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ANNEX 11

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Multi-Annual Action Programme 2018-2020 for the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) to be financed from the general budget of the Union

Action Document for Capacity development of National Human Rights Institutions

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation in the following sections concerning grants awarded directly without a call for proposals: 5.3.1.1.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Capacity development of National Human Rights Institutions CRIS number: EIDHR/2019/41-338 financed under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	The project is a global project. The action shall be carried out at the following location: Europe outside the EU, Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Americas. NHRI regional network secretariats are based in Brussels (Belgium), Nairobi (Kenya), Sydney (Australia), Geneva (Switzerland) and Quito (Ecuador). The last mentioned is not a permanent secretariat yet, but a temporary secretariat hosted by the Defensoria of Ecuador and is foreseen to be replaced by a permanent secretariat in Panama. The project team is based in Copenhagen (Denmark).	
3. Programming document	Multiannual Indicative Programme (2018-2020) for the Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights Worldwide - Commission Implementing Decision C(2018)6409	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Human rights and democracy	DEV. Aid: Yes

5. Amounts concerned	<p>Total estimated cost: 3,947,368 EUR</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution: 3,750,000 EUR</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of 3,750,000 EUR from the general budget of the European Union for financial year 2019, subject to the availability of appropriations following the adoption of the relevant budget.</p> <p>Co-financing: EUR 197,368 (Danish Institute for Human Rights and partners)</p>			
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	<p>Direct management</p> <p>Grant</p> <p>Direct award to the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR)</p>			
7 a) DAC code(s)	15160			
b) Main Delivery Channel	50000 Other – National Human Rights Institutions and their formal global and regional networks			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	Aid to environment	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	N/A			
10. SDGs	<p><i>SDGs as a whole are targeted in monitoring and reporting on SDGs For the EC, the main SDGs effected are:</i></p> <p><i>SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</i></p> <p><i>Secondary SDGs:</i></p>			

	<p><i>SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</i></p> <p><i>SDG 10: Reducing inequalities within and among countries</i></p> <p><i>SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development</i></p>
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SUMMARY

Effective support for human rights and their defenders in situations where they are most at risk is a priority of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), as underpinned in the current EIDHR Regulation (EU) No 235/2014, Article 2.1 (b)(iii) and in Objective 1 of its Annex. In line with the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), practical support to HRDs includes "encouraging and supporting the establishment, and work, of national bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, established in accordance with the Paris Principles, including, National Human Rights Institutions".

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are crucial actors in the broader human rights architecture and in enabling rights-based development processes. However, like independent civil society and other HRDs, they are affected by the deteriorating situation of shrinking democratic and civic space of independent human rights action.

The proposed action is designed to respond to this situation by focusing on support to targeted NHRIs and the global and regional NHRI networks/secretariats: the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF), the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and the Network of the Americas.

The objective is to promote improved capacities and outreach of targeted NHRIs, GANHRI and the four Regional Networks, resulting in increased impact and effectiveness in the promotion and protection of human rights for all at the national, regional and global levels.

This action responds to the Objective 1 of the EIDHR – Support to human rights and human rights defenders in situations where they are most at risk, and Objective 5 – Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Effective support for human rights and their defenders in situations where they are most at risk has been a priority of the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights since 2004 and a priority of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) since 2007. Support for human rights and their defenders at risk is also underpinned in the current EIDHR Regulation (EU) No 235/2014, Article 2.1 (b)(iii) and in Objective 1 of its Annex. In the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), the EU has recognised that practical support to HRDs includes "encouraging and supporting the establishment, and

work, of national bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, established in accordance with the Paris Principles, including, National Human Rights Institutions, Ombudsman's Offices and Human Rights Commissions"¹.

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) have increasingly been recognised by the EU as a key actor for support and engagement within the area of human rights and democracy. In article 2.1(a)(ii) of the EIDHR Regulation 2014-20, the scope of EU assistance is aimed at 'supporting National Human Rights Institutions'. The Multiannual Indicative Programme (2018-20) for the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, Objective 1, acknowledges that independent NHRIs upholding the Paris principles are not only key actors in defending the legal and operating space of human rights defenders and civil society in third countries, but that they can be considered human rights defenders themselves. This is fully in line with the UN's recognition of NHRIs as human rights defenders in 2013². In addition, the Objective 5 of the said Multiannual Indicative Programme also recognises NHRIs as key national human rights bodies, contributing to mechanisms at regional and international levels.

The current action also runs in line with the 2012 EU Strategic Framework and the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2015-19, "Keeping human rights at the heart of the EU agenda" adopted by the FAC on 20 July 2015. It focuses in particular on the following area of the Action Plan: (I) Boosting ownership of local actors: especially Action 1 'supporting the capacity of National Human Rights Institutions', and Actions 7-10 'invigorating civil society'. It also contributes to areas (II) Addressing human rights challenges, (III) Ensuring a comprehensive human rights approach to conflict and crises, and (IV) Fostering Better Coherence and Consistency, in particular in respect of Action 27 'Pursuing a Human Rights Based Approach to Development'.

The action contributes to three areas of the new European Consensus for Development: (i) People - Human development and dignity, (ii) Peace – Peaceful and inclusive societies, democracy, effective and accountable institutions, rule of law and human rights for all, and (iii) Partnership.

The Action shall respect and be implemented in accordance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Any actions under this Action Document shall be in line with and be implemented through a Rights-Based Approach (RBA) to development cooperation, encompassing all human rights³. It shall contribute to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan 2016-2020. Furthermore, the Action shall be in line with all existing EU guidelines on human rights related issues and other relevant human rights policy documents.

While due to its human rights focus the action contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs as a whole, the main contribution is towards the implementation of SDG

¹ EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), 2008.

² In 2013, NHRIs were recognized by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders as human rights defenders (A/HRC/22/47).

³ Cf. Council conclusions on a rights-based approach to development cooperation, encompassing all human rights, 19 May 2014, and art. 3.8 DCI. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/rights-based-approach-development-cooperation_en.

16 as well as SDGs 5, 10 and 17. NHRIs act as accountability mechanisms in implementing the SDGs, by ensuring human rights based monitoring and reporting on SDGs. They are also included as a specific indicator under Goal 16 (‘peace, justice and strong institutions’).

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are crucial actors in the broader human rights architecture and in enabling rights-based development processes. Being public institutions, recognised by law and funded primarily by States, yet acting independently, NHRIs are uniquely placed to hold governments to account and to monitor, promote and protect human rights. They are peer reviewed in line with the officially recognised 1993 United Nations Paris principles⁴ defining the level of independence of any given institution (A-status independent and compliant with the Paris principles and B-nearly independent/compliant).⁵ As institutions of accountability, they can play an important role in the implementation of the SDGs and in tracking progress with regards to specific indicators and ensuring that particular groups of rights-holders are not left behind. They also have an important bridge building role between governments, civil society and private sector on the one hand, and between national, regional and international human rights mechanisms on the other. In this respect, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and its global secretariat, and the four regional NHRI secretariats or networks – the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF), the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and the Network of the National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas – play an indispensable role in coordination and cooperation among NHRIs at regional and international levels.

In the proposed Action, the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) acts on behalf of GANHRI in full cooperation with GANHRI and the four regional networks. The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) is Denmark’s National Human Rights institution accredited with A-status and is among the oldest existing NHRIs. It has an international mandate, strong resource base, previous project management experience, and major strategic focus on capacity development of peer NHRIs.

GANHRI is the global alliance and voice of NHRIs, based in Geneva, mandated to support the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs in all regions, in line with the United Nations Paris Principles. It contributes to UN global policy development, facilitates NHRIs engagement with the UN system, and coordinates partnership of NHRIs at the global level. Concerning HRDs and their restricted working environment, the current GANHRI strategic plan 2017-2019 has identified shrinking democratic space as one of the main priorities of focus. For this reason, the 13th International Triennial Conference that GANHRI organises in October 2018, in collaboration with the NHRI of Morocco, will have a specific focus on the role of NHRIs in expanding civic space and promoting and protecting human rights

⁴ Adopted by General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993.

⁵ Since 1993, the number of NHRIs has increased from a few to over 100 institutions worldwide. Currently there are 78 A status NHRIs, 33 B status and in total more than 120 NHRIs members of GANHRI. Chart of the Status of National Human Rights Institutions accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, as of 26 May 2017.

defenders, particularly women. In 2016 GANHRI, UNDP and OHCHR have adopted common Guidelines on reprisals and other acts of intimidation against NHRIs, which provide guidance for a prompt and adequate response to situation when NHRIs are under threat. GANHRI, at the 2015 Triennial Conference adopted the Mérida Declaration on the roles of NHRIs in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. GANHRI has established an interregional Working Group to support NHRIs in fulfilling the roles foreseen in the Declaration.

The APF is a coalition of 24 NHRIs operating in the Asia-Pacific region, with secretariat based in Sydney. Unlike the other regions in the world, there is no regional human rights court or protection system in the Asia-Pacific. This is where the APF makes a unique contribution. The goal of APF is to support the establishment and continued existence of independent NHRIs in the Asia-Pacific region and to facilitate cooperation among its members. The APF's Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 specifically includes HRDs as a strategic focus of work.

ENNHRI, with Secretariat based in Brussels, brings together 41 NHRIs from across wider Europe and connects its members to various human rights stakeholders in the region, including the EU, the Council of Europe, and the Office for Democracy and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE. In the context of shrinking space for democracy and rule of law in wider Europe, human rights defenders, including European NHRIs, are increasingly facing threats. ENNHRI delivers support to its members, including in line with "ENNHRI's Guidelines on Support to NHRIs under threat", and also participates in initiatives to support human rights defenders across the European region.

NANHRI, based in Nairobi, brings together 44 African National Human Rights Institutions. NANHRI's vision is a continent with effective NHRIs, contributing to an enhanced human rights culture and justice for every African. The Network seeks to facilitate coordination and cooperation among its members, and key human rights actors at the regional and international levels.

The Network of the NHRIs of the Americas (Red de Instituciones Nacionales para la Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos del Continente Americano) gathers 17 NHRIs from the Americas, mainly located in Central and South America. The Network does not have a permanent secretariat yet, but a coordinating committee, whose presidency serves as secretariat for the region. Currently, the NHRI of Ecuador is acting as the secretariat of the network. In the course of 2018-2019, it is expected that a permanent secretariat of the Network will be established in Panama (the statutes adopted in July 2018 by the Extraordinary Assembly of the Network of National Institutions of Human Rights of the American Continent).

UN agencies, including OHCHR and UNDP, relevant regional organisations and national government authorities, private sector, labour organisations, and national and regional platforms of civil society organisations and for human rights defenders will be closely associated to activities of this action.

The beneficiaries are individual NHRIs, as well as civil society and human rights defenders operating in difficult context. The actions shall be gender sensitive and take into

consideration specific needs of women and vulnerable groups in society. The final beneficiaries are all individuals of countries with NHRIs who will benefit from increased protection and observance of human rights in national laws, public policies and in the conduct of the state, of local authorities and businesses.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

The proposed action is designed to respond to the alarming and deteriorating situation of shrinking legal, administrative, financial, operational and physical space for civil society and human rights defenders, including NHRIs, around the world. Globally, human rights violations are on the rise, with indications of unprecedented crackdown on independent civic and democratic space. For instance, according to CIVICUS, a platform monitoring civic participation worldwide, 6 out of 7 people live in countries where civic space is severely challenged and restricted⁶. Women's organisations and HRDs face additional threats of repressions, e.g. in the form of sexual and gender-based violence.

NHRIs and their networks are equally affected by this situation:

- NHRI staff e.g. in the Americas and Asia have been attacked, threatened and intimidated, such as the assassination of an Ombudsman in Mexico in November 2017. Further guidance, peer-to-peer support and strategies to respond to the challenges faced by individual NHRIs are needed.
- Many NHRIs face challenges of legal, political and financial nature in fulfilling their core mandates in line with the Paris principles. For instance, attempts to pass new laws limiting their scope or mandate, threats or outright efforts by authorities to politically influence or sack NHRI leadership, and/or cuts on financial and human resources challenge the operational capacity of NHRIs to fulfil their mandate. Further principled and financial support to NHRIs in the GANHRI-managed peer-to-peer accreditation process and in core identified mandate areas, such as human rights education, communication and awareness raising, complaints-handling, documentation, monitoring and reporting, has thus been identified.
- NHRIs are faced by new serious and trans-boundary challenges to human rights to which they cannot act alone or in isolation, e.g. in situations of regional instability, entrenched violent conflicts or violent acts, migration and displacement, environmental concerns and impact of transnational business practice. Addressing these complex matters needs joined-up responses and coordinated means.

Independent NHRIs play a key role in promoting and protecting human rights, democratic principles and rule of law and are hence indispensable partners in promoting an enabling environment for sustainable development. As mentioned before, NHRIs act as accountability mechanisms in implementing the SDGs, by ensuring human rights based monitoring and reporting on SDGs, and are also included as a specific indicator under Goal 16. NHRIs need support and capacity to ensure this crucial accountability, monitoring and advisory role.

⁶ <https://civicus.org/images/StateOfCivilSocietyFullReport2015.pdf>.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks and assumptions	Risk level (High/Medium/Low)	Mitigating measures
<p>Political environment: Formal support for NHRIs is increasing. However, any weakening of support for human rights processes and mechanisms generally, or targeting of individual NHRIs, CSOs, or other human rights defenders for reprisals, could affect implementation of project activities locally.</p> <p>Capacity constraints: GANHRI has a relatively new structure in place at the head office and still limited resources available; the regional networks have different levels of development and operate in diverse contexts (in particular, the yet-to-be established secretariat of the Network of the Americas). This may affect implementation of activities according to agreed timeplans.</p> <p>Resource restrictions affecting regional networks and GANHRI: Cuts in donor funding or reduced payment of membership fees to regional networks and the GANHRI could jeopardise the support they provide to NHRIs in participating in human rights supervisory mechanisms.</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Low</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>For this reason, it is proposed that actions will be accompanied by periodic monitoring and dialogue with stakeholders to assess risks affecting NHRIs or the proposed activities and to seek support from institutional actors to respond to such risks.</p> <p>It is also proposed, where appropriate, to engage adequate resources to ensure appropriate staff, mitigate any institutional weaknesses and budgetary restrictions, to allow effective implementation of project activities. Tailor made support will be provided for the establishment and sustainability of the Permanent Secretariat in the Americas (Panama).</p> <p>To address this, the project will provide for technical assistance, advice and funding support where necessary to strengthen cooperation between NHRIs, regional networks and the GANHRI.</p>

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

In the past, NHRIs received ad hoc EU support from inter alia the ENPI and EIDHR. For instance in 2013, the EIDHR's country-based support scheme provided a direct award to support the establishment of the newly created NHRI in Chile. As of 2012 and 2013, two regional EIDHR projects helped building the capacity of NHRIs on addressing torture prevention respectively in Africa and Asia. However, no project addressed the capacity of NHRI networks at regional and global levels.

In order to complement the previous ad hoc and country-specific approach to NHRIs, the EIDHR Annual Action Programme (AAP) 2014, included a targeted programme to strengthen the capacity development of NHRIs and their institutional cooperation at regional and international levels. The three year project ‘Capacity building of NHRIs – nhri.eu’ with an EU contribution of 5 million EUR, runs between 2015-2018 with DIHR as the main implementing partner on behalf of GANHRI and the four official NHRI regional networks (APF, ENNHRI, NANHRI and the Network of the Americas), participating as co-beneficiaries. The programme start coincided with the adoption of the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2015-19 which identified NHRIs as key partners to the EU and acknowledged their essential role in the promotion and protection of human rights.

With a thematic focus on improved NHRI capacity in responding to their core mandates and dealing with business and human rights, economic social and cultural rights, and human rights education in particular, the ‘nhri.eu’ project is the first EU project of its kind to support the NHRI infrastructure in a comprehensive manner at global and regional levels. The project has created a forum for GANHRI and the four regional networks, where issues of management, cross-regional relevance and common learnings are systematically addressed. A number of thematic e-learning courses, face to face workshops and re-granting opportunities have been developed for NHRIs, while the networks and GANHRI head office have been strengthened in knowledge management and communication. The results of the final evaluation will, where relevant, feed into this action to ensure proper integration of the lessons learnt and to reflect future strategic priorities of GANHRI and the regional networks.

While the issue of sustainability of donor support is necessary to address in the long-term perspective, it has become clear that further and continued capacity building support, adapting to changing circumstances of restricted democratic and civic space, is needed. In this respect, the external EIDHR Mid-Term Review 2017 acknowledged that while “EIDHR support has significantly contributed to the ability of civil society and NHRIs to advocate / lobby for reforms”, NHRIs were affected by deteriorations to their operating environment: “Pressure on independent national human rights institutions (NHRIs) also limited their ability to operate according to their core mandates”. Continued support to NHRIs can hence be considered strategic, as support to NHRIs will help them to “be better equipped to create positive impact at home”.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

This action is complementary to a targeted programme under the EIDHR Multi-Annual Action Programme 2016-17, namely the support provided to the European Network of NHRIs (ENNHRI) addressing NHRIs in situations of conflict and post-conflict in wider Europe. The three year project with an EU contribution of 1 million EUR started in 2017 and final results and lessons learnt are expected in 2020. While this action addresses NHRIs acting in challenging human rights contexts following ongoing or past conflict, it is limited to one region only and does not cater for global capacity building of NHRIs as human rights defenders and development enablers.

With regards to the current Multi-Annual Action Programme, this action is complementary to support provided to human rights defenders and civil society acting in particularly difficult and challenging human rights contexts under Objective 1 of the EIDHR (Annex 2 “EIDHR human rights crises facility”, Annex 1 “Supporting human rights defenders”). It is

also complementary to support provided to local civil society through Country-Based Support Schemes (Annex 4) and international and regional actors, namely the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (Annex 7), and the Inter-American and Asia-Pacific human rights mechanisms (Annex 9).

The action is also complementary to the development and implementation of Civil Society Roadmaps.

Concerning donor coordination, individual NHRIs are principally funded by national governments, as adequate resourcing to fulfil the NHRI mandate is a requirement under the UN Paris Principles. Many individual NHRIs have received budgetary or other forms of support from bilateral donors and foundations, OHCHR and/or the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at country level.

GANHRI and the regional networks of NHRIs, with the exception of the regional network of the Americas so far, are primarily funded by annual fees from member NHRIs. However, they have also received support from the OHCHR and UNDP. A Strategic Partnership between OHCHR, UNDP and GANHRI has been established to strengthen their engagement in support of NHRIs. The European Commission is not part of this strategic partnership, but coordination efforts with other donors are regularly undertaken, for instance in the framework of the annual meeting of GANHRI which brings together GANHRI members, regional networks and donors, including OHCHR and UNDP. In the case of ENNHRI, which has benefited from various EU instruments (EIDHR, DG Justice, DG Employment grants), regular ad hoc coordination and exchange of information takes place. While donor coordination is in place, GANHRI is currently developing a more strategic approach to donor coordination and management.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

The current action focuses on strengthening the capacity of NHRIs and their global and regional networks, so that they in line with their core mandates can promote and protect human rights of all, including in contexts of shrinking democratic and civic space. In line with the 2030 Agenda and the pledge of leaving no-one behind, particular attention will be given to excluded and discriminated individuals and groups, e.g. women, indigenous peoples, minorities, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, including migrant workers, human rights defenders (including the environmental human rights defenders), trade unionists promoting labour rights, and LGBTI persons. In line with art. 3.8 DCI, the project will adopt a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights towards its work on accessibility of NHRIs to victims, human rights defenders and civil society organisations. It is also aligned with the priorities of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) II: gender will be duly mainstreamed throughout the action.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

The overall objective is to enhance the role of NHRIs and their global and regional networks in promoting and protecting human rights of all individuals.

The Specific Objective 1 is to enhance NHRIs' effectiveness as human rights defenders, in accordance with the Paris Principles, in core identified mandate areas of human rights education, communication and awareness raising, complaints-handling, documentation, monitoring and reporting.

The expected results (outputs) are as follows:

- Output 1.1: The NHRIs' capacities (skills, knowledge and behaviour) are improved in their core mandate areas.
- Output 1.2: The NHRIs' capacities are improved in documenting emerging human rights issues and situations of shrinking democratic space and threats to civil society, HRDs, women and vulnerable groups

The Specific Objective 2 NHRIs and their regional networks contribute to a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights in implementation and follow up of the SDGs, in cooperation with duty-bearers and rights-holders.

The expected results results (outputs) are as follows:

- Output 2.1.: NHRIs have access to capacity-development and share analysis, methods, tools and resources that strengthen their key role with regards to national SDG implementation and review
- Output 2.2. GANHRI and its regional networks engage in regional and global follow-up and review mechanisms related to the 2030 Agenda, to ensure that the human rights commitments reflected in the goals and targets are upheld, including the principles of equality and non-discrimination
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The Specific Objective 3 GANHRI and the regional networks are able to support member NHRIs in the accreditation process and in their engagement with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms.

The expected results results (outputs) are as follows:

- Output 3.1: Institutional capacity of GANHRI and the four regional networks is strengthened, in supporting NHRIs in the accreditation process and in their engagement with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms.

4.2 Main activities

The types of activities to be undertaken across all targeted actors should be gender sensitive and could include (non-binding and non-exhaustive list):

Thematic activities across national, regional and international actors:

- Resources, tools and research to support NHRI capacity development on the selected thematic and functional issues including impact research;
- Technical assistance, advice;

- Educational activities to strengthen NHRIs' individual and collective impact, effectiveness and relevance;
- Support to peer-to-peer learning and exchanges, such as exchange visits, fellowship programmes, transfer of knowledge and skills, and joint workshops to develop common positions;
- Documentation, monitoring and reporting;
- Organisation of thematic conferences;
- Re-granting.

Activities supporting institutional development:

- Development of an action plan to support and strengthen the accreditation system;
- Mapping and analysis as part of strategy processes;
- Knowledge management and communication tools;
- Strategy workshops, training seminars and follow-up and review activities;
- Customised capacity building, technical assistance and advice.

4.3 Intervention logic

In the recent climate, where space for independent human rights action and enjoyment of fundamental freedoms is shrinking in all regions of the world, many independent NHRIs are affected in their function as human rights defenders and development enablers. However, the challenges relating to shrinking space, the promotion of human rights and sustainable development are not merely local. The transformative global sustainable development agenda clearly points at the important linkages and synergies between local, national, regional and international levels that exist or are to be made. With this in mind, the action has been designed with a global intervention logic, linking to the strengthening and empowering of NHRIs and their networks globally and regionally.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the adoption by the Commission of this Action Document. Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

5.3 Implementation modalities

Both in indirect and direct management, 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 affecting the respective countries of operation⁷.

5.3.1.1 Grant: direct award (direct management)

(a) Objectives, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The overall objective is to strengthen the capacities and outreach of NHRIs and support their global and regional structures, GANHRI and its four Regional Networks, in order to increase their impact and effectiveness, in promoting and protecting human rights for all at the national, regional and global level.

The expected results of this grant consist in participating NHRIs gaining knowledge and methods in core identified mandate areas and gaining improved capacities to address the specific and emerging challenges of shrinking space of civil society, human rights defenders and vulnerable groups at risk. In addition, it is expected that participating NHRIs and regional networks facilitate inclusive processes for implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda, monitor progress and report on the implementation of selected SDGs. Finally, as a result of this action, it is expected that the institutional support that GANHRI and the regional networks provide to member NHRIs is strengthened, in particular in their engagement at the UN and with regional bodies, and concerning the accreditation process.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR).

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the recourse to a direct award without a call for proposals may be justified because the beneficiary is a body with a de jure or de facto monopoly and the actions have specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power. Specifically,

- The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) holds a legal and factual monopoly situation as Denmark's NHRI, with a mandate which includes the protection and promotion of human rights internationally
- DIHR is currently the only organisation technically and administratively capable of operating on behalf of GANHRI. As such, it has been mandated by GANHRI and the four regional networks to manage and lead this action and to assume overall responsibility for the implementation of activities, and management of funds (including providing timely acquittals).
- GANHRI is the only global network of National Human Rights Institutions, formally recognised by the United Nations;
- The four regional networks (APF, ENNHRI, NANHRI, Network of Americas) are the regional entities that gather NHRIs, institutionally linked to GANHRI (ref.

⁷ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/restrictive_measures-2017-04-26-clean.pdf

GANHRI Statutes, art. 31 et al.-Section 7). They are the only NHRIs networks officially recognised by the United Nations.

(c) Eligibility conditions

As per Article 11.2 (a) CIR, DIHR is an independent institution operating under national law at national and international level and therefore eligible for EIDHR funding.

(d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are the financial and operational capacity of the applicant. The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(e) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 95%.

If full funding is essential for the action to be carried out, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be increased up to 100 %. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission's authorising officer responsible in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(f) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

One grant contract of 3,750,000 EUR is foreseen to be signed in early 2019, with activities starting in the first trimester of 2019, financed from the general budget of the European Union for financial year 2019.

5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

5.5 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified
5.3.1.1. – Grant, direct award to DIHR	3,750,000 EUR	197,368 EUR

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

GANHRI provides the overall strategic direction of the project and the governance structures established under phase 1 will continue in phase 2. It consists of the following structure:

- DIHR continues as lead applicant with ultimate financial responsibility of the project.

- Steering committee consisting of GANHRI, the four regional networks and DIHR.
- Implementation committee consisting of all staff from co-applicants directly engaged with project activities and DIHR project management team.

The European Commission shall be updated of the implementation of the action on at least six-monthly basis, and EU Delegations shall be informed of activities undertaken at country level.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. This monitoring and reporting shall be gender sensitive and take into consideration gender mainstreaming. This phase 2 will be built on phase 1, therefore most of the tools developed in the first phase, will be used in the second. The performance monitoring will be realised by GANHRI and the four regional networks, who will regularly report to the DIHR as main applicant. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, disaggregated by sex, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) or the list of result indicators (for budget support). 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. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, a mid-term evaluation might be carried out, while a final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission or via an implementing partner. Any evaluation undertaken shall be gender sensitive and take into consideration gender mainstreaming.

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 GANHRI will have to take over any grant manager position on behalf of the global network in the future.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the implementing partners of the action and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, 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.

5.9 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.

5.10 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.5 above.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY) ⁸

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	<p>OO: To enhance the role of NHRIs and their global and regional networks in promoting and protecting human rights of all individuals.</p>	<p>OO1: Existence and number of independent NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles (cf. SDG indicator 16.a.1**) and the nature of gender sensitive collective and individual actions undertaken by them and their networks to protect and promote human rights, such as:</p> <p>OO1.1: Status of joint declarations of the NHRIs and their networks;</p> <p>OO1.2: Number of meetings at the level of international (UN) and regional mechanisms where NHRIs have access and can voice human rights issues.</p>	<p>OO1: SDG implementation reports-TBD; GANHRI Chart of A-status NHRIs 2017</p> <p>OO1.1: Reported 19 NHRI joint declarations in 2017;</p> <p>OO1.2: At least 30 reported meetings at the UN and regional mechanisms in 2017.</p>	<p>OO1: Target value: TBD in the inception phase.</p>	<p>OO1: GANHRI, regional networks' and NHRI (annual) reports, documents, websites; NHRI submissions to regional and international human rights bodies; Other ex-post evaluations on effectiveness.</p>	

⁸ Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '**'.

<p>Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)</p>	<p>SO1: to enhance NHRIs' effectiveness as human rights defenders, in accordance with the Paris Principles, in core identified mandate areas of human rights education, communication and awareness raising, complaints-handling, documentation, monitoring and reporting.</p> <p>SO2: NHRIs and their regional networks contribute to a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights in implementation and follow up of the SDGs, in cooperation with duty-bearers and rights-holders.</p> <p>SO3: GANHRI and the regional networks are able to support member NHRIs in the accreditation process and in their engagement with the UN and with regional bodies.</p>	<p>SO1: Number and impact of NHRI supported (*) (EU Results Framework Level 2 #1), including: SO1.1: Number of NHRI interventions in specific areas with UN and regional bodies; SO1.2: Number of countries with NHRIs complaint mechanisms accessible for women and vulnerable categories of population.</p> <p>SO2.1: Number of NHRIs that have contributed to national gender sensitive SDG strategies, plans and processes that reflect human rights principles and standards; SO2.2: Number and nature of NHRI engagement with rights-holders, especially in relation to monitoring and reporting on SDGs; SO2.3: Uptake of developed tools by individual NHRIs.</p> <p>SO3.1: Number of NHRIs accredited by GANHRI; SO3.2: Status of GANHRI and regional network plan for NHRI capacity building; SO3.3: Status of GANHRI advice/guidance for NHRIs on engagement with the UN and regional bodies.</p>	<p>SO1-3: TBD in the inception phase based on the baseline study</p> <p>SO3.1: Latest Chart of accredited NHRIs: 78 A status Base year: 2017</p>	<p>SO1-3: Target value: TBD in the inception phase.</p>	<p>SO1-3: GANHRI and NHRI reports and documents; NHRI submissions to regional and international human rights bodies; SDG implementation reports.</p>	<p>SO1-3: Participating NHRIs have necessary and sufficient competencies, resources and commitment to fully engage with the project activities.</p>
<p>Outputs</p>	<p>OP1.1: The NHRIs' capacities (skills and knowledge) are improved in their core mandate areas.</p>	<p>OP1.1.1: Number of NHRIs trained in core mandate areas. OP1.1.2. % of permanent staff of NHRIs trained globally, disaggregated by sex. OP1.1.3. Status of training package on each of the core mandate topics.</p>	<p>OP1-3: TBD in inception phase, including: Current capacity challenges of</p>	<p>OP1-3: TBD in inception phase</p>	<p>OP1-3: GANHRI and NHRI reports and documents NHRI submissions to regional and international human</p>	<p>OP1-3: Human and financial resources of NHRIs are stable to allow</p>

	<p>OP1.2: The NHRIs' capacities are improved in documenting emerging human rights issues and situations of shrinking democratic space and threats to HRDs and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>OP2.1: NHRIs have access to capacity-development and share analysis, methods, tools and resources that strengthen their key role with regards to national SDG implementation and review</p> <p>OP2.2: GANHRI and its regional networks engage in regional and global follow-up and review mechanisms related to the 2030 Agenda, to ensure that the human rights commitments reflected in the goals and targets are upheld, including the principles of equality and non-discrimination</p> <p>OP3.1: Institutional capacity of GANHRI and the four regional networks is strengthened, in supporting NHRIs in the accreditation process and in their engagement with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms.</p>	<p>OP1.1.4 Number of NHRIs compliant with Paris Principles.</p> <p>OP1.2.1.:Number of NHRIs (participants disaggregated by sex) trained in research and documentation of threats to democratic space, HRDs and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>OP1.2.2. Number of NHRIs (participants disaggregated by sex) trained in the management and documentation of cases.</p> <p>OP1.2.3: Status of an NHRI toolbox on effective, gender sensitive engagement with civil society and human rights defenders.</p> <p>OP2.1.1: Number of NHRIs (participants disaggregated by sex) trained and equipped in rights-based implementation of and follow-up on SDGs.</p> <p>OP2.1.2: The status of tools and resources for integrated gender sensitive SDG and human rights monitoring.</p> <p>OP2.2.1: Number of NHRIs that contribute and participate in Regional Sustainable Development Forums and in the High-Level Political Forum</p> <p>OP3.1.1: Status of guidance and tools for GANHRI and the regional networks on M&E and impact measurement, resource mobilisation and resource management.</p> <p>OP3.1.2: Status of a joint global digital platform of GANHRI, accessible to all NHRIs and their networks.</p> <p>OP3.1.3: Number of NHRIs compliant</p>	<p>NHRIs (as evident in the NHRI Networks Organisational Capacity – Baseline Study) 2017</p> <p>Latest Chart of accredited NHRIs: 78 A status Base year: 2017</p>		<p>rights bodies. DIHR survey/ study on NHRI capacity</p>	<p>application of the learned topics.</p> <p>The NHRIs are supported through a common platform for sharing and learning.</p> <p>OP2: Cooperation on SDG strategies between NHRIs, State authorities, civil society and HRDs is allowed and possible.</p> <p>OP 3: The NHRIs continue to contribute to and participate in the work of the regional networks and GANHRI (by</p>
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		with Paris Principles. OP3.1.4: Number of NHRIs engaging with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms.				giving human resources (time), annual financial contributions).
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