

# EN

## ANNEX

### on the financing of the individual measure in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa in support to migration for 2021-2022

#### ANNUAL MEASURE

This document constitutes the Annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and action programme/measure in the sense of Article 23 of NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

## 1. SYNOPSIS

### 1.1. Action Summary Table

<b>ACTION SUMMARY TABLE</b>	
<b>1. Title</b> <b>CRIS business reference</b> <b>Basic Act</b>	Individual Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in Sub-Saharan Africa CRIS number: NDICI AFRICA/2021/43130 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out in countries of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Sahel and Lake Chad, as well as the Horn of Africa regions. <sup>1</sup>
<b>4. Programming document</b>	Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Africa <sup>2</sup>
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>5. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	Priority area 6 'Migration and Forced Displacement'
<b>6. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG (1 only): SDG 10 (sub goal 10.7)
<b>7 a) DAC code(s)</b> <sup>3</sup>	15190 (Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility) – 100%
<b>7 b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	International Organisation for Migration - 47066

<sup>1</sup> Sahel region and Lake Chad: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal. Horn of Africa: focus on the core countries Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. More limited activities are foreseen in other Khartoum process Member States in the Horn of Africa region (including, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda and Eritrea) as conditions allow. Limited voluntary return and reintegration activities may be also carried out along the Southern migration routes notably Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Tanzania, following an approval from the EU. Countries of the North of Africa: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt are only included in cross-regional activities.

<sup>2</sup> Yet to be adopted.

<sup>3</sup> DAC sectors (codes and descriptions) are indicated in the first and fourth columns of the tab 'purpose codes' in the following document: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-financestandards/dacandcrscodelists.htm>

<b>8. Targets<sup>4</sup></b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <sup>5</sup>			
<b>9. Markers<sup>6</sup> (from DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 <sup>7</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	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"/>
<b>10. Internal markers<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Policy objectives</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Digitalisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration <sup>9</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>4</sup> Actual contribution to targets will be confirmed ex-post based on a standardised methodology.

<sup>5</sup> This target is specific to INTPA.

<sup>6</sup> For guidance, see <https://www.oecd.org/development/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/> (go to 'Data collection and resources for reporters', select Addendum 2, annexes 18 (policy) and 19 (Rio) of the reporting directive).

If an action is marked in the DAC form as contributing to one of the general policy objectives or to RIO principles as a principal objective or a significant objective, then this should be reflected in the logframe matrix (in the results chain and/or indicators).

<sup>7</sup> Please check the [Handbook on the OECD-DAC Nutrition Policy Marker](#)

<sup>8</sup> These markers have a different scope/rationale than the DAC codes. They are drawn from the level of budget allocation and emphasis given to the action in terms main objective(s) selected. The definition of objectives, results, activities in description of the action should be in line with this section.

<sup>9</sup> For detailed information on programming migration and forced displacement, please have a look at the [thematic guidance note](#) on migration and forced displacement; for information on the migration marker please look at annex 2 of the thematic guidance note.

<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>	
<b>11. Amounts concerned</b>	Total estimated cost: EUR 103 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 103 000 000
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>	
<b>12. Type of financing and implementation modality(ies)</b>	Project Modality Indirect management with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) –

## 1.2. Summary of the Action

Based on joint commitments of the Valletta Summit, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration has brought together 26 African countries of the Sahel and Lake Chad region, the Horn of Africa, and North Africa, the EU and IOM around the shared goal of ensuring that migration is safer, more informed and better governed for both migrants and their communities. Since its launch in 2016, the Initiative has been progressively scaled-up to assist four times the original number of beneficiaries foreseen for voluntary return and reintegration support (from c. 24,000 to c.100,000) through approximately 20 projects. The EU and EU Member States have mobilised important financial resources through the EUTF for Africa approaching EUR 500 000 000. In turn, African partner countries have invested financial and human resources to facilitate voluntary return and support the reintegration of their nationals. In 2020, it provided quick response to the COVID-19 pandemic and can support socio-economic recovery in the longer term.

Continued support to partner countries efforts to improve migrant protection, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration along the main migration routes in Africa is needed. Global and regional megatrends that will influence migration patterns in the coming years include domestic and international inequalities; urbanisation; digitalisation, automation and innovations in information and communications and distance-shrinking technologies; demographic transition; and climate change alongside natural hazard-induced disasters and environmental degradation. At the same time, mobility in Africa continues to be triggered by a combination of persistent insecurity and conflict, harsh climatic conditions and public health emergencies, in addition to socioeconomic drivers and more traditional seasonal factors<sup>10</sup>. Mobility restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 situation only had temporary impact on mobility in Africa.

Well-managed reintegration can contribute to sustainable development at local, national and regional levels. At the same time, the sustainability of reintegration depends on the development context in communities and countries of return. To maximise the benefits of this nexus, return migration should be linked to sustainable development policies and programmes to ensure the right development conditions are in place for returnees and communities to thrive and contribute to sustainable development. This requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach which considers the needs and contributions of returnees and community members in the context of broader development goals.

To achieve this, returnees should be included in relevant development and sector-based policies, plans and programmes – notably through synergies with other development programmes – for example those relating to education, employment, gender equality and women’s empowerment, environment and climate change, health and agriculture/rural development. With these linkages in place, returnees can be empowered to contribute to development goals more broadly through contributing their skills, experiences, and knowledge to existing programmes. Effective and coherent legal, institutional and governance frameworks can also create the conditions for sustainable return and reintegration.

The Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (also known as the Action) will continue what has been achieved under the existing contracts of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions. It will provide protection and sustainable solutions for migrants and refugees by increasing the number of migrants benefitting from protection and voluntary and dignified return while ensuring their sustainable reintegration. In this regard and in very specific contexts, this Action will also provide assistance to migrants and host and transit

<sup>10</sup> Natale, F., Migali, S. and Münz, R., Many more to come Migration from and within Africa, EUR 29106 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2018, <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC110703>; Migali, S., Natale, F., Tintori, G., Kalantaryan, S., Grubanov-Boskovic, S., Scipioni, M., Farinosi, F., Cattaneo, C., Benandi, B., Follador, M., Bidoglio, G., Barbas, T. and McMahon, S., International Migration Drivers, EUR 29333 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2018, <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC112622>

communities through search and rescue in the desert of Niger. Moreover, the Action will aim to contribute to enable migrants and communities to make informed decisions about migration through awareness raising activities and by supporting partner countries and relevant stakeholders to enhance their capacity in migration management and to strengthen migration data and communication.

The action is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which refers to ‘the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship’ and the obligations of states ‘to ensure that their returning nationals are duly received’ and their commitment to ensure, including through international cooperation, ‘safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons’ (see also sub-goal 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals 10 on migration policies). The Action also responds to the Africa regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme Priority 6. Migration, mobility and forced displacement, in particular Result 1.1: Improved protection and assistance, including for voluntary return, to migrants stranded in destination/transit countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as providing sustainable reintegration support to returnees (and their host communities) in their countries of origin in Sub-Saharan Africa, including by strengthening the national return, readmission and reintegration systems of these countries, with full respect of fundamental values and human rights. The Action also implements the approach set up in the 2020 New Pact on Migration and Asylum as well as the new 2021 EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration, by supporting the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of irregular migrants in Sub-Saharan Africa. The actions shall comply with EU legislation, in particular EU restrictive measures (sanctions) adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

## 2. RATIONALE

### 2.1. Context

#### **2.1.1 Regional context**

In recent years, the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions, as well as some part of North Africa, have faced complex situations: conflicts and protracted security crisis, climate change and environmental degradation, demographic pressure, food and nutrition crises, and epidemic risks are a source of instability for the regions and act as a risk multiplier exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities.

Since 2015, the EU and African countries have reinforced a joint approach to effective migration management, improving cooperation on the fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings while developing at the same time more sustainable approaches to harness the potential of migration as fundamental driver for inclusive and sustainable development in countries of origin and transit in Africa.

Yet, some significant concerns remain. In particular, migrants and refugees face extreme risks along migration routes, through the desert, upon arrival in Libya and while crossing the Atlantic or the Mediterranean. Arrivals in the Canary Islands in 2020 (23,023) were almost 9 times higher than in 2019 (2,687), 46% of the total were migrants of unspecified sub-Saharan nationality. While the absolute number of deaths in the Mediterranean decreased in 2020, the route has become proportionally more deathly in particular along the central Mediterranean route. Despite these difficult conditions, from 2017 to 2020 the number and the share of persons originating from Africa, especially West Africa, who arrived by sea to Europe amounts to 159,707 African migrants arriving in Italy and Spain with the main nationalities of migrants including Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire, Nigeria and Mali. At the same time, migration situation and flows within Libya remain highly complex and fluid and the main nationalities of migrants identified in Libya do not correlate with the main nationalities arriving to Italy. Through the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) latest report (January-February 2021) 245,483 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), 623,219 returnees and 575,874 migrants are recorded in Libya. It is difficult to estimate the percentage of persons of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in these overall flows – and it changes over time. The migration route from the Horn of Africa (HoA) towards the Arabian Peninsula via Djibouti and Somalia is by far the most travelled route in the region, and most commonly used by Ethiopians. During their journey, migrants face extreme hardship, including torture, kidnapping and trafficking. Late June 2021, massive waves of returns/deportations (40,000 in the span of 2 weeks) from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to war-torn Ethiopia were conducted, on the top of the already 400,000 Ethiopian migrants returned from KSA since 2017.

Criminal networks involved in trafficking in human beings are taking advantage of irregular migration routes, targeting particularly vulnerable groups, predominantly women and girls. Overall, the number of women and girls registered at arrivals by sea and by land in Europe between 2018 and 2020 is about 76,615, equivalent to 20% of total arrivals<sup>11</sup>. Trafficking in human beings is a grave violation of human rights and a serious form of organised crime. IOM reported in 2018 a 600% increase since 2014 in the number of women and girls arrived in the EU through the Central Mediterranean route potential victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, predominantly from Nigeria. Although this increase is at least in part due to great improvements in the ability to identify and count potential victims, it is assessed that an important part of women and girls arriving in Europe are victims of trafficking. As an example, IOM estimated that 80% of the 11.000 Nigerian women and girls arrived in Italy in 2016 are potential victims of trafficking.

An urgent lack of effective protection and sufficient assistance inside Libya but also in countries upstream, and the absence of durable solutions, including complementary pathways of admission have been flagged by national stakeholders. On 29 November 2017 the EU-AU-UN agreed to put in place a joint Task Force calling for facilitating the voluntary humanitarian returns to countries of origin, and the resettlement of those in need of international protection in order to save lives and ensure protection of migrants and refugees along the routes and in particular inside Libya. In this context, the UNHCR implemented Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Niger and Rwanda to allow for enhanced protection, lifesaving assistance and sustainable solutions for refugees and asylum seekers in Libya, while the Joint Initiative provides opportunities for the voluntary return and reintegration for migrants stranded in the country.

By April 2020, the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic reached Africa. Travel and movement restrictions, social distancing measures and other requirements adopted in most countries in the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions have impacted many migrants, whether in irregular or regular situations, who find themselves stranded as a result of these measures and/or face additional challenges in sustaining an income and access basic services and health care. Moreover, deportation and expulsions of irregular migrants without adequate quarantine and precautionary measures expose migrants to increased risk of infection and have the potential to undermine containment efforts. Stigma and xenophobia against foreigners, seen as bearers of the disease, is further contributing to migrants' unequal access to services, placing them and everyone else at risk. Families dependent on remittances face hardships as migrants working abroad lose their earnings<sup>12</sup>.

In December 2016, to address some of these challenges and respond to the needs of vulnerable and stranded migrants along the Central Mediterranean routes, the EU and the IOM developed a joint EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration focusing on the three regions supported by the EU Trust Fund for Africa: North Africa, Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa. Under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, the protection needs as well as the pace and scale of the returns and the corresponding needs for sustainable reintegration have been far more important than anticipated, with increased calls for continuous reinforcement of protection, voluntary return and reintegration actions. Over the past years, action fiches have been approved by the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to further support the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. This action funded by the NDICI provides a continuation of this programme and as such, builds upon and complements the existing national and regional. Namely, it reinforces activities and related resources already existing under the different contracts like return and reintegration to cover the caseload exceeding the targets or to finalise assistance started under those contracts. Activities and resources to be funded by this Action will complement the ongoing national and regional actions of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in Sahel and Lake Chad and in the Horn of Africa. In light of the fact that expenses under each ongoing EU-IOM Joint Initiative contracts and this Action will relate to the original results framework of each region, the respective Actions will be inextricably linked and cannot be seen separately from each other. Therefore, the correspondence between results, resources and activities may have to be found across different contracts. Resources budgeted under either of the Actions (national or regional) shall be considered as contributing towards the results of all Actions and shall therefore be eligible. Likewise, all migrants are eligible to receive reintegration assistance as under the national and regional Actions of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative.

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<sup>11</sup> Data source: DTM Europe (IOM)

<sup>12</sup> Kalantaryan, S. and McMahon, S. Covid-19 and Remittances in Africa, EUR 30262 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2020, <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC121055>

### 2.1.2. Sectorial context

The Action will continue to build on the policy priorities put forward by the EU, in particular on Migration Partnerships. At the Valletta Summit on Migration of 11-12 November 2015, the EU and African partners agreed to respond decisively and together manage migration flows in all their aspects. The Joint Valletta Action Plan will continue to provide for a concrete frame of action in five key areas, including return, readmission and reintegration and in particular support for the reintegration of all returnees through development of policy frameworks and community-based reintegration measures.

An efficient and sustainable return and reintegration process is also part and parcel of a comprehensive and holistic migration policy, and was highlighted as one of the priorities in the European Agenda on Migration, adopted in May 2015, the New Partnership Framework with third countries of June 2016 and the New Pact on Migration and Asylum released on 23 September 2020. The need to support partner countries to meet their readmission obligations, by providing capacity building for the management of returns, information and awareness raising campaigns and support for reintegration measures and monitoring upon return, forms part of such a balanced EU engagement. The new Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Strategy, adopted on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021, promotes voluntary return and reintegration as an integral part of a common EU system for returns. It sets out practical measures to strengthen the legal and operational framework for voluntary returns from Europe and from transit countries, improve the quality of return and reintegration programmes, establish better links with development initiatives and strengthen cooperation with partner countries. The aim of this strategy is to develop a more uniform and coordinated approach among Member States to unlock the full potential of voluntary return and reintegration.

## 2.2. Problem Analysis

Priority Area and sectors: 6 'Migration and Forced Displacement'

### Short problem analysis:

Migrants may face significant risks along migration routes, including violence, exploitation, and abuse at the hands of smugglers, traffickers, and others. Although most do not qualify for refugee status or other forms of international protection, they may still find themselves in vulnerable situations. Voluntary return is one of the options for stranded migrants facing dire conditions along the routes, including in transit, and who wish to return to their countries of origin but do not have the necessary means to do so. IOM-operated voluntary returns follow a tailored approach, with a focus on the rights and the needs of migrants and robust safeguards in place.

Through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative more than 750 stakeholders participated in capacity building or operational training across the three regions. Close to 370 national and local authorities and non-state actors are now involved in the provision of return and reintegration assistance to migrants across the three regions. It is a priority to consolidate and further expand partnerships.

### Key cross-cutting issues:

The Action will focus on the well-being and personal development of persons of concern, migrants and their families and communities, in full respect of their human rights. It will be based on non-discrimination principles, self-determination and participation of the migrants and refugees as well as confidentiality and right to privacy. Protection and assistance mechanisms taking into account the specific situation and vulnerability of the refugees and migrants such as ensuring the best interest of the child will always be ensured and be at the forefront of all considerations. In particular, assistance and protection for victims of trafficking in human beings will take into account the gender and age of the victims and the consequences of the specific type of exploitation suffered.

Both age and gender considerations will be mainstreamed in all activities of the project, with gender and age sensitive information campaigns, implementation and running of centres, equal participation in trainings and sex disaggregated data. Unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking will be provided with specialised, gender specific and child sensitive assistance and protection.

Particular attention will be paid to gender concerns. Women and girls make up close to 50% migrants worldwide and their vulnerability to being victims of trafficking, predominantly for the purpose of sexual exploitation, is a particularly serious concern. Hence the Action will ensure that assistance provided is specifically tailored to the needs of women and girls. The different roles of women and men in community-based interventions, reintegration processes and livelihoods and development programmes are important to recognise and thus ensuring their inclusive and equitable participation in decision making processes and project implementation and monitoring will be key in this programme. Given the nature of the action, the protection of human rights and due process will be an integral part of the activities carried out. Protection of human rights of particularly vulnerable categories of migrants, such as children, unaccompanied minors, elderly and disabled persons, victims of trafficking or smuggling and rejected asylum seekers will also need to be particularly considered, along with the required procedural safeguards including the need to undertake best interest determination.

The Action will also integrate to the extent possible environmental and climate change considerations in the planning of the reintegration activities. Community development and reintegration activities will duly take into account ongoing environmental changes and promote community projects that support reforestation and waste management, as well as promote 'green jobs' such as beekeeping and recycling. Reintegration in some regions which are particularly vulnerable to climate change (now or in the near future) can potentially be problematic, causing re-emigration. In those cases, return to areas other than communities of origin will therefore be envisaged as a more sustainable strategy.

Peaceful coexistence with local populations is also a cross cutting issue which will be considered across all elements of the implementation of this Action. For the success of the Action, it is essential that efforts are made to maintain dialogue with local population and ensure sensitisation of the community.

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

The stakeholders and target groups of the Action are:

- Through the Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, the planning and implementation of the Action and in particular the protection, return, reintegration and sensitisation activities will continue to be done in close collaboration with the government authorities at national and local levels both in the destination/transit and countries of origin. Continued coordination will also be ensured with the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), namely IGAD and ECOWAS.
- IOM will continue to work or develop new cooperation mechanisms with international and civil society organisations, EU services and national cooperation agencies to implement activities in protection and reintegration foreseen within the context of the Action. NGOs, EU MS agencies and other UN agencies with protection capacity, specifically response capacity in the sectors of SGBV and psychosocial support, support IOM in responding to the needs of stranded migrants in transit as well as support the reintegration of migrants once returned in their country of origin. Prioritising referrals to local stakeholders offering reintegration-related services, IOM will continue developing and/or strengthening referral mechanisms and networks with local stakeholders, through which returnees are referred whenever possible.
- Private sector actors and organisations engaged in employment/economic activity relevant to returnees.
- Communities of return/origin and of high-outward migration will benefit from community-based projects as a complement to individual reintegration assistance, leading to improved governance, service delivery, sustainable livelihood opportunities, stability, and cohesion.
- The actual returnees, both from countries of transit and destination will benefit from access to tailored support to ensure a dignified voluntary return to communities and needs-based reintegration assistance that aims to address the economic, social, and psychosocial dimensions of reintegration.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to contribute to safe, orderly and regular migration in the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this action are:

1. Vulnerable and stranded migrants are better protected and accepted by host communities
2. Enhanced provision of solutions for stranded migrants, in particular safe, humane, dignified voluntary return
3. Improved economic, social and psycho-social reintegration of returning migrants that also benefits communities.
4. Potential migrants and communities make better informed decisions about migration.
5. Partner countries and relevant stakeholders have enhanced capacities in migration management, migration data and communication while displaying greater involvement and buy-in.

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

contributing to Specific Objective 1 (or Outcome 1)

Stranded migrants or migrants in transit receive protection and assistance services

contributing to Specific Objective 2 (or Outcome 2)

2.1 Migrants benefit from a safe and dignified voluntary return assistance

contributing to Specific Objective 3 (or Outcome 3)

3.1 Returning migrants are supported with post-arrival and sustainable reintegration assistance in their country of origin.

contributing to Specific Objective 4 (or Outcome 4)

4.1 Potential migrants and communities are informed and sensitised on the dangers of and alternatives to irregular migration

contributing to Specific Objective 5 (or Outcome 5)

5.1 Enhanced collection, analysis and dissemination of migration related data and evidence  
Increased capacities of government institutions and CSOs in migration management.

#### 3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to **Output 1.1 - Protection assistance:** Migration Resource and Response Centres (MRRCs) fill critical gaps in providing assistance and protection to migrants along key migration routes and are a key entry point for assisted voluntary return and reintegration services. Indicative activities will include inter alia:

- Support to MRRCs and transit centres to deliver comprehensive, quality and timely assistance and specialised protection services and to increase government and partner involvement.
- Provide **protection and assistance to at least 13,900 migrants** (indicatively 13,650 in countries in the SLC region and 250 in HOA region) stranded along key migration routes or at disembarkation points, including via MRRCs or other temporary accommodations.
- Search and Rescue and Humanitarian Rescue Operations in Niger benefitting to an estimated 15,000 migrants.
- Extension of the pilot 'Emergency Direct Assistance Fund' to cover unforeseen and urgent protection assistance needs along migratory routes in the SLC region.
- COVID-19 measures to assist migrants and communities affected by COVID-19.

Activities related to **Output 2.1 - Assisted voluntary return:** The project will support continuation of the voluntary return from countries in the SLC and HOA. The cross-regional project will allow a flexible approach, responsive to

the evolution of migrant flows that have been impacted by the pandemic and requests for voluntary return support. Indicative activities will include inter alia:

- Strengthen pre-return counselling on conditions/situation in country/place of origin as well as IOM support in country of origin to ensure a fully informed decision.
- Provision of assisted voluntary return for **at least 12,350 migrants to return** to their countries of origin (indicatively 12,100 from countries in the SLC region and 250 from countries in the HOA or along the Southern Route), including provision of COVID-19 testing and personal protective equipment such as masks.

Activities related to **Output 3.1 - Post-arrival and reintegration assistance**: The integrated approach to sustainable reintegration of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative aims to address returnees' economic, social and psychosocial needs. It promotes local leadership of reintegration services to address the needs of returning migrants, their family and host community members, using local services and opportunities. Indicative activities will include inter alia:

- Post-arrival reception assistance to at least **20,900** (indicatively 20,100 in countries in the SLC region and 800 in HOA region – including returnees from North Africa) returning migrants, including through transit centres in countries of origin. This assistance could also be provided to complement existing support to migrants returned from EU MS by IOM, EU MS or an EU agency.
- Sustainable reintegration assistance (economic, social and psychosocial services) to at least **17,900 beneficiaries** (indicatively 17,100 in countries in the SLC region and 800 in countries in the HOA and possibly migrants returning from the SLC and HOA to other countries where no reintegration is provided). The reintegration assistance could also be used to complement existing support to migrants returned from EU Member States, Norway, and Switzerland by IOM, EU MS or an EU agency. Efforts to ensure referrals, the inclusion of communities in the reintegration process through community-based reintegration activities, and private sector engagement will also continue.
- Improved monitoring, evaluation and learning processes based on the experience of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative and the institutional M&E tools for return and reintegration

Activities related to **Output 4.1 – Awareness raising**: Awareness raising activities are provided so that potential migrants can make informed migration decisions, communities of return are sensitised to migration and local stakeholders understand benefits of migrant inclusion. Indicative activities will include inter alia:

- Awareness-raising activities and community-based interventions in specific transit countries and countries of origin; Continuation of pilot partnerships on Sports and Youth Engagement, in synergy with other campaigns (Migrants as Messengers, IOM X) in specific countries;
- Support development of the [Waka Well](#) platform and its extension to new countries in West Africa.

Activities related to **Output 5.1 – Migration data**: Taking stock of four years of collection and analysis of migration data, including irregular migrant flows and assisted voluntary returns from across the three implementing regions of the EU-IOM Joint Initiatives, activities will focus on data collection, analysis and dissemination to produce and ensure use of evidence to address the specific protection needs, risks and vulnerabilities of migrants and inform policy and programme as well as to anticipate future trends and needs. Indicative activities will include inter alia:

- DTM Flow Monitoring on the key migratory routes (WMR and CMR) and on the impact of COVID-19 on migrants and flows in the Sahel and Lake Chad while in the Horn of Africa, technical support to the DTM programmes in the region will focus on the flow monitoring network across the migration corridors (Eastern, Southern and Northern routes).
- DTM Migrants' Presence in specific countries as well as regional analysis of mobility data sources;
- Further capacity building of governments and national statistics offices to collect, analyse and disseminate migration statistics and knowledge in the Horn of Africa;
- Explore the use of new data sources for migration analysis and policy, under the umbrella of the Big Data for Migration Alliance by organizing studio workshops gathering representatives from the private sector in each region and focal points from the Africa Migration Data Network and develop scenario using IOM data and external data sources;
- Publication of public datasets containing return and reintegration data for external research and analysis purposes. Analyse the data quality, design a methodology for processing and sharing sensitive data for external use without compromising data protection and privacy principles;
- Targeted assessments and research in relevant countries in continuation of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative;
- Step up data dissemination. Organise regular webinars on human mobility patterns, research findings, and other dissemination events in complementarity to the EU-IOM Knowledge Management Hub (KMH).

Activities related to **Output 5.2 - Capacity Building**: Activities will target needs at the country level on migration management focusing primarily on protection, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration. Regional and cross-regional capacity building and dialogue will also foster synergies. National governments, IOM partners and relevant platforms will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and equipment to support migrant protection, dignified return and sustainable reintegration. The project will continue the work started under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative and indicative activities will include inter alia:

- Consultations and assessment to analyse achievements, challenges and lessons learnt from the EU-IOM Joint Initiative at country level and regional level; training and technical assistance to stakeholders involved in reintegration to increase service delivery capacity as well as ownership of the reintegration delivery process;
- Strengthening of national referral systems and capacities of partners (government actors, NGOs and civil society);
- Support for consular services and consular missions;
- Support National Steering Committees, Technical Working Groups (etc.) established under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative to enable countries to enhance the Standard Operating Procedures and national approaches;
- Support cooperation and dialogue via the African Union, IGAD, Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) as well as cross-border cooperation where relevant.

### 3.3. Mainstreaming

#### **Environmental Protection & Climate Change**

The Action continues the activities of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative which had carried out initial environmental and climate change risk screenings and impact assessments that concluded that no further actions were required. The Action will continue to integrate to the extent possible environmental and climate change considerations in the planning of the reintegration activities. Community development and reintegration activities will notably take into account ongoing environmental changes and promote community projects that support reforestation and waste management, as well as promote 'green jobs' such as beekeeping and recycling.

#### **Gender Equality and empowerment of women and girls**

Particular attention will be paid to gender concerns. The Action will ensure that assistance provided is specifically tailored to the needs of women and girls. Given the nature of the action, the protection of human rights and due process will be an integral part of the activities carried out. Both age and gender considerations will be mainstreamed in all activities of the project, with gender and age sensitive information campaigns, implementation and running of centres, equal participation in trainings and sex disaggregated data. Unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking will be provided with specialised, gender specific and child sensitive assistance and protection.

#### **Human Rights**

The Action will ensure full respect of the human rights of migrants and their communities, based on non-discrimination principles, self-determination and participation of the migrants and refugees as well as confidentiality and right to privacy. Protection and assistance mechanisms, including assistance and protection for victims of trafficking in human beings, will take into account the specific situation and vulnerability of the refugees and migrants, such as ensuring the best interest of the child, as well as the gender and age of the victims, and the consequences of the specific type of exploitation suffered.

#### **Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience**

Peaceful coexistence with local populations is also a cross cutting issue which will be considered across all elements of the implementation of this Action. For the success of the Action, it is essential that efforts are made to maintain dialogue with local population and ensure sensitisation of the community.

### 3.4. Risks

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
	<p>Access issues related to security and infrastructure, including deteriorating security situation on roads, leading to some populations being cut-off; related inability to identify locations deemed ‘appropriate’ for intervention.</p> <p>Suspensions in implementing activities in the event that access is not possible.</p>	<b>Medium to High</b>	<b>H</b>	<p>The Action continues to coordinate with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), partners, authorities and communities regarding security and IOM/partner presence to ensure a trustful relationship between stakeholders. IOM utilises third-party contracting where possible and appropriate.</p> <p>Activities may be delayed until the security situation in the target area is sound and there is no potential for harm to beneficiaries or project staff; training sites may be moved pending security assessments.</p>
	<p>Funding for sustainable reintegration support falls short of needs and requires a change in approach and a reduced level of assistance for returning migrants in their countries of origin.</p>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<p>The Action will continue to monitor the take up of voluntary return and reintegration support and ensure close coordination between voluntary return and reintegration activities and funding with the aim to ensure that all returning migrants can benefit from adequate and appropriate support.</p>
	<p>Limited interest from partners, low matching of partners’ projects implementation with main localities of return and of partners’ activities and services with returnees’ profiles and interests, and restrictive eligibility criteria hinder IOM ability to refer returnees to other partners’ projects in the</p>	<b>L</b>	<b>H</b>	<p>IOM will coordinate with partners under the leadership of EU delegations to ensure that proper referral and communication pathways are put in place, that the delivery of services and assistance is coordinated among partners and that the support proposed and selection criteria best suit the profiles of migrants when possible. IOM will also monitor referral opportunities available in return communities. Finally, the Action will put in place an institutional platform to facilitate referrals from IOM internal data management system (MiMOSA) to external partners.</p>

	framework of reintegration			
	Government officials deny direct access to migrants in detention centres or other migrant detention facilities	<b>L</b>	<b>H</b>	Through this Action, maintaining effective and positive relationships with Libyan officials will remain critical to ensure continued capacity building activities and to maintain access to detention facilities.
	Lack of political will and commitment from the beneficiary countries to work on migration management, including facilitation of assisted voluntary return and sustainable reintegration	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	In close cooperation with EU Delegations, the Action will include capacity building, stakeholder dialogue, awareness raising and continued information exchange, based on evidence, regarding the benefits for countries to engage in voluntary return and sustainable reintegration at national and local level.
	Interest of and access to returnees and their communities to engage in monitoring and participation in reintegration and development oriented initiatives is low	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	Continued awareness raising and information exchange, based on evidence, will be part of the Action, including in particular at local government and community level.
	Change of migratory flows during the implementation of the project can significantly increase or reduce the number of migrants opting for Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) to selected target countries of origin	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	The Action will include constant monitoring of migratory flows and AVRR demand to allow for early detection of changes in the migration patterns. To ensure the Action responds to return flows and reintegration needs, adaptations to the countries of origin targeted for reintegration support will put in place to the extent possible. Moreover, IOM will closely monitor the sanitary context related to the COVID-19 pandemic and provide programme adaptations to ensure safe voluntary return.
	Structural changes at national and local government level, including regular turnover of staff	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	From the outset, IOM will ensure close cooperation with stakeholders highlighting the importance of dedicated resources (financial and personal), and if necessary convene meetings at high level to address the issue – in close coordination with EU stakeholders.
	Instability, security, changing government priorities, including	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	IOM will work closely with the EU Delegations in the affected countries and engage relevant authorities at the highest level possible to advocate for the

	the risk of politicisation of migration			programme’s rights-based approach and other principles. If effective follow-up and monitoring mechanisms cannot be established in a given country, returns will be put on hold.
	Sudden pandemic of communicable diseases that hinder staff mobility and activity implementation	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	IOM will follow international regulations and advisory from the World Health Organization. IOM will focus on reprogramming to achieve the intended results of the Action in consultation with the donor.
	Strong public criticisms against the Measure for EU-IOM Joint Initiative put the reputation of the EU and IOM at risk	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	In close consultation with the EU, IOM will issue prompt response to media coverage or other forms of criticisms with counter arguments based on facts to rectify false information and counter negative perceptions. At the same time, IOM will continuously develop and disseminate knowledge management products informing about and showcasing the successes of the Programme.

### 3.5. The Intervention Logic

The Action is aiming to contribute to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration (Overall Objective).

First, this desired impact will be realised by enhancing protection services for migrants and communities (Specific Objective 1). Protection services will be enhanced by ensuring access to protection and assistance to migrants stranded along migration routes, undertaking search and rescue operations in the desert, and supporting MRRCs and transit centres to deliver comprehensive, quality and timely assistance and specialised protection services aimed at addressing the needs of stranded migrants and migrants in transit (Result 1.1). Migrant centres fill critical gaps in providing assistance and protection to migrants along key migration routes and are a key entry point for assisted voluntary return and reintegration services. While assistance can be provided at the MRRCs and via referral to partners, mobile outreach campaigns have become an important tool for reaching vulnerable migrants in remote areas particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. In view of the high vulnerability of migrants returning, the mental health and psychosocial support components of the projects are reinforced. The [Handbook on Protection and Assistance to Migrants Vulnerable to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse](#) as well as the online toolkit on migrants centres will be used to guide the delivery of enhanced protection and assistance.

Secondly, the Action will enable safe, humane, dignified voluntary return of vulnerable and stranded migrants along the main migration routes (Specific Objective 2). Providing assisted voluntary return of stranded migrants or migrants in transit (Result 2.1) as per IOM standards and procedures will achieve safe, humane, dignified voluntary return. Voluntary return assistance under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative has been scaled up considerably in response to needs and demands. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact on voluntary return and led to a reduction in voluntary returns in 2020. Adaptations to voluntary return assistance are also necessary considering COVID-19 to ensure safety.

The Action will contribute to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration by improving returning migrants’ economic, social and psycho-social reintegration while also benefiting communities (Specific Objective 3).

Sustainable reintegration will be improved and benefit communities if returning migrants are supported with post-arrival and reintegration assistance in their country of origin (Result 3.1). Based on IOM’s [Reintegration Handbook](#), the Standard Operating Procedures for Voluntary Return and Reintegration (SOPs) ensure an integrated approach to reintegration addressing returnees’ economic, social and psychosocial needs in order to achieve a sustainable level of reintegration. IOM’s reintegration approach offers tailor-made assistance based on each individual’s profile and needs. The approach promotes initiatives benefitting the wider community as well as local leadership of reintegration services to address the needs of returning migrants and host community members, using local services and opportunities.

Third, the Action will overall contribute to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration by enabling potential migrants and communities to make informed decisions about migration (Specific Objective 4) and by supporting partner countries and relevant stakeholders to enhance their capacity in migration management and to strengthen migration data and communication (Specific Objective 5).

If potential migrants and communities are informed and sensitised on the dangers of and alternatives to irregular migration (Result 4.1) then they will be equipped to travel in a safe and regular way. In addition to promoting safe migration and informing communities about the risks of irregular migration and access to services along the routes, this component also supports community cohesion. Awareness raising activities support conditions for successful reintegration by helping to address the stigmatisation and rejection from peers and family members that many returnees face. The awareness raising activities have also provided critical support for community engagement in the EU-IOM Joint Initiative activities.

With a wide range of activities including DTM Flow Monitoring, DTM Migrants' Presence, targeted assessments, surveys and research, IOM will produce and ensure use of evidence to address the specific protection needs, risks and vulnerabilities of migrants and inform policy and programmes as well as to anticipate future trends and needs. Migration related data and evidence are therefore collected, analysed and disseminated (Result 5.1) to strengthen migration data and communication. Despite the progress made on migration statistics in Africa, gaps persist migration data collected by national and international actors, especially in light of the difficulty to capture informal migration flows. Data collection as set-up under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative contributed to providing a better understanding of migration trends, highlighting the key changes in routes over the past 4 years and informing programming.

Capacity Building Activities will target migration management needs at the country level, focusing primarily on protection, voluntary return and reintegration. Regional and cross-regional capacity building and dialogue will also foster synergies. As a result, relevant stakeholders will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and equipment to support migrant protection, dignified return and sustainable reintegration and further build their capacities in migration management (Result 5.2).

### **Assumptions**

Authorities provide continuous support to IOM protection, return and reintegration activities.

Migration flows are steady and migrants in transit countries are in need of protection and assistance, especially return and reintegration assistance.

EU Delegations, partners and diaspora communities support the establishment of referral pathways to provide reintegration assistance, and the development and implementation of programmes targeting returnees is coordinated to ensure adequacy between the proposed actions and returnees' needs and profiles.

The socio-economic and security situation in the migrants' countries of origin does not deteriorate.

National dialogues on migration data are encouraged and lead to improved procedures and policies.

Authorities support dissemination of awareness campaigns in key areas of origin / transit/return.

Targeted actors are willing to build capacity and contribute in the area of reintegration.

Turnover remains low and trained staff remain in place in key institutions.

Community leaders are receptive to being involved in reintegration of migrants.

### **Lessons Learnt**

Since the start of the implementation period of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, activities related to protection and direct assistance to migrants, as well as voluntary return and reintegration support, have already provided some key indications to inform the programme approach. The acute vulnerabilities of many migrants returning, particularly from Libya, and the increased caseloads show the importance of providing additional support in countries of origin to ensure that returning migrants receive adequate and appropriate assistance and that referral and support systems are strengthened, particularly in the area of mental health and psychosocial-support and specific assistance to migrants in a vulnerable situation (including victims of trafficking, unaccompanied migrant children, victims of violence, individuals with physical or mental health needs, pregnant women). Additional arrangements with national authorities and local partners have been put in place to accommodate returning migrants in decent conditions and provide reception and post-arrival assistance for their immediate needs.

Standard operating procedures for return and reintegration have been developed, implemented based on the national context and jointly with relevant authorities, and in some countries already upgraded to allow for harmonised dignified voluntary return and reintegration support. The EU-IOM Joint Initiative promotes sustainability of reintegration through local ownership, partnership and closer alignment to development planning. Whenever possible referral to local partners and services constitute the first option for all migrants, whether or not vulnerable. The reintegration support aims to address returnees' economic, social and psychosocial needs and foster inclusion of communities of return in reintegration planning and support. The Action also aims at achieving greater involvement and buy-in of countries of origin, and the strategy of involving national authorities is starting to bear fruit, with authorities increasingly open to discussing with IOM synergies, both for returns and for reintegration schemes. Similarly, the establishment of Flow Monitoring Points at various strategic crossing points in the region is providing data on the routes and needs of migrants in the region. Specific assistance, protection and reintegration is provided vulnerable migrants and victims of trafficking in human beings, taking into account the gender and age of the victims and the consequences of the type of exploitation suffered.

In this context, this Action aims to strengthen regional coordination and ensure coherence with the strategies and common approach on migration adopted by AU, ECOWAS and IGAD, including activities in the field of return and reintegration.

### 3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

At action level, the indicative logframe should have a maximum of 10 expected results (Impact/Outcome(s)/Output(s)).

It 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 will 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)	Sources of data	Assumptions
<b>Impact</b>	To contribute to safe, orderly and regular migration in the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions.	1. Number of returning migrants in the Sahel and Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions, disaggregated by sex 2. % of returning migrants reporting sufficient levels of economic self-sufficiency, social stability, and psychosocial wellbeing in their community of return, disaggregated by sex	1.1 Database of beneficiaries 2.1 Reintegration sustainability survey (scores above 0.5)	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Outcome 1</b>	1. Vulnerable and stranded migrants are better protected and accepted by host communities.	1.1 % of community leaders reporting that activities have contributed to social cohesion and stability in their communities 1.2 EURF 21 Number of migrants, or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU-support, disaggregated by sex	1.1 AVR monitoring survey 1.2 AVR satisfaction survey 1.3 KIIs 1.4 EU intervention monitoring and reporting systems: annual and final reports from implementing organisations (, ROM reviews, and evaluations	Security and political contexts are stable and IOM can programme safely. Migrants and stakeholders are reachable and willing to complete surveys.
<b>Outcome 2</b>	2. Enhanced provision of solutions for stranded migrants, in particular safe, humane, dignified voluntary return	2.1 % of migrants who report that they have been provided with sufficient and useful information to take an informed decision to return, disaggregated by sex 2.2 % of migrants satisfied with travel arrangements made for them, disaggregated by sex	2.1 AVR monitoring survey 2.2 AVR satisfaction survey 2.3 KIIs	Migrants continue to require and engage in voluntary return and reintegration assistance.
<b>Outcome 3</b>	3. Improved economic, social and psycho-social reintegration of returning migrants that also benefits communities.	3.1 % of returning migrants satisfied with post-arrival assistance 3.2 % of returning migrants who report they are satisfied with the reintegration assistance received from IOM. 3.3 % of returning migrants in employment for 6 months after reintegration support	3.1 AVR satisfaction survey 3.2 RA satisfaction survey 3.3 KIIs	Migrants are reachable and willing to complete surveys.  Migrants' expectations regarding travel arrangements can be

		3.4 % of community leaders reporting that they feel involved in the implementation of community-based reintegration		managed within scope of programme.
<b>Outcome 4</b>	4. Potential migrants and communities make better informed decisions about migration.	4.1 % of surveyed community leaders reporting that perceptions of migration have changed within their communities.	4.1 KIIs	No deterioration of political or security situation that trigger forced migration. There is access to the target communities.
<b>Outcome 5</b>	5. Partner countries and relevant stakeholders have enhanced capacities in migration management, migration data and communication.	5.1 % of partners reporting that data produced has supported evidence-based policies and programmes design 5.2 % of government and civil society partners reporting increased knowledge, capacity and/or resources on migration management 5.3 EURF 22 Number of migration management strategies or policies (a) developed/revised or (b) under implementation with the EU support 5.4 % of government and civil society partners declaring that they are more engaged in the field of voluntary return and reintegration assistance.	5.1 Stakeholder survey, KIIs 5.2 Stakeholder survey, KIIs 5.3 Test of strategies and policy documents	Governments and local actors are engaged in efforts to provide assistance to migrants
<b>Output 1.1</b>	1.1 Stranded migrants or migrants in transit receive protection and assistance services	1.1.1 # of transit centres or migrant resource and response centres (MRRC) that are built, enhanced, rehabilitated or rented 1.1.2 # of migrants in transit provided with protection and direct assistance (disaggregated by sex)	1.1.1 Reports from the subcontractors, infrastructure/equipment handovers and inspection documents 1.1.2 Database of beneficiaries	Governments and local actors are engaged in efforts to provide assistance to migrants
<b>Output 2.1</b>	2.1 Migrants benefit from a safe and dignified voluntary return assistance	2.1.1 # of migrants assisted to return voluntarily to their countries of origin (disaggregated by sex and country of destination)	2.1.1 Database of beneficiaries	Once given sufficient and reliable information, migrants opt to return voluntarily.
<b>Output 3.1</b>	3.1 Returning migrants are supported with post-arrival and reintegration assistance in their country of origin.	3.1.1 # of returning migrants provided with post-arrival assistance with the support of EU-funded intervention., disaggregated by sex	3.1.1 Programme records 3.1.2 Programme records 3.1.3 Programme records	Actors / partners exist that can provide different elements of reintegration assistance.

		<p>3.1.2 % of returning migrants provided with post-arrival assistance with the support of EU-funded intervention., disaggregated by sex</p> <p>3.1.3 # of beneficiaries who have received reintegration assistance with the support of the EU-funded intervention (disaggregated by sex)</p> <p>3.1.4 # of reception centres or migrant resource and response centres (MRRC) that are built, enhanced, rehabilitated or rented with the support of the EU-funded intervention</p>		<p>Actors / partners remain committed and willing to provide reintegration assistance.</p> <p>Partners costs to provide reintegration assistance are not excessive or unfeasible (e.g. in complex medical cases).</p>
<b>Output 4.1</b>	4.1 Potential migrants and communities are informed and sensitised on the dangers of and alternatives to regular migration	4.1.1 # of people sensitised via information campaigns on migration and risks linked to irregular migration	4.1.1 Programme records	<p>Security and political contexts are stable and IOM can programme safely.</p> <p>Authorities support dissemination of awareness campaign in key areas of origin / transit/return</p>
<b>Output 5.1</b>	5.1 Enhanced collection, analysis and dissemination of migration data and evidence	<p>5.1.1 # of field studies, DTM reports and other research conducted with the support of the EU-funded intervention</p> <p>5.1.2 # visits to program migration data platform</p>	<p>5.1.1 Programme records</p> <p>5.1.2 Programme records</p>	Targeted institutions remain committed and willing to collect and monitor reintegration data.
<b>Output 5.2</b>	5.2 Relevant stakeholders are supported to further build their capacities in migration management.	<p>5.2.1 # of partner organisations supported through capacity building or operational support in migration management</p> <p>5.2.2 #of government and CSO representatives trained by the EU-funded intervention with increased knowledge and/or skills in migration disaggregated by sex</p>	<p>5.2.1 Programme records</p> <p>5.2.2 Pre- and post-training tests</p>	Security and political contexts are stable and IOM can programme safely.

## 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 country /territory.

### 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 19 months from the date of the 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 of the Budget Support Component

N.A.

### 4.4. 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 measures<sup>13</sup>.

#### 4.4.1. Indirect Management with an International Organisation

This action will be implemented in indirect management with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

This implementation entails that the whole action is implemented by IOM, meaning objectives 1 to 5 (1. Vulnerable and stranded migrants are better protected and accepted by host communities; 2. Enhanced provision of solutions for stranded migrants, in particular safe, humane, dignified voluntary return; 3. Improved economic, social and psycho-social reintegration of returning migrants that also benefits communities; 4. Potential migrants and communities make better informed decisions about migration; and 5. Partner countries and relevant stakeholders have enhanced capacities in migration management, migration data and communication).

IOM has been selected using the following criteria:

- It is the organisation which has the most experience in the field of the action (assisted voluntary return and sustainable reintegration).
- It has a unique capacity to implement the action in Sub-Saharan Africa given that the Action aims at ensuring the continuation of activities under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, currently implemented by IOM, until a new programme for sustainable return and reintegration in Sub-Saharan Africa is designed.
- IOM is the Related Organization of the UN in charge of migration and as such the EU's most important strategic partner for migration.
- The logistical and management capacities for this Action have been developed under previous Actions funded by the EU Trust Fund for Africa, and continuing with the same implementing partner is essential to avoid any gaps in providing support to the beneficiaries. Alternative implementing partners would be EU Member State development agencies or other international organisations with experience in return and reintegration.

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<sup>13</sup> The list of EU restrictive measure (sanctions) is reflected in the [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The Official Journal of the European Union is the official source of European Union law and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the Sanctions Map.

**Exception to the non-retroactivity of costs**

The Commission authorises that the costs incurred may be recognised as eligible as of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to cover essential urgent needs and avoid a gap in the support to (1) the return and reintegration of stranded migrants in the Sahel, Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions; and (2) the reintegration of those who voluntarily return from North Africa under the EU Trust Fund for Africa.

#### 4.5. Indicative Budget

<b>Indicative Budget components</b>	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>
<b>Implementation modalities</b> – cf section 4.4	
<b>Indirect Management with the International Organisation for Migration</b> - cf. section 4.4.1	<b>103 000 000</b>
<b>SO (1):</b> To enhance protection services for migrants and communities and enable safe, humane, dignified voluntary return of vulnerable and stranded migrants along the main migration routes.	<b>27 690 257</b>
<b>SO (2):</b> To improve the reintegration of returning migrants through economic, social and psycho-social reintegration and that also benefits communities.	<b>63 740 398</b>
<b>SO (3):</b> To enable migrants and communities to make informed decisions about migration.	<b>1 542 137</b>
<b>SO (4):</b> To support partner countries and relevant stakeholders to enhance their capacity in migration management and to strengthen migration data and communication.	<b>9 430 511</b>
<b>Communication and visibility</b> – cf section 6	<b>596 697</b>
<b>Evaluation</b> – cf section 5.2	<b>0</b>
<b>Audit</b> – cf section 5.3	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>103 000 000</b>

#### 4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The Action will be based on the existing organisational structure of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, that will be reassessed to respond to the foreseen beneficiaries needs and numbers. The project staff implementing the Action in the target countries are supported by IOM staff in Headquarters and the Regional Office in Brussels. The regional coordination units in Dakar, Nairobi and Brussels will ensure a coherent regional and cross-regional response and approach to reintegration, security monitoring and evaluation, communication strategy, data collection, and reporting. Coordination with the other EU funded Migrant Protection and Reintegration initiatives supported by the EUTF and other EU financial instruments in the Sahel and Lake Chad, Horn of Africa and North Africa regions, as well as the ‘pilot action on voluntary return and sustainable, community-based reintegration’ and ‘Improving reintegration of returnees in Afghanistan and Bangladesh’, is facilitated by a coordination cell in the IOM Regional Office in Brussels. A Coordination and Reporting Committee on migration and protection, originally established and chaired by the EUTF in Brussels, will continue in accordance with the Terms of Reference agreed. The Committee will cover all actions under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in North Africa, Horn of Africa

and the Sahel and Lake Chad regions, as well as the Special Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. The Committee will meet at least every six months upon request of the EUTF.

At national level, the existing governance structures and Steering Committees in place and implemented in the framework of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in accordance with the terms of reference drawn up in each country will be continued under the Individual Measure project. At the national level, due recognition will be given to the leadership role of the EU Delegation by ensuring close collaboration in the implementation of the project, notably to address some of the risks mentioned in section 3.4 above.

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

Based on the assessment of migration flows and trends over the past period, and following discussions with partner countries, national and regional actions in the frame of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, provisional targets for voluntary return and reintegration have been set under this Action to cover protection, return and reintegration estimates until end of April 2022 with reintegration assistance provided until end of October 2022. These are based on the approach and assumption that each returnee should receive tailored reintegration support if they wish so.

#### 4.7. Pre-conditions

Not applicable.

## 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 Organisation will continue permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate a final report. The final 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 Individual Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative includes a common but contextualised monitoring and evaluation framework, including the use of common indicators across the countries implementing the Action. The Regional Offices will ensure the monitoring of the Action's activities in their regions. Relevant stakeholders will be engaged as much as possible in participatory monitoring approaches to strengthen collaboration, partnership, learning and accountability.

### 5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature and timeframe of the action, no evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components. The action is the continuation of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative which already allocates substantial resources to carry out final evaluations in the two regions at stake here.

The evaluation reports funded under previous actions shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination<sup>14</sup>. The implementing partner 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 evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

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<sup>14</sup> See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

### 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. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility is a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to advertise the European Union's support for their work to the relevant audiences.

To that end they must comply with the instructions given in the Communication and Visibility Requirements of 2018 (or any successor document), notably with regard to the use of the EU emblem and the elaboration of a dedicated communication and visibility plan, to be completed for every action at the start of implementation.

These obligations apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, the partner country (for instance, concerning the reforms supported through budget support), contractors, grant beneficiaries or entrusted entities. In each case, a reference to the relevant contractual obligations must be included in the respective financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

Communication and visibility measures may be funded from the amounts allocated to the action. For the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action, the Commission may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union. Visibility and communication measures should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Effectiveness of communication activities on awareness about the action and its objectives as well as on EU funding of the action should be measured.

Implementing partners shall keep the Commission and concerned EU Delegation/Office fully informed of the planning and implementation of specific visibility and communication activities before work starts. Implementing partners will ensure adequate visibility of EU financing and will report on visibility and communication actions as well as the results of the overall action to the relevant monitoring committees.