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ANNEX IV

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

Action Document for “Supporting Asian countries’ resilience to violent extremism in the digital space”

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	Supporting Asian countries’ resilience to violent extremism in the digital space OPSYS number: ACT-62511 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 Central Asia, South Asia and South East Asia
4. Programming document	Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Asia and Pacific 2021-2027
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	<p>The proposed action aims to advance the priorities identified in the Specific Objective 4 of the Pan-Asia component of the Regional Indicative Programme for Asia-Pacific 2021-2027, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SO4: Reinforce security and defence cooperation, inclusive and democratic governance and conflict resolution and prevention, counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism and foster cooperation on cyber security and organised crime, in particular drugs and human and wildlife trafficking. <p>Relevant expected results from the RMIP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ER 4.3: Coordinated and cooperative analysis of security incidents.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Priority Area 1 – Regional Integration and Cooperation (DAC 151 - Government & Civil Society-general) (DAC 152 - Conflict, Peace & Security)
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: Goal 16 (Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).

	Other significant SDG: Goal 5 (Gender equality) Goal 17 (Partnerships)			
8 a) DAC code(s)	15180 - Ending violence against women and girls (10%) 15220 - Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution (90%)			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) – 41128 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - 41114			
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 checked="" 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"/>
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	digital governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	digital skills/literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Connectivity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
	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(s) (article, item): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14.020130 : EUR 600 000 14.020131: EUR 4 400 000 Total estimated cost: EUR 5 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 5 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Indirect management (Multi-Partner Contribution Agreement) with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)			

1.2 Summary of the Action

Violent extremism represents a pressing security threat in many parts of Asia, undermining regional stability and impeding social and economic development. It is a multi-faceted phenomenon driven by various factors including ideology, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, misinformation, limited access to public and social services, discrimination or inequalities that create grievances which are exploited by violent extremist organisations.

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected – in particular in Asia with a very high number of users of digital tools – this phenomenon is amplified by the capacity of terrorist groups to use the digital space to disseminate extremist narratives and content online, recruit young people and raise funds. Youth is particularly vulnerable as social media and other online platforms (such as gaming platforms) are used for such purposes. In this context, the action aims at enhancing prevention against radicalisation actions leading to violent extremism in the digital space with a specific focus on youth.

The proposed action involves a multipronged approach, focusing partly on capacity building, resilience, and the countering of hate speech and misinformation in online and offline spaces, and the utilisation of national and regional networks to generate and disseminate best practices and strengthen collaboration between different actors in the region, including faith-based leaders, secondary educational institutions and influencers.

The action will promote a multi-stakeholders' and multi-disciplinary approach by building on the networks of practitioners working on preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) already established in Central Asia, South Asia and South East Asia.

Drawing from the EU model of Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) which mobilises expertise from across Europe in a Team Europe approach, those networks will serve as platforms to facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation, sharing of knowledge and good practices in the P/CVE area. It will build upon the results achieved and

The security challenges posed by violent extremism are further exacerbated by a multitude of multidimensional crises affecting these regions, including climate change impacts, economic volatility or the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. These crises increase vulnerability to recruitment by extremist groups and it has been observed that in Pakistan, instances of recruitment by TTP have surged in areas affected by floods and economic shocks, while climate insecurity has led to increased recruitment in communities in the Bangsamoro region of the Philippines.

ISIL-K also presents a security threat to the Central Asian region with reported nationals of Central Asian countries among its fighters. In addition, the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement and/or the Turkistan Islamic Party are seen as posing a serious threat to Central Asia in the longer term as the group continued to recruit fighters with a plan of training young fighters. Drivers of radicalisation to violent extremism in Central Asian context is a complex system that includes political, socioeconomic, ideological, religious, and psychological factors. These factors are similar to the dynamics observed in other regions and relate to lack of general and religious education, unemployment, feelings of marginalisation and frustration, and unsuccessful reintegration into society among other issues. Although ISIL-K targets governments that it perceives to be willing to cooperate with the Taliban in Afghanistan, the movement is also increasingly claiming responsibility for attacks in Central Asia.

The vulnerability to violent extremism has been further increased by the use of internet and online tools. South and South East Asia represent together the highest number of social media users worldwide and account for 70% of internet penetration. The widespread accessibility to the internet, particularly through smartphones, has a significant impact on communities and can undermine efforts in building peace and maintaining social cohesion as cyber misogyny, hateful messages targeting religious and ethnic minorities, and extremist narratives are disseminated in digital spaces. In South Asia for instance, online hate speech disproportionately target women and minority groups and online harassment has silenced social activism, impacting the work of key influential actors. In Central Asia, following a rapid digital transformation during the last few years, the main radicalisation and recruitment tool has also become social media. In 2020, the organisation SecDev detected almost 500 channels used by Central Asian violent extremists with more than 174,000 subscriptions. Everywhere, digital tools have also significantly increased the capabilities of violent extremist groups to capitalise on digital platforms to recruit individuals and raise funding.

Addressing evolving online radicalisation and digital harm is therefore an imperative and efforts must in priority focus on youth and women who vulnerable to for radicalisation and recruitment purposes and are targeted through social media and other digital avenues, including gaming platforms. Likewise, tech-based peacebuilding initiatives and some start-ups have the potential to play a role in addressing these issues, by leveraging technology to facilitate dialogue, promote understanding, and counter misinformation and hate speech.

Aligned with the EU's Youth Action Plan⁴, the action will contribute to the EU's Counter-terrorism agenda⁵ by addressing underlying conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism through a whole-of-society approach. Drawing from past experiences and lessons learned, it aims to address identified gaps and challenges, such as effective multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms and information-sharing, and meaningful youth and women engagement in PVE responses.

This Action will build upon the results of previous P/CVE projects, in particular in South and South East Asia (eg STRIVE Asia or the UNDP-led "Preventing Violent Extremism Through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity" projects) and will seek synergies with and build on the lessons learned from other EU-supported initiatives, in particular the ESIWA action (*Enhancing Security Cooperation in and with Asia*) which also covers Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, as well as with programmes in Central Asia active in the broader field of security and counterterrorism including the Law Enforcement Programme in Central Asia (LEICA) and the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA). Specific meetings will be organised with ESIWA implementing partners to identify the best ways to ensure complementarity in the activities. Coordination will also be maintained throughout the implementation of the action. This action will also coordinate very closely with the EU-funded UNODC initiative on PVE in Pakistan⁶, which aims to promote national-level PVE network. and in

⁴ EU Youth Action Plan, see: [Youth Action Plan - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/youth-action-plan/)

⁵ A Counter-Terrorism Agenda for the EU, see: [9b54c533-139a-4662-99cf-b5f72220bb18_en \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/counter-terrorism/)

Indonesia where STRIVE Juvenile⁷ has already been very active in engaging with local CSOs on PVE programmes.

The action also supports the EU's Global Gateway strategy, by contributing to an enabling environment and to more resilient communities in the partner countries where activities will be undertaken. The action particularly aligns with Global Gateway digital priority area in supporting open, stable and secure cyberspace, specifically for young people, based on rule of law, human rights, democratic values, and inclusivity. In addition, this action will draw on the expertise of EU Member States who will be invited to contribute as experts to technical assistance activities and as observers to the Project Steering Committee.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Brief problem analysis:

Violent extremism poses a significant security threat across many regions of Asia, challenging regional stability and hindering social and economic progress. It is a complex issue influenced by various factors - including ideological motivations, limited socioeconomic opportunities, misinformation – that are exploited by extremist organisations. Increasingly, this phenomenon is amplified by the capacity of terrorist groups to use the digital space to disseminate extremist narratives and content online, recruit young people and raise funds. Youth, including young women, is particularly vulnerable given their exposure to such content on social media and other online platforms (such as gaming platforms). In this context, prevention against radicalisation actions leading to violent extremism in the digital space is an important strand of P/CVE work and calls for a specific focus on youth.

Moreover, while violence is often linked to masculinity, the reality is more complex. Although women are often expected to occupy private roles, their role in violent extremist groups is not always passive and invisible and there have been examples where they acted as high-profile recruiters and perpetrators of violence. While limited research is available, accounts from women violent extremists often indicate a keen sense of agency and empowerment in their decisions to join extremist groups⁸.

In line with the UN Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, some countries have developed national action plans (NAP) on PVE. In the Asia-Pacific region, the EU and UNDP have thus partnered to support NAPs in four countries⁹. From this experience, it appears that the engagement from the government to make it a political priority is a key factor for its success, alongside the space for engagement with civil society, faith-based groups, women, and youth. While these plans have helped increase coordination among various stakeholders, political awareness and facilitated resource allocation, challenges persist in terms of implementation, effective coordination and monitoring and evaluation with a lack of clear mechanisms to measure effectiveness and assess progress accurately. Additionally, the lack of gender and human rights mainstreaming in these frameworks have also raises concerns in some cases.

In this regard, this Action will contribute to supporting a more effective implementation of the NAPs through a coordinated whole-of-society approach by promoting a multi-stakeholders' and multi-disciplinary outlook. It will do so by strengthening collaboration between different actors, including faith-based leaders, secondary educational institutions and influencers and supporting capacity building, resilience, and the countering of hate speech – including gender-based hate speech - and misinformation in online and offline spaces.

The action will also engage young people and increase their understanding of the drivers of radicalisation and their capacities to meaningfully contribute to - and participate in - PVE response initiatives.

⁸ Introducing Masculinities, femininities and violent extremism in Asia. UNDP and UN Women: <https://www.undp.org/publications/conflicting-identities-nexus-between-masculinities-femininities-and-violent-extremism-asia>

⁹ Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia

Overall, the action will strengthen trust-based partnerships, cooperation and coordination among relevant stakeholders, youth-led organizations, women, educators, and CSOs at the national, regional, and cross-regional levels to jointly formulate and implement prevention efforts with pro-active youth participation.

This project will create opportunities for gender-responsive PVE and digital harm work through stakeholders' engagement in order to encourage behavioural change around gender norms that exacerbate grievance and can lead to radicalisation, especially in the digital space, including on online violence against women. It also aims to encourage tech-based peacebuilding initiatives and provide support to young social media influencers with online start-up platforms (blogs, channels, Tik Tok etc.) to engage youth on issues of peace and social cohesion, manage hate speech, misinformation and online abuse, and facilitate online dialogue and trust-building, including with the use of AI.

By building on the networks of P/CVE practitioners already established in Central Asia, South Asia and South East Asia that have secured the ownership of the partner countries in the region, the action will support the implementation of sustainable and locally based solutions to pressing risks associated with violent extremism. In addition, close coordination will be facilitated with the EU-funded PVE initiative in Pakistan to ensure complementarity and synergy of actions and promote exchange of good practices and recommendations formulated under the current action.

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

The proposed action will work through a multi- stakeholders and whole-of-society approach to work on complementary strands of the PVE phenomenon and build trust, partnerships, cooperation and coordination and ensure that policy responses are inclusive.

The project's participatory approach will ensure that project activities are designed, implemented and monitored so as to prioritize the well-being of all beneficiaries, many of whom are members of groups living in vulnerable situations, and promote their human rights.

It will involve the following stakeholders:

- **Governments and public officials** are important stakeholders for successful implementation of the action which will engage with the Ministries of Justice, the Ministries of Interior, Prosecutor General's Office, Attorney General's Office, National Counter-terrorism and PVE agencies, the Ministries in charge of Religious Affairs, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Ministries in charge of Youth, Sports, Employment and Social Development, the Ministries of in charge of Gender and Women Affairs, Ministries of Education; Immigration Service, Police Service, Prison and Probation Service, Reintegration Centres, as well as any other governmental partner as appropriate.
- **Human rights Commissions**
- **Civil society organisations** (in particular women and youth and youth-led organisations) working on PVE will play a critical role under this action. With a strong presence at community level, CSOs can counter extremist narratives by promoting alternative narratives based on peace, tolerance, and inclusivity. They can provide platforms for dialogue, consultation, storytelling, and community-led initiatives that challenge stereotypes, address grievances, and promote understanding across different groups. Youth-led organisations and young leaders are often well positioned to lead and support the initiatives aimed at PVE, transforming their role from mere recipients of PVE programmes to leading actors, creators and agents of change. Under this action, CSOs will be closely involved to identify and disseminate good practices, but they will not directly be in charge of implementing activities.
- **Private sector companies** will contribute to promote youth influencer programmes, support UNDP in the development of tailored digital communication campaigns and products against divisive narratives, and promote digital culture of peace. This includes the development of research and tools on the differential impact of technology/AI on peacebuilding, and mentorship and training for young people and to scale effective tech-based peacebuilding initiatives based on previous work and partnerships.

- **Education institutions** are a crucial actor in prevention work. They provide access to young people during their formative years, offering a prime opportunity for early intervention to prevent radicalisation. By incorporating PVE into curriculums and extracurricular activities, educators can equip students with critical thinking skills, resilience against extremist narratives, and values of tolerance and respect. The action will work closely with educators and trainers to build their capacity and develop necessary tools for youth with particular attention to young women.
- **Religious and faith-based leaders** will be key actors at the community level to challenge extremist propaganda effectively and to support young people at risk in developing critical thinking skills and resilience to divisive narratives online. Women faith-based leaders will be important actors for successful implementation.
- Other UN agencies may be important actors for this project. The implementing partners (UNODC and UNDP) will also work in close collaboration with other UN agencies based on their respective mandates for their added value to deliver a joint UN Approach to Agenda 2030.

Throughout the action, engagement with youth and women will be key.

Working with **youth** as agents of change is crucial to this initiative and collaboration with youth-led organizations and youth leaders will be an essential element. The project aims to build skills and capacities for youth, including youth from marginalized groups, to meaningfully contribute to and participate in PVE framework and lead response initiatives through peer learning and sharing.

Women are also key stakeholders in this project. Their involvement can facilitate community engagement and trust-building efforts, which are essential for preventing radicalisation and countering extremist narratives. Women can provide support, guidance, and mentorship to vulnerable individuals. Women's economic and political empowerment can contribute to more resilient communities less susceptible to extremist influences. This project will therefore have a strong focus on including women and counter gender-based hate speech.

The project also seeks to work with men and boys, including religious leaders, to counter negative gender norms and gender inequality that contributes to extremism. Men can become advocates for change and serve as positive role models in their communities. They can help challenge stereotypes and shift social norms towards more inclusive and respectful attitudes which are important for youth, especially youth who are at risk of radicalisation.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective of this action is to support countries in Asia to build resilience against violent extremism in the digital space, especially among youth.

The **specific objectives/outcomes** of this Action are:

1. to strengthen community mechanisms, knowledge and capacities to build resilience against violent extremism in digital spaces (**UNDP**)
2. to foster trust-based multi-stakeholders' partnership against online radicalisation under the framework of regional PVE networks in Central ([CAPVE](#)), South ([SAN-PVE](#)) and South-East Asia ([SEAN-PVE](#)) (**UNODC**).

These two outcomes are complementary: while the first outcome will focus on interventions at local/national (except in cases where support to a partner country would not be relevant without the involvement of the neighbouring countries), the second outcome will focus on multi-country and regional exchanges and capitalisation activities.

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

Contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1)

- Output 1.1: Faith-based leaders and religious influencers' capacity and dialogue platforms are strengthened to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive narratives in digital spaces targeting youth.
- Output 1.2: capacities of educational institutions are strengthened to support resilience against digital harm and disrupt radicalisation in digital spaces.
- Output 1.3: knowledge and tools available to young people to counter and become resilient against digital harm and divisive narratives, including hate speech, are increased with special focus on gender-based hate-speech and intolerance.

Contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2)

- Output 2.1. The regional PVE networks are supported to address the risks of online radicalisation and exploitation through capacity development of youth-led organizations, PVE practitioners, and criminal justice officials.
- Output 2.2 Trust is enhanced among government and non-government stakeholders, including youth-led organizations and youth leaders, with a focus on promoting youth empowerment and engagement in PVE responses online and offline, through the respective regional PVE networks' working groups.
- Output 2.3. Knowledge development and sharing of good practices is enhanced under the framework of regional PVE networks.
- Output 2.4. A Pan-Asian framework is supported to facilitate exchange of knowledge and good practices in PVE in the digital space and enhance cross-regional cooperation and peer-learning.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1

- **Activity 1.1.1:** Innovative training, partnership and mentorship programmes designed for faith-based leaders to develop and disseminate positive digital campaigns targeting young people
- **Activity 1.1.2:** Regional dialogue, exchange and collaboration between faith-based leaders on countering digital harm, including on issues such as online violence against women and girls, AI and deep fakes and building social cohesion in digital spaces.

Activities relating to Output 1.2:

- **Activity 1.2.1:** Support to the development of curriculum on digital peacebuilding and capacity-development for teachers and mentors based on needs assessments and building on existing materials and analysis carried out by actors working in this field
- **Activity 1.2.2:** Strengthening partnership and coalitions to strengthen mental health resilience against digital harm focusing on awareness and mental well-being support of young people. This activity will be guided by the online ecosystem mapping at country and regional levels.

Activities relating to Output 1.3:

- **Activity 1.3.1:** In partnership with tech companies and building on EU/UNDP youth influencer programmes, development of tailored digital communication campaigns and products to target those vulnerable to divisive narratives, including radicalisation and promote digital culture of peace.
- **Activity 1.3.2:** Development of research and tools on the differential impact of technology/AI on peacebuilding and against radicalisation of youth, with a specific focus on understanding and addressing gender disparities of radicalisation and countering negative trends in the online space using technology and AI.
- **Activity 1.3.3:** Mentorship and training for young people and startups that manage, mitigate, predict, or prevent conflict to scale effective tech-based peacebuilding initiatives. This includes supporting online

fact-checking platforms and campaigns to counter mis/disinformation and hate speech as well as young social media influencers with online start-up platforms (blogs, channels, Tik Tok etc.) to engage with issues of peace and social cohesion to manage hate speech, misinformation, and online abuse and to facilitate online dialogue and trust-building.

Activities relating to Output 2.1:

- **Activity 2.1.1.** Organisation of 3 Regional workshops and mentoring sessions (1 in each region) of the “Strategic Communication and Narratives” working groups of SAN-PVE and SEAN-PVE and development of this thematic focus under CAPVE to enhance the capacities of government and CSOs’ stakeholders in developing and implementing gender-responsive, youth-focused, and context-specific communication strategies for preventing online radicalisation and recruitment, based on GAMMMA10 model developed by EU RAN.

Activities relating to Output 2.2¹¹:

- **Activity 2.2.1** Organisation of 3 regional trainings and mentoring sessions (1 in each region) of the “Youth Engagement and Empowerment” working groups of CAPVE, SAN-PVE and SEAN-PVE – providing dialogue forums for government agencies, youth-led organizations and CSOs to exchange perspectives on meaningful youth engagement in PVE programming and responses online, identify gaps in communication and facilitate trust-building among these stakeholders.
- **Activity 2.2.2.** Organisation of 3 regional trainings and mentoring sessions (1 in each region) of the “Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement” working group of CAPVE, SAN-PVE and SEAN-PVE – providing training and technical advice to promote human rights and the rule of law-based approaches by criminal justice and law enforcement sectors in PVE responses, including in the digital space, and by fostering collaboration with youth organizations.

Activities relating to Output 2.3:

- **Activity 2.3.1.** Building on the results of Outputs 2.1 and 2.2, development of guidance materials such as compendium of good practices, guidelines or issue papers on identified key areas to prevent violent extremism in the digital space in Asia and taking into account already existing relevant knowledge products and materials.
- **Activity 2.3.2** Support and update to the existing online platforms for PVE networks to facilitate sharing of knowledge and good practices by improving the operability of the networks’ websites and building/expanding its resource base.

Activities relating to Output 2.4:

- **Activity 2.4.1.** Cross-regional dialogue to capitalise on the knowledge and learning accumulated during the implementation of the action and identify options on the way forward in responding to the evolving trends of online radicalisation, exploitation and recruitment through a multi-stakeholder gender and age-sensitive approach.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Outcomes of the SEA screening (relevant for budget support and strategic-level interventions)

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening concluded that no further action was required.

¹⁰ GAMMMA+: “Goal, Audience, Message, Messenger, Media, Action” from EU RAN Communication and Narratives working group

¹¹ Thematic working groups on “Strategic Communication and Narratives”, “Youth Engagement and Empowerment”, and “Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement” are currently developed under the SAN-PVE and SEAN-PVE umbrellas. The interventions in Central Asia are aimed to develop the relevant thematic expertise under CAPVE framework and facilitate setting up of corresponding working groups.

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

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

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

The Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening concluded that 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 Equality is a significant objective to this proposal.

Violent extremism and gender norms are closely intertwined, as extremist groups often exploit and reinforce traditional gender roles and stereotypes to recruit and radicalise individuals. Gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as elements of the women, peace and security agenda (especially focusing on prevention and participation), will be mainstreamed and targeted throughout the work envisaged by this project through a number of mechanisms: support of a project gender focal point, setting gender-specific indicators and activities, context-specific country work plans to ensure targeted activities and the involvement of women CSOs.

The project also ensures that the rights of women and girls will be protected in programming and practices aimed at the prevention and countering of violent extremism and digital harm, and will take steps to ensure gender responsive analysis, safe spaces, and consultations with women CSOs prior and during the project implementation.

Human Rights

In this action, the multi-faceted and complex nature of the violent extremism threat will be addressed through a comprehensive multi-stakeholder response, focusing in particular on safeguarding digital spaces and strengthening youth resilience in a gender-responsive and human rights compliant manner.

UNDP's and UNODC's strategy to PVE, based on the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and SDGs 16, 10 and 5 is grounded in a rule of law and a human rights-based approach.

The project applies a human rights-based approach to monitoring and data collection by disaggregating indicator data to ensure that vulnerable and minority groups are better represented in data and thereby addressed in responses to future crises. Additionally, this approach will ensure the data protection and right to privacy of beneficiaries ensure a do-no-harm approach.

The initiatives will build the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to promote and protect human rights in the capacity trainings and communications materials. This includes providing training on human rights principles, conflict resolution, and community engagement to empower individuals to resist extremism peacefully and constructively.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the action is not considered relevant for inclusion of persons with disabilities (PwDs). Nevertheless, the project is inclusive in nature and will seek to include all stakeholders, also PwDs in consultations and activities if possible.

Reduction of inequalities

As per the Inequality Marker guidelines, the action is labelled as I-0 as it mainstreams, but not directly contribute to reducing inequalities.

Many grassroots peacebuilders and local actors struggle to harness the full potential of digital tools and platforms to advance their initiatives effectively. This disconnection stems from limited access to resources, lack of digital literacy, a gap in understanding how to navigate the evolving digital landscape, and difficulties accessing policy-makers. For example, the gender digital gap impacts the women peacebuilding community, in a region where gender inequality and Sexual and Gender Based Violence are already pervasive.

This project will work with various stakeholders, with a special focus on youth (including those from vulnerable communities) to build their resilience and capacities to deal with the effects of digital harm, and for those around them to be equipped to spread positive messages of peace and counter harmful content.

Democracy

Democratic and civil society space is shrinking in many parts of the region targeted by this action. Fundamental freedoms, including freedom of assembly and peaceful association, expression, information and participation are under threat, due to restrictive laws and policies, spread of hate speech and disinformation by violent groups, including violent extremists and repression of political and other dissenting voices. Trust in institutions is also in decline with increased citizen discontentment over economic conditions, growing resentments towards ruling elites and corruption in public institutions, and oppression of marginalized groups.

In this context, social cohesion is undermined and digitalization has the potential to further exacerbate existing divisions and tensions within societies. The rapid spread of misinformation, hate speech, and divisive narratives on social media can inflame conflicts and further polarize communities.

This project aims addressing some of these issues, by working with a network of stakeholders to promote positive messages, democratic values and human rights.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

The implementing partners follow the “do no harm” principle and will consistently analyse the context in which the project will be implemented, the interaction between the activities and the context and take any risk mitigation measures necessary to avoid negative impact. All communications content produced by the project will be reviewed to ensure that the views expressed are in line with a conflict sensitivity and “do no harm” approach and interventions discussed with country office staff and tailored to countries’ needs and situations.

The project will prioritize a participatory approach to ensure that project activities are designed, implemented and monitored so as to prioritize the well-being of beneficiaries, many of whom are members of vulnerable groups, the communities that the action seeks to support, as well as support the conditions for peace. Involving project beneficiaries in the design of the project will ensure that initiatives are locally owned, and prevent exacerbating emotional and psychological vulnerabilities, or in any way, directly or indirectly, contributing to conflicts or crisis.

Disaster Risk Reduction

This action will not target or impact disaster risk reduction, however it seeks to strengthen resilience of communities in Asia.

Other considerations if relevant

While the action will focus on engaging local actors to build resilience against radicalisation of youth, the regionality will be demonstrated through cross-country exchange of experiences, resources and information and forge cooperation between countries that are similar - allowing for a wider perception of the issues at stake.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

The Action will be implemented by UNDP and UNODC who will be responsible for the risks' management, in line with the organizations' Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures.

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Political/Environmental	political and security instability/environmental shocks limiting access/activities	Medium	High	To mitigate this risk, this project is set up in a fashion that it closely interacts with a range of actors on the ground and thus is not heavily dependent on one single partner but rather can keep running as intended even if political realities on the ground change.
Political/Operational	insufficient ownership from national authorities, lack of willingness to support PVE programming, or aspects of it, as it might be politically unattractive to them given it potentially costs them political leverage, power, or is seen as unpopular	Medium	Medium	This risk can be mitigated by working with certain countries on subject in which the implementing partners have bilateral experience with and/or where they have existing knowledge of willingness to support programmes or parts of them. The holistic nature of this programme allows to re-design parts according to country-specifics – which the implementing partners in most cases are aware of due to experience in programming – without hollowing out the programme.
Political/Operational	insufficient involvement from and civil society	Low	Medium	This risk can be mitigated by working with civil society groups that have existing knowledge of willingness to support programmes addressing PVE
Political	Danger of government opposition to certain groups' involvement in the programme like members of minority groups. Certain parts of society might not be represented, limiting the legitimacy of policy and programming.	Medium	High	This risk is mainly mitigated by existing knowledge of country-specific dynamics which will be addressed in advanced. Furthermore, UNDP and UNODC will utilize its existing resources and built up connections to advocate for the inclusion of these groups, organize consultations in safe spaces and ensure a 'do-no harm approach'
Political/Operational	Due to conservative values and strong negative gender norms in some communities, women and members from the LGBTI community are not able to voice their opinion and	Medium	High	This may be the case in some areas when dealing with actors that might be very conservative and not welcoming of women and LGBTI people. UNDP and UNODC will work with the stakeholders to ensure that a safe space is provided for the consultations and that women and minority

	meaningfully participate in project activities			groups are consulted and their opinions included
Political/Operational	People involved in the programme might be put in danger by the project activities, leading to an increase in conflicts or security risks.	Low	High	The project will support inclusive decision-making processes and aims to build consensus around interventions on ground. It will not implement activities that are deemed highly contentious. The project will continuously assess security risks and revise project activities accordingly, with a special focus on the safety of women and girls and minority/vulnerable groups.
Operational	Delay in results due to lack of human resources and financial capacity of national institutions	Medium	Medium	The project team will work closely with partner organizations in the planning and executing of the activities to ensure that support is provided when needed and that monitoring and communication are carried out frequently
Operational/Planning	Different levels of capacity among stakeholders (institutions and CSOs) from different countries.	Medium	Medium	Needs will be identified early in the project planning, and capacity building, training and other activities will be tailored per country

Lessons Learnt:

The action will build upon the achievements of previous UNDP and UNODC PVE programmes carried out in Asia¹², as well as the numerous insights gathered from UN global PVE programmes as well as from EU-funded programmes in the broader field of security and counterterrorism.

The main recommendations are the following:

- **Youth** plays a central role in P/CVE policies, they need to be engaged as co-creators in the design and implementation of P/CVE initiatives, involved in decision-making processes and youth influencers can help tackle the different drivers of violent extremism, such as hate speech, discrimination, and gender inequality. The issue of **protection of children** should not be overlooked, as they have been shown to be particularly vulnerable to terrorist groups and are the population of tomorrow.
- It is critical to integrate gender-sensitive and gender-responsive components into the planning and design of P/CVE programmes. In some past UN-led PVCE actions, the establishment of dedicated gender focal points to ensure **gender mainstreaming** in project activities proved useful to provide strategic guidance on gender inclusivity in interventions.
- **Mentoring, awareness-raising campaigns** (including through online means) and educational activities contributed to improved awareness among targeted individuals and communities of the risks of violent extremism and alternatives pathways, as well as more broadly of issues around diversity, tolerance, hate speech.
- Engaging **religious and faith-based organizations** emerged as an important element, with a focus on religious education and literacy as protective factors against violent extremism and helped spread positive alternative narratives

¹² Including UNDP-led Preventing Violent Extremism Through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity, Phase II (Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines) and similar actions in Sri Lanka and in Maldives, UNODC-led "Support to Maldives on Counter Terrorism" which also looked into preventing the proliferation of violent extremist ideology, STRIVE (Strengthening Resilience to Violence and Extremism) Asia and Strive Juvenile in Indonesia.

- The approach needs to be **tailored to country contexts**, considering **sensitive cultural and security considerations**. This should also be taken into account when replicating successful country-level project approaches in other countries. Besides, the **regional** approach also demonstrated its added value to support knowledge exchange through research, create peer pressure and entice governments to engage on P/CVE issues.
- The use of the term “**violent extremism**” **may be sensitive and be perceived negatively in local contexts when translated into local languages**. Where appropriate, the narrative will be adapted and more inclusive terms such as “social cohesion”, “building tolerance”, and “respect for diversity” may be used to create a more conducive environment for activities and to facilitate engagement with State institutions in some countries.
- **Coordination** and cooperation between multiple institutions and implementing partners is critical to avoid overlap in certain activities, in particular on research activities or regional activities such as workshops, peer learning, networks and expert meetings;
- A robust **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)** strategy emerged as essential, not only to measure progress, but also to empower local communities in owning the PVE agenda at the local level.

3.5 The Intervention Logic

The overall objective of the Action is to strengthen the resilience of Asian countries against violent extremism in the digital space.

The Specific objectives (outcomes) are to i) strengthen community mechanisms, knowledge and capacities to build resilience against online radicalisation and violent extremism and ii) foster trust-based multi-stakeholders’ partnership against online radicalisation under the framework of regional PVE networks.

These objectives will be pursued by working through the existing regional P/CVE Asia networks which bring together relevant stakeholders (law enforcement and criminal justice, national authorities, civil society and community-based organizations), facilitate peer-to-peer learning and exchange of knowledge and good practices.

This action will engage in particular the working groups on “strategic communications” to promote alternative narratives and “youth engagement and empowerment” to support youth capacities and resilience to prevent violent extremism.

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that **if** the community mechanisms, knowledge, and capacities are strengthened to resist online radicalisation and violent extremism, **then** it will empower local communities to recognize and respond effectively to signs of radicalisation. This includes providing accurate information about the risks of online radicalisation and equipping communities with the skills and resources necessary to implement prevention and intervention measures.

If the regional and cross-regional cooperation for effective and sustainable multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder prevention of and response to violent extremism in the digital space is fostered, **then** it will promote collaboration among various stakeholders across different Asian countries. This collaboration will facilitate the implementation of coordinated strategies for preventing and countering violent extremism online.

By engaging the working groups on "strategic communications" and "youth engagement and empowerment" within existing regional P/CVE Asia networks, the action aims to leverage existing expertise and resources to challenge extremist propaganda effectively and support young people in developing critical thinking skills and resilience. Through these efforts, the action seeks to contribute to the overall objective of enhancing the resilience of Asian countries against violent extremism in the digital space, within the framework of existing regional networks promoting peer-to-peer learning and exchange of knowledge and good practices.

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 (or several) 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(s) 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 (@): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (@): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years) depending on target groups and countries (may be adjusted)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To support countries in Asia to build resilience against violent extremism in the digital space, especially among youth	1. Improvement Global Terrorism Index (GTI) ranking of partner countries	1. GTI ranking 2024	1. Improvement in all 3 subregions	Global Terrorism Index 2025, 2026, 2027 Available information from governments, international organizations, and CSOs ¹³	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	To strengthen community mechanisms, knowledge and capacities to build resilience against violent extremism in digital space	1.1: Number of community-led mechanisms or initiatives developed and implemented addressing digital harm (awareness campaigns, online forums, or community-driven digital solutions for social cohesion)	1.1: 0 (2024)	1.1: at least 30 (2027)	Reports, Surveys, Product reviews	Strong commitment by participating UNDP offices and partners to develop and/or strengthen community-led mechanisms or initiatives to address digital harm
		1.2 Increase in the self-reported levels of resilience capacity among respondents* ¹⁴ .	1.2: tbd at the inception phase	1.2: 30% increase		
Outcome 2	To foster trust-based multi-stakeholders' partnership against online radicalisation under the framework of regional PVE networks in Central (CAPVE), South (SAN-PVE)	2.1: Number of State and Non-State organisations exchanging information on countering violent extremism with support under this action	2.1: 0 (2024)	2.1: 100 (2027)	UNODC Impact assessment surveys Interim and final progress reports	Political and/or institutional commitment to and active engagement by partner countries

¹³ Political frameworks /regulations of countries of implementation have been developed/updated during the programme. Partners (CSOs, think tanks etc.) have developed and published policies or reports.

¹⁴ *(disaggregated by gender, age, race/ethnicity, ability, and at the community and national levels)

	and South-East Asia (SEAN-PVE)	2.2: % of institutional actors reporting better collaboration between the different institutions in the context of the prevention of violent extremism	2.2: tbd at the inception phase	2.2: At least 30%		to pursue necessary steps to develop and/or strengthen national policies and legal frameworks against online radicalisation.
Output 1.1	Faith-based leaders and religious influencers' capacity and dialogue platforms are strengthened to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive narratives targeting youth in digital spaces	1.1.1: % of faith-based leaders and religious influencers* respondents who reported meaningful participation during the training and a better understanding of digital harm/peacebuilding work	1.1.1: tbd at the inception phase	1.1.1: 70% (2027)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training reports - Pre-post survey + follow up survey 3 months post training, assessment of training, evaluations, - Number of gender-sensitive narratives developed within 6 months after each workshop (self-reporting) 	Faith based leaders are willing to participate in the initiative
		1.1.2: % increase in the number of gender-sensitive narratives developed and disseminated by faith-based leaders and religious influencers in digital spaces targeting youth	1.1.2: tbd at the inception phase	1.1.2: 40% increase (2027)		Women faith-based leaders are available, able and willing to actively participate in the initiative
Output 1.2	Capacities of educational institutions are strengthened to support resilience against digital harm and disrupt radicalisation in digital spaces	1.2.1: Number of training initiatives and tools developed for teachers and trainers to help students build resilience against digital harm and disrupt radicalisation in digital spaces	1.2.1 0 (2024)	1.2.1 : 5 (2027)	Progress reports	Educational institutions are willing and interested to participate in the initiative
		1.2.2 % increase of participants* who reports being more aware of tools and techniques used in digital spaces to increase recruitment into violent extremism	1.2.2 tbd at the inception phase	1.2.2 : 40% (2027)	Pre-post survey and training reports, 3 months follow up survey	There are some pre-existing engagement and participation of young people in mental health resilience-

		1.2.3 Number of mental health resilience initiatives for youth, including young women, developed	1.2.3 0 (2024)	1.2.3 : 5 (2027)	Progress reports	building activities at the chosen educational institutions
Output 1.3	Knowledge and tools available to young people to counter and become resilient against digital harm and divisive narratives, including hate speech, are increased with special focus on gender based hate-speech and intolerance	1.3.1: % of youth* who are more aware of and support peace-building initiatives against digital harm	1.3.1 : 0 (2024)	1.3.1 : 30% (2027)		Tech companies and other partners are open and interested in working with UNDP on communication campaigns and products to target those vulnerable to divisive narratives, including radicalisation and promote digital culture of peace Young people are invested and willing to participate in activities and engage
		1.3.2: % of youth* and women who reported greater awareness and willingness to prevent gender-based hate speech and violence against women and girls online	1.3.2: 0 (2024)	1.3.2 : 50% (2027)	Pre-post survey and training reports, 3-6 months follow up survey	
		1.3.3: % of participants* who report changing their online behaviour in order to better support peace building, positive narratives and gender equality in digital spaces	1.3.3 : 0 (2024)	1.3.3 : 25% (2027)		
		1.3.4: Number of knowledge products, communication campaigns and tools developed	1.3.4 : 0 (2024)	1.3.4: 10 (2027)		
Output 2.1	The regional PVE networks are supported to address the risks of online radicalisation and exploitation through capacity development of youth-led organizations, PVE	2.1.1 Number of individuals* trained on developing context-specific communication strategies for preventing online radicalization and recruitment, based on GAMMMA+ model	2.1.1: 0 (2024)	2.1.1: 120 (2027)	Attendance record and lists of attendees (with gender breakdown), evaluation	Partner countries will nominate relevant national delegates for the trainings and be open to

	practitioners, and criminal justice officials	2.1.2 Number of trainings on the use of AI and advanced technologies to address terrorist exploitation of online domain and safeguarding at-risk youth in virtual space.	2.1.2: 0 in 2024	2.1.2: 4 in 2027	questionnaires, training reports - Mission reports - Reports from the Regional Working Groups - Quantitative and qualitative assessment of training evaluation	incorporating the recommendations into their processes.
		2.1.3 Number of mentoring sessions to better integrate youth and gender dimension in preventing online radicalisation.	2.1.3: 0 in 2024	2.1.3: 4 in 2027		
Output 2.2	Trust is enhanced among government and non-government stakeholders, including youth-led organizations and youth leaders, with a focus on promoting youth empowerment and engagement in PVE responses online and offline, through the respective regional PVE networks' working groups	2.2.1 : Number of individuals* trained on youth engagement and promoting human rights and the rule of law-based approaches.	2.2.1: 0 (2024)	2.2.1: 240 (2027)	- Attendance record and lists of attendees (with gender breakdown), evaluation questionnaires, training	
Output 2.3	Knowledge development and sharing of good practices is enhanced under the framework of regional PVE networks.	2.3.1 Number of compendium of good practices, guidelines, issue papers on promoting meaningful youth empowerment and engagement and effective youth-focused communication strategies for PVE	2.3.1: 0 (2024)	2.3.1: 3 (2027)	- Developed knowledge materials.	Partner countries will use the developed guidance material developed.
		2.3.2 Online platform in place to facilitate sharing of knowledge and good practices between PVE networks	2.3.2: 0 (2024)	2.3.2: 1 (2027)		

Output 2.4	A Pan-Asian framework is supported to facilitate exchange of knowledge and good practices in PVE in the digital space and enhance cross-regional cooperation and peer-learning	2.4.1: Number of individuals* engaged in cross-regional dialogue on youth digital literacy and on preventing online radicalisation, exploitation and recruitment.	2.4.1: 0 (2024)	2.4.1: 60 (2027)	Attendance record and lists of attendees (with gender breakdown) Workshop reports, UNODC Impact Assessment Surveys	Partner countries will accept to share their national good practices with other stakeholders.
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4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the 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 rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures¹⁵.

4.3.1 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

This action may be implemented in indirect management through a Multi-Partner Contribution Agreement with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The implementation by these entities entails achieving the results linked to Outcome 1 and 2, respectively. UNDP will specifically be in charge of activities under Outcome 1, while UNODC will lead the activities under Outcome 2.

The envisaged entities have been selected using the following criteria :

- Thematic expertise in the policy field (preventing online radicalisation)
- Specific mandate to engage with authorities/governments in partner countries
- management capacities and track record of projects implementation;
- capacity to support the activities of the regional networks of PVE practitioners established in Central, South and South East Asia.

UNODC supports partner countries to prevent terrorism and crime by building their capacities and strengthening their institutions. It follows a partnership-based, gender-responsive, and youth-empowering approach to prevent and counter terrorism. Since 2017, UNODC has been supporting States in Central, South and South-East Asia to improve their national and regional frameworks and mechanisms on counter-terrorism and PVE. UNODC has also raised awareness of national counterparts in 19 countries across Central Asia, South Asia, and ASEAN regions on the benefits of multi-disciplinary approaches and partnerships with communities and CSOs. UNODC has also facilitated the creation of regional networks of PVE practitioners.

UNDP has since 2014 spearheaded action to address the drivers and impacts of violent extremism and its PVE global portfolio is implemented across 42 countries worldwide. These initiatives are gender-sensitive and are based on research and data analysis that enables coherent efforts across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. In recent years, UNDP's efforts have advanced in complexity, moving beyond

¹⁵ 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.

traditional work on conflict prevention and peacebuilding, to address new challenges and risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and rapid global digitalization.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entity fail, this action may be implemented in direct management in accordance with the implementation modalities identified in section 4.3.2

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

As a fallback option, in case indirect management cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the action may be implemented in direct management, through (a) grant(s), awarded to organisations selected on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grant will contribute to achieving the specific objectives foreseen under this action:

1. strengthen community mechanisms, knowledge and capacities to build resilience against violent extremism in digital spaces
2. to foster trust-based multi-stakeholders' partnership against online radicalisation under the framework of regional PVE networks in Central ([CAPVE](#)), South ([SAN-PVE](#)) and South-East Asia ([SEAN-PVE](#))

(b) Type of applicants targeted

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

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).

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 ¹⁶	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
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¹⁶ N.B: The final text on audit/verification depends on the outcome of ongoing discussions on pooling of funding in (one or a limited number of) Decision(s) and the subsequent financial management, i.e. for the conclusion of audit contracts and payments.

Implementation modalities	
Indirect management with entrusted pillar assessed entities – cf section 4.3.1	5 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	May be covered by another Decision
Contingencies	N.A.
Total	5 000 000

4.6 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

For the implementation of this action, UNODC will act as the lead Organization, while UNDP will act as “Partner”.

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) shall be established to ensure coordination between the components of the action components and oversee its overall implementation.

The Committee shall meet twice a year and will bring together all the partner countries, UNODC, UNDP, DG INTPA and the EU Delegations in the partner countries. Other stakeholders may be invited as observers, in particular other relevant EU-funded programmes in the region, as well as EU Member States, and efforts will be made to ensure gender balance.

UNODC and UNDP will ensure the proper functioning of the PSC, including preparation of meeting agendas in consultation with other members, convening the meetings and preparation of minutes.

The work of the PSC shall include, but not be limited to, the following tasks:

- Review of workplans;
- Closely monitor risk factors and focus from an early stage on necessary mitigating measures and intervene when major issues arise;
- Ensure that implemented activities have a direct positive impact towards achieving the action’s objectives;
- Ensure the action’s implementation is inclusive and transparent, that a collaborative partnership is pursued, as foreseen, between government and non-government stakeholders, including civil society, private sector etc., and that all stakeholders, including women, youth, and persons in vulnerable situations benefit from the action;
- Ensure that synergies are built and maintained with other development partners and/or programmes
- Support access to information communication and dissemination efforts among the society at large regarding action’s activities and results.

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.

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 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 implementing partners will provide a completed logframe with revised indicators, baselines, targets and specific sources for each indicator. Each progress report will include an updated logframe, including current values for each indicator. Furthermore, each report will 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 disaggregated minimum by sex, age, disability and other relevant categories (when pertinent), using as reference the logframe matrix.

All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account the rights-based approach, gender equality working principles (i.e. 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). Indicators shall be disaggregated at least by sex and age, and disability if possible.

Reports shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

5.2 Evaluation

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

The final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision) with respect to preventing online radicalisation in Asia.

Evaluations shall assess to what extent the action is taking into account the human rights-based approach working principles (i.e. 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) as well as how it contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. In this regard, expertise on human rights and gender equality will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partners at least one month in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partners 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 shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partners and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluations shall 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.

The financing of the audit or verification shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

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.