



THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX II

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Guyana for 2023 to be financed from the general budget of the Union

Action Document - Support Measures

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and measures in the sense 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-61789 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting (inter alia) the Joint Guyana-Suriname Team Europe Initiative on Forest Partnerships.
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Caribbean region.
4. Programming document	Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027 for Guyana
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Link with Support Measures from the MIP including Measures in favour of Civil Society Organisations and Cooperation Facility. Specific Objective 3 of the MIP on increasing access to payment for ecosystem services (PES)/carbon finance will be addressed by the Cooperation Facility.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Not applicable
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 8.3.: “Strengthening the intrinsic motivation for forest protection and restoration by strengthening forest value chains based on sustainable management, for creation of decent jobs and income”. Other significant SDGs: SDG 13.b: “Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities”; SDG 15.2: “Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all

	types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally”; SDG 17: “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”.			
8 a) DAC code(s)	DAC code 312 – Forestry, 50% DAC code 43010 – Multi-sector, 25% DAC code 150 – Government & Civil Society, 25%			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Channel 1: Central Government – 11001 Channel 2: Non-Governmental Organisations (ONG) and Civil Society – 20000 Channel 3: International NGO – 21000 Channel 4: Private sector – 60000 Channel 5: Other multilateral institution – 47000			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" 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 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital governance		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital entrepreneurship		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital skills/literacy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital services		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	transport		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	people2people		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	energy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(methodology for tagging under development)			
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(methodology for marker and tagging under development)			
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s): 14.020141 Total estimated cost: EUR 3 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 3 500 000 This action is not co-financed			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through procurement, and Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.2			

1.2 Summary of the Action

<p>The Support Measures for Guyana aim to ensure continued build-up and impact all along the implementation of the Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Guyana and the Guyana-Suriname Team Europe Initiative (TEI). This Action is an opportunity to strengthen the EU's position as a credible and solid partner by facilitating dialogue with all stakeholders in Guyana, from civil society to the Government and public authorities, but also international organizations and private sector, as well as beneficiaries and the general public. On a demand-driven basis, the Support Measures will contribute to the implementation of the MIP and beyond, in a complementary and flexible fashion, based on the facility approach, adapting to the Guyanese context and needs. The main components are:</p> <p>Cooperation Facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing policy dialogue and government capacity (EUR 2 700 000 indicative maximum amount), with the aim to increase access to Payment for Ecosystem services (PES) and forest carbon finance, which corresponds to Specific Objective 3 of the MIP. Other areas of economic or political governance that is of common interest may be supported (if formulated by the government on the demand-driven principle) as
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well as government capacity building, including when it comes to creating an enabling environment for the private sector.

- **Additionally**, (EUR 200 000 indicative maximum amount) for audit and evaluation of ongoing EU projects

Measures in favour of Civil Society:

- **Strengthening the capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the context of the Forest Partnership** (*EUR 300 000 indicative maximum amount*). Complementarily to existent and future support to CSOs foreseen under the MIP's specific objectives and fulfilled in the frame of the Amazon Basin Team Europe Initiative, as well as HRD and CSO programmes.

Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy:

- **Increase awareness, understanding and perception of the EU's partnership with Guyana through strategic communication and public diplomacy activities** (*EUR 300 000 indicative maximum amount*) to promote the EU's cooperation with Guyana in a coherent manner and reinforce the image and perception of the Team Europe approach as credible, reliable and solid.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Located on the northern coast of South America, Guyana is an Amazonian country given its expanse of tropical rainforest, and it is also a Caribbean nation for its island-like concentration of population in a narrow coastal belt. Guyana's multi-ethnic and multi-cultural characteristics, cobbled with its geographical specificities, provide the country with a double advantage of being both a Caribbean and South American nation of peoples. The country shares a common colonial history and characteristics with other English-speaking neighbours in the Caribbean and hosts the headquarters of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

Drawing it close to South America is the fact that it is part of the world's vital Amazon basin and home to nine indigenous nations, as well as unique biodiversity and ecosystems. It is also amongst one of the 'greenest' countries in the world, with forest covering about 87% of the country's total land area. The country commands globally important carbon stocks (19.5 GtCO₂ eq) and is considered as a net carbon sink, whereby forests sequester more carbon than the nation's human activities generate. Climate change mitigation and adaptation is, therefore, crucial for Guyana.

Guyana is transitioning to becoming a high-income country. Its emerging economy grew by 62% of the GDP in 2022, mainly thanks to the revenues of recent oil discoveries. Since 2019, oil production has increased significantly, to 375 000 bpd in 2022, and it is projected to reach 1.2 million bpd by 2027, comparable to Libya. Macro-economically the country will move in GDP per capita from USD 5,000 in 2021 to around 30,000 USD in 2026, but it will continue to face structural challenges such as: climate change, inequalities, regional disparities, domestic resource mobilization, as well as innovation and diversification capacities.

Improved strategic and policy capacities to face this new scenario will, therefore, be needed. In this context, the strengthening of public sector management capacities will therefore be essential during the transition phase of the country (during the first years of the oil boom 2020-2025). Oil revenues have to be carefully managed to avoid environmental pressure, tensions in social cohesion, increased income inequality, corruption, challenges of monetary policy and an oil-dependent economy that would have lost traditional income-earning sectors (agriculture, forestry).

Guyana is one of few countries worldwide with which the European Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Forest Partnership (FP), which has as purpose to build a like-minded partnership to heighten cooperation on forests and make an important contribution to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, while

also addressing the challenges of climate change. The EU-Guyana FP MoU was signed in the context of COP27 with President of the European Commission, Ursula von de Leyen.

The MoU will be in complement to the EU-Guyana FLEGT VPA, which has as objective to guarantee legality of all timber exported to among other the EU and to promote trade between the two parties. Both these initiatives underpin the aspirations of the Guyana Government towards a new growth trajectory in a non-polluting way (as per the national “Low Carbon Development Strategy” 2030), as well as the European Commission’s interest in supporting the Government in this process. Guyana is also member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

The importance and relevance of the EU-Guyana Forest Partnership as a priority area of the MIP is supported and heightened by the country’s geographical specificities, which include an at-risk coastline and a densely forested hinterland, the need for sustainable economic diversification, and the sustained political will towards maintaining forest cover, which represents an opportunity and entry point for the EU to implement its Green Deal priorities and objectives.

While the Guyanese public administration faces increasing demands and pressures to deliver more and new services, the human resources and capacities of the public administration remain the same than before the economic boom started. Therefore providing technical assistance and support the implementation of different public policies becomes more necessary.

Enhance policy dialogue and government capacity:

- Flexible support to different areas of governance:

By facilitating short and long-term technical assistance and studies, on a demand-driven basis, the Cooperation Facility (CF) will be a flexible instrument that will strengthen capacities in the relevant Government ministries and agencies, while also responding quickly to technical needs as they arise during project implementation. It is expected that the CF will be used to address capacity issues in institutional, economic, social and environmental dimensions of national development, particularly those that relate to the priority area and crosscutting issues. Different areas of economic and political governance may be supported according to the needs.

The CF may support different aspects of governance such as security sector reform, judicial and constitutional reform, and electoral reform, in light of the European Observation Mission recommendations¹. Support in strengthening governance may in part contribute to sealing existing gaps, as well as to help better prepare the country in its transition to becoming an economy primarily based on oil extraction. Stronger institutions and public systems will support the reduction of inequalities and the creation of an enabling environment for private, public and civil sectors.

Another important component is the engagement of short to medium-term consultants to assist in the main stages of the project cycle to ensure the effective implementation of the MIP and other EU funded programmes in favour of the country’s development strategy. The CF will fund technical and financial audits and evaluations of other programmes/projects whenever these cannot be financed from the programme/project or where it is convenient or efficient to combine a number of audits/evaluations of related interventions.

- Increase access to payment for ecosystem services (PES)/carbon finance:

PES can be defined as voluntary transactions, between service users and service providers that are conditional on agreed rules of natural resource management, for generating off-site services. Examples of such ecosystem services

¹ An EU Electoral Observation Mission (EOM) was deployed to observe the general elections of March 2020. A second mission of EU EOM took place end of March 2021 whereby a set of recommendations were shared with stakeholders and presented during a press event.

are water catchment and conservation (water buffer), soil stabilisation, habitat for biodiversity conservation, carbon stock and sequestration.

In accordance with the Specific Objective 3 of the MIP, via facilitation of a series of technical studies into areas that support Guyana's jurisdictional engagement on international climate and biodiversity finance (including potential for biodiversity credits, and removals credits including from reforestation in line with international best practices including under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement), the Cooperation Facility will ensure that proposals will be developed to support Government's long term climate and development strategy and programme of work in this area, ensuring full inclusion of forest communities and private sector, with due attention to free and prior information and consent (FPIC) as well as fair sharing of mitigation and financial benefits between the government, private sector actors and local indigenous communities.

Proposals can be prepared for to advance areas identified for further work on climate financing as outlined in Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) 2030. Programmes that target removals of Greenhouse Gases from the atmosphere including from reforestation projects, broader ecosystem credits, . All actions advanced will be guided by the provisions of the LCDS 2030, which outlines Guyana's vision on climate and the environment.

Strengthening the capacity of civil society:

Guyanese civil society plays a key role in enhancing governance and transparency through advocacy and maintaining an enabling environment for the implementation of the EU-Guyana Forest Partnership. Needs and gaps need to be addressed by strengthening community based organisations, indigenous organisations, as well as forest products associations/trade unions and environmental community-based CSOs.

There are three main areas of support to the civil society. First, the advocacy component will involve the participation of CSOs in the activities of the forest partnerships, as well the improved cohesion where possible of interagency collaboration/coordination. Second, strengthening the capacity of CSOs will also be key to bolstering the sustainability of this forest partnership. Finally, CSOs specialised in forest governance and conservation may contribute to implement activities necessitating scientific expertise or community engagement.

Support EU strategic communication and public diplomacy

Due to the location of the EU Delegation in Guyana and the travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, visibility operations and public diplomacy events were limited during the last programming period. As a result strategic communication and public diplomacy need to be specifically supported and further developed. Existing/ongoing communication and visibility plans of the geographical and thematic programmes should be integrated in a long-term strategy. Resources should be allocated to plan long term public diplomacy initiatives engaging with a selection of local target audiences, influencers and multipliers. The EU Delegation will take advantage of the Team Europe Initiative to communicate and coordinate with the Members States and other partners.

The Forest Partnership should be used as an opportunity to revitalise the EU's image in Guyana as a major partner in the fight against climate change and promote EU cooperation and policies.

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

In terms of Government and public institutions, main stakeholders are:

- Ministry of Natural Resources;
- Ministry of Finance;
- Ministry of Health;
- Ministry of Legal Affairs;
- Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce;

- Relevant government agencies, such as Guyana Forestry Commission, and National Agricultural Research Extension Institute (NAREI).

In terms of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), main stakeholders are:

- Relevant CSOs;
- Relevant community based organisations;
- Forest product organisations.

In terms of EU strategic communication and public diplomacy, main stakeholders are:

- Youth and Civil Society;
- Policy think tanks and academic representatives;
- Multipliers and influencers;
- Media;
- Member States, especially the Netherlands and France;
- Partners: such as Agence française de développement (AFD), World Wildlife Fund(WWF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and others international organizations;
- Private sector and unions;
- General public.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective of this action is to contribute to building a diversified and sustainable Guyanese economy, which is competitive in the global market, generates employment and equality, and keeps the environment liveable as described in the Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (2030).

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are to:

1. Enhance policy dialogue and government capacity, especially, but not only, when it comes to increase access to PES and carbon finance or other area of common interest identified by the Government.
2. Strengthen the dialogue and capacity of Guyanese civil society.
3. Improve awareness, understanding and perception of the EU in Guyana through strategic communication and public diplomacy.

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

1. Contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1)

- 1.1. The Guyanese Government is supported in the design of PES proposals/carbon finance mechanisms that will expand and complement the current programme and a pipeline of potential options is developed.
- 1.2. The capacities of the Guyanese governmental institutions are strengthened, including, but not only, when it comes to creating an enabling environment for the private sector.
- 1.3. Design and Implementation of EU cooperation and joint programming is supported.

2. Contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2)

- 2.1. CSOs advocacy capacities are strengthened, as well as their capacity to engage in a structured dialogue in public policies in the frame of the EU areas of cooperation.

3. Contributing to Outcome 3 (or Specific Objective 3)

- 3.1. Visibility and perception of Guyana-EU cooperation actions and EU's presence in Guyana is improved.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1

- TA for increasing access to PES/carbon finance such as (indicatively): studies, terms of reference, mapping of the suite of opportunities; assess gaps in public entities, support capacity development and proposal development; needs assessment, skills trainings, facilitation of exchanges with relevant stakeholders, sector bodies, and support with communication.

Activities related to Output 1.2

- TA in specific areas of interest for Guyana in the fields of economic or political governance.
- Support to policy dialogues: Events, conferences, studies, fellowships, exchange platforms to support sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with governments and other.

Activities related to Output 1.3

- TA for formulation, implementation and evaluation of EU cooperation.
- TA for financial audits and evaluations of other programmes/projects whenever these cannot be financed from the programme/project or where it is convenient or efficient to combine a number of audits/evaluations of related interventions.
- Thematic areas such as gender, children and other vulnerable minorities, can also be given more attention through dedicated TA.
- Capacity development and institutional building, including through technical assistance and exchange of public expertise, such as TAIEX and Twinning.
- TA to guide and support early-stage project preparations for EFSD+ interventions by eligible DFIs, including the EIB such as: studies, including pre-feasibility studies and environmental and social impact assessments.

Activities related to Output 2.1

- Technical assistance (TA) to support capacity building of CSOs in specific skills and knowledge relevant to EU-Guyana Forest Partnership, with emphasis on strengthening of the institutional and/or legal framework to facilitate and ease CSOs operations; (e.g.: terms of reference, dialogue, oversight, advocacy, negotiation skills, conflict resolutions, communication and networking).
- Technical and logistical coordination of events, workshops, and meetings related to the objectives of participation and dialogue of indigenous CSOs in the priority sectors of the MIP, the CSO Roadmap or other area of EU intervention in the country.
- Support and follow-up the action plan of the Roadmap for the EU's Engagement with CSOs 2021-2027.

Activities related to Output 3.1

- Design and roll out at national level of (a) major public campaign(s) aimed at ordinary citizens, with the objective of measurably increasing the profile, awareness, understanding and perception of the EU's partnership with Guyana.
- Design and implement political communication activities to support Summits, events and high level visits, and support the promotion of relevant priority bilateral and regional programmes, particularly those that are flagship Global Gateway and/or Team Europe initiatives.
- Promote understanding and awareness of the Union's values, interests and specific policies, including climate change, human rights, foreign and security policy, science and research, gender equality, particularly through a Team Europe approach, as well its multilateral agenda.
- Create initiatives allowing to connect and leverage existing EU programmes and initiatives for Public Diplomacy purposes (e.g. Erasmus+, Jean Monnet Actions, Creative Europe).

- Strengthen networks and long-term relationships with key target audiences and partners (e.g. youth, students, academics, think tanks, CSOs, business, creative industries), including leveraging existing EU programmes, in order to facilitate future cooperation across policy areas.

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative 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

Cross cutting issues were identified as poverty reduction, climate change, good governance, gender, environment, and health. Activities funded under the Support Measures will include matters concerning environmental sustainability, gender equality, good governance and human rights as appropriate. Where relevant, studies will assess the social and environmental impacts of future development programmes. In particular, climate change, disaster risk reduction and resilience issues will be taken into account. The activities contribute to sustainable development, by making meaningful contributions to capacity building at various levels in the private and public sector, which assists the government in meeting its social development and poverty reduction goals. Additionally, to ensure the sustainable management and exploitation of forest resources in view of minimising the impact on biodiversity and the environment, conservation organisations (such as Conservation International and WWF) will be duly consulted and may be invited to multi-stakeholder coordination activities. Their role in safeguarding and monitoring the environment (wildlife and biodiversity in general) can be crucial in this forest partnership.

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening

By accompanying actions of the Forest Partnership priority area, the action will contribute to EU objectives in terms of support for biodiversity and/or climate change policies. The EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening is therefore category C (no need for further assessment).

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

The Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening concluded that this action has 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 G1. Support measures in favour of the civil society will ensure that a rights-based approach is streamlined in the Action, given that these organisations integrate important cross-cutting issues, such as human rights and the empowerment of at-risk groups such as women, youth and forest peoples. Particular emphasis will be placed on implementing the GAP III Country Level Implementation Plan for Guyana and mainstreaming gender and youth participation.

Human Rights

Human rights protection and promotion (which comprises gender equality, indigenous rights, persons with disabilities, etc.) will be mainstreamed throughout the different activities whether through the Measures in favour of Civil Society or the Cooperation Facility. Several EU documents will help to incorporate a rights-based approach in future cooperation activities.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0.

Reduction of inequalities

As per the OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0.

Democracy

Through the Support Measures in favour of Civil Society, the Action aims to strengthen participatory and inclusive democracy in Guyana by increasing CSO's capacity to engage in the policymaking processes at all levels linked to sustainable development and active citizenship participation. In addition, the Cooperation Facility will support government institutions by providing support to different areas of governance and common interest. In discussion with the Government of Guyana, this action may support TA in different aspects of governance such as security sector reform, judicial and constitutional reform, and electoral reform, in light of the EU Electoral Observation Mission recommendations. Finally, democracy will be mainstreamed into strategic communication and public diplomacy through the promotion EU's values, interests, policies and impact in the country.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Not applicable.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Not applicable.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
1. Risks related to the external environment (outside the European Commission)	Lack or changing of policy and strategic direction which may hamper the formulation of EU actions.	Medium	High	The EU Delegation will continue its positive and continuous dialogue with the Government of Guyana to support the design and implementation of EU actions.
2. Risks related to planning, processes and systems	Insufficient and uncoordinated communication about the EU in Guyana and specifically about EU cooperation.	High	Medium	The EU Delegation will work closely with all relevant stakeholders, especially implementing partners to materialise the initiatives under the Cooperation Facility.
3. Risks related to planning,	Insufficient flexibility to adapt EU action to	Low	High	Need for an approach which engenders coherence between donor interventions guided by evolving country priorities.

processes and systems	changing context and needs.			
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Lessons Learnt:

From the 11th EDF COVID 19 Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) with the Government of Guyana, we have learnt that it is crucial to first develop a strategy and a pipeline to support the implementation of the different technical assistances. Additionally, frequent meetings with the relevant institutions involved in the TA is key to achieve the expected results more efficiently.

3.5 The Intervention Logic²

The underlying intervention logic for this action is to support the EU-Guyana partnership and it is based on the general assumptions that:

- The EU Delegation will continue its positive and continuous dialogue with the Guyanese Government and Technical Assistance will support the design and implementation of national policies.
- The EU Delegation will work closely with all relevant stakeholders, especially CSOs to make the most of the Support Measures for Guyana.
- The EU Delegation will establish a solid, coherent, and sustained strategy for communication, visibility, and public diplomacy.

The intervention logic is based on the fact that by:

- Providing long and short-term Technical Assistance and studies and implementing a continuous policy dialogue from the start of the implementation, in flexible, result-oriented, and concerted manner with the Government and other key stakeholders.
- Identifying and addressing the gaps and needs in terms of advocacy and capacity building of CSOs supporting indigenous communities.
- Articulating the EU Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy within the EU Delegation (Cooperation Section and Political, Information and Press Section) and outside (Implementing Partners and Member States) on a long-term strategic horizon.

Then:

- The action will contribute to enhance policy dialogue and strengthened the public sector capacity allowing a more effective and efficient implementation of public policies in the different areas of governance, especially, but not exclusively, the ones related the EU-Guyana Forest Partnership.
- The Civil Society will be strengthened by improving the enabling environment for CSOs, increasing indigenous CSOs capacity to access and engage in policy dialogue and oversight processes at all levels, especially in the field of forest governance.
- The EU role as a key cooperation actor and a key interlocutor on policy and political aspects for authorities and Civil Society in Guyana, together with Team Europe's approach, will be durably consolidated and revitalised in the context of the 2021-2027 MIP.

Thus:

The action will enable the EU to reach the expected outcomes of the MIP and to contribute to the national objective of building a diversified Guyanese economy, which is competitive in global market, has significantly more sustainable development, generates employment and equality, and keeps the environment liveable as describe in the Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030.

² [@TEI Methodological Note to Support Design](#)

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 Government of Guyana.

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 48 months from 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 (Procurement)

For the Measures in favour of Civil Society, procurement will be launched in 2024 to identify the best service provider. By making Technical Assistance available on a running basis, the contracts will contribute to strengthening the capacity of the mentioned sector in the context of the Forest Partnership.

For the Cooperation facility, procurement will be launched on a demand driven principle during 2024 for supporting specific areas of interest for Guyana and the EU in the areas of economic and political governance, such as but not exclusively: i) policy dialogues with governments and other key stakeholders, (ii) supporting capacity development and institutional building iii) health and (iv) different aspects of governance such as security sector reform, judicial and constitutional reform, and electoral reform, in light of the EU Electoral Observation Mission recommendations.

As regards EU Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy, services and supply contract will be procured by the EU Delegation to implement the activities established by the Joint Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy Plan 2022-2024/2025-2027.

4.3.2 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

As part of the Cooperation Facility and for the PES/carbon finance component, a Contribution Agreement will be signed with an entrusted institution. This will contribute to enhancing policy dialogue and government capacity when it comes to access to PES/carbon finance.

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.

A part of this action (Enhancing policy dialogue and government capacity) may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services in consultation with the Government of Guyana using the following criteria:

- Solid technical experience in climate change/Forest/ PES/Carbon related projects;
- Able to mobilize a multidisciplinary team of experts related to targeted subjects;
- Experience in providing technical assistance support to public institutions;
- Working experience with international organization and private sector(asset);
- Experience in working on development strategies;
- Proven experience in Guyana;
- Established or preparedness to establish an officer in Guyana.

The implementation by this entity entails enhancing policy dialogue and government capacity concerning the PES/carbon finance component of the Cooperation Facility.

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

For the Measures for Civil Society and some aspects of the Cooperation Facility mentioned in 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 implementation modality direct management through grants may be considered if the implementation modalities direct management (procurement) and indirect management cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control.

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)
Procurement (direct management) - cf. section 4.3.1	2 100 000
Cooperation Facility (Financing Agreement)	1 500 000
Measures in favour of Civil Society	300 000
Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy	300 000
Indirect management with an entrusted entity - cf. section 4.3.2	1 200 000
Cooperation Facility (PES/carbon finance component)	1 200 000
Audit & Evaluation	200 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2	160 000

Audit – cf. section 5.3	40 000
Totals	3 500 000

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

For the Cooperation Facility:

As the Cooperation Facility will be operating on a demand-driven basis, the EU Delegation will engage in direct discussions with line ministries and other governmental bodies, while keeping the Ministry of Finance informed of ongoing discussions. All terms of reference (ToR) for technical assistance will be shared with the Ministry of Finance.

For Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy, the EU Delegation through coordination between the Cooperation and the Political, Information and Press sections will guarantee the implementation of the strategic communication and public diplomacy plan. If relevant, ToR for communication and visibility contracts will be shared with the Ministry of Finance and/or line Ministries.

For the Measures in favour of Civil Society:

In order to coordinate the technical assistance for CSOs, a Technical Working Group (TWG) led by the EU Delegation (Head of Cooperation and Programme Manager) will gather representatives of relevant CSOs and technical assistance experts. In a first phase, the TWG will establish a needs assessment. In a second phase, the TWG will be used to follow up the implementation of the technical assistance and cater for new needs. While Measures in favour of Civil Society may be channelled directly through the EUD, the Ministry of Finance will be informed of any such request.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action and may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, for the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action and ensuring effective coordination.

5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1 Monitoring and Reporting

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. 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 final evaluation may be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that support measures are a key instrument to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and alignment of EU operations.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 8 months 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 dissemination⁴. 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

All strategic communication and public diplomacy activities designed to promote the EU's values, interests, policies and impact in the country will be based on the Joint Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy Plan 2022-2024/2025-2027 of the EU Delegation in Guyana. Communications efforts will involve a wide array of activities aimed at increasing awareness on selected key topics for the EU, particularly under Global Gateway, such as the preservation of forests (including mangroves), sustainable development, climate change, human right and the fight against genderbased violence.

Communication efforts under other EU programmes under the MIP will complement existing Climate Change Diplomacy activities and high-level policy dialogue on climate issues. The focus will be on tangible impacts of EU support, showing the possibilities and benefits of a green and just recovery, and placing the EU as reference partner for climate change cooperation.

Target audiences will be the general public, as well as policy makers, relevant stakeholders/partners and final beneficiaries.

In the area of Public Diplomacy, activities will focus on building and strengthening long-term networks with key stakeholders.

The implementing modality will be direct management. As a result, it is envisaged that at least one contract for Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy, including the procurement of visibility services and supplies, may be contracted under a framework contract.

⁴ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)