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ANNEX 3

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (Prosperity) for 2022-2023 part 1

Action Document for Multilateralism and Digitalisation

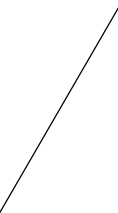
MULTIANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the multiannual 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	Multilateralism and Digitalisation OPSYS number: ACT - 61237 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Global action
4. Programming document	NDICI-Global Europe Global Challenges Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	Priority Area 3: Prosperity Digital Transformation
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority Area 3: Prosperity. Specific Objective 5: Digital Transformation.
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 17 Strengthen global Partnerships Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: SDG 4 Quality education SDG 5 Gender Equality SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth SDG 9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure SDG 10 Reduce Inequalities within and among countries SDG 16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions
8 a) DAC code(s)	220 – Digital (Communications) – 100%

8 b) Main Delivery Channel	Non-governmental organisation (NGOs) and Civils Society - 20000 United Nations - 41000 European Commission Budget – 42001 Central Government - 11001			
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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
	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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship digital skills/literacy	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	

	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES	NO	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @ (Methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @ (Methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET INFORMATION

12. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line: 14 02 02 42</p> <p>Total estimated cost : EUR 30 million</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution : EUR 30 million</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of EUR 25,501,768 from the general budget of the European Union for 2022 and for an amount of EUR 4,498,232 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023 subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.</p>
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MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

13. Type of financing	<p>Direct management through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grants or procurement <p>Indirect management with the entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.3</p>
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1.2 Summary of the Action

The action intends to promote the EU's vision of digitalisation in the multilateral system, and in multi-stakeholder and multilateral fora. Advancing the EU's participation and role in a specific range of topics will on the one hand promote the EU's vision and on the other hand reduce the risk of propagation of non-democratic and non-human centric developments in the digital domain.

The action promotes fundamental values-based human-centric digital transformation through the multilateral system, whilst supporting the EU's vision of multi-stakeholderism as a model to help shape the global narrative. This will be done particularly by working with International Organisations and Civil Society Organisations (CSO).

With the objective of promoting Open Internet Governance and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), the action aims to enhance participation and cooperation of Civil Society in multilateral and multistakeholder fora with regards to digital for development, internet governance and digital rights and inclusion; as well as to promote an EU

human-centric approach to AI. Furthermore, this action will contribute to the promotion of the implementation of the UN Secretary-General Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the Global Digital Compact¹.

In the context of promoting regulatory convergence, digital sovereignty and digital citizenship, this action will foster the harmonisation of digital policies and the cybersecurity global normative framework, strengthen capacity building and support tools for global monitoring of digital transformation indicators. It will contribute to the creation and maintenance of digital accessible eGovernance ecosystems and networks of Open-Source Software developers, the promotion of ‘digital rights and principles’ and CSO participation in policy debate. This action is designed such that future components of the Multilateralism and Digital programme can be adequately integrated.

The Action aims will be implemented through direct management and indirect management.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

The EU’s strong support to multilateralism and fundamental values is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and leaving no one behind and will be at the centre of our effort to tackle some of the root causes of the current most pressing global challenges.

This action will complement the EU’s efforts to lead the transition to a human-centric digital world, supporting global and trans-regional actions to build a global, open, stable and secure cyber space, grounded in the rule of law, human rights, gender equality and democratic values that leave no-one behind, through an inclusive multi-stakeholder approach.

The action will enhance the role of the EU directly and indirectly through relevant multilateral forums to promote a human-centric vision of the digital economy and society. It will shape and support key multilateral and multi-stakeholder processes, promote regulatory convergence and build capacity in areas such as digital technical and regulatory standards, accessibility, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, platform regulation, open internet and digital rights and principles. This action will also reinforce multi-stakeholder partnerships/alliances -with civil society, women’s organisations, private sector, international actors, etc. - to advance the EU’s digital agenda.

The action supports the EU’s international digital objectives, in line with a.o. the Global Gateway Communication², the Communication 2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade and the Communication on Multilateralism³. The Digital Compass for example mentions: ‘actively and assertively to promote its human centric vision of digitisation within international organisations, in cooperation with its Member States’. The action takes also into account the European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade⁴, the EU Communication on Multilateralism⁵ and the UN’s ‘Our Common Agenda’⁶.

The action is also fully aligned with various EU Digital Policies and Strategies, which it wishes to promote. This includes but is not limited to existing and currently being developed policies such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Data Governance Act⁷, the Digital Services Act (DSA) and Digital Markets Act (DMA)⁸, the

¹ <https://www.un.org/en/content/digital-cooperation-roadmap/> [Accessed 20.06.2022]

² JOIN(2021)30 of 01.12.2021

³ COM(2021)118 of 09.03.2021

⁴ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/declaration-european-digital-rights-and-principles> [Accessed 20.06.2022]

⁵ JOIN(2021)3 of 17.02.2021

⁶ https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/assets/pdf/Common_Agenda_Report_English.pdf#:~:text=Our%20Common%20Agenda%20includes%20recommendations%20for%20meaningful%2C%20diverse,by%20transforming%20education%2C%20skills%20training%20and%20lifelong%20learning [Accessed: 20.06.2022]

⁷ COM(2020)767 of 25.11.2020

⁸ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/digital-services-act-package> [Accessed 20.06.2022]

Data Act⁹, the Artificial Intelligence Act¹⁰, the Cybersecurity of 5G networks EU Toolbox of risk mitigating measures¹¹, the EU Web Accessibility directive¹² and EU Accessibility Act¹³. The action will contribute the EU Gender Action Plan III¹⁴.

This intervention will primarily contribute to SDG 17 ‘Strengthen global partnership’, SDG 16 ‘Peace, Justice and Strong institutions’, SDG 9 ‘Build resilient infrastructures, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation’ as well as to SDG 8 ‘Decent work and economic worth’, SDG 10 ‘Reduce inequality within and among countries’ and to some extent to SDG 5 ‘Gender Equality’ and SDG 4 ‘Quality education’ when developing capacity building with CSO or international organisations.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

Fundamental decisions which will shape our society’s future are being made today, through the digital domain. Current trends in global digital transformation and in the multilateral arena pose an important challenge for the EU in different aspects. The EU has been leading on various normative/regulatory aspects of the digital landscape, aiming at achieving the positive potential while avoiding the pitfalls, and advocating a human-centric view of global digital transformation. However, some important actors are actively supporting a digital agenda which is not aligned, or opposing, the EU’s vision.

Furthermore, many stakeholders currently lack the opportunity, experience or capacity to effectively take part in global strategic discussions regarding digital transformation, accessible to all. Ranging from free access to information for democratic and educational purposes, to industrial/economic policy, to public and private data privacy, cybersecurity and national security, these discussions ultimately deal with fundamental rights, governance and sovereignty. Because of this, multilateral (and multi-stakeholder) fora may not achieve the promise of digital transformation, or even risk being steered and used to the detriment of the EU’s and our partners’ ambitions.

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

- EU Member States,
- International Organisations
- Civil Society Organisations
- The private sector
- Relevant think tanks and academia could also be involved.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The **Overall Objective (Impact)** of this action is to promote EU values-based human-centric and gender responsive digital transformation through the multilateral system, whilst supporting the EU’s vision of multi-stakeholderism as a model to help shape the global narrative. It will contribute to the fulfilment of the EU’s global ambition of promoting a fair, inclusive and accessible, green, gender responsive and human centric digital transformation worldwide, inspired by the EU’s human-centric approach, as well as provide an alternative solution against the competing models for a digital economy and society currently present in the international sphere.

⁹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/data-act-proposal-regulation-harmonised-rules-fair-access-and-use-data> [accessed 02.09.2022]

¹⁰ COM(2021)206 of 21.04.2021

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=64468 [Accessed 02.09.2022]

¹² OJ L 327, 2.12.2016, p. 1–15.

¹³ OJ L 151, 7.6.2019, p. 70–115.

¹⁴ JOIN(2020)17 of 25.11.2020

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

1. Promote the EU objectives in Internet Governance, including the promotion of the Open Internet Governance and responsible use of AI, and strengthening global digital cooperation
2. Promote regulatory convergence and digital sovereignty
3. Enhance digital capacity and strengthen digital citizenship for all

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

OUTPUTS CONTRIBUTING TO OUTCOME 1

- 1.1. OUTPUT 1 (related to Outcome 1): Enhanced participation and cooperation of Civil Society Organisations (CSO) in multilateral- and multistakeholder- fora, with regards to digital for development, Internet Governance, digital rights and inclusion and digital standards settings. CSO's are supported, and capacities are strengthened so as to allow engagement on national, regional and global scale,
- 1.2. OUTPUT 2 (related to Outcome 1): The EU approach to Human-centric AI (Artificial Intelligence) through multilateral fora is promoted,
- 1.3. OUTPUT 3 (related to Outcome 1): Support is provided to the Implementation of the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the Global Digital Compact through the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Technology, and relevant multilateral- and multistakeholder- fora

OUTPUT CONTRIBUTINGS TO OUTCOME 2

- 2.1. OUTPUT 1 (related to Outcome 2) Regulatory convergence and harmonisation of digital policies is promoted in line with fundamental values. Digital for development capacity building is provided.
- 2.2. OUTPUT 2 (related to Outcome 2): Cybersecurity. An open, free, and secure cyberspace for all is promoted. Partnerships for shaping the global narrative and normative framework on cybersecurity are developed, and regulatory convergence in the domain of cybersecurity is promoted in line with EU fundamental values, including the promotion of third countries sovereignty over digital infrastructures and data

OUTPUT CONTRIBUTING TO OUTCOME 3

- 3.1. OUTPUT 1 (related to Outcome 3): In the context of digital public goods, the development of accessible local digital eGovernance ecosystems and networks of Open-Source Software (OSS) developers is supported
- 3.2. OUTPUT 2 (related to Outcome 3): Promoting digital rights, digital inclusion and accessibility and CSOs inclusive participation in the digital policy debate.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1: This Action will contribute to the strengthening of CSOs, including women's organisations, to become more influential on the global arena and to build cooperation with European CSO's active in the field. This can indicatively include the following topics: a) Monitoring policy of Artificial intelligence and capacity building to ensure its responsible and ethical use globally ; b) increase of CSO engagement at national, regional and international Internet Governance Forum (IGFs) to promote national and multistakeholder engagement when formulating positions and reporting back on outcomes; c) enhancing global south stakeholders' participation in the open internet and digital rights and digital inclusion debates to raise awareness on governmental level and society at large; d) Capacity building of and by CSOs on Digital Economy, Digital Diplomacy, Internet Governance, web accessibility; e) Monitoring Internet shutdowns /access limitations; f) Promoting the EU declaration of Digital Rights and Principles; g) Promoting core ideas of the EU Digital Compass/ Digital Decade 2030 – in particular – human centric approach, inclusive participation and accessibility, gender equality, h) Engagement of CSO's-including from the global south- in relevant working groups of entities such as Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU). I) Partnership building between European CSO's and CSO's from the global south. J) Organisation of internet governance fora in collaboration with relevant EU Delegations.

Activities related to Output 1.2: Promoting the EU approach to Human-centric AI. The Actions under this Output can include amongst other activities a) Elaboration of tools to implement EU supported Ethical AI recommendations globally, b) The creation of global expert networks, including representatives of civil society in the context of Ethical AI, c) Fostering global international cooperation, including through a Global Forum on Ethics of AI.

Activities related to Output 1.3: This action aims at supporting the overall operationalisation of the Roadmap for Digital Cooperation issued by the UN Secretary-General. It will contribute to anchor the EU's values and vision of digital cooperation in the work of the UN Envoy on Technology and his/her Office. In particular, this action will aim to steer the activities of the Tech Envoy and promote: the current multi-stakeholder model of internet governance; its independence, neutrality and competence; its active engagement with stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the Roadmap, in a coherent and comprehensive way; and its function as a guardian of fundamental values for new technologies (i.e. human-centric, gender responsive, inclusive, open, un-fragmented, free, accessible, safe, secure, and privacy-based Internet. The Actions will develop the 2nd Phase of the already ongoing project financed by Foreign Policy Needs (FPN).

Activities related to Output 2.1: The actions will promote regulatory convergence and harmonisation of digital policies in line with the fundamental values in the international sphere. In doing so, the action will also promote EU policies such as on data governance, accessibility and cybersecurity. The actions can include amongst others a) Capacity building of governmental officials and other stakeholders globally b) Supporting the development of global data collection, analysis and reporting on relevant human-centric digital transformation indicators and related policy analysis.

Activities related to Output 2.2: This action will aim at: a) implementing cyber diplomacy activities and promoting best practices in the field of cybersecurity; b) providing training and capacity-building at global level; c) harmonising regulatory frameworks and legislation, e.g. in line with the Budapest Convention¹⁵. This component of the Action will be conducted in synergy with and contribute to the UN Programme of Action on the International Security Aspects of Information and Communication technologies and responsible State behaviour in cyberspace (PoA)¹⁶, particularly with regard to the capacity building element of the PoA.

Activities related to Output 3.1. In the context of Digital Public Goods, nurturing local digital and accessible Open-Source software ecosystems.

Activities related to Output 3.2. Promoting digital rights, digital inclusion and accessibility and CSOs inclusive participation in the digital policy debate.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Environmental Protection and Climate Change are not targeted as main priorities in this Action. Nevertheless, the support provided to the UN's digital processes (Our Common Agenda) and the EU proposed Digital Rights and Principles, amongst other activities, will support the Digital and Green nexus.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes, this action is marked as G1. This means that the Action will consider gender balance indirectly in the activities, but particularly in the activities refer to Outcome 1, Output 1 channelled through CSO and international organisations. Gender balanced training on Digital governance, as well as capacity building, and disaggregated sex statistics on AI will be under a gender perspective.

Human Rights

As stated by the Declaration of Digital Rights and Principles 'The Union should promote the Declaration in its relations with other international organisations and third countries with the ambition that the principles serve as an inspiration for international partners to guide a digital transformation which puts people and their human rights at the centre throughout the world'. This Action contributes to the promotion of this Declaration and consequently promotes human rights as part of its mainstreaming objectives. Furthermore, actions related to Ethical usage of

¹⁵ <https://rm.coe.int/1680081561> [Accessed 20.06.2022]

¹⁶ <https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/gadis3673.doc.htm> [Accessed: 20.06.2022]

Artificial Intelligence, and the UN's Technology Envoy, will also support the application of Human Rights in the digital sphere.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0 as it does not directly target persons with disabilities. Nevertheless, this action does promote a human-centric digital transformation, which emphasises digital inclusion, thereby also improving the conditions of disabled people. Disability is also mentioned in the UN's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, and in several EU policies on digital transformation, web access etc. which are also supported through this action.

Democracy

The topic of democracy lies at the core of this action, as the EU promotes a multistakeholder and multilateral approach to digital transformation, based on a human-centric view and fundamental rights. This EU approach is different from what some important other geostrategic actors are promoting. Also, as referred in the Declaration of Digital Rights and Principles 'access to diverse content contributes to a pluralistic public debate and should allow everyone to participate in democracy'. Therefore, the contribution of this Action to the expansion of the EU vision of digitalisation in line with the Declaration, as well as the work through CSO's (amongst others) directly promotes and strengthen democracy.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

As mentioned in the Preamble of the Declaration of Digital Rights and Principles 'the Union way for the digital transformation of our societies and economy should encompass digital sovereignty, inclusion, equality, sustainability, resilience, security, trust, improving quality of life, respect of all people' rights and aspirations'. Consequently, this action, promoting the Declaration, contribute to those objectives. Furthermore, the actions pertaining to ethical usage of Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and digital public goods, amongst others, support peace and resilience.

Disaster Risk Reduction

By promoting capacity building and training on digital matters, tools and knowledge sharing, the action will indirectly also contribute towards disaster risk reduction at global level.

Other considerations if relevant

This action will also involve Civil society organisation in its design and implementation in line with the Communication on engagement with Civil Society¹⁷

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	Risk 1: Difficulty to get the message through due to resistance of non-aligned actors or imitation of this Action by such actors	M	M	Cybersecurity: Outreach activities and promotion of the EU approach need to be conducted through different channels. Diplomatic steering needs, including by EU Member States involved in the Action, to be conducted in all cybersecurity fora. Important to leverage, develop and respect the EU's position as trusted partner.
2 – risks related to planning, processes and systems	Risk 2: Appropriate stakeholders are not addressed (specifically for the cybersecurity)	M	H	Accurate planning and mapping of the cybersecurity landscape is ongoing. Inclusion of EU Member States leading in cybersecurity interventions will provide the required expertise for an adequate targeting.
5 - risks related to communication and information	Risk 3: Given the nature of the Action, risk of lack of visibility.	M	H	Mitigation during the formulation and implementation phase by ensuring the right representation of the EU in every action linked to this programme (including but not limited to conferences, events, capacity building initiatives...), as well as coordination with INTPA strategic communication.
Lessons Learnt: Due to the innovative nature of this action, a limited number of lessons learnt are available at this time. Lessons learned from this action will inform the design of the second phase <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The lesson learned in terms of achieving both relevance and effectiveness is to fully involve EU Delegations and the Commission Services in the conception, design and the management of the different actions, 2) Measuring impact of some activities can be challenging, due to the nature of those activities, and will require attention during the preparation of actions. 3) For a correct implementation of this action a strong and fluent communication with international organisations will be needed, as well as constant communications EU Delegations and the Commission Services. 				

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The action intends to promote the EU's vision of digitalisation including in the multilateral system, and in multi-stakeholder and multilateral fora. Advancing the EU's participation and role in a specific range of topics will on the one hand promote the EU's vision and on the other hand reduce the risk of propagation of non-democratic and non-human centric developments in the digital domain.

These actions will be implemented through International Organisations, Civil Society, and possibly private sector, in coordination with the EU Member States. This approach will underline and strengthen the EU's multi-stakeholder approach and promote the EU's vision at different levels. It will aim to reach within the Multilateral system by working with multilaterals, including on internal guidance, as well as working groups and country offices. It will have a global reach by working with the multilaterals as well as CSO's globally, and on topics which have a global impact.

To achieve the established objective, this action will envisage three main pillars to work on:

1. Open internet and responsible use of AI. This pillar will be devoted to the development of Open Internet Governance and the EU approach on human –centric AI. It will reinforce the multi-stakeholder approach on digital cooperation in multiple fora including at the level of the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Technology.
2. Regulatory convergence and digital sovereignty: The objective of this pillar will be to promote regulatory convergence and harmonise digital policies in line with the EU values in the international sphere. The action will also promote EU policies such as on cybersecurity.
3. Enhancing Digital capacities and Strengthening Digital citizenship Under this pillar, the action will promote digital rights and CSO participation in the digital debate, promote open-source software ecosystems and fully access Digital Public Goods, including in the context of digital government transformation.

This action is the first of two phases (planned actions) in this domain under the Global Challenges programme.

3.6 Logical Framework Matrix

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

Results	Results chain (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (Values and years)	Targets (Values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to promote EU values-based human-centric digital transformation through the multilateral system, whilst supporting the EU's vision of multi-stakeholderism as a model to help shape the global narrative	1. Number of International organisations and CSO promoting a human centric digital transformation	TBD by early 2023	TBD by early 2023	1 evaluation study	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1. Open Internet Governance and responsible use of AI are promoted, and global digital cooperation is strengthened	1.1. Number of actions identified or supported. 1.2. Number and types of CSO supported-involved (including women's CSOs and those representing people in vulnerable situations) 1.3. Number and quality of networking and training activities for capacity building on EU digital regulations	To be defined during the inception period.	1.1 X actions supported 1.2 X CSO supported 1.3 X networking and training	TBD by early 2023	
Outcome 2	2. Regulatory convergence and digital sovereignty are promoted	2.1. Number of International Organisations involved in promoting the EU digital principles. 2.2. Number of activities promoted under the cybersecurity component and number of countries involved	To be defined during the inception period.	2.1 X international organisations supported 2.2 X local communities created and supported 2.3. X activities promoted	TBD by early 2023	

Outcome 3	3. Digital Capacity and strengthen Digital Citizenship	3.1. Number of actions taken to promote EU Digital Rights and digital inclusion	To be defined during the inception period.	3.1 X actions	TBD by early 2023	
Output 1 relating to Outcome 1	1.1 Enhanced participation and cooperation of Civil Society Organisations (CSO) in multilateral- and multistakeholder-fora, with regards to digital for development, Internet Governance, and digital rights. CSO's are supported, and capacities are strengthened so as to allow engagement on national, regional and global scale	1.1.1 Number of stakeholders reached through outreach activities 1.1.2 Number of stakeholders reached through capacity building activities	To be defined during the inception period.	1.1.1 X stakeholders reached 1.1.2 X number of stakeholders reached through capacity building	TBD by early 2023	
Output 2 relating to Outcome 1	1.2 The EU approach to Human-centric AI (Artificial Intelligence) through multilateral fora is promoted	1.2.1. Number of states approached to reinforce strong national institutions for promoting AI Ethics 1.2.2. Number of experts trained on EU vision on AI, disaggregated by sex 1.2.3. Number and quality of events created to promote Ethics of AI	To be defined during the inception period.	1.2.1 X states approached 1.2.2 X number of experts trained 1.2.3 X events	TBD by early 2023	

Output 3 relating to Outcome 1	1.3 Support is provided to the Implementation of the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the Global Digital Compact through the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Technology	1.3.1 Number of activities launched by the UN Tech Envoy	To be defined during the inception period.	1.3.1. X activities launched	TBD by early 2023	
Output 1 relating to Outcome 2	2.1 Regulatory convergence and harmonisation of digital policies is promoted in line with fundamental values. Digital for development capacity building is provided.	2.1.1. Quantitative progress made in the analysis of regulatory convergence 2.1.2 Number of capacity building courses and training activities	To be defined during the inception period.	2.1.1. x analysis of the progress made 2.1.2 X capacity building courses	TBD by early 2023	
Output 2 relating to Outcome 2	2.2 Cybersecurity. An open, free, and secure cyberspace is promoted. Partnerships for shaping the global narrative and normative framework on cybersecurity are developed, and regulatory convergence in the domain of cybersecurity is promoted in line with EU fundamental values	2.2.1. Number of countries supporting the UN Programme of Action on the International Security Aspects of Information and Communication Technologies and Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace (PoA). 2.2.2. Number of countries assisted to develop their own national cybersecurity strategy and Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT)-like capabilities 2.2.3. Number of countries targeted through outreach activities	To be defined during the inception period. TBD by early 2023	2.2.1 X countries supporting the UN PoA 2.2.2 X countries assisted 2.2.3 X number of countries contacted through outreach	TBD by early 2023	

		linked to the Budapest convention and/or its principles.				
Output 1 relating to Outcome 3	3.1 In the context of Digital Public Goods, nurturing local digital Open-Source software ecosystems	3.1.1 Number of activities linked to accessible Open Source 3.1.2. Number of local communities created and supported 3.1.3. Number of countries reached	To be defined during the inception period. TBD by early 2023	3.1.1 X of activities linked to Open Source 3.1.2 X local communities created and supported 3.1.3 X countries reached	TBD by early 2023	
Output 2 relating to Outcome 3	3.2. Promoting digital rights and CSOs inclusive participation in the digital policy debate.	3.2.1 Number and type of CSO that strengthen their participation in the digital policy debate 3.2.2 Number of policy dissemination activities organised 3.2.3 Number of policy material produced 3.2.4 Impact on stakeholders	To be defined during the inception period. TBD by early 2023	3.2.1. X of CSO 3.2.2. X of policy dissemination activities organised 3.2.3. X policy material produced	TBD by early 2023	

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude financing agreements with partner countries.

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer 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 measures¹⁸.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant

The grant(s) will contribute to achieve the specific objectives 1 'Promote Open Internet Governance and responsible use of AI, and strengthening global digital cooperation' as outlined in section 3.1..

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Legal entities, public bodies, NGOs with a relevant expertise in the field of the action.

In case of impossibility to implement or failure of procedure this implementing modality can be changed to direct management *procurement*.

4.3.2 Direct Management (Procurement)

This call for tenders could be launched in the fourth quarter of 2022 under a suspensive clause prior to the adoption of this Decision. This is justified because there is a risk of insufficient time being available after the adoption of the decision, for the procedure of the tender and the contract signature.

In case of impossibility to implement or failure of procedure this implementing modality can be changed to direct management *grant*.

4.3.3 Indirect Management with a pillar assessed entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: technical /political mandate of the entity (pillar-assessed organisations and EU decentralised agencies) in the related field of the action.

The entity will be selected on the basis of its specific sector and/or thematic expertise, management capacities and strategic relevance for the EU multilateral engagement. The implementation by this entity relates to the Specific Objectives/Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 as described in section 3.

¹⁸ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

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

With reference to 4.3.3, if negotiations with the entities that will be defined by the criteria mentioned in the above section 4.3.3. fail, or in case of exceptional circumstances outside the Commission's control, direct management through grants or procurement will be considered along defined criteria in section 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 in support to Objective 1, 2 and 3.

4.5. 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).

4.4 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (Amount in EUR)
Output 1: Promoting Open Internet Governance and Human-Centric (responsible use of AI) Artificial Intelligence while strengthening global digital cooperation composed of	13 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1 or Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	7 500 000
Indirect management with International organisation- cf. section 4.3.3	5 500 000
Output 2: Ensuring regulatory convergence with the EU and promote resilience, security and interoperability of digital infrastructures and data exchanges with partner countries at regional level composed of	10 000 000
Indirect management with International organisation- cf. section 4.3.3	10 000 000
Output 3: Enhancing Digital Capacity and strengthening Digital Citizenship composed of	7 000 000
Indirect management with International organisations cf. section 4.3.3	7 000 000
Evaluation –cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	may be covered by another Decision
Totals	30 000 000 (EUR 25 501 768 in 2022 and EUR 4 498 232 in 2023)

4.5 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The action will be managed by the Commission.

The current action will be monitored annually via strategic meetings. Contributing partners to the Action, managers of different components and major stakeholders will be represented. In addition, a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and gender considerations will be taken into consideration for the monitoring set-up.

The action will be guided more regularly by technical committees in the form of meetings and/or networks in which project priorities, results of project monitoring and contractual issues will be discussed. The Commission will chair the above meetings, with the involvement of other Commission services and EEAS as relevant.

The strategic meetings will approve the strategy of implementation and the strategic priorities. The technical committees will ensure coherence to the strategy and approve specific strategies and plans. The instrument will retain a certain level of flexibility in order to be able to respond rapidly to needs, requests and changes.

The implementing partners will be responsible for the actions that they manage.

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.

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).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis, and monitoring:

Specific monitoring and reporting measures will be designed with the implementing partners and will be consistent with the logframe matrix of this action document.

5.2 Evaluation

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

It will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular with respect to the launch of the second phase of this action. All evaluations shall assess to what extent the action is considering the human rights based approach as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. Expertise on human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least one month 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 dissemination¹⁹. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

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

5.3 Audit and Verifications

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

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

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

Action documents for specific sector programmes are no longer required to include a provision for communication and visibility actions promoting the programmes concerned.

¹⁹ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

However in line with article 46 and subject to Article 17 of the NDICI Regulations, all the entities implementing EU/funded external actions shall take all reasonable measures to publicise the European Union support. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless, of whether the action concerned are implemented by the Commission partners countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies international financial institutions and agencies of EU Member States.

Appendix: REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

Primary Interventions are those contracts or groups of contracts bearing reportable results and respecting the following business rule: 'a given contract can only contribute to one primary intervention and not more than one'. An individual contract that does not produce direct reportable results and cannot be logically grouped with other result reportable contracts is considered a 'support entities.' The addition of all primary interventions and support entities is equivalent to the full development portfolio of the Institution.

The present Action identifies as:

Contract level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts	<p>EUR 7.5 million contract with Consortium (ia) of Civil society organisations on Outcome 1 (output 1)</p> <p>EUR 5.5 million contract with the entities promoting the EU approach to Human-Centric AI in developing and emerging countries and Reinforcing the multi-stakeholder approach to digital cooperation on Outcome 1 (outputs 2 and 3)</p> <p>EUR 10 million contract with contract with entity/ties able to ensure regulatory convergence with the EU and promote resilience, security and interoperability of digital infrastructures and data exchanges with partner countries at regional level on Outcome 2</p> <p>EUR 7 million contract with entities able to enhancing Digital Capacity and strengthening Digital Citizenship on Outcome 3</p>