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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX IV

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of China for 2024, under the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Asia-Pacific region

Action Document for EU Support for Health and Safety Analysis in China

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 Support for Health and Safety Analysis in China OPSYS number: ACT-62501 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the People's Republic of China
4. Programming document	Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Asia and the Pacific (2021-2027)
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	<p>The action will support the implementation of the Specific Objectives of the China section in the Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Asia-Pacific (RMIP, 2021-2027):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SO 1: Promote European values and interests in the bilateral relations with China, in line with the multi-faceted approach.• SO 2: Engage China to deliver on global public goods (including on international commitments such as the Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change). <p>The Action will contribute, in particular, to the following Expected Results (ER):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ER 1.3: Improved market access, level playing field and fair and equal treatment for European businesses operating in China and competing with Chinese businesses in partner countries.• ER 2.3: Coordinate on health and safety, with an emphasis on global health including pandemics and consumer protection.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority Area 2 – Pursuing EU Interests with Key Partners 160 - Other Social Infrastructure & Services

7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): Goal 8 – “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all” Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: Goal 3 – “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”			
8 a) DAC code(s)	16070 – Labour rights (50%) 16062 - Statistical capacity building (50%)			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Channel 1: 60000 – Private sector institutions			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women’s and girl’s empowerment	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
	digital connectivity	YES	NO	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line: 14.020131 Total estimated cost: EUR 2 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 2 500 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through Grants			

1.2 Summary of the Action

One of the most common but often poorly documented health issues in China is occupational accidents and diseases—chronic ailments and other disorders that arise from the conditions to which someone is exposed in the workplace. Establishing reliable mechanisms to collect and utilize occupational safety and health (OSH) data¹ are indispensable for the detection of hazards and emerging risks as well as for the formulation and implementation of policies, systems and national programmes and ensuring a fair competitiveness of companies internationally.

OSH is a key concern and opportunity for engagement for the EU and China. Since 2008, China and the EU have developed a strong cooperation in the field of employment and social issues, and developed structured policy dialogues, including on OSH standards, which contribute to levelling the playing field between EU and Chinese companies. At the same time, China has introduced several major structural reforms in recent years, notably in the fields of labour law, social security and pensions, mobility of workers and occupational safety and health. These are areas for which the EU is regarded as a world benchmark and on which it has provided expertise and shared experiences with Chinese policy makers in the design of such reforms.

In 2019, the EU launched a first pilot project funded by the European Commission's service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI)² to support China in improving data collection and analysis systems on accidents at work and other work-related health problems as a prerequisite for evidence-based policy making in the field of OSH. This involves promoting the adoption of well-established EU methodologies to collect data on occupational accidents, diseases and other work-related health problems in companies. Working closely with main Chinese authorities such as the Chinese Ministry for Emergency Management (MoEM), China's National Health Commission (NHC) and their subordinated entities, the pilot project critically contributed to China's adoption of EU data collection methodologies in several pilot companies and to preparatory work for new national legislation concerning these

¹ The action will work with publicly available EU data.

² EuropeAid/164468/DD/ACT/CN

methodologies in China. In addition, this project regularly fed discussions of the EU-China Dialogue on Work Safety and Health³.

Building on the pilot project, this Action will support continued improvement and implementation of EU methodologies and standards, while also supporting Chinese authorities in better analysing and formulating OSH-related policies and tools supporting a long-term transformative change in China's national social security system. Importantly, this Action will also support the external dimension of the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2021-2027)⁴ and the EU Communication on Decent Work Worldwide (2022)⁵.

The Action will focus on highly competitive economic sectors between the EU and China, such as the green economy as well as the automotive, chemical, construction and mining industries, with the goal to increase their OSH standards and contribute to a level playing field between EU and Chinese companies.

1.3 Zone benefitting from the Action

The Action shall be carried out in the People's Republic of China, which is included in the list of ODA recipients.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The European Council Conclusions of 30th June 2023 on China reaffirmed the validity of the EU's multifaceted policy approach towards China, where it is simultaneously a partner, a competitor and a systemic rival. This approach has served to address the different aspects of the relationship, through a period when economic and political relations have required flexibility and agility in bilateral dealings with China. It also kept open the space for bilateral engagement on matters of common or global interest.

In recent years, there has been an intensification of the systemic rivalry and competition dimensions in the face of sanctions, economic coercion against Lithuania, heightened tensions across the Taiwan Strait and China's positioning on Russia's war against Ukraine. Continuing to consolidate unity across all aspects of the relationship remains crucial for the EU's capacity to maintain credibility and leverage. At the same time, EU unity should aim at balancing realistic and robust engagement with well-managed systemic rivalry and competition with China in support of core EU interests and values.

Readjusting and recalibrating are necessary in light of the evolving circumstances, including China's own actions and posture. In the 2023 State of the Union speech, President von der Leyen underlined the importance for the EU to keep open lines of communication and dialogue with China on topics where cooperation is needed. At the same time, it is critical to de-risk (not de-couple) our relations with China through diplomatic and economic means to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience.

The Action will focus on highly competitive economic sectors between the EU and China, such as the green economy as well as the automotive, chemical, construction and mining industries, with the goal to increase China's OSH standards and contribute to a level playing field between EU and Chinese companies and enable fairer competition.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) has been a consistent element of China's five-year plans since 2006 and China's policies on OSH have made progress over the last years. However, the rate of accidents at work, occupational diseases and other work-related health problems remains important. According to a recent report of the Chinese National Health Commission (NHC), in the past five decades there was a seven-fold increase in occupational diseases. About 16 million industrial firms in China regularly expose workers to poisonous or

³ The 13th "EU-China Dialogue on Occupational Safety and Health" will take place in Beijing in December 2023.

⁴ COM/2021/323 final

⁵ COM/2022/66 final

hazardous conditions, and about 200 million workers (more than 22% of the entire Chinese workforce) are directly exposed to dust, chemicals, and poison.

At the same time, underreporting is common. Figures significantly underestimate occupational health risks due to the low frequency of checks / verification and reporting, as well as the small number of occupational diseases in the government list. Chinese authorities lack a sound methodology to collect and analyse data. Safety and security policies as well as implementing tools are still weak.

The EU promotes decent work through a comprehensive approach that addresses workers in domestic markets, in third countries and in global supply chains, in line with the Communication on Decent Work Worldwide (2022)⁶. The EU's commitment to champion decent work involves reinforcing actions guided by the universal concept of decent work as developed by the ILO and reflected in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including standards and rights at work and social protection. Gender equality and non-discrimination are cross-cutting issues in these objectives.

At the 110th session in June 2022, the International Labour Conference decided to include "a safe and healthy working environment" in the framework of fundamental principles of the ILO. The EU is a leading global actor in this area and promotes the adherence to the related international norms by supporting the alignment of other countries worldwide to these norms. Healthy and safe work environments also reduce costs for people, businesses and society as a whole. That is why maintaining and improving protection standards for workers both within the EU and globally remain a priority for an economy that works for the people and that offers equal opportunities for businesses on the market.

Therefore, this Action responds to global EU interests in support of the fundamental principles of the ILO and strategic interests to promote higher working and safety standards in China which can contribute to improving a level playing field for EU businesses in China and competing with Chinese businesses in third countries.

In addition, and given the many supply chains and other industrial relations China has not only with the EU but also with other third countries in the world, improving standards in OSH will contribute to global health including pandemics. For example, during the corona pandemic it became apparent that OSH plays an important role in protecting workers constituting about 50% of the EU population⁷. Collecting and analysing OSH data is important for better policy making during pandemics, e.g. by identifying the infection risks at different workplace providing policy information on which measures should be taken.

OSH also contributes to improving environmental protection by reducing the use of carcinogenic and other hazardous substances at the workplace, as well as spillover impacts on the environment surrounding workplaces. Improved OSH, such as reducing carcinogens at the workplace, has also the potential to improve the impact of products on the health of the wider population outside workplaces and therefore may contribute to consumer protection.

Main stakeholders

This Action will engage with key Chinese stakeholders in OSH, such as the Ministry of Emergency Management (MoEM), the National Health Commission (NHC), and other relevant ministries, subordinated Chinese government institutes, as well as Chinese companies in the priority economic sectors for this Action (such as the green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining industries).

If necessary and appropriate, information of other relevant EU organisations will be consulted including Eurostat and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), which regularly publish studies on OSH as well as monitor, collate and analyse statistical information on OSH risks in workplaces across the EU.

⁶ Communication COM/2022/66 final on decent work worldwide for a global just transition and a sustainable recovery, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A66%3AFIN>

⁷ See e.g. <https://oshwiki.osha.europa.eu/en/themes/covid-19-back-workplace-adapting-workplaces-and-protecting-workers>. The percentage of the working population in the total population is higher in development countries.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The **Overall Objective** of this action is to support the EU-China dialogue on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) standards - with particular focus on highly competitive economic sectors (e.g. green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining) - to contribute to enhancing the level playing field between EU and Chinese companies.

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

1. Promote EU data and standards to improve China's methodology for data collection and analysis systems on accidents at work and other work-related health problems.
2. Analyse the causes of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in China, and thereby promote the development of policies and regulations in line with EU best practices and standards and provide relevant information to the EU policy makers for the dialogues.

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

- 1.1 Improved and enlarged pilot data collections in the area of (a) accidents at work, and (b) other work-related health problems for specific economic sectors (e.g. green economy), including a more accurate overview of accidents at work and other work-related health problems in key economic sectors based on more harmonised and comparable data.
- 2.1 Analytical reports identifying main causes and indicators of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in certain pilot areas of China, and giving recommendations for improved prevention and protection measures and policies.
- 2.2. Better insights for EU policy makers and the EU-China dialogues on "Work Safety and Health" on the current OSH situation in competitive economic sectors for EU companies in China.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1:

- Undertake studies and produce reports on improved and/or enlarged data collection methodologies on accidents at work and other work-related health problems in China in areas of economic activity such as the green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining industries.
- Conduct pilot testing of improved data collection methodologies in China in cooperation with Chinese national and local authorities and companies.
- Organise workshops on the improved and/or enlarged data collection methodologies with staff of relevant Chinese authorities and companies.
- Organise study visits of Chinese national and regional government representatives to EU Member State public organisations responsible for data collection and analysis in the area of occupational accidents and health problems.

Activities relating to Output 2.1:

- Undertake research studies and produce reports on methodologies on how to analyse data on accidents at work and other work-related health problems in China in areas of economic activity such as the green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining industries.
- Organise workshops on the data analysis methodologies with staff of relevant Chinese authorities and companies.
- Organise study visits of Chinese national and regional government representatives to EU Member States public organisations responsible for data collection and analysis.

Activities relating to Output 2.2:

- Undertake research studies and produce policy reports on “Work Safety and Health” with better insights on the current situation of occupational safety and health in competitive economic sectors for EU companies. Organise presentations of the reports to EU policy makers as well as the members of the EU-China dialogues.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

OSH contributes to improving environmental protection by reducing the use of carcinogenic and other hazardous substances at the workplace, as well as spillover impacts on the environment surrounding workplaces.

Outcomes of the SEA screening

This is not applicable for this action.

Outcomes of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) screening

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

Outcome of the CRA (Climate Risk Assessment) screening

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per the OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender considerations will be taken into account throughout implementation in all activities undertaken under this action.

Gender equality, human rights and human rights based approach will also be integrated in relevant (capacity building) activities, documents (i.e. ToRs etc), as minimum requirements of expertise. Gender analysis and collection of sex-disaggregated data will be a promoted practice for actions of the Delegation.

Human Rights

Respect for human rights, including women’s rights, is a fundamental value of the European Union. Aligning the legal framework of China with international standards (ratification and implementation of international human rights treaties) is a key activity under this action. The design and implementation of the action will give attention to those who are most marginalised, excluded or discriminated against and living in vulnerable situations. The action will attempt to intensify the dialogue on human rights as universally recognised and as a core aspect of China-EU relations. This action will apply a human rights-based approach encompassing all human rights, whether civil and political or economic, social and cultural in order to integrate human right principles (applying all human rights for all, meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making, non-discrimination and equality, accountability and rule of law for all, and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data). The approach will be guided by the principle of “leaving no one behind”, equality and non-discrimination on any grounds.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the action does not propose any activity concerning any disability, nor contribute to this DAC.

Reduction of inequalities

The attainment of human rights, the rule of law, liberal democracy, peace, conflict prevention, resilience and stability in our partner countries, and even more in China are key objectives. Project’ designs are aiming to implementing policies and programmes that meet people's needs, reduce inequalities, and fulfil the central commitment of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind.

Democracy

All activities, including policy dialogue with the Chinese Government, will aim to strengthen the inclusiveness of policy dialogues as well as to emphasize the importance of the rule of law, good governance, transparency and anti-corruption.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

Monitoring the promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms, peace and security both in China and in partner countries will be considered as appropriate.

Disaster Risk Reduction

In China, there still exists frequent major industrial accidents. Accurate reporting and analysis of all work accidents, including smaller accidents as well as near misses, will contribute to the prevention of major accidents and disaster risk reduction. This will improve environmental protection by reducing the use of carcinogenic and other hazardous substances at the workplace.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Organisation and coordination	Difficulties in collecting OSH-related data from small-sized companies or companies in more remote areas.	Medium	Medium	The project's implementer will work closely with chambers of commerce and business associations / clusters to ensure involvement of companies for the collection of relevant data.
Data safety and data privacy	China getting access to sensitive or confidential EU data on OSH	Low	Low	The focus of the project will be on collecting and analysing OSH data from China. The project's implementer will make sure that China will be informed about EU standards of data protection as concerns the handling of its own data, and will apply these standards also to potentially sensitive or confidential Chinese data. In addition, the project's implementer will not share any personal, confidential or sensitive EU data with China because all EU OSH data to be possibly used within the framework of the project will be restricted to data already published on the EU website or websites of relevant national organisations of EU Member States, which are already governed by existing EU rules on data protection, or would only be available

				under the same EU data protection rules for possible additional ad-hoc data extractions. For example, Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the EU, has relevant data protection rules, applying to all enquirers from within or outside the EU. ⁸
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Lessons Learnt:

The Action will build on lessons learnt from a previous pilot project which critically contributed to China's adoption of EU data collection methodologies in several pilot companies and to preparatory work for new national legislation concerning these methodologies in China. The results were achieved by (i) building on productive cooperation and trust between the contractor and senior officials in relevant Chinese ministries; (ii) targeting a policy area which is a priority both for the EU and China; and (iii) recommended solutions that include a proven methodology which has worked effectively in the EU for many years. In addition, the project results regularly fed into discussions of the long established EU-China Dialogue on Work Safety and Health, involving senior officials from the Ministry of Emergency Management and the National Health Commission of China.

The project involved several stakeholders and it was important to establish a decision-making mechanism, including a project implementation committee with representatives from the decision-making level of the project partners, in this case senior staff of the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Chinese National Health Commission and relevant subordinated government institutes. This ensured addressing relevant questions or concerns of the project in an efficient and timely manner. Regular in-person exchanges between the contractor and project partners as well as a clear and documented communication on the expectations and obligations towards the project partners in China contributed to ensuring agreement and progress in key activities, also in relation to access to health and safety data of Chinese companies.

⁸ See e.g. <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/microdata/statistical-confidentiality-and-personal-data-protection>.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The EU is a leading global actor in occupational safety and health and promotes adherence to relevant international norms by supporting alignment of other countries worldwide to these norms.

IF discussions on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) standards - with particular focus on highly competitive economic sectors (e.g. green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining) – will be possible, THEN the level playing field between EU and Chinese companies will be enhanced.

IF the promotion of EU data and standards will be ensured, THEN China's methodology for data collection and analysis systems on accidents at work and other work-related health problems will be improved, together with the analysing of the causes of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in China, and thereby the promotion and development of policies and regulations in line with EU best practices and standards.

Strategic discussions with Chinese government at the outset of the project will seek to ensure agreement with Chinese government stakeholders on priorities. This will involve:

- (i) the signature of cooperation agreements between the contractor and the relevant Chinese ministries and/or subordinated government institutes participating in the project. These agreements will detail the type of Chinese health and safety at work data to be made available by the Chinese ministries and/or institutes to the contractor for pilot testing and data analysis as well as relevant data protection rules.
- (ii) the identification of pilot regions and companies where further pilot data collections will take place. Subsequently, relevant data collection staff in Chinese companies will be trained, by experts previously trained in data collection methodologies. The data collected will be analysed together with Chinese experts and the main causes of accidents and work-related health problems will be assessed as regards potential consequences and prevention and protection measures in line with EU best practices and standards.

This will also contribute to better insights for EU policy makers on the OSH situation in competitive economic sectors for EU companies in China.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

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

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

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

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

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

Results	Results chain (a): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (a): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To support EU-China dialogue on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) standards - with particular focus on highly competitive economic sectors (e.g. green economy, automotive, chemicals, construction and mining) - to contribute to enhancing the level playing field between EU and Chinese companies.	Number of workers in companies covered by pilot data collections	0 (2024)	150,000 (2028)	1. Pilot data collection reports 2. Programme progress reports	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1. EU data and standards are promoted to improve China's methodology for data collection and analysis systems on accidents at work and other work-related health problems.	1.1 Number of economic sectors covered in OSH data collections under the project 1.2 Number of study visits organised	1.1 0 (2024) 1.2 0 (2024)	1.1 Six (2028) 1.2 Two (2028)	1.1 Pilot data collection reports 1.2 Programme progress reports	Chinese counterparts remain open and interested in dialogue with the EU.
Outcome 2	2. Causes and indicators of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in China are analysed, and thereby policies and regulations in line with EU best practices and standards are promoted.	2.1 Number of analysed OSH data collections in China 2.2 Number of improved Chinese policies and regulations based on OSH data analysis.	2.1 0 (2024) 2.2 0 (2024)	2.1 Two (2028) 2.2 Two (2028)	2.1 Pilot data collection reports 2.2 Programme progress reports	The Chinese authorities will engage constructively in the work
Output 1.1 relating to Outcome 1	1.1 Improved and enlarged pilot data collections in the area of (a) accidents at work, and (b) other work-related health problems for specific economic sectors (e.g. green economy), including a more accurate overview of accidents at	1.1.1 Number of training events for OSH data collection 1.1.2 Number of study visits organised in the area of	1.1.1 0 (2024) 1.1.2 0 (2024)	1.1.1 Five (2028) 1.1.2 TBD in the inception phase	1.1.1 Programme progress reports 1.1.2 Programme progress reports	Chinese authorities and stakeholders remain open to engage and

	work and other work-related health problems in key economic sectors based on more harmonised and comparable data.	occupational accidents and health problems				exchange with the EU.
Output 2.1 relating to Outcome 2	2.1 Analytical reports identifying main causes and indicators of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in certain pilot areas of China, and giving recommendations for improved prevention and protection policies.	2.1.1 Number of identified main causes of accidents at work ⁹ with the support of the Action 2.1.2 Number of identified work-related health problems ¹⁰ with the support from the Action 2.1.3 Number of identified main prevention and protection activities recommended to China with the support of the Action	2.1.1 0 (2024) 2.1.2 0 (2024) 2.1.3 0 (2024)	2.1.1 Forty (40) (2028) 2.1.2 Fifteen (15) (2028) 2.1.3 Twenty (20) (2028)	2.1.1 Analytical reports and Programme progress reports 2.1.2 Analytical reports and Programme progress reports 2.1.3 Analytical reports and Programme progress reports	
Output 2.2 relating to Outcome 2	2.2 Better insights for EU policy makers and the EU-China dialogues on “Work Safety and Health” on the current OSH situation in competitive economic sectors for EU companies in China.	2.2.1 Number of reports for EU policy makers 2.2.2 Number of meetings to discuss report findings with for EU policy makers.	2.2.1 0(2024) 2.2.2 0 (2024)	2.2.1 Four (2028) 2.2.2 Two (2028)	2.2.1 Policy and analytical reports and Programme progress reports 2.2.2 Programme progress reports	

⁹ Estimated number of causes of accidents at work from the European Statistics on Accidents at Work - ESAW as concerns the codes of the variable "deviation".

¹⁰ Causes of work-related health problems from the EU Labour Force Survey module 2020 as concerns the number of answer categories of physical health and mental well-being risk factors

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the People's Republic of China.

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 the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

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

4.3 Implementation Modalities applicable for Project modality

The Commission will ensure that the EU rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures¹¹.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management) In order to achieve the objectives under section 3.1, a grant contract will be signed to implement the action. The grant will contribute to achieving the implementation of the action. The global budgetary envelope reserved is indicated in section 4.5.

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

1. Promote EU data and standards to improve China's methodology for data collection and analysis systems on accidents at work and other work-related health problems.
2. Analyse the causes of occupational accidents and work-related health problems in China, and thereby promote the development of policies and regulations in line with EU best practices and standards.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Applicants targeted are legal entities, public and private sector organisations (both profit and non-profit), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), public bodies, international organisations, NGOs, economic operators.

The scope described above may be narrowed down in terms of nationality, geographical location or nature of the applicants where it is required on account of the specific nature and the objectives of the action and where it is necessary for its effective implementation (Article 28(9) Global Europe Regulation).

The part of the action under the budgetary envelope reserved for grants may, partially or totally and including where an entity is designated for receiving a grant without a call for proposals, be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the criteria defined in section 4.3.2 below.

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

In case a grant envisaged under section 4.3.1 cannot be implemented as planned for reasons beyond the Commission's control, this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity. In such circumstances, the following selection criteria would apply:

¹¹ 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.

- active in the health and safety at work and on accident insurance matters,
- experience in working with public authorities;
- experience in promoting alignment of EU interests, policies and values in partner countries;
- expertise in providing advisory services, capacity building and/or technical assistance to public and private sector;
- deep knowledge of the China context;
- capacity to work in partnership with key bodies of the China Government enabling smooth facilitation of one or more policy dialogues related to key priorities and the SDGs.

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the 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	
EU Support for Health and Safety Analysis in China , composed of	
Grant (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	N.A.
Grants – total envelope under section 4.3.1	2 500 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	may be covered by another Decision
Contingencies	NA
Totals	2 500 000

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

A dedicated steering committee will be set up. This steering committee will act as advisory mechanism in order to provide the strategic and policy guidance needed to ensure smooth project implementation for each of the designated focus of the action.

The steering committee will meet at least once a year and will define the priority work streams to be addressed. The steering committee will review and endorse annual work plans, monitor project outputs and achievements and provide advice on how to address obstacles and challenges identified during implementation. The steering committee, whose composition will be further detailed in the legal commitments, will comprise the relevant sections of the Delegation representing DG INTPA and DG EMPL, as well as the implementing partner (grant contractor). Private Sector organisations and networks, civil society, including women organisations, will be consulted and involved in the implementation of the action, as appropriate.

EU Member States and other donors and stakeholders with an interest and/or active in the issues addressed may be invited to join the steering committee as observers. Full details of the operation of the steering committee and programme board will be outlined in the programme documents.

The coordination mechanism composed of Commission services (DG INTPA, DG EMPL, JRC, FPI) and the EEAS will be kept up-to-date on any activities under this action that are relevant to dedicated strategic communication and/or public diplomacy actions. The implementing partner or other relevant sections in the EU Delegation will facilitate the organisation of policy dialogue meetings, under the chairmanship of the Head of EU Delegation.

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

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The implementing partner is responsible for day-to-day monitoring and reporting based on the agreed indicators in the logframe. It includes entering the logframe in OPSYS at the beginning of the project as well as the current values on an annual basis. For baseline and/or endline targets that need to be defined for specific indicators, the implementing partners shall take the responsibility to collect data using appropriate tools including surveys and present the results in the progress report for approval by the contracting authority. Funding for the baseline and endline data collection will be incorporated into the overall budget within the implementing partners. Adjustments to the agreed indicators will be subject to a discussion and approval of the contracting authority. The contracting authority will also be responsible for the approval of interim progress reports including the updated current values of the logframe indicators in OPSYS.

Stakeholder engagement will be ensured by appropriate governance mechanism and communication and engagement strategy, monitored closely by the contracting authority during contract implementation.

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 data collected will take into consideration the gender perspective.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a mid-term and final evaluations may be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

- A mid-term evaluation may be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to the creation of the observatory and the gathering of related information. This would also be useful with respect to the potential launch of a second phase, in which the problems detected during the implementation of the project could be addressed.
- A final evaluation may be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that investment in critical raw materials will become even more important over time, due to their need for the green transition.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 2 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 dissemination. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

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

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

In line with the 2022 “[Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions](#)”, it will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union’s support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU member states.

However, action documents for specific sector programmes are in principle no longer required to include a provision for communication and visibility actions promoting the programmes concerned. These resources will instead be consolidated in Cooperation Facilities established by support measure action documents, allowing Delegations to plan and execute multiannual strategic communication and public diplomacy actions with sufficient critical mass to be effective on a national scale.