis modifiers to ensure sufficient flexibility of activities' implementation vis-à-vis shocks, being they COVID related or natural disasters.

Other considerations if relevant

The COVID-19 pandemic remains a major challenge for Namibia. Although some progress has been made, there are still issues that could be supported. Should the need arise; this project can be used to support specific interventions targeting these challenges.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
4	Risk 1 low outcome rate on economic diplomacy activities, including making use of EPA Agreement opportunities and other trade agreements	M	L	Risk is mitigated through reinforced TA capacity at Ministry of Industrialization and Trade on EPA implementation, capacity building of staff and extensive information promotion on various platforms on upcoming Business Forum / events.
5	Risk 2 Not sufficient visibility on EU funded programmes and engagement in Namibia	M	L	Risk is mitigated by developing a strategic communication strategy, identifying target audiences, developing key messages in a user friendly way and preparing visibility actions with technical support and upscale funding
1	Risk 3 limited progress or implementation of MoU on Sustainable Raw Materials Value Chains and Renewable Hydrogen	M	H	Risk can be mitigated through the provision of technical support as well as mobilizing joint efforts with Member States, DFI & private sector and overall supporting an enabling business environment
2 and 4	Risk 4 Limited progress in policy reforms or capacity	M	M	Targeted EU support to well-defined and sustainable capacity building activities

	building initiatives			and technical support
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Lessons Learnt:

The Cooperation Facility follows the previous TCF actions. The TCF have been a valuable vehicle to increase effectiveness and efficiency of programmes; it has been instrumental in assisting the Government of Namibia in implementing the Cooperation Programmes under the European Development Fund and to answer to specific challenges during the implementation together with the support to the National Authorising Officer. It remains an important tool for the Delegation in order to remain responsive to Government demands and to be able to bring sufficient expertise to fuel the policy dialogue and the implementation of the EU – Namibia Partnership. It has also served to better design and implement EU support as well as to finance small visibility activities.

The Delegation proposes to implement the current action through centralised management except for the activities of keeping the support to the NPC. This support will allow a contribution to the preparation of the 6th National Development Plan, which will include short-term training in areas such as macro-economic or sectoral planning and analysis, regional planning, monitoring and evaluation. Furthermore, this support to the NPC will backing to sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with government and other stakeholders, as well as sensitisation on related policies and laws.

In the design of the proposed action all the above lessons learned will be taken into account, in view to increase the relevance of our engagement and the effectiveness of our partnership.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the EU-Namibia partnership. It will enable the EU to reinforce and broaden the scope of our relations with Namibia, one of the issues will be to support the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen between the European Union and Namibia.

This Cooperation Facility will also be used to improve the quality of programming, implementation, monitoring, auditing and evaluation of the EU-Namibia Partnership. Namely, it will enable the collaboration with the Namibian Government, civil society and the private sector to achieve the objectives outlined in National Development Plans in general and in particular the EU-Namibia MIP 2021-2027.

The Cooperation Facility will: i) enable the provision of targeted support to the NPC to fulfil its statutory responsibility to “mobilise, manage, and coordinate international development cooperation” in the context of all bilateral and multilateral programmes and Development Partners ii) strengthen the relations with the Civil Society through a structured dialogue as outlined in the CSO Roadmap and iii) enable the EU to better answer to the different developments to the EU – Namibia relations, namely the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and Namibia on a Partnership on sustainable raw materials value chains and renewable hydrogen and the Team Europe Initiative together with the Member States.

It will facilitate substantive public diplomacy and strategic communication and will contribute towards strengthening the quality of our programming efforts and in conducting structured dialogue and ultimately improve the relations with Namibia. Finally, it will also enable the EU Delegation to positively respond to ad-hoc demands from our Namibian partners in specific and justified cases.

The Action is expected to meet the stated objectives on the basis of the following assumptions:

- i. both the EU and Namibia wish to retain a positive and constructive relationship;
- ii. Stakeholders will be interested, responsive and willing to engage;
- iii. Political, economic and social progress continues in both partners.

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 envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Republic of Namibia.

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 entry into force of the financing agreement.

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

4.3 Implementation Modalities

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

4.3.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants:

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The EUD might select Twinning or TAIEX grants to implement some of the peer to peer expertise exchanges on matters relevant to the EU – Namibia Partnership.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

The applicants should be EU Member States or their mandated bodies.

4.3.2 Direct Management (Procurement)

A number of service contracts for technical assistance will be concluded to provide institutional capacity building, identify and implement policy dialogues, develop organise meetings and events and support communication activities.

The provision of technical assistance may include short-term technical assistance/consultancies, ad-hoc studies and researches, communication and visibility and other related activities under Objective 1. Under this management mode, the activities/services will be procured by the EU Delegation on behalf of the Government of Namibia.

4.3.3 Indirect Management with the Partner Country

A part of this action with the objective of 1.1 Capacity development and institutional building to design and manage reforms, operationalise public policy priorities and solve implementation bottlenecks across the Government and of 1.2 Reinforced policy and political dialogue on key areas covered by the MIP may be implemented in indirect management with the Republic of Namibia according to the following modalities:

The partner country will act as the contracting authority for the procurement and grant procedures. The Commission will control ex-ante all the procurement and grant procedures.

Payments are executed by the Commission.

The financial contribution does not cover the ordinary operating costs incurred under the programme estimates.

The partner country shall apply the Commission's rules on procurement and grants. These rules will be laid down in the financing agreement to be concluded with the partner country.

a) Overview of implementation

Activity/objective/Output, include location	Type of financing (works, supplies, or service contract, grant, programme estimate)
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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.

1.1 Capacity development and institutional building to design and manage reforms, operationalise public policy priorities and solve implementation bottlenecks in the context of the efficient and effective implementation of the MIP and 11 th EDF programmes.	Service contract
1.2 Reinforced policy and political dialogue on key areas covered by the MIP.	Service contract

4.3.4 Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

Should implementation through indirect management described in paragraph 4.3.3. not be possible due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the relevant part of the action might be implemented in direct management through procurement.

4.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

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

4.5 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.3	
1.1 Capacity development and institutional building composed of	
Indirect management with Namibia cf. section 4.3.3	1 000 000
1.2 Reinforced policy and political dialogue composed of	
Indirect management with Namibia cf. section 4.3.3	200 000

1.3 Support for the design, monitoring, and evaluation of EU partnership with Namibia composed of	
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	2 000 000
1.4 Peer to peer expertise exchanges composed of	
Grants (direct management) Twinning/Taiex with EU MS – cf. section 4.3.1	750 000
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	750 000
1.5 Enhanced awareness, understanding and support to the EU through strategic communication and public diplomacy initiatives composed of	
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	700 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2	100 000
Audit – cf. section 5.3	
Totals	5 500 000

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

A financing agreement will be signed with the Republic of Namibia. The Outputs 1.1. and 1.2. will be managed by the NPC, the Outputs 1.3., 1.4 and 1.5 will be managed by the EU Delegation to Namibia.

A Steering Committee (SC) shall be set up to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project. The project steering committee shall meet at least once a year. Meetings of the SC should be chaired by...

The SC shall be made up of:

- representative(s) of the NPC
- representative(s) of the NGO Council
- representative(s) of the EU Delegation
- Occasionally representatives from other Ministries or public bodies may be invited to participate.

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 partners' responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partners 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.

Gender equality and the human rights based approach will be mainstreamed into the monitoring and evaluation of the project and that indicators will be sex-disaggregated and disaggregated by other relevant aspects whenever possible.

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).

The Monitoring and Reporting will be more relevant for the activities that will last more than 6 months.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission. It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that it includes different components addressing different issues.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 15 days in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

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

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

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 pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

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

At country level, action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication 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.

To that end, Delegations will first develop short strategic communication and public diplomacy plans that reflect the objectives of the Delegation as a whole in this domain, initially covering the period up to the Mid-Term Review (MTR). The plans will be endorsed by a coordination mechanism comprised of the EEAS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI, and will be reviewed, modified and extended as appropriate as part of the MTR process and will cover:

1. The audiences targeted
2. For each group targeted, the principal communication objective, couched in terms of measurable outcomes
3. The core narrative, formulated in terms not of what we do in the country concerned, but why we do it
4. Preliminary suggestions for content (messages, straplines, hashtags), partnerships (influencers) and channels
5. Key administrative information: timeline, budget and the programme manager responsible for implementation

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
Group of actions level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#):
Contract level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	
	(...)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	