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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX III

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the NDICI Neighbourhood East Region for 2023-2024

Action Document for East Global Allocation 2023-2024

MULTIANNUAL ACTION PLAN

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

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title OPSYS Basic Act	East Global Allocation 2023-2024 Multiannual action plan in favour of the NDICI Neighbourhood East Region for 2023-2024 OPSYS business reference: ACT-61765 ABAC Commitment level 1 number: JAD.1160479 (for 2023) and JAD.1206088 (for 2024) Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Economic and Investment Plan (EIP)	No
EIP Flagship	No
3. Team Europe Initiative	No
4. Beneficiary(y)/(ies) of the action	The action shall be carried out for the benefit of the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus ¹ , Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine).
5. Programming document	Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Neighbourhood East Region for the period 2021-2027 ²

¹In line with the Council Conclusions of 12 October 2020 and in light of Belarus's involvement in the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, recognised in the European Council Conclusions of February 2022, the EU has stopped engaging with representatives of Belarus public bodies and state-owned enterprises. Should there be a change of the context this may be reconsidered. In the meantime, the EU continues to engage with and, where possible, has stepped up support to non-state, local and regional actors, including within the framework of this regional programme.

² C(2021)9370 adopted on 15/12/2021

6. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	This action indirectly supports all objectives built into the programmes and actions benefitting of the global allocation			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
7. Priority Area(s), sectors	This action provides support measures across all priority areas of the EU's cooperation with the partner countries at regional level.			
8. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development			
9. DAC code(s)	430 Other multisector 43010 Multisector aid – 100%			
10. Main Delivery Channel	10000 Public sector institutions 20000 Non-governmental organisations and civil society 40000 Multilateral organisations 51000 University, college or other teaching institution, research institute or think tank			
11. Targets	This action indirectly supports all targets built into the programmes and actions benefitting of the global allocation <input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
12. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Internal markers and Tags

Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
EIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EIP Flagship	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tags	YES	NO	
transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
environment, climate resilience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
digital	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
economic development (incl. private sector, trade and macroeconomic support)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
human development (incl. human capital and youth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
health resilience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
migration and mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
agriculture, food security and rural development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
rule of law, governance and public administration reform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Digitalisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tags	YES	NO	
digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
digital governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
digital skills/literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tags	YES	NO	
digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduction of Inequalities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET INFORMATION

14. Amounts concerned	<p>Budget line:</p> <p>BGUE-B2023 14.020111 C1 NEAR Eastern Neighbourhood for EUR 7 000 000</p> <p>BGUE-B2024 14.020111 C1 NEAR Eastern Neighbourhood for EUR 7 000 000</p> <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 14 000 000.00</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 14 000 000.00</p> <p>The contribution is for an amount of EUR 7 000 000.00 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023 and for an amount of EUR 7 000 000.00 from the general budget of the European Union for 2024 subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.</p>
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MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

15. Implementation modalities (management mode and delivery methods)	<p>Direct management through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grants - Procurement <p>Indirect management with pillar assessed entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.3.</p>
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1.2. Summary of the Action

The East Global Allocation for 2023-2024 is a support measure giving the European Commission the possibility to fund measures and small-scale activities in a flexible and agile way. The aim is to strengthen the means of implementation for sustainable development in line with the objectives of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), within the framework of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe - as well as its operational and policy priorities. The action contributes to SDG 17 to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

1.3. Beneficiar(y)/(ies) of the action

The Action shall be carried out for the benefit of the countries of the Eastern Partnership region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus³, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine). The final beneficiaries of the action are the populations of the Eastern Partnership countries who will benefit from measures and small-scale activities in the EaP region.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Under this action, multisector aid is made available in support to project cycle management and studies, as well as information and communication activities.

Article 24(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 states that Union financing may cover support expenditure for the implementation of NDICI-Global Europe and for the achievement of its objectives, including administrative support associated with the preparation, follow-up, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities necessary for such implementation, as well as expenditure at headquarters and Union delegations for the administrative and coordination support needed for the Instrument, and to manage operations financed under the Instrument, including information and communication actions, and corporate information technology systems.

Union financing under support measures may cover:

- (a) studies, meetings, information, awareness-raising, training, preparation and exchange of lessons learnt and best practices, publication activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure necessary for the programming and management of actions, including remunerated external experts;
- (b) research and innovation activities and studies on relevant issues and the dissemination thereof;
- (c) expenditure related to the provision of information and communication actions, including the development of communication strategies and corporate communication and visibility of the political priorities of the Union.

2.2. Problem Analysis

The experience from the global allocation funding under the former European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), 2007-2013, the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), 2014-2020, and the ongoing Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) confirms the need for this instrument which allows Commission headquarters and delegations to plan and implement cooperation related activities in a flexible way.

To allow for efficient project implementation, the support to programming and management of actions will ensure the necessary identification and preparation of the main stakeholders and corresponding institutional and/or organisational issues (mandates, potential roles, and capacities) to be covered by the action. The studies and information and communication actions will enhance the visibility and understanding of external actions funded by the EU.

2.3. Lessons Learned

The long-term experience of the global allocation (since 2007 under ENPI, ENI and NDICI) confirms the need for this tool. Its flexibility provides valuable support to the full project cycle, ensuring

³ In line with the Council Conclusions of 12 October 2020 and in light of Belarus's involvement in the Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, recognised in the European Council Conclusions of February 2022, the EU has stopped engaging with the Belarusian authorities. However, it continues to engage with and even step-up support to the Belarusian civil society, including within the framework of this regional programme.

continuous improvement from the planning stage of a project through its implementation, reporting and evaluation.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective/Impact of this action is to create an enabling environment for swift and flexible action design and implementation of EU external actions in EaP countries.

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are:

1. The management, implementation and follow-up of external actions in the framework of the EaP objectives and priorities is strengthened.
2. Information, communication and visibility activities towards awareness and understanding of the ENP are enhanced.

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

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1) the project management cycle (preparation, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, evaluations and audits, including research, surveys and studies) is supported.
- 2.1 contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2) the visibility of EU projects is enhanced.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1:

- Identification and formulation of bilateral and regional projects that may result in funding (e.g. sectoral/thematic studies, country or region studies, studies on horizontal and cross-cutting issues or specific cooperation areas, preparatory activities etc.) as well as their follow-up, monitoring and evaluation;
- Small projects and other small-scale activities to back up major EaP bilateral and regional actions as well as cross-border cooperation projects during their implementation;
- Audits, evaluations and impact assessment of projects for which financing of such activities could not be foreseen due to the N+1 rule, or is no longer available;
- Studies on relevant issues, including data collection and processing, and the dissemination thereof.

Activities related to Output 2.1:

- Information and communication activities to strengthen capacities for coherent communication initiatives based on the EaP priority areas, in order to raise awareness and visibility of the EU, the ENP and the EaP;
- Information and communication activities to enhance the visibility of EU-funded activities and improve the understanding of EU cooperation policies in the EaP region with the objective to ensure the coordination of a structured narrative for EU-funded external actions in the EaP.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Outcomes of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening

The SEA screening concluded that no further action was required.

Outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening

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

Outcome of the Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening

The CRA screening concluded that this action is no or low risk (no need for further assessment).

Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G0. This implies that gender is not a significant objective. Nevertheless, gender equality will be promoted to the maximum extent possible into the planning, assessment, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the activities.

Human Rights

The activities fully align with a strong support to EU fundamental values, including respect for human rights, in line with the regional priority of supporting accountable institutions, the rule of law and security.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that disability is not directly targeted although the global allocation activities take due regard to diversity, equity and inclusion for all.

Democracy

The global allocation supports activities fully aligned with EU fundamental values.

Conflict sensitivity, Peace and Resilience

Russia's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine grossly violates international law and the principles of the UN Charter and undermines European and global security and stability. As a result of the Belarus complicity in Russia's war of aggression, as recognised in the European Council Conclusions of February 2022, the EU has accelerated the suspension of all ongoing programmes and activities involving Belarusian public authorities and state-owned enterprises. The EU will continue to step up its support to Belarusian civil society and other non-state actors. The ongoing active military aggression seriously affects the situation of human rights in Ukraine and the possible implementation of this action. The EU and its Member States are committed to provide support for the reconstruction of a democratic Ukraine.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Not applicable for this action.

3.4. Risks and Assumptions

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
1 – External environment	Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and geopolitical tensions in the Eastern Partnership region might impede the implementation of the action in certain countries.	Low	Low	The EU will continue to provide support to the partner countries over the implementation of the action but will ensure that operations are adapted to the evolving situation. Contingency measures will be provided.

External Assumptions

- Socio-economic and political stability of partner countries.
- Political dialogue with partner governments.
- Dialogue with citizens and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
- No deterioration of the situation in and due to the Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

3.5. Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is the need for funding in relation to project cycle management, implementation, follow-up, monitoring, studies, evaluations and audits, as well as information and communication activities, arising during the year. This tool will allow the Commission headquarters and delegations to implement and follow-up activities in a flexible way. In the beginning of the year, each beneficiary prepares an initial annual plan stating the indicative need for funding. The plan is updated throughout the year when needs occur.

IF the project management cycle (preparation, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, evaluations and audits, research, surveys and studies) is supported while the assumptions that there is a positive dialogue and co-operation between delegations and counterparts in partner countries, that good quality of terms of reference are provided by experts and that there is a constructive and substantial participation of counterparts in dialogues, meetings, events, training, etc., hold true,

THEN the management, implementation and follow-up of external actions in the framework of the EaP objectives and priorities will be strengthened.

IF the visibility of EU-funded projects is enhanced while the assumptions that communication treated as priority by the delegations and counterparts and that communication and Visibility Plans are created in accordance with contractual obligations hold true,

THEN the information, communication and visibility activities towards awareness and understanding of the ENP are enhanced.

IF the management, implementation and follow-up of external actions in the framework of the EaP objectives and priorities is strengthened and

IF the information, communication and visibility activities towards awareness and understanding of the ENP are enhanced,

While there is an open political dialogue with partner countries and their civil society AND their socio-economic and political stability is maintained,

THEN an enabling environment for swift and flexible action design and implementation of EU external actions in EaP countries will be created.

3.6. Indicative Logical Framework Matrix

Results	Results chain: Main expected results	Indicators	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To create an enabling environment for swift and flexible action design and implementation of EU external actions in EaP countries .	1. Numbers of evaluations where there is an actual follow-up of conclusions and recommendations. 2. Level of visibility of external actions funded by the EU.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Project reports	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	The management, implementation and follow-up of external actions in the framework of the EaP objectives and priorities is strengthened.	1.1 Number of activities to identify and formulate bilateral and regional EaP actions (studies, preparatory activities etc.). 1.2 Number of small-scale activities to back up or complement major EaP actions. 1.3 Number of EaP actions to follow up on and monitor. 1.4 Number of audits, evaluations and impact assessment of EaP actions.	Not applicable	Not applicable	1.1 Actions implementation and evaluation reports 1.2 Idem 1.3 Idem 1.4 Idem	Socio-economic and political stability of partner countries. Political dialogue with partner governments. Dialogue with citizens and NGOs.
Outcome 2	The information, communication and visibility activities towards awareness and understanding of the ENP are enhanced.	2.1 Number of information and communication activities with the aim to strengthen capacities for coherent communication initiatives on EaP priority areas. 2.2 Number of information and communication activities with the aim to enhance the visibility and understanding of EU external actions and of EU cooperation policies.	Not applicable	Not applicable	2.1 Actions implementation and evaluation reports 2.2 Idem	Idem
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 The project cycle (preparation, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, evaluations and audits,	1.1.1 Number of identification and feasibility studies 1.1.2 Number of projects identified and prepared in co-operation with institutions and organisations in the partner countries.	Not applicable	Not applicable	1.1.1 Actions implementation and evaluation reports 1.1.2 Idem 1.1.3 Idem	Positive dialogue and co-operation between delegations and counterparts in partner countries.

	research, surveys and studies) is supported.	1.1.3 Number of studies, audits and evaluations carried out. 1.1.4 Number of policy briefs produced. 1.1.5 Number of policy dialogues supported. 1.1.6 Number of meetings, trainings, workshops, seminars, conferences, etc. organised and number of participants.			1.1.4 Idem 1.1.5 Idem 1.1.6 Idem	Good quality of terms of reference provided by experts. Capacity of constructive and substantial participation of counterparts in dialogues, meetings, events, training, etc.
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 The visibility of EU-funded projects is enhanced. .	2.1.1 Number of communication and visibility activities carried out. 2.1.2 Number of visibility events. 2.1.3 Number of people and media reached	Not applicable	Not applicable	2.1.1 Actions implementation and evaluation reports 2.1.2 Idem 2.1.3 Idem	Communication treated as priority by the delegations and counterparts. Communication and Visibility Plans created in accordance with contractual obligations.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

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

4.2. Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 72 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer in duly justified cases.

4.3. Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures⁴.

4.3.1. Direct Management (Grants)

a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grant(s) will contribute to achieving the objectives and results of Outcomes 1 and 2, specified in section 3.

b) Type of applicants targeted

Target applicants are legal entities, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, or not-for-profit organisations, established in the EaP region or in EU member states meeting the following criteria:

- In relation to Outcome 1 - Proven technical knowledge, operational capacity and specific expertise to carry out research, studies and/or audits and evaluations towards the Neighbourhood East region.
- In relation to Outcome 2 - Proven technical knowledge, operational capacity and specific expertise to carry out information and communication activities leading to enhanced visibility of EU external actions for the Neighbourhood East region.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call(s) for proposal: design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action, and aligned with article 195(f) FR.

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4.3.2. Direct Management (Procurement)

The procurement will contribute to achieving the objectives and results of Outcomes 1 and 2, specified in section 3.

⁴ [EU Sanctions Map](#). Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

4.3.3. Indirect Management with a pillar-assessed entity⁵

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with pillar-assessed entities, a consortium of pillar assessed entities or several pillar-assessed entities working individually, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- EU Member State pillar assessed entity or pillar assessed international organisation.
- In relation to Outcome 1 - Proven technical knowledge, operational capacity and specific expertise to carry out research, studies and/or audits and evaluations towards the Neighbourhood East region.
- In relation to Outcome 2 - Proven technical knowledge, operational capacity and specific expertise to carry out information and communication activities leading to enhanced visibility of EU external actions for the Neighbourhood East region.

The implementation entails activities related to the strengthening of the management, implementation and follow-up of external actions in the framework of the EaP objectives and priorities and the enhancing of the information, communication and visibility activities towards awareness and understanding of the ENP.

4.3.4. Changes from indirect to direct management (and vice versa) mode due to exceptional circumstances

If the implementation modality under indirect management as defined in section 4.3.3. cannot be implemented due to circumstances beyond the control of the Commission, or in case no compliant pillar assessed entity can be identified, these parts of the action may be implemented through a grant under direct management. Objective of the grant: The grant shall contribute to achieving the objectives in Chapter 3 of this Action Document. Criteria of the grant: The selection criteria will be the ones defined in section 4.3.1.

If the implementation modality under direct management as defined in sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 cannot be implemented due to circumstances beyond the control of the Commission, the modality of implementation by indirect management with a pillar-assessed entity would be used according to the criteria set out in section 4.3.3.

4.3.5. Other actions or expenditure

Part of this action may be implemented through Service Level Agreements (SLAs) or other agreements with Commission departments JRC and ENER to mobilise expertise in the achievement of strengthening the project management cycle, in particular research and/or studies on horizontal and cross-cutting issues or specific cooperation areas, data collection and processing. Objective of the SLA: The SLA shall contribute to achieving the objectives and results of Outcome 1 and in particular of Output 1.1, specified in Chapter 3 of this Action Document.

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or

⁵ The signature of a contribution agreement with the chosen entity is subject to the completion of the necessary pillar assessment.

in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

For this multi-country action, natural persons who are nationals of, and legal persons who are effectively established in the following countries and territories covered by this action, are also eligible: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

4.5. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution 2023 Final date for contracting: 31/12/2024 <i>(amounts in EUR)</i>	EU contribution 2024 Final date for contracting: 31/12/2025 <i>(amounts in EUR)</i>
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.3		
1.1 Project management cycle composed of		
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	800 000.00	800 000.00
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	2 500 000.00	3 800 000.00
Indirect management with a pillar-assessed entity - cf. section 4.3.3	2 500 000.00	1 000 000.00
Implementation through SLA or other agreement with other Commission departments or agencies – cf. section 4.3.5	200 000.00	200 000.00
TOTAL - 1.1 Project management cycle	6 000 000.00	5 800 000.00
2.1 Visibility through information and communication activities composed of		
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	200 000.00	200 000.00
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	800 000.00	1 000 000.00
TOTAL - 2.1 Visibility through information and communication activities	1 000 000.00	1 200 000.00
Grants – total envelope under section 4.3.1	1 000 000.00	1 000 000.00
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.3.2	3 300 000.00	4 800 000.00
Indirect management with a pillar-assessed entity – total envelope under section 4.3.3	2 500 000.00	1 000 000.00
Implementation through SLA or other agreement with other Commission departments or agencies – total envelope under section 4.3.5	200 000.00	200 000.00
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2	May be covered by another decision	May be covered by another decision
Audit – cf. section 5.3		

Totals	7 000 000.00	7 000 000.00
GRAND TOTAL		14 000 000.00

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The Commission headquarters and delegations benefiting from the global allocation will prepare after the approval of this Commission Implementing Decision an initial plan for the utilisation of the global allocation funds. They are responsible for the contracting of the funds.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

5. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

5.1. Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its Outputs and contribution to the achievement of its Outcomes, and if possible at the time of reporting, contribution to the achievement of its Impacts, as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix.

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

Arrangements for monitoring and reporting, including roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

SDGs indicators and, if applicable, any jointly agreed indicators as for instance per Joint Programming document should be taken into account.

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

Mid-year and other periodical updates will be carried out to assess the level of contracting of funds as well as to update the planned needs, if necessary. In addition, regular exchange of information between Commission headquarters and delegations will be assured.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a final evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components. The Commission may, during the implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partners.

5.3. Audit and Verifications

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

6. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

All entities implementing EU-funded external actions have the contractual obligation to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. To that end they must comply with the instructions given in the 2022 guidance document [*Communicating and raising EU visibility: Guidance for external actions*](#) (or any successor document).

This obligation will apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, the partner country, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU Member States. In each case, a reference to the relevant contractual obligations must be included in the respective financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and contribution agreements.

For the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action, the Commission may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union. Visibility and communication measures should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds. Effectiveness of communication activities on awareness about the action and its objectives as well as on EU funding of the action should be measured.

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

This action already includes activities meant for supporting communication of the Commission headquarters and delegations and in particular visibility of EU's activities in the Eastern Neighbourhood. Action plans will be devised at country or regional level through respective communication and visibility contracts wherever relevant.