EN

Annex 4

to the

Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Turkey for 2021

ACTION DOCUMENT

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

Title	IPA III Annual action plan in favour of Turkey for 2021 Action # 4 Environment and Climate Change			
OPSYS CRIS encoding (OPSYS equivalent)	OSPYS business reference IPA/2021/043673/4 CRIS encoding (OPSYS equivalent)			
Basic Act	Financed under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)			
Team Europe Initiative	No			
Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in the Republic of Turkey.			
Programming document	IPA III Programming Framework			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
Window and thematic priority	Window 3 - Green Agenda and Sustainable Connectivity Thematic Priority 1: Environment and climate change			
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG-13: Climate Action Other significant SDGs: SDG-5: Gender equality, SDG-6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG-9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure, SDG-11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG-17: Partnerships for goals.			
DAC code(s)	41010 - Environmental policy and administrative management 43060 - Disaster Risk Reduction			
Main Delivery Channel	Central Government - 12001 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - 41114			
Markers **(from DAC form)**	**General policy objective**	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Participation development/good governance	☐	☒	☐

	Aid to environment	☐	☐	☒
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	☐	☒	☐
	Trade development	☒	☐	☐
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	☒	☐	☐
	Disaster Risk Reduction	☐	☐	☒
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	☒	☐	☐
	Nutrition	☒	☐	☐
	RIO Convention markers	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Biological diversity	☒	☐	☐
	Combat desertification	☐	☒	☐
	Climate change mitigation	☐	☐	☒
	Climate change adaptation	☐	☐	☒
Internal markers	**Policy objectives**	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Digitalisation	☐	☒	☐
	Migration	☒	☐	☐
	Covid-19	☐	☒	☐
BUDGET INFORMATION				
Amounts concerned	Budget line: 15.02 02 01.02 Total estimated cost: EUR 29 206 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 27 000 000 of which: EUR 7 500 000 for indirect management with Entrusted Entity EUR 19 500 000 for indirect management with IPA III Beneficiary This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: - Republic of Turkey for an amount of EUR 2 206 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
Type of financing and method(s) of implementation	Project Modality: Indirect management with an entrusted entity (UNDP) Indirect management with the Republic of Turkey (IMBC)			
Final Date for conclusion of Financing Agreement	At the latest by 31 December 2022			

Final date for concluding contribution / delegation agreements, procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 114(2) of the Financial Regulation
Indicative operational implementation period	72 months following the adoption of the Financing Agreement
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement

1.2. Summary of the Action

Like the rest of the world, Turkey has been experiencing adverse effects from climate change and environmental degradation. Turkey's commitment to economic development makes it critical to coordinate efforts to choose an environmentally friendly development path, while coupling climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts with global efforts. In this respect, this action aims primarily at facilitating Turkey's alignment with the EU *acquis* on Chapter 27 'Environment and Climate Change' as well as fostering national strategies and global targets such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This action presents a holistic approach towards this goal and aims to address areas of support, under Thematic Priority 1 – Environment and Climate Change of the IPA III Window 3 – Green Agenda and Sustainable Connectivity. It will address mainly the thematic areas of climate change, water and civil protection, according to the following areas of support: (i) climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity at local level; (ii) wastewater reuse, and (iii) civil protection against disasters. Those areas of support put local involvement at their centre by targeting development and increased resilience. Acknowledging the crucial role of local actors including civil society organizations (CSOs) in climate change mitigation and adaptation, the action prioritises increasing the institutional capacity of municipalities and the preparation and management of Local Climate Change Action Plans. As a Mediterranean and Black Sea country, sustainable use and protection of water resources is crucial for Turkey and this necessitates emphasis on water treatment and reuse. The activities under the action, including information-based decision-making and monitoring systems, capacity development at national and local level through trainings and other means, increasing implementation capacity, and the development of procedures and databases, etc. will increase Turkey's capacity of Turkey in dealing with climate change and environment-related issues and make it better prepared for the reaction to natural disasters. This will also result in better alignment with Chapter 27 of the EU *acquis*, thus bringing Turkey closer to the EU.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context Analysis

Following the adoption of the Negotiating Position of the Republic of Turkey Chapter 27: Environment, the chapter was opened on 21 December 2009. Turkey has since provided uneven efforts to align with and implement the *acquis* on environment. As a Mediterranean country and Black Sea, already experiencing the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation, actions towards environmental protection and climate change adaptation and building disaster resilience need to receive the appropriate attention in Turkey, while climate change mitigation remains a crucial, by-and-large unaddressed challenge for the country.

Turkey has been a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2004 and of the Kyoto Protocol since 2009. In 2015, Turkey submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) before the Paris Conference

of the Parties (COP 21), expressing its intention to decrease emissions level by up to 21% compared to a business-as-usual scenario by 2030. After a long period of hesitation, Turkey ratified the Paris Agreement in October 2021; its INDC became its first Nationally Determined Contribution, which the country has yet to update. While a lot of preparatory work has been performed in order to upgrade Turkey's climate policies, most programming documents do not look beyond the 2023 time horizon and decisive action, both on mitigation and adaptation is expected in the short term.

The 11th National Development Plan of Turkey (NDP) (2019-2023) is an important reference for policies related to this Action. The plan links climate change with environmental problems and disasters, sets out policies on "limiting the rising trend of Green-house Gas emissions and reviewing the existing strategies in terms of adaptation to the impacts of climate change" and "to minimize loss of life and property caused by disasters through risk mitigation practices". The plan also states that the policies and development perspective of Turkey is built on an inclusive approach with special focus on gender mainstreaming.

The EU Integrated Environmental Approximation Strategy (UÇES) of Turkey (2007-2023) is an essential document containing information pertaining to the technical and institutional infrastructure, the environmental improvements required to be performed as well as the mandatory arrangements which are necessary to establish complete harmonization with the EU Environmental acquis.

Regarding Turkey's strategy on climate change, the Prime Ministry Higher Planning Council approved The National Climate Change Strategy (NCCAP) (2010- 2023) on 3 May 2010. To ensure implementation of the National Climate Change Strategy, the National Climate Change Action Plan (2011- 2023) on GHG emission control and adaptation to climate change was prepared and put into implementation in July 2011.

The "2020-2023 National Smart Cities Strategy and Action Plan" has furthermore been prepared in order to establish a national strategic view on smart cities and draw a road map under the policy ownership of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization. By the implementation of this strategy and action plan, along with other achievements, adaptation capacity to climate change will be increased, adverse consequences will be kept under control within certain limits, and the effects of climate change will be minimized by reducing the greenhouse effect.

The "Turkey 2021 Report"[1] accompanying the "2021 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy"[2] indicates that Turkey has some level of preparation on environmental and climate change and faces critical environmental and climate challenges, both as regards mitigation and adaptation. It made some progress, including the ratification of the Paris Agreement on climate change and increasing capacity in waste management, wastewater treatment and on legislative alignment, but enforcement and implementation remain weak.. There is hence the need for more ambitious and better coordinated environment and climate policies, strategic planning, substantial investment and stronger administrative capacity.

The new Approach for a Sustainable Blue Economy integrates ocean policy into Europe's new economic policy and the blue economy ocean supports, is indispensable to achieving the transformation set out in the European Green Deal[3]. This approach is also reflected under the 10 priorities of the February 2021 Ministerial declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean on sustainable blue economy Turkey signed. In the Black Sea in May 2019 Turkey has endorsed the Bucharest Ministerial Declaration on the Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea, covering 3 goals: 1. Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems; 2. Innovative, resilient blue economy; 3. Investments.

Within the scope of the IPA III Programming Framework, IPA III will support the beneficiaries to bring their environmental protection standards and climate change policies in line with EU requirements and policy priorities under Window 3. The IPA III Strategic Response was designed in this respect with the sector approach and considering other regional and international strategies in order to provide a context analysis by outlining to what

[1] SWD(2021) 290 Turkey 2021 Report https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/turkey-report-2021_en

[2] COM(2021) 644 2021 Communication on EU enlargement policy https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/system/files/2020-10/20201006-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy_en.pdf

[3] COM(2019) 640 European Green Deal https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1588580774040&uri=CELEX%3A52019DC0640

extent the policy priorities and strategic frameworks in the field of environment and climate change are aligned with the strategic orientations of the IPA III Programming Framework and are coherent with the enlargement policy of the EU.

The overall objective of the IPA III Strategic Response of Turkey for the IPA III Under Window 3 Thematic Priority 1 is to contribute to promoting the Green Agenda by increasing environmental protection contributing to mitigation; increasing resilience and adaptation to climate change; accelerating the shift towards a low-carbon and circular economy; improving the disaster management capacity and having advanced alignment with the EU's environment and climate-related Acquis.

Main objectives of the Turkish policy that is to be supported by the intervention

The main policy of Turkey regarding the EU *acquis* Chapter 27: Environment is to strengthen the institutional and administrative capacity as well as increasing the efforts and efficiency in implementation. This action will contribute to this aim by building new capacities as well as bringing in new mechanisms.

The following objectives of Turkey's policies are expected to be supported by this intervention:

- To improve the legislative, strategic and technical framework as required for the reuse of wastewater;
- To improve institutional capacity through information-based decision-making and monitoring systems;
- To improve institutional capacity on climate change mitigation adaptation with special focus on the empowerment of local level stakeholders;
- To improve institutional capacity for disaster management.

2.2. Problem analysis by areas of support

The problems to be addressed in this Action are given below by Areas of Support.

Area of Support No.1: Local Level Climate Change Efforts

Climate change impacts experienced by Turkey are getting more severe over time. To respond, climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in line with international climate objectives are needed. This can be possible through capacity development, local empowerment, and strengthened international collaboration. Improving institutional capacity will serve this purpose.

To better coordinate climate actions, Turkey needs to improve the capacities of cities and towns for climate change adaptation and mitigation at local level. Climate change impacts, experienced by cities and towns, differ based on their geographical locations and specific vulnerabilities. Municipalities should develop and implement climate change strategy documents and local climate change action plans (LCCAPs) to deal with the impacts on urban living, quality of life and services delivered. Considering their limited technical, administrative capacities they are in need of support for capacity improvement to combat climate change and improve their resilience. The number of municipalities having LCCAP in Turkey is very low. According to the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate (MoEU) data, out of 30 metropolitan municipalities, 11 have mitigation action plans and only 5 have adaptation action plans as of October 2020. These numbers correspond to 37% and 17% respectively. At the same time, out of 225 metropolitan district municipalities only 11 have a mitigation action plan and 5 have an adaptation action plan. Moreover, another 99 provincial centers and district center municipalities that responded to the survey indicated that they do not have any planning activities on climate change. These numbers clearly indicate the need for capacity development at the local level.

The cities and towns are in need of support for climate change adaptation and mitigation, governance mechanisms to identify tasks and responsibilities and they also need help with financial issues to overcome barriers for the realization of their actions. In this Action, municipalities will be supported with the preparation and implementation of LCCAPs, assessing vulnerabilities and risks, creating tools, enhanced access to public and private finance as well as granting finance to the local efforts with the help of a grants programme.

The MoEU General Directorate of Environmental Management is the end beneficiary of this area of support. Main stakeholders are local authorities, municipalities, central authorities such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

(MoAF) General Directorate (DG) of Meteorology, MoAF DG of Water Management, academia, NGOs and the private sector. The Technical Assistance (TA) component of the related activity will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The grant component will be implemented under indirect management by the Republic of Turkey (MoEU/DG EU and Foreign Affairs/Department of EU Financial Assistance).

Area of Support No.2: Reuse Of Treated Wastewater For Different Alternatives

Due to water scarcity caused by climate change, alternative water resources such as the reuse of treated wastewater are needed. The rate of treated wastewater usage in Turkey is low and way behind the annual wastewater treatment potential. The reuse rate of treated wastewater is 1.2%. The implementation of projects that will be prepared in this action will greatly contribute to increase the reuse rate of Turkey to 5% until 2028.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry General Directorate of Water Management (DGWM) is the end beneficiary. Main stakeholders are the MoEU, municipalities, the State Hydraulic Works (DSI) and ILBANK.

Area of Support No.3: Disaster Resilience

Turkey faces serious disaster risks, since it is located in one of the most vulnerable areas with regard to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters like earthquakes. Climate change-related disasters like floods and fires have increased in recent years. The increasing number and continuing impacts of natural disasters are evidence for the need of policies to be properly understood and integrated into current practices and the dissemination of lessons learned from past disasters. This necessitates the improvement of the disaster management system in Turkey which requires further capacity development, extending efforts to local level, better coordination and enhanced collaboration with stakeholders. The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD), as the authorised operating body for disasters and emergencies, is the end beneficiary. Public institutions, local governments including municipalities and CSOs are the key stakeholders.

2.3. Relevance and complementarity with strategies supported by key national stakeholders

The action is designed to address the needs identified in the problem analysis which are indicated under areas of support in Section 2.2.

Area of Support No.1: Local Level Climate Change Efforts

Based on the National Climate Change Strategy (2010-2023), the 11th NDP, international agreements and commitments on climate change, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and respective sector policies of the EU and the EU acquis, Turkey prepared the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) (2011- 2023) on GHG emission control and adaptation to climate change. This plan is addressing the aims for a better institutional capacity and knowledge for environmental/ economic/ social sectors and related vulnerabilities.

In the 11th NDP, it is stated in the 714th paragraph that planning, implementation and capacity building studies that include national and regional adaptation strategies will be carried out to increase the capacity to adapt to the negative effects of climate change, that region and city-scale needs will be identified, solutions in order to adapt to climate change will be determined and necessary measures will be taken. Thus, this activity is directly linked with national strategies since Local Climate Change Action Plans have to be constructed on the basis of different local needs and help to improve city base resilience to the climate base vulnerability. This action also addresses the 157th, 664th, 674th and 723rd paragraphs of the 11th NDP.

The EU Integrated Environmental Approximation Strategy (UÇES) (2016-2023) explains the existing situation, the legal and institutional framework, sectoral priorities and measures for the sectors under the environment chapter of the negotiations. The Strategy also puts forward the investment required to complete harmonisation for compliance with the EU *Acquis*. UÇES estimates that local administrations will be responsible of 37% of the total investment required. This figure represents the importance of local action for the EU accession.

The Climate Change Action Plan of Turkey (2011 – 2023) emphasises the importance of local planning and actions in terms of combating climate change. The MoEU Strategic Plan (2019-2023) requires preparing LCCAPs for the

metropolitan cities and states; the cumulative number of prepared LCCAPs for the metropolitan cities shall be 30 until 2023.

The **Area of Support No.2: Reuse Of Treated Wastewater For Different Alternatives**

The objective is improvement towards compliance to Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 in terms of effective use of treated urban wastewater for different reuse alternatives. This objective, which also addresses 697.2nd paragraph of 11th NDP, aims to improve the legislative and strategic framework, raise national awareness and capacity development for the reuse of treated urban wastewater for different reuse alternatives in Turkey. This is necessary to fulfil the requirements of the by-law on Urban Wastewater Treatment (UWWT) as well.

The legislative background of Turkey enables this intervention as the EU Council Directive 91/271/EEC has been transposed to the Turkish legislation by the By-law on Urban Wastewater Treatment (UWWT), which was published in the Official Gazette No. 26047 on 8 January 2006. The Article 5 of the by-law, states that "The wastewater which had been treated under appropriate conditions can be reused. Disposal methods are determined to minimize adverse effects on the environment. The reuse of treated wastewater is subject to the provisions of Article 28 of the Water Pollution Control Regulation published in the Official Gazette No. 25687 dated 31.12.2004."

While focusing on the stakeholder efforts for reuse of treated wastewater for different alternatives such as agricultural irrigation, industrial reuse, groundwater recharge or environmental feeding of wetlands etc., detailed studies specifically in the reuse alternatives of treated wastewater and cost-benefit, socioeconomic and technical analysis will be carried out. Hence, improvements will be achieved in implementation and results. Additionally, cooperation established within the scope of action will contribute to the realization of the importance and priority of implementation plans in the local community plans and programs.

Area of Support No.3: Disaster Resilience

Disaster resilience is a priority in Turkey's national agenda, which can be observed in the 11th NDP indicating the link between disaster resilience and climate change through identification of targets for ensuring the sustainable development of cities by conducting long-term integrated studies such as urban planning and design and implementation of effective disaster management. The NDP states the need for increasing social awareness against disasters and emergencies and strengthening the capacities of the units responsible for disaster management at local and national level. This action addresses 666th, 722th, 723rd and 728th paragraphs of 11th NDP.

The cooperation of related stakeholders and coordination needed for planning and development of cities are also part of the national strategy on Disaster Management, as observed in the references in NDP such as "the scenarios regarding the effects of climate change across the country disaster hazard and risk maps will be prepared", "international cooperation activities for disaster preparedness and risk reduction will be increased". AFAD has been mandated as the coordinating/responsible organisation for the execution of the process of Natural Disaster Risk Management in Turkey.

The action will provide a fruitful coordination mechanism amongst stakeholders such as municipalities as well as increased capacity of AFAD. It will provide means of monitoring and reporting aligned with the sector specific documents highlighting the needs and problems at different levels in the country. This approach will be inclusive and participation of all social groups and a special focus on gender mainstreaming will be indispensable parts of the action.

With regards to disaster-specific strategic objectives, the National Earthquake Strategy and Action Plan (UDSEP-2023) has been prepared under coordination of the AFAD's Earthquake Advisory Council representatives from an array of public agencies active in the area, academics and practitioners, of which the aim is described as an "achievement of new earthquake-resilient, safe, well prepared and sustainable settlements so that the physical, economic, social, environmental and political harms and losses that may be engendered by earthquakes are prevented, or their effects reduced". In addition, the Presidential Decree No. 4 on the AFAD elaborates the coordinating role of the institution with regards to the stakeholders in Article 51 – (1) "Authority shall be entitled to ensure coordination and cooperation in its areas of competence with public institutions and organizations, universities, local governments, Turkish Red Crescent and other NGOs functioning in the relevant fields as well as private companies and international organisations". The National Disaster Response Plan (TAMP) which is currently in force gives a well-defined structure

for the involvement of stakeholders in the process of both disaster response and recovery. Turkey has a draft Disaster Management Strategy and draft plans such as Provincial Risk Reduction Plans or the Turkey Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, which need to be reviewed and disseminated.

2.4. Relevance and complementarity with EU policy and EU and other donors' assistance

According to the first political priority of the European Commission, the European Green Deal shall constitute the strategic reference for the Green Agenda, in order to support transition in IPA beneficiaries towards a circular, climate-resilient and climate-neutral economy. The overall objectives of the EU's assistance under Window 3 are to promote the green agenda by reinforcing environmental protection, contributing to mitigation of and increasing resilience to climate change, accelerating the shift towards a climate-neutral and circular economy and develop the digital economy and society.

The specific objective of IPA III in this area is to support the protection of the environment, improve its quality and contribute to actions and policies against climate change to accelerate the shift towards a climate-neutral, resilient economy. In other words, through this Window, IPA III will support the beneficiaries to bring their environmental protection standards and climate change policies in line with EU requirements and policy priorities. In doing so, institutions shall be strengthened at all levels to create enough institutional and financial capacities to deliver, implement, enforce and monitor effective environmental and climate change policies and legislation. This will obviously require additional efforts for short-medium and long-term strategic planning and inter-ministerial coordination, as well as cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, including local authorities, the business community and civil society. With reference to the IPA III Programming Framework, under the Thematic Priority 1 – Environment and Climate Change, selected areas in the action are designed to support Turkey in the framework of building an administrative and institutional capacity for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change as well as water reuse. Technical assistance and efforts are required for Turkey for long-term strategic planning and inter-sectoral coordination, as well as cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, including local authorities and civil society. Areas of support are expected to bring improvements in this dimension.

As included in the IPA III framework, improvement of the capacity for disaster risk management and enhanced participation in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism is also taken into consideration. On civil protection, Turkey's collaboration under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) increased in 2019, notably with regard to tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. Turkey is encouraged to commit further response capacities to the European Civil Protection Pool and to offer assistance under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism during emergencies. In this sense, the Action focuses on building a better disaster management system in Turkey and empowering related institutions and towns/cities for improving their disaster-resilience.

This action is complementary with the the European Green Deal, including its external dimension, the Adaptation Strategy and new emission reduction goals for 2030 and 2050, global efforts of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Water, new Circular Economy Action Plan, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), Sustainable Development Goals. the alignmentthe

The action, with its special focus on local empowerment and engagement of all social groups, especially women, will take the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III into consideration during implementation.

2.5. Lessons learned and links with previous financial assistance

While the Action was designed, it has been a priority to make use of lessons learned and good practices of previous activities under EU financial assistance.

Those projects demonstrated that - to improve climate change mitigation and adaptation capacities and to foster alignment with EU related efforts - Turkey needs to have a comprehensive approach. It is crucial to reach a higher level of institutional capacity development by more efficient administrative processes extending to the local level,

ensure participation of all stakeholders in an inclusive way and ensure participation of and effective cooperation with all stakeholders such as relevant public, private, local and social actors. The following needs, relevant to the local level efforts, are identified as the result of those projects:

· further capacity building at local level for project implementation,
· enhanced capacity for service delivery at local level,
· further engagement of local stakeholders in municipal actions,
· strengthening communication across the levels of the government,
· encouragement of climate and environment issues as cross-cutting themes.

Previous projects also showed that data quality and technical capacity is crucial both for national communications and also to align Turkey's work with EU guidelines.

More specifically; the main outcomes of the previous and ongoing projects include: the Enhancing Adaptation Action in Turkey Project and the Capacity Building In The Field Of Climate Change In Turkey Project will be a strong basis for many activities of the activity designed under Area of Support No.1 such as online decision-making support tools to be integrated into the Climate Portal, further increasing capacities regarding GHG emission inventories, vulnerability and risk assessments, development of local climate change action plans etc. The lessons learned during the technical implementation of the grant programmes under the Enhancing Required Joint Efforts on Climate Action Project as well as ongoing Climate Change Adaptation Grant Programme under "Enhancing Adaptation in Turkey Project" Project will be reflected into the grant component addressing municipalities and other local stakeholders.

In the previous projects related to Area of Support No.2, the wastewater potential in Turkey and possible reuse applications have been determined in general and the reclamation of treated urban wastewater and its reuse have been evaluated as one of the strategies to adapt to climate change impacts, in particular droughts. Findings from previous studies show that, before proceeding further with the reuse of treated wastewater for various reuse purposes, a detailed safety and health analysis must be undertaken since the Covid-19 virus was detected in wastewater treatment plants. In this context, it is necessary to develop the administrative and technical capacities by conducting the necessary research studies for the application of technologies, risk management and strategies related to water reuse. This project will hence evaluate beneficial uses of reclaimed water as strategies for managing water resources and gaining sustainable and integrated water supplies. The use of treated wastewater in wetland feeding will also be a savior for many wetlands that are at risk of drought.

Findings and recommendations from the projects/programmes for the activity designed under Area of Support No.3 indicates that;

- Cooperation between AFAD and its external stakeholders needs to be improved (both national and regional).
- Cooperation and collaboration among sectorial stakeholders (as measured against the Sendai principles) have been basic needs in several sections of the Gap Analyses of the projects and elaborated as a systemic weakness in the sector. Given that the effectiveness of DRM/ER depends heavily on a well-coordinated multi-stakeholder framework, this represents an issue which needs to be addressed with some urgency. Moreover, it will be necessary to engage external stakeholders with a view to improving coordination and collaboration with them as well as overcoming their capacity constraints.
- AFAD's overall performance on technical capacity, management of institutional capacity, budgeting, legislative measures, strategic planning, organisational/institutionalised learning, organisational structure need to be improved to well respond the change of vision of the AFAD from not only as a crisis management authority but as risk management institution. This transition will enable the AFAD (i) to increase coherence between national strategies, sector policies, resource allocation and spending practices; (ii) to contribute towards AFAD's vision of "building a more disaster resilient society in Turkey".

This action addresses above dimensions. Institutional capacities which were reached during previous projects are aimed to be improved further and extended to the local level as well. Built on the previous experiences it is also aimed to increase public understanding and enhance stakeholder capacity on the required joint efforts on climate action including water reuse and civil protection.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Planned results and intervention logic

The action targets to achieve three outputs. These are:

i) Turkey's local climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity was improved
ii) Wastewater reuse capacity was improved
iii) Civil protection and international collaboration capacity against disasters was improved

These outputs will lead to achieve the following outcome: Turkey has better aligned its legislations, policies and systems with the requirements of Chapter 27 of EU *Acquis*. This outcome will be achieved based on the above outputs under the following assumptions: strong stakeholder coordination is ensured during action implementation, there is a sufficient number of committed beneficiaries available for training and capacity building, municipalities have sufficient staff with required skills and capacities for conducting activities, there is interest, technical capacity and financial resources on the side of municipalities and other local stakeholders for developing eligible applications for grant projects and their successful implementation, and municipalities and other local stakeholders are willing to share their experiences with each other.

The enhanced alignment of legislation, policies and systems in Turkey with the requirement of Chapter 27 and the EU *Acquis* will in turn contribute to the following impact: to contribute to climate change mitigation, increasing resilience to climate change and disasters in Turkey. This is possible if Turkey raises the level of its climate ambition and reflects this into its domestic policies, notably through the upcoming Climate Law, mobilises necessary domestic financial and administrative resources effectively and efficiently, together with the EU remains committed to collaboration in the area of civil protection and disaster risk management, and develops and adapts national policies in compliance with the international policies and global agreements on environment such as UCPM, Sendai Principles, etc.

3.2. Indicative type of activities

The action will be implemented through technical assistance and grants. Details are given for each output below:

Output 1: Turkey's local climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity is improved.

The Output has a focus on risk assessment and modelling and disseminating solutions.

Activity 1: Increasing the Capacity in the Field of Local Level Climate Change Efforts: The activity consists of two components. The first component is technical assistance (TA) which will be implemented by indirect management with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The TA services will include a modelling study for climate change projections, development of methodologies for local GHG inventories, vulnerability and risk assessments, and cost estimation of mitigation and adaptation measures, a framework for preparation, implementation and monitoring of local climate change action plans (LCCAPs), preparation of LCCAPs for pilot cities and city level decision support tools including GHG emissions scenario modelling tool for municipalities. Capacity building and dissemination activities will include trainings, study visits, development of user manuals, and guidebooks for interactive tools and other dissemination materials.

The activity will also have a grant programme component mainly targeting local administrations to uptake of climate change plans, actions, and awareness about climate change which will be implemented by indirect management with the Republic of Turkey.

Since women's involvement in the response to climate change is crucial due to their local knowledge and capacity in leadership at sustainable practices as well as their higher vulnerability to the effects of climate change, gender mainstreaming will be of utmost importance throughout the project activities.

Output 2: Wastewater reuse capacity was improved.

Activity 2: Reuse of Treated Urban Wastewater for Different Alternatives will be implemented under a Technical Assistance contract, which will cover activities such as: preparation of "National Water Reuse Master Plan" for treated sewage effluent (TSE) of Turkey as well as draft legislation, preparation of Detailed Design and Investment Documents for Pilot Regions to implement different reuse alternatives (e.g. agricultural irrigation, environmental use-feeding of lakes-, groundwater recharge and industrial use) and capacity building and awareness raising activities.

Output 3: Civil protection and international collaboration capacity against disasters was improved.

This output will be implemented through a Technical Assistance contract. The output will be achieved with the implementation of Activity 3. Activity 3: Building a Disaster Resilient Turkey will cover: development of capacity and strengthening of cooperation at national and local levels through conducting baseline studies and gap analysis for capacity development; developing guidelines, standards, plans and programmes; reviewing and implementing the Training Policy Paper; developing action plans for better disaster management; workshops, trainings and awareness raising activities. Active participation of stakeholders, gender mainstreaming and inclusiveness for vulnerable groups will be top priorities during the activities. Activities 2 and 3 will be implemented by indirect management with the Republic of Turkey.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

Risks	**Risk level (H/M/L)**	**Mitigating measures**
Inefficient communication and collaboration among relevant institutions during implementation of the Action	**H**	Lead Institution will give priority to the establishment of a good collaboration medium between relevant administrative structures. All end beneficiaries will be informed about the benefits of the participatory process and will be encouraged to establish a good collaboration medium with their stakeholders during their activities.
Change of administration in local stakeholders, especially municipalities and CSOs/NGOs	**M**	Lead Institution will take utmost care in ensuring that the benefits of the Action are communicated to all stakeholders and encouraging them to be actively involved in the activities. Also, memorandum of understanding or similar documents will be prepared to provide continuation of fruitful collaboration in such cases.
Change of mandate of institutions, especially the ones represented in the steering and monitoring committees.	**M**	Membership structure of the committees will be revised to be in line with the mandates of institutions.
Continuation of pandemic conditions	**M**	Possibility of extension of pandemic related measures are taken into account when planning the details of activities. All activities will be designed to use alternative methods such as distant learning, tele-conferences, etc.
Certain data may pose a risk for privacy and confidentiality issue	**M**	Confidentiality agreement will be signed with stakeholders, if necessary.

Assumptions (to be reflected in the Logical Framework Matrix above) – grouped by outputs and outcomes

At Outcome Level

- Continuing commitment of Turkey to the EU accession process and to make progress on the alignment with the EU *acquis*, Chapter 27 – Environment.
- Turkey's ongoing efforts towards participation in UNFCCC's Conference of Parties and in relation to the provisions of the Kyoto Climate Change Agreement.
- Continuous commitment steered and coordinated at the highest level to address the key priorities under environment and climate change.
- Necessary domestic financial and administrative resources are effectively and efficiently mobilised.
- Climate Law is enforced.

At Output Level

- Strong stakeholder involvement and contribution to the action.
- Sufficient number of staff assigned by relevant ministries/institutions.
- Minimal turnover for high ministerial levels and technical staff.
- Municipalities have necessary human resource to participate and carry out related activities/projects.

3.4. Mainstreaming

Gender Mainstreaming:

Gender mainstreaming has been an important aspect in this Action. "A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025"[4] applying to women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, together with the "EU Gender Action Plan III"[5], are considered as important references as well as the 11th NDP necessitating equal opportunities between men and women. Women's empowerment and participation is prominent in NDP.

There are also concerns about the risk of worsened disadvantaged conditions with the effect of gender-norm-related challenges for people with disadvantages in terms of disabilities, financial security, mobility or other factors adversely placing people outside the mainstream part of population. Upcoming policies under the European Green Deal, such as the EU Strategy on Climate Adaptation, can impact genders unequally. As regards the climate change, the role of young women in particular has been remarkable in leading the push for change. On the other side, men and women are not equally affected by green policies tackling climate change (there are more possibilities for men as climate refugees). Addressing the gender dimension can therefore have a key role in leveraging the full potential of these policies. Gender mainstreaming is targeted to be achieved by concrete actions like;

- sex-disaggregated data collection in the activities of the action where applicable in order to improve data collection on the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and environmental degradation to inform gender-responsive policies and action.
- diagnosing gender-norm-related challenges and the related disadvantaged groups (whenever possible, at the beginning of the activities)
- systematically including sexual equality perspective in outputs (including, inter alia, contributions to increase resilience of disadvantaged groups against gender-norm-related challenges where applicable),
- taking into consideration the nature of the activity, ensuring and/or encouraging more men-women balanced representation of stakeholders throughout the action and in every kind of events of the activities including events that are organized in all stages of policy design and trainings.
- taking into consideration the nature of the activity ensuring and/or encouraging more balanced involvement of women and men in implementation and management of the activities like in coordination units and technical assistance teams.

Some outputs may also lead women to have equal opportunities to thrive in society and the economy. Thus this action will contribute to gender mainstreaming with a special focus on women's empowerment.

Environment and Climate Action:

The Action directly relates to environment and climate issues at the national and local levels. It will improve the technical capacities and quality of information necessary for the further progress in the implementation of EU Environment and Climate Change legislation and thus directly contributes to improved environmental protection and climate action.

Equal Opportunities:

To ensure the Constitutional rights of equal treatment for all the citizens, activities financed under this Action will be implemented by complying with the principles of preventing all forms of discrimination and promoting sexual equality. Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the Action will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. The implementing parties shall be requested to provide monitoring data recording the participation of men and women in terms of employees, as a proof of equal participation of men and women during the implementation phase. Furthermore, the necessary arrangements will be made to ensure that the activities will be equally accessible to persons with disabilities.

Minorities and Vulnerable Groups:

Considering the fact that this Action under "Window 3, Thematic Priority 1 - Environment and Climate Change" will deal with environmental issues targeting a general improvement of the key sub-sectors, its outcomes will be beneficial to all citizens including minority and underprivileged social groups. Further improvements in environmental protection (water, waste, nature, climate change) will assist in poverty reduction, and increase the potential for economic activity.

Engagement with Civil Society:

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[4] COM(2020) 152 *A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025* https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0152&from=EN

[5] SWD(2020) 284 *EU Gender Action Plan III* https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/join-2020-17-final_en.pdf

The key stakeholders have been contacted during formulation of the intervention and will participate in the implementation. Representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society will be consulted and involved in the implementation of the Action and during the adoption of new pieces of legislation and policy documents. They will be invited to actively take part in the different consultation events foreseen during the implementation of the AD, as well as any ad-hoc need for consultation. Furthermore, representatives of the different key stakeholders may also be invited to attend Steering Committee meetings (see the Implementation Arrangements for the Action Document), and consequently will be involved in the monitoring, evaluation and decision-making process.

3.5. Conditions for implementation

The IPA III financing agreement needs to be in place before the start of implementation of the Action.

In the context of Turkey's climate law studies, there are issues related to the determination of climate change actions in the provinces and the development of policies in local level. The inclusion of these issues in the law will have a positive impact on the project at both the output and outcome level. In addition, it will facilitate Turkey's action at national and regional levels to support its commitment to achieving international climate goals.

3.6. Logical Framework

Results	Results chain: Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (year)	Targets (year))	Sources of data (1 per indicator)	Assumptions
Impact	To improve climate change mitigation, increase resilience to climate change and disasters in Turkey	• Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Turkey including Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)	• 426.4 Mt of CO_2 eq (2018)	• Up to 21% below business-as-usual level (i.e. a GHG emission reduction of 246 Mt of CO2 eq) (2030)	-European Commission's Reports or -Biannual reports to UNFCCC or - National communications to UNFCCC or - Eurostat or -TUIK Greenhouse Gas Emissions Statistics or -National Inventory Report UNFCCC	*Not applicable*
		• Number of LCCAPs adopted	• 18 prepared, 7 under preparation (2021)	• 36 (2030)	-MoEU records	
		• Decrease in natural water (freshwater) resources usage in Turkey based on the increase in treated wastewater reuse.	• 50.000.000 m^3/year decrease (2018)	• 250.000.000 m3/year decrease (2028)	-Wastewater statistics (TUIK) MoEU and MoAF)	
			• 5.06 (2019)	• Indicatively 5.05 (by the end of the operational implementation period)	-UN World Risk Report	

		• Score of Turkey in World Risk Index (WRI) • Score of Turkey in INFORM	• 5.00 (2019)	• Indicatively 4.99(by the end of the operational implementation period)	-INFORM Report	
Outcome	Turkey has better aligned its legislations, policies and systems with the requirements of Chapter 27 of EU Acquis	• Number of new legislation set on LCCAP enforced • Number of pilot cities that adopt and implement local climate change action plans (incl. mitigation and adaptation) in line with MoEU strategy document • Number of new legislation set for reuse of urban water for different alternatives enforced. • Reuse rate of treated wastewater • Number of pilot cities with increased civil protection capacity	• 0 (2021) • 0 (2021) • 0 (2021) • 1,2% (2018) • 0 (2021)	• 1 • 5 (2030) • 1 • 5% (2028) • 3 (by the end of the operational implementation period)	MoEU records / statistics MoAF records / statistics AFAD records / statistics	• Continuous commitment, steered and coordinated at the highest level to address the key priorities under environment and climate change. • Climate Law enforced • Necessary domestic financial and administrative resources are effectively and efficiently mobilised. • Stakeholders' dedication to participate and cooperate throughout the actions. • Future strategic objectives of AFAD are coherent with those of IPA III. • Turkey and EU remain committed to collaboration in the area of civil protection mechanism and disaster risk management. • Turkey develops and adapts national policies in compliance with the international policies and global agreements environment, such as

		• Capacity of staff trained	• To be evaluated before trainings in implement ation phase	• At least 50 % increased (by the end of the operational implementation period)		UCPM, Sendai Principles, etc.
Output 1	Turkey's local climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity was improved	• Sex-disaggregated number of local stakeholders' staff trained on climate change • A regulatory framework on local climate change action plans developed. • New tools developed and are in use for assessing climate change related risks and taking preventive measures • Number of NUTS-1 regions equipped to address climate	• 0 • No • No • 0	• Min 100 (by the end of the operational implementation period) • Yes (by the end of the operational implementation period) • A vulnerability and risk assessment methodology for Turkey established, • e-LCCAP system updated, • interactive support tools developed regarding climate actions and measures (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 12 (by the end of the operational	Project reports	• Strong stakeholder coordination during action implementation. • Sufficient numbers of committed beneficiaries available for training and capacity building • Municipalities have sufficient staff with required skills and capacities. • The willingness of municipalities and other local stakeholders to submit grant applications. • Municipalities and other local stakeholders have sufficient staff with the required skills and capacities to ensure high-quality grant applications. • Municipalities and other local stakeholders have sufficient financial resources for co-financing grant applications • Municipalities and other local stakeholders have sufficient staff with the required skills and capacities to ensure high-quality grant action implementation. • The willingness of municipalities and other local stakeholders to share their experiences

		change induced problems • Number of local authorities with access to decision support tools developed under the action for their climate action planning. • Number of local stakeholders benefited from the grant program	• 0 • 0	implementation period) • 30 metropolitan municipalities and at least 1 local administration from other provinces (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 51-158 (by the end of the operational implementation period)		
Output 2	Wastewater reuse capacity was improved	• A National Waster Reuse master plan prepared • A regulatory framework on reuse standards and permission procedure for agricultural irrigation, landscape irrigation, industrial use, environmental use, groundwater recharge and potable use of Treated Sewage Effluent developed • Number of detailed design projects and investment	• No • No • 0	• Yes (by the end of the operational implementation period) • Yes (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 7 (by the end of the operational	Project reports	

		documents for pilot regions • Sex-disaggregated number of staff trained on benefits of reuse of treated wastewater	• 200	implementation period) • Additional 150 (by the end of the operational implementation period)		
Output 3	Civil protection and international collaboration capacity against disasters was improved	• Number of staff trained on disaster resilience • Number of local-scale guidelines prepared in pilot Provinces on Selected Topics of Disaster-Resilient-Cities Concept • Number of guidelines produced • Identified gaps to be addressed for UCPM	• 4500 (IPA I Team Up Project) • 0 • 0 • No	• Additional 2380 (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 3 (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 4 (Volunteer Management Cycle Guideline, Sendai Framework Monitoring Guideline, Guideline for Disaster Volunteers Working Principles, Eco-DRR Guideline) (by the end of the operational implementation period) • Yes (by the end of the operational	Project reports	

		and institutional mapping • Number of prepared MCR2030 Local Strategy Documents • Number of Project Concept Notes Analysis Report on Financial Opportunities • Number of Fully Functional Network Platform (Website)	• 0 • 0 • 0	implementation period) • 3 (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 3 (by the end of the operational implementation period) • 1 (by the end of the operational implementation period)		

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Introduction of reference to Performance/Results-based Financing if applicable in 4.4 and 4.6

Numbering referred to in chapter 4 will be updated once the structure is final

4.1. Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the Republic of Turkey.

4.2. Implementation modalities

The Commission will ensure that the appropriate 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 measures.

4.2.1 Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with UNDP. This implementation involves the TA component of Activities 1, namely, "Increasing the Capacity in the Field of Local Level Climate Change Efforts". This is complementary to the "Enhancing Adaptation Action in Turkey" project which has been implemented by UNDP with contribution Agreement in the IPA II period.

The envisaged entity has been selected using the following criteria: (i) its technical knowledge and experience on climate change action, including mitigation, adaptation, governance, and finance, at central level and local authorities with proven project management capacity, successful technical assistance on programming a grant programme with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, General Directorate of European Union and Foreign Relations; (ii) UNDP's operational capacity with successful track record on managing and delivering EU funded projects, accessing and directing UN and EU knowhow to national and local level, presence in Europe and Central Asia with a global, regional and national office in Turkey, a dedicated office in Brussels for collaboration with the EU, integrator role on SDGs among state and non-state actors; (iii) UNDP remains the most transparent UN agency and ranks as the third most transparent development organization in the world, according to Aid Transparency Index.

In case the envisaged entity would need to be replaced, the Commission's services may select a replacement entity using the same selection criteria given above.

4.2.2 Indirect management with an IPA III beneficiary

Part of this action will be implemented under indirect management by the Republic of Turkey.

The managing authority responsible for the execution of the action is the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization (MoEU), General Directorate of European Union and Foreign Relations (GDoEUFR). The managing authority shall be responsible for legality and regularity of expenditure, sound financial management, programming, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, information, visibility and reporting of IPA III activities.

The managing authority shall rely on sectoral expertise and technical competence of the following intermediate bodies for policy management: Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Presidency of Emergency and Disaster Management under the Ministry of Interior. They shall ensure sound financial management of the action.

Budget implementation tasks such as calls for tenders, calls for proposals, contracting, contract management, payments and revenue operations, shall be entrusted to the following intermediate body for financial management: Department of EU Financial Assistance under MoEU/DGoEUFR. It shall ensure legality and regularity of expenditure.

The grant components of this action under Activity 1 will be implemented under indirect management by the Republic of Turkey which shall be responsible for carrying out all the tasks relating to the implementation of the action.

4.3 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.

4.4 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	**Indicative third-party contribution (EUR)**
Output 1: Turkey's local climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity is improved, composed of:	**20 000 000**	**2 206 000**
Activity 1: Increasing the Capacity in the Field of Local Level Climate Change Efforts	**20 000 000**	**2 206 000**
Indirect management with UNDP cf. section 4.2.1	7 500 000	-
Indirect management with the Republic of Turkey (grants) cf. section 4.2.2	12 500 000	2 206 000
Output 2: Wastewater reuse capacity was improved, composed of:	**3 000 000**	-
Activity 2: Reuse of Treated Urban Wastewater for Different Alternatives	**3 000 000**	-
Indirect management with the Republic of Turkey cf. section 4.2.2	**3 000 000**	-
Output 3: Civil protection and international collaboration capacity against disasters was improved, composed of:	**4 000 000**	-
Activity 3: Building a Disaster Resilient Turkey	**4 000 000**	
Indirect management with the Republic of Turkey cf. section 4.2.2	4 000 000	-
Evaluation (cf. section 5.3)	[will be covered by another decision]	N.A
Audit / Expenditure verification (cf. section 6)	[will be covered by another decision]	N.A
Communication and visibility (cf. section 7)	[N.A.]	N.A.
Contingencies		N.A.
Totals	**27 000 000**	**2 206 000**

4.5 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The lead institution in the field of Environment and Climate Change is the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation (MoEU). MoEU is also the coordinator for most of the sectors under Chapter Environment. Water quality and nature protection sectors are coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Each activity defined in this action document will establish its management units for a smooth implementation of the activities. Day-to-day management and coordination of the activities will be carried out by the Action Coordination Unit (ACU). Activities will be coordinated with ACU, which is a body reuniting central team of experts from end-recipient institution together with the Contracting Authority and the TA team regarding all of the project activities. Besides, a Steering Committee (SC) will be established for each activity and will be mainly composed of the representatives of the end recipient, Contracting Authority, Directorate for EU Affairs and Presidency of Strategy and Budget, key stakeholders, as well as EUD as observer (in cases of activities implemented under indirect management by the Republic of Turkey). Some additional stakeholders may also be invited to the SC meetings on ad-hoc basis if deemed necessary. The SC will act as the advisory body that will provide high-level strategic guidance and oversight on activity implementation. SC will be gathered at regular intervals and additionally whenever deemed necessary.

Furthermore, a Sectoral Monitoring Committee (SMC) which is one of the highest decision taking platforms in terms of effective management of the funds provided by the EU, will meet regularly to solve the problems encountered during the programming, implementation and monitoring and give recommendations for effective utilisation of funds.

SMC will be mainly composed of the representatives of the Commission/EU Delegation to Ankara, the Contracting Authority, the End Beneficiaries of the activities mainly relevant units of MoEU, MoAF and AFAD, Presidency of Strategy and Budget, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and relevant line ministries and other stakeholders such as the Turkish Statistical Institute, municipalities, Special Provincial Administrations, DG Meteorology, The Coordination Board on Climate Change and Air Management (CBCCAM), ILBANK, Water and Sewerage Administrations, Special Provincial Administrations, State Hydraulic Works (DSI), Turkish Red Crescent, Business Associations, Civil society organizations, as well as the stakeholder units of the end beneficiaries.

The functions of Sectoral Monitoring Committee are as follows:

- Review at each meeting the progress made towards achieving the specific targets of the Programme on the basis of the basic documents
- Examine at each meeting the results of implementation, particularly the achievement of the targets set for each priority axis and measures and interim evaluations.

Examine the sectorial annual and final reports on implementation.

SMC will meet twice a year at the initiative of MoEU. The issues to be followed up will cover the period between two Committee meetings and the Committee Members will be informed about the current situation with regards to those issues.

5. PERFORMANCE/RESULTS MONITORING AND REPORTING

5.1. Internal monitoring

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of both primarily the implementing partner's responsibilities (Lead institution target beneficiary) and that of the EU operational manager. Both types of internal monitoring will be undertaken in an inclusive way, involving key stakeholders.

The Ministry of Environment and Urbanization is responsible for overall programming, monitoring and evaluation in the thematic priority.

Monitoring of this action will be performed by the end beneficiary of each activity and the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization at action level. Sectoral and programme level monitoring will be performed by respective monitoring committees.

5.2. Roles & responsibilities for data collection, analysis & reporting

The different responsibilities for this dual internal monitoring are the following:

- Implementing partners'/ beneficiary country's monitoring, under the coordination of NIPAC Office, will aim at collecting and analysing data to inform on progress towards planned results' achievement to feed decision-making processes at the action's management level and to report on the use of resources.
  To this aim, the implementing partner/ beneficiary country shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress monitoring reports (at least twice a year) and final reports.
  Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes jointly introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by the corresponding agreed indicators (and related targets) included in the log frame matrix. The report 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. Reporting focusing on activities and inputs' use will not be considered. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.
- EU operational manager monitoring will aim at complementing implementing partners'/ beneficiary country's monitoring, especially in key moments of the action cycle. It will also aim at ensuring a sound follow-up on external monitoring recommendations and at informing EU management. This monitoring could take different forms (meetings with implementing partners, action steering committees, on the spot checks), to be decided based on specific needs and resources at hand. Reporting will be done on the basis of checklists and synthetised in a monitoring note/report.

Both types of internal monitoring are meant to inform and provide support to external monitoring:

- External monitoring (ROM)

The Commission and/or NIPAC may undertake additional project monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission/NIPAC for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission/NIPAC for implementing such reviews).

- Results data collection

Besides the ROM review, the Commission/NIPAC may undertake action results data collection through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission/NIPAC (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews). Their aim would be to identify and check the most relevant results on the action.

The overall progress may also be subject to joint monitoring by the European Commission (DG NEAR) and the beneficiaries. The compliance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, and coordination in implementation of financial assistance will be regularly monitored by Sectoral Monitoring committees, which will ensure a monitoring process at sector level.

The Steering Committees will be established at activity level in order to monitor the implementation of activities, achievement of results against indicators in the action document, and to agree on corrective actions as appropriate. The Steering Committees will be composed of the representatives of end beneficiaries, Lead Institution, NIPAC Office, Contracting Authority and Presidency of Strategy and Budget and the EU Delegation.

5.3. Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, an ex post evaluation will be carried out for this action via independent consultants. It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the surveillance of the electronic market is a new activity in Turkey.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least two months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. 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.

6. AUDIT

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 audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing Decision. *For the part of the action incorporating a form of financing not linked to costs but on the achievement of results, the verification mechanisms will focus on the results and performance indicators previously agreed.*

7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Visibility of EU funding and communication about objectives and impact of Actions are a legal obligation for all Actions funded by the EU, as set out in the EU communication and visibility requirements in force.

In particular, the recipients of EU funding shall acknowledge the origin of the EU funding and ensure its proper visibility by:

- providing a statement highlighting the support received from the EU in a visible manner on all documents and communication material relating to the implementation of the funds, including on an official website and social media accounts, where these exist; and
- promoting the actions and their results by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media.

Visibility and communication measures shall be implemented, as relevant, by the national administrations (for instance, concerning the reforms linked to EU budget support), entrusted entities, contractors and grant beneficiaries. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included, respectively, in financing agreements, delegation agreements, and procurement and grant contracts.

The measures shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan, established and implemented in line with the EU communication and visibility requirements in force. The plan shall include, inter alia, a communication narrative and master messages for the Action, customised for the various target audiences (stakeholders, civil society, general public, etc.)

Visibility and communication measures specific to this Action shall be complementary to the broader communication activities implemented directly by the European Commission services and/or the EU Delegation. The European Commission and the EU Delegation should be fully informed of the planning and implementation of the specific visibility and communication activities, notably with respect to the communication narrative and master messages.

Progress of the actions will be published on the web site of the Lead Institution. The Lead Institution will also organise information meetings to inform and provide participation of stakeholders regarding the Action.

The visibility guidance followed by Turkey in the IPA II period Environment and Climate Action Sector Operational Programme (ESOP) studies will also be regarded as a reference document.

Communication activities should also take into consideration the risks of potentially related disinformation attempts, and ways of countering these, as disinformation might undermine the Union’s efforts and image in the country.

8. SUSTAINABILITY

Environment and Climate Change has a key role in any area of development. Investments in this sector will have impact on economic and social life of the country, on the administrative effectiveness and efficiency. Progress under this thematic priority will contribute to the accession perspective of the country as well as its achievement of SDGs. Therefore, the Action has the potential to trigger subsequent further efforts towards the objectives of Chapter 27 and the SDGs.

An important element of sustainability is the political commitment to the EU *acquis* and vision, where the European Green Deal and Circular Economy perspective are important elements. In this sense, the Action supports the efforts to attain the goals of this perspective. The Action will support alignment with EU actions and Turkey's commitment to international agreements and common goals and will transfer specific know-how thus investing in long-term partnerships with the EU, which is a guarantee for sustainability.

The action is expected to impact on the operational procedures and on the strategic visions, on the knowledge and on the motivation of involved people, on the physical and information resources, creating different sustainability vectors, the synergy of which will ensure the long-term impact of the EU funding. Thus, the Action is foreseen to have an important and sustainable impact that will be visible on all spheres of life.

Institutional sustainability will be ensured by the Lead Institution which will monitor the outcomes and their expected contribution towards impacts. Financial sustainability will be an integral part of the Action outputs which will be ensured during the implementation of the Action components. Under the coordination of the Lead Institution, the Action is foreseen to be executed in line with the required sustainability measures which have been designed as below.

The end beneficiary will carry out necessary works in order to put the legislation that will be drafted in this Action into force and make use of all developed outputs. Policy and guidance documents as well as strategic documents that will be produced will similarly support technical sustainability within this context. For the sustainability of the developed institutional capacity, the developed technical documents, all training materials and the handbooks, guidelines, all pieces of data and information gathered and other outputs of the project that are necessary for continuation studies after the Action will be kept in a media that can be easily accessed, used and -if necessary- edited by the rest of the staff such as the official web site of the end beneficiary.

The developed capacity at local level as the result of the grant programmes will empower local administrations to directly address challenges induced by climate change. The sustainability of the achievements of the grant programme will be enhanced by the help of Climate Law that will be enforced.

The activities on training constitute an integral part of this Action. This integration will enhance the project results and will safeguard the impact and sustainability of the remaining project achievements. The training modules and training documents to be developed within the scope of the Action will be used actively after the completion of the project.

Investment in databases will strengthen future studies, enable better share of data and the resulting improvements in analysis and implementation.

The structures, platforms and capacities established within the Action will continue to be maintained and, where necessary, further developed by the end recipients.