



THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX VII

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action programme in favour of Türkiye for 2023
Action Document for Supporting climate resilient sustainable agriculture and fisheries in Türkiye in line with European Green Deal objectives and its related policies

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and an annual action plan in the sense of Article 9 of IPA III Regulation and Article 23(2) of NDICI - Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

Title	Supporting climate resilient sustainable agriculture and fisheries in Türkiye in line with European Green Deal objectives and its related policies Annual Action programme in favour of Türkiye for 2023
OPSYS	OPSYS business reference: ACT-62306
ABAC	JAD.1311172
Basic Act	Financed under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)
Economic Investment and Plan (EIP)	No
EIP Flagship	No
Team Europe	No
Beneficiary(y)/(ies) of the action	The action shall be carried out in the Republic of Türkiye.
Programming document	IPA III Programming Framework
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
Window and thematic priority	Window 4- Competitiveness and inclusive growth Thematic Priority 3: Agriculture and rural development- 43%; Thematic Priority 4: Fisheries
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): <i>SDG-2: Zero Hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</i> Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: <i>SDG-12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</i>

	<p><i>SDG-13: Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</i></p> <p><i>SDG-14: Life Below Water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</i></p> <p><i>SDG-15: Life On Land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</i></p>			
DAC code(s)	<p>Main DAC code – 310- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing</p> <p>Sub-code 1 – 311 Agriculture - 70%</p> <p>Sub-code 2 – 312 Forestry - N/A</p> <p>Sub-code 3 – 312 Fishing - 30%</p>			
Main Delivery Channel	Multilateral Organisations – 40000			
Targets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity			
Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women’s and girl’s empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 X	
	Tags:	YES	NO	

Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Environment and climate resilience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Digital	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development (incl. private sector, trade and macroeconomic support)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Human Development (incl. human capital and youth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Health resilience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Migration and mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Agriculture, food security and rural development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rule of law, governance and Public Administration reform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Digitalisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tags	YES		NO
digital connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
digital governance	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
digital skills/literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
digital services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tags	YES		NO
digital connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
transport	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
health	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
education and research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Migration ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduction of Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET INFORMATION

¹ Please address the migration marker in line with the note Ares(2021)6077013.

Amounts concerned	Budget line: 15.020201 Total estimated cost: EUR 9 000 000.00 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 9 000 000.00
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	
Implementation modalities (management mode and delivery methods)	Project modality Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.1
Final Date for conclusion of Financing Agreement	At the latest by 31 December 2024
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	4 years following the conclusion 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

The Overall Objective of this Action Document (AD) is to contribute to the green transformation of the Turkish agriculture sector towards a net-zero climate target by 2053 and a sustainable food system for the well-being and health of people and nature. To achieve this, the AD foresees two Specific Objectives. The first one ensures the integrity and the establishment of competitive organic food supply chains. This will strengthen the organic agriculture system and align it with a more sustainable and climate-resilient food system in the context of the EU Green Deal. The second one will promote and facilitate the implementation of agriculture-related measures of the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye. It will also provide the necessary tools for achieving climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture and fisheries while promoting the conservation of biological diversity.

The AD presents a holistic approach towards its goals under “Thematic Priorities 3-4: Agriculture and Rural Development, and Fisheries” of the “Window 4- Competitiveness and Inclusive Growth” of the IPA III programming framework. The action will be implemented to achieve Farm to Fork (F2F) goals through two Specific Objectives in which the first focuses specifically on organic agriculture for the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, and the second to support the implementation of the Green Deal Action Plan

of Türkiye for the national targets of the sustainable agriculture component considering its environmental and climate performance.

1.3 Beneficiary of the Action

The Action shall be carried out in in the Republic of Türkiye.

2. RATIONALE

Agriculture is one of the key sectors regarding the Net zero emission targets of Türkiye to contribute to the global and EU agenda in fighting climate change. The sector is one of the key drivers in a wide array of themes, such as mitigation, adaptation, carbon sinks, biodiversity loss and public health. As evidenced in EU and UN policy documents and reflected in the UN SDGs and the EU Green Deal, these issues are closely related and there is a need to address them synchronously by promoting sustainable and innovative solutions.

On this basis, the AD aims to contribute to the systemic changes for transformation to a sustainable agri-food system. Under the two major outcomes, all outputs have a complementarity role by targeting different operational aspects for a climate resilient agriculture. While the improvement of organic agriculture system will target public health, it has a critical role in addressing the biodiversity loss caused by extensive use of chemicals. Also the promotion of integrated pest and disease management practices will handle the same problem with One Health approach in the topics where agricultural problems are common. A similar approach will be realised in addressing sustainable seafood production with specific priority on decarbonisation and marine biodiversity. Considering the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye, all outputs will contribute to the adaptation and mitigation efforts for sustainable agriculture in a consistent way through various pathways.

2.1. Context

This AD addresses structural and programmatic deficiencies mentioned in the subsequent section along with the need to respond Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye as a sign of political commitment to align with the regional repercussions arising from the targets and policies of the European Green Deal. The AD targets to update and establish enabling frameworks for a more sustainable and resilient agri-food system transformation under threats of changing climate conditions and market demands for healthy products along with the nature based solutions and biological diversity. Hence it supports the improvement of the existing policy and programming framework for the structural reforms in the EU alignment process for the greening of Turkish agri-food sector through avoiding the individual steps and creating synergies in each AoS.

The AD lines up with Türkiye's national development policies including the 11th National Development Plan (2019-2023) which links climate resilient agriculture with sustainable agriculture practices. The green transformation notion of this AD in agriculture and fisheries is also in line with Türkiye's Pre-accession Economic Reform Program and National Action Plan for EU Accession which are promoting green transition. National Action Plan (2021-2023) is the most important expression of Türkiye's determination in the EU accession process, with the function of national roadmap. In order to enhance the alignment with CAP, the relevant measures addressed under the negotiation chapters 11-12-13 in the NAP, e.g. ranging from legislative amendment to institutional capacity building will be considered for the drafting of project activities in the DoA documents.

Türkiye's adoption of the Green Deal Action Plan, integration into its economic growth policies, and ratification of the Paris Agreement demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development and climate action. Some sectoral strategy papers are supporting this climate adaptation process by an enabling national policy environment and programming efforts, e.g. National Climate Change Action Plan (2011-2023), National Strategy and Action Plan to Combat Desertification (2015-2023), National Biodiversity Action Plan (2018-2028), Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Strategy to Climate Change for Anatolian Steppe Ecosystems (2022-2036), Türkiye's Strategy and Action Plan for Combatting Agricultural Drought (2023-2027), Updated First Nationally Determined Contribution (2023).

2.2. A considerable achievement has already been gained for the alignment on the EU rural development policy and programming structures through the IPARD Programmes in line with the CAP objectives. after the establishment of the IPARD Agency (TKDK) in 2007. More than 22 thousand projects completed with IPARD support. The IPARD III Programme (2021-2027), and Thanks to the experiences gained in the IPARD programmes during past two programming periods and in the ongoing IPARD III programme (2021-2027) terms, the agricultural holdings supported by IPARD funds can be seen as the benchmark ones for the modernisation of the sector, since they aligned themselves with the EU requirements. As an implementation tool, the bottlenecks in the field or monitoring results of the IPARD can be also taken as inputs for the identification of the IPA project objectives. However, for instance, Tthe effective implementation of this AD in organic agriculture, can help raise the project application numbers and eligible provinces for the measure on organic farming in the current IPARD Program and or Integrated Pest Management applications handled under this AD can also be involved and promoted in IPARD projects. In addition, since the main function of the IPA projects is to enhance capacity building and raise technical expertise for the agri-food transformation, the findings of such projects can be used for the IPARD revisions or drafting of the new support programmes. To this end, the coordination department at the Ministry on EU Affairs would play an essential role for building synergies and complementarities between the activities under this AD and other IPA projects.**Problem Analysis**

Turkish agriculture recently has suffered more from the adverse effects of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. In addition to the rising climate risks, with the problems emerged with the COVID-19 pandemic and rising food prices, food security is highlighted more than ever for vulnerable groups with respect to the existence of short supply chains and affordability. The need for the development of sustainable food production and consumption models has increased significantly with the combined effects of the earthquakes which damaged the national food system transformation efforts which has been managed under "National Pathway: Towards Sustainable Food Systems" document of the UNFSS initiative.

The fifth Action Track (ensuring resilience to sensitivities, shocks, and stresses) of the Pathway document presents an enabling policy agenda for the earthquake response and recovery interventions. In reference to the key official document titled ‘‘Türkiye Earthquakes Recovery and Reconstruction Assessment (TERRA)’’, MoAF has delivered its financial and in-kind supports to repair the damages of the agriculture in the earthquake region which represents 20% of Türkiye's agricultural production and 15% of its agricultural GDP.

Türkiye’s varying geographic, climatic, and socio-economic conditions in rural areas make it highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and other natural disasters. It requires adaptation and resilience. Intensive agriculture practices in Türkiye have been identified as a significant contributor to climate change and environmental degradation along with creating disturbances for biological diversity.

Short problem analysis

Main areas of problems around the topics addressed within this AD are presented briefly below:

- Limited Adoption of Organic Farming, Insufficient Legislation and Traceability: Türkiye has a small proportion of agricultural land dedicated to organic production. Small-scale organic producers face various challenges. Encouraging wider adoption of organic farming practices, expanding the area of organic production, and enhancing market competitiveness for small-scale enterprises are essential objectives. Türkiye's organic agriculture legislation requires updating to align with EU regulations, since the current laws do not fully meet the recent organic farming requirements. This lack of compliance hinders Türkiye's inclusion in the Third Country List for organic products and restricts access to the EU market. Furthermore, there is a need to establish a comprehensive traceability system to ensure transparency and sustainability across the entire organic value chain.
- High Emissions and Decarbonisation Obstacles: Türkiye's agriculture sector significantly contributes to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the labor- and emission-intensive nature of the industry poses

challenges for achieving decarbonisation goals. Existing forms of support, such as market price assistance, do not adequately cover the costs associated with decarbonisation efforts. To address this, concrete actions, including the development of legislation and financial mechanisms, are necessary to reduce emissions from agricultural practices and promote sustainable land and agricultural management for carbon sequestration.

- Vulnerabilities of Fisheries and Aquaculture: Türkiye's marine ecosystems are vulnerable to overfishing, pollution, and the impacts of climate change. The fishing fleet primarily consists of small-scale vessels heavily reliant on fossil fuels. Aquaculture has surpassed traditional fisheries in seafood production. However, there is a lack of regular financial support mechanisms and institutional capacity within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture practices. Enhancing capacity and aligning policies with international standards are crucial for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the national fisheries and aquaculture sectors.
- Public Health and Environmental Impacts of Pesticide Use: Türkiye has pesticide-related difficulties and must prioritise ecologically friendly pest control approaches. Meeting EU maximum limits for pesticide residues and reducing reliance on chemical pesticides require significant efforts. There is a lack of awareness among farmers and consumers regarding organic products and integrated pest management techniques. Additionally, reducing antimicrobial via improved infection prevention and control measures is essential to combat the rise of antibiotic resistance. In fact, pesticide use stands out as a primary cause behind the observed declines in terrestrial biodiversity. Especially concerning are the broad-spectrum pesticides, as they not only target pests but also harm unintended creatures in the surrounding environment. These chemicals frequently find their way into soil and water systems, impacting a wide range of species, including insects, birds, fish, and even mammals. Moreover, disrupting predator-prey interactions and eliminating crucial pollinators like bees can have profound repercussions for ecosystems. The extinction of specific species may trigger a cascade of events, disrupting the balance of biodiversity and ultimately affecting the overall health and resilience of ecosystems. To safeguard biodiversity, it is crucial to adopt sustainable farming practices that reduce pesticide usage and explore alternative methods for pest management.

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

- The end beneficiaries of this AD are the agriculture and fisheries sectors, primarily agricultural and fishery communities and farmers. The main beneficiary of this Action Document is MoAF. Within the framework of the holistic approach, five General Directorates will be involved in the implementation of this action in as much as it relates to their roles and responsibilities. These are: the General Directorate of Plant Production, the General Directorate of Agrarian Reform, the General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture , the General Directorate of Food Control. The General Directorate of EU and Foreign Relations will be the coordinator as it has the responsibility to align Türkiye's national agricultural policies to the EU acquis and as the responsible body for coordinating National Green Deal Action Plan for sustainable agriculture.
- The Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change is one of the key stakeholders for carbon farming and climate change adaptation related activities due to their coordinating role on environmental protection and climate change.
- Farmer organisations, private sector companies within the organic products value chains or service companies dealing with Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) within carbon certification, organic agriculture producers cooperatives, related Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in agri-food sector, nature conservation and natural resources management, environmental protection and climate action, and academia will play a critical role in delivering the results of this action.

- Farmers, dealers and consumers are also essential stakeholders in line with F2F approach due to their roles in pursuing sustainable production and consumption patterns. While identifying the main stakeholders and final beneficiaries, mainstreaming gender equality, democratic and equal representation and empowerment of rural women will be the main principles in the activities.

2.3. Lessons Learned

According to several evaluation studies² conducted as regards to agriculture related activities under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), the interventions in the agriculture and rural development sector provided a direct follow-up to those implemented during the previous programming period. On the other hand, the reports also highlighted deficiencies which should be considered for future interventions as follows:

- Consultation with target groups was limited, in particular with individual operators, private companies and local fishing communities;
- Cross-cutting issues shall be given more attention and specific target indicators should be set in the formulation of the interventions. For example, women play a key role in rural areas but gender inequality in the labour market persists. Therefore, they should be given sufficient information and overall qualification skills by means of training programmes in order to reduce the gap;
- Environment and issues related to the effect of climate change are closely related to agriculture and rural development activities. Therefore, the need to preserve the environment and to moderate the effect of climate change cannot be neglected in the formulation of interventions in the agri-food, veterinary and fisheries sectors;
- Reaching out to more farmers, field applications and regular training programmes are important for expanding the knowledge base for sustainable and resilient agri-food systems.

The project titled “Agricultural Implications for Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA) to Climate Change in Steppe Ecosystems” which was funded by IPA and implemented by the collaboration of MoAF and FAO, reiterated the vulnerability of the agriculture sector under changing climatic conditions and the growing exposure of agricultural drought in the coming decades across the country. It indicated the strong need for replicating swiftly sustainable and ecological solutions as a coping mechanism for moderating climate change impacts at farm and eco-region levels (in this case steppe ecosystems).

As regards carbon farming, the Ministry implemented in collaboration with FAO three interventions which are (i) Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture, (ii) Conservation and Sustainable Management of Türkiye’s Steppe Ecosystems, and (iii) Contributing to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting by Demonstrating the LDN Approach in the Upper Sakarya Basin for Scaling up at National Level. These interventions commonly suggest that there is an urgent and strong need to expand climate smart agricultural practices through demonstrations to ensure producer willingness and ownership for new and innovative climate smart techniques.

On the fishery sector Türkiye implemented many EU funded IPA projects in the previous two decades for legislative alignment, policy and institutional capacity development. The results of these projects indicate the need for operationalisation of their results.

In the field of plant and animal health a few projects had higher transformative impact to be considered for this AD. "Plant Passport System and Registration of Operators" backed by IPA in 2007, enabled Türkiye to identify various quarantine factors and effectively avoid the entry of pests into the country. With the project "Support to Turkey's alignment to the EU acquis in the Phytosanitary Sector" supported by IPA in 2007,

² “Thematic Evaluation of EU Financial Assistance in the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector of Türkiye” prepared in September 2021 and “Evaluation of 2014, 2015 and 2016 Türkiye Annual Programmes”

Türkiye has taken significant steps towards harmonisation with the EU by banning 217 pesticide active substances.

Given the impact of climate change, altered temperatures and precipitation patterns facilitated the spread of new plant diseases and pests. During the last decade MoAF realised the importance of enhancing and advancing the technical capabilities of plant passport operators to tackle the potential surge in infestations. This forms a primary objective of the new project. Furthermore, there is an ongoing process of making new decisions to prohibit and restrict additional substances. Türkiye established a veterinary information system as part of the "Support to the Alignment of Turkey to the EU Veterinary Acquis" project, which was supported by IPA in 2002. It is important now to update and improve the system to enhance the skills of veterinarians in two key areas: "Veterinary medical product tracking systems" and "Simulations of responsible antibiotic use."

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION³

3.1. Intervention Logic

The **Overall Objective/(Impact)** of this AD is as follows:

To contribute to the green transformation of Turkish agriculture sector towards net-zero climate target by 2053 and sustainable food system for the well-being and health of people and nature.

Towards this objective, the **Specific Objectives (Outcomes)** of this action are:

1. To ensure integrity and establishment of competitive organic food supply chains by strengthening the organic agriculture system towards a more sustainable and climate resilient food system in the scope of the European Green Deal.
2. To promote and facilitate the implementation of agriculture related measures of the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye through providing necessary tools for achieving climate resilient and sustainable agriculture and fisheries whilst promoting conservation of biological diversity.

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

Outputs contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1):

- 1.1. Framework for organic agriculture in Türkiye updated and strengthened in terms of legislative alignment with EU rules, certification and control system, including storage, processing and marketing.
- 1.2. Technical capacity of the key stakeholders in supply chain from farming to retail for a sustainable organic agriculture system increased.
- 1.3. Awareness on economic and environmental benefits of organic agriculture raised and pilot projects on benefits of holistic approach combining production and processing in short supply chain demonstrated.

Outputs contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2):

- 2.1. Functioning framework enabling the setting-up and implementation of carbon farming in Türkiye in line with EU agriculture and climate *acquis* established.

³ From section 3 onwards, no cross-references should be made with sections 1 and 2, because sections 1 and 2 are not included in the Technical and Administrative Provisions of the future Financing Agreement.

- 2.2. Institutional infrastructure and capacity of the MoAF strengthened through a sectoral strategy to support the alignment with the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) implementation mechanism and decarbonisation of the fisheries sector.
- 2.3. Implementation of integrated pest and disease management practices for a sustainable food system within the framework of the Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy facilitated.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Area of support 1: ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Output 1.1: Framework for organic agriculture in Türkiye updated and strengthened in terms of legislative alignment with EU rules, certification and control system, including storage, processing and marketing.

This consists of the harmonisation of existing legislative framework with EU practices, including the introduction of group certification system. It will reduce cost and revise the OTBIS in order to improve performance and align with new legislation. Furthermore, it will also develop a marketing strategy and framework for digitalisation in organic agriculture, land management issues, and update of the Organic Agriculture Action Plan in line with the EU Green Deal. To promote short supply chains for smallholders, various tools will be established such as workshops, assessments, and collaboration with key stakeholders to ensure Türkiye's organic agriculture sector meets international standards, enhances traceability, and embraces sustainability goals.

Output 1.2: Technical capacity of stakeholders in from farming to retail for a sustainable organic agriculture system increased.

This includes capacity building for MoAF staff, controllers, certifiers, agricultural extension workers, and farmer advisors. Training programs, targeted study tours, and the establishment of an e-learning platform will be implemented to strengthen their skills and knowledge. The focus will also be on reinforcing individual farmers, producer unions, agricultural cooperatives, including women-led cooperatives, by conducting training programs and developing strategies, including for the development of short supply chain through the creation of local markets as well as processing, marketing and recycling opportunities of organic products.

Output 1.3: Awareness on economic and environmental benefits of organic agriculture raised and pilot projects on benefits of holistic approach combining production and processing in short supply chain demonstrated.

The aim is to enhance understanding of economic and environmental benefits among organic agriculture stakeholders. Raising awareness events will bring together experts and stakeholders to discuss organic agriculture and the European Green Deal. Visibility and printed materials such as leaflets, brochures, and posters will be produced to disseminate information and promote organic agriculture. Furthermore, awareness events focusing on organic agriculture, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity conservation and climate change will be organised targeting various groups, with a special emphasis on women, youth, and children through rural and local events, school activities, and sports-related initiatives.

To promote advanced organic agricultural practices in Türkiye, demonstrations and pilot projects will be conducted on 30 farms and 20 farmers' unions or cooperatives, including those with group certification. These demonstrations will display the use of advanced environmentally friendly techniques in organic agriculture including digital applications, AI-based practices, and other methods. The demonstrations and pilot cases will cover various environmentally friendly and climate adaptation practices, such as soil reclamation, low tillage, integrated pest management, water saving efficient irrigation, short supply value chain establishment and improvement, agro-ecology, landscaping, renewable energy generation and use, advanced plant production

techniques, sustainable labelling to prevent food loss and waste from production to consumption, adoption of circular economy principles, reduction of post-harvest loss, advanced organic livestock production, organic aquaculture or similar sustainable agriculture applications.

Area of sport 2: GREEN DEAL

The AoS 2 aims to achieve three outputs on agriculture and fisheries sectors. Each output contributes to Türkiye's alignment with the EU *Acquis*.

Output 2.1. A functioning framework enabling the setting-up and implementation of carbon farming in Türkiye in line with EU agriculture and climate *acquis* established.

Such framework will include legal basis, technical specifications of carbon farming system, practical modalities needed for farmers to implement the system and the system controllability.

To deliver this output, the enabling policy and technical requirements will be elaborated for identifying possible carbon farming applications suitable for Turkish bio-geographic conditions and agricultural product patterns, drawing from the EU Technical Guidance Handbook *Setting up and implementing carbon farming mechanisms in the EU*⁴. This output will explore the legislative and knowledge gaps together with stakeholders' willingness and readiness to implement carbon farming in Türkiye and develop required foundation for further work.

Establishing a functioning framework enabling setting up and implementation of carbon farming scheme and carbon certification will include legal basis, official working procedures, sub-legislations, workflows and roles and responsibilities of related actors (eg. farmers, verifiers etc.).

The framework will also include technical specifications of a carbon farming scheme, practical modalities and a nature of incentives needed for farmers to implement it. An action plan to develop a carbon farming scheme across Türkiye will be prepared so as to complement the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye. Links with the development of a high-quality carbon removal certification scheme will be established, ensuring that removals are correctly quantified, deliver additional climate benefits compared to standard practices, strive to store carbon for a long time, prevent carbon leaks, and contribute to sustainability. Reflection on whether the certification shall be established at the practice and/or product level should be part of the analysis.

Pilot carbon farming implementations indicatively on improved land-use practices, cropland management, livestock management, and nutrient and soil management will be realised.

A monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system, compatible with the existing nationwide GHG monitoring system, will be developed and operationalised in order to measure and evaluate the results and impacts of the agricultural carbon farming and removal certification practices starting from monitoring the pilot implementation and later on handed over to the use of General Directorate of Agricultural Reform (GDAR) for continued monitoring and reporting.

Output 2.2. Institutional infrastructure and capacity of the MoAF is strengthened through a sectoral strategy to support the alignment with the EMFAF implementation mechanism and decarbonisation of the fisheries sector.

MoAF aims to strengthen the harmonisation of the Fisheries Sector with the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) in the process of membership to the EU. Additionally, based on the project results, MoAF intends to adopt new intervention methods in the sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture sector support models and criteria in line with the EMFAF implementation mechanism. The strategy document planned to be

⁴ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/10acfd66-a740-11eb-9585-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

prepared within the scope of this output and the legislative drafts regarding the EMFAF that will facilitate the implementation of this strategy will also be put into practice during the negotiation process. The decarbonisation studies that constitute the main framework of the project will serve to calculate the GHG release amounts originating from the fisheries and aquaculture sector of General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture (GDFA) and to establish the institutional technical and administrative capacity for reducing GHG emissions. Thus, the project will contribute to both the negotiation of the Chapter 13 alignment process and the establishment of the institutional and technical infrastructure against possible future obstacles of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism that the EU would implement in some agricultural products. Furthermore, efforts will be made to establish a data system for monitoring GHG emissions which will be compatible to nationwide GHG monitoring system, to develop guidelines for GHG reduction measures and investments, and ensure necessary technical and institutional capacity building in the MoAF's national and selected local units along with stakeholders. During achieving this output, close collaboration and cooperation with regional organisations such as GFCM will be ensured.

Output 2.3. Implementation of integrated pest and disease management practices for sustainable food system within the framework of Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy facilitated.

This output will include establishing specific guidance on integrated pest and disease management for crop groups reflecting the specific climatic conditions of Türkiye. This includes information on alternative methods to the use of plant protection products and antimicrobials, provision of monitoring tools, including the digitalised ones, as well as information and tools on the application of precision farming methods. Agricultural disaster risk management and response strategy adopted for addressing pest and disease outbreaks will be also considered based on the experiences from the earthquake region.

To achieve this output, existing situation will be analysed on current pesticide use patterns, trends, and associated environmental impacts in the target area which will be identified while taking account of various crops and their needs as well as different climatic conditions. Such analysis will identify the most common pesticides used, their impact on the environment, and potential alternatives or sustainable practices will be identified as an initial step. Activities related to upgrading pest monitoring and early warning systems for more accurate and timely detection of pest populations and their distribution patterns will be conducted by integrating advanced technologies such as remote sensing, meteorological stations, or satellite imagery. Guidelines and protocols for implementing biotechnical and biological integrated pest and disease management practices will be developed in close collaboration with farmers, agricultural experts, and researchers along with compiling best practices and they take into account various climatic conditions and will be crop specific. A set of policies and strategies to minimise pesticide use such as government support for feromone trap usage, sanctions on banned pesticide residues and mitigate environmental impacts will be developed and measures to enforce the requirements set in them will be established. These measures include promoting, facilitating and incentivising implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) techniques by training technical staff, allocating resources for research and development in IPM techniques, by providing financial incentives to farmers who adopt IPM practices, establish regional IPM networks that bring together farmers, researchers, extension agents, and policymakers, by making collaboration with international organizations, organic farming practices, and the use of alternative pest control methods as well as precision farming methods.

Pilot implementations in a representative area or group of farmers to test the proposed measures including provision of technical assistance, training, and resources to support farmers in adopting the recommended practices.

For management of antimicrobial usage, approaches recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) and European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption (ESVAC) for enhanced monitoring and reporting of antimicrobial use in human and veterinary medicine, using the ATC/DDD methodology will be adopted. Targeted raising awareness campaigns and trainings will be organised as well.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Biodiversity

The Action directly relates to environment and climate issues at the national and local levels. The implementing entity will ensure that environmental protection, climate change and biodiversity will be mainstreamed in all the activities to be implemented under this Action based on their integral social and environmental safeguard systems. Moreover environmental responsibilities, climate change and biodiversity will be incorporated into the farm advisory services and training courses for the farmers. Introduction of the innovative and green technologies and applications considering the environmental and climate footprint of the national food systems and use of eco-friendly production and practices will be promoted.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender equality is an important and deliberate objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the project/programme.

The action will develop a baseline gender needs assessment proposing the methodology and concrete recommendations for gender actions. Throughout the implementation of this Action, gender analysis shall be carried out to ensure gender mainstreaming across activities, such as plans, the promotion campaign, development of policies, assessments or evaluations.

Principles of equal opportunity for female and male and non-discrimination on grounds of gender are considered throughout the programme implementation. Therefore, measures to ensure equal opportunities and no gender-based discrimination are integrated in the design and the implementation of this programme. As such, the AD ensures that both women and men can provide inputs, access, and participate in action activities.

Furthermore, during the implementation, equal participation of men and women in project activities will be analysed and supported. Stakeholder decisions will be made with a gender balanced representation. Women farmers and women entrepreneurs will be given due priority and will be encouraged to participate in project activities.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the action is not considered relevant for inclusion of persons with disabilities. Yet the disabled people shall be provided the same level of access to the project as all other participants, via a sensitive design of activities.

Human Rights

This AD responds to the two key principles of the EU Green Deal, namely “leave no-one behind” and “do no harm”. The pilot implementations to be carried out in the Area of Support-1 and the Carbon Farming in the Area of Support-2 will have a focus on the earthquake-affected region in Türkiye where the earthquakes in February 2023 had severe consequences on life, assets, infrastructure and livelihoods. Carrying out some of the organic and nature-based carbon farming pilot implementations in this region will also contribute to the long-term post-disaster recovery of the sector and livelihoods in the region. From this perspective, also in line with the mandate of the United Nations organisations, “leave no one behind” principle will be realised for the victims of the earthquake by supporting the recovery of livelihoods. Moreover, by demonstrating and advocating for organic and sustainable agricultural practices to move away from traditional agricultural practices to more environmentally sensitive practices, pollution of water resources and soil due to agricultural pesticides and other residues will be eliminated and this will contribute to “do no harm” principle in the post disaster recovery activities.

3.4. Risks and Assumptions

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
3 - Risks related to people and the organisation	Inefficient communication and collaboration among relevant institutions during implementation of the action.	L	H	A strong stakeholder involvement plan will be developed in order to ensure the participation and collaboration of the stakeholders, particularly for the main counterparts which will benefit from the action results. Moreover, steering committee meetings, both regular and ad-hoc, will be organized in order to inform main beneficiaries and to guide the implementation.
1 - Risk related to external environment	Lack of data at national and local level for detailed analysis.	M	M	Close collaboration with relevant institutions at national and local levels including non-governmental organisations and academia will be ensured to harvest their experience and fill the data gaps as much as possible. Other than that, in case any local experience is still lacking, it will be obtained from the global network of specialised organisations to the extent possible by making use of the diverse implementations and projects of the institution.
3 - Risks related to people and the organisation	Changes in management in the public institutions and high staff turnover.	L	H	An inclusive approach to involve different experts and managers will be ensured to the possible extent for business continuity purposes in case of any such change.
3 - Risks related to people and the organisation	Negative economic and livelihoods conditions affecting farmers.	L	M	The demonstrations will be covered from the action budget without imposing any financial burden to farmers. Necessary financial feasibilities will be conducted and shared to increase the attention and interest of farmers.
2 - Risks related to planning, processes and systems	Different and isolated departments dealing with different areas of support.	M	H	Similar to the third risk above, an inclusive and informative working environment will be set-up in order to break the isolated working habits. Steering committee meetings will be organised as comprehensively as possible and, if necessary, ad-hoc face-to-face meetings will be organised to ensure the relative equal dissemination of information.
2 - Risks related to planning,	Multi-dimensional nature of the action design.	L	H	In particular, the Area of Support-2 is relatively complex in terms of project design and stakeholder involvement requirements. In order to mitigate this risk,

processes and systems				expertise of specialised organisations will be sought to reflect their global, regional and local expertise coming from working in similar projects. Added to that, a comprehensive communication and collaboration plan during preparation of the Description of Action will be elaborated to eliminate any project management or technical complexity during implementation.
3 - Risks related to people and the organisation	Low interest of the stakeholders in participating and contributing to the activities.	L	M	In order to reach out to the remote and isolated stakeholders, a comprehensive communication plan will be developed during the inception phases of the actions. This will be essential to grasp the attention of all the related and relevant stakeholders.
3 - Risks related to people and the organisation	Target population build up resistance to change despite being exposed to enough training.	M	H	Before the completion of project implementation, the impact of the trainings will be assessed. If this risk is valid, multi-stakeholder discussion meetings will be organised to determine the causes of the resistance. According to the results, high-level authorities will be informed of the situation and advised to provide additional training or incentives.

External Assumptions

- The Government of Türkiye continues its efforts to align with the EU Green Deal as well as the new EU strategies related to agriculture, rural development and food security.
- Climate action will be high on the agenda of the government.
- The political and macroeconomic situation of the country remains stable.
- Services for the traceability and labelling of the agricultural products will be improved by the food safety interventions throughout the food supply chains.
- The rising awareness on the food loss and waste concept can create an enabling environment for the national food system transformation.
- Voluntary carbon markets continue to provide feasible removal prices for carbon farming applications.
- Demand for sustainable and organic products from the EU remains at a high level.
- Government incentives for organic agriculture will be sustained during the project period.
- All required information, facilitation, technical and administrative support will be provided by the MoAF when needed.
- All agrifood sector stakeholders are willing to communicate, cooperate and support at the highest level.
- Consumer preferences and their affordability to buy accurately labelled sustainable agricultural products will continue or grow.
- Sufficient numbers of committed beneficiaries available for training and capacity building.

3.5. Indicative Logical Framework Matrix

Results	Results chain: Main expected results [maximum 10]	Indicators [at least one indicator per expected result]	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impacts	<i>To ensure a contribution to green transformation of the Turkish agriculture sector towards net-zero climate target by 2053 and sustainable food system for the well-being and health of people and nature</i>	Number of adopted public policies (enforcements, support and practices) with respect to climate resilience, sustainability and biological diversity in agriculture and fisheries sector aligned with European Green Deal objectives with EU support.: - improving organic production, - reduced usage of pesticides, chemical fertilizers - promoting biodiversity	0 (2023)	at least 3 within 2 years after the completion of the projects	Macro-economic and ministry level policy documents	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	<i>Integrity and establishment of competitive organic supply value chains ensured by strengthening the organic agriculture system towards a more sustainable and climate resilient food system in the scope of the European Green Deal .</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total area of the organic agricultural land • Total amount of organic agricultural production 	310.000 ha (2023) 1.6 million tons (2023)	400.000 ha (project end date) 2.1 million tons (project end date)	TÜİK, MoAF statistical database (OTBIS)	The Turkish Government continues to support organic farming, the EU Green Deal objectives, combating climate change and minimize negative affect of natural disasters such as earthquake, floods, forest fires on organic agriculture areas
Outcome 2	<i>Implementation of agriculture related measures of the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye for achieving climate resilient and sustainable agriculture and fisheries whilst promoting biological diversities promoted and facilitated.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of carbon farming demonstrations implemented. • Number of fisheries policy measures developed for decarbonisation mechanisms • Number of environment friendly pest control measures adopted. 	0 (2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 • At least 5 • At least 5 (project end date) 	Macro-economic and Ministry Level policy documents	Same as above.
Output 1	1.1 Framework for organic agriculture in Türkiye	1) The legislation amending the current law aligned with EU	N/A	1) In the first year of the project	1) Official gazette	Related public institutions are

related to Outcome 1	updated and strengthened in terms of legislative alignment with EU rules, certification and control system, processing and marketing.	policies and submitted to the parliament 2) Number of guidelines developed for Group Certification 3) Marketing Strategy developed		2) 2 3) 1 (project end date)	indicating the new amended legislation 2) Guidelines for group certification 3) Marketing strategy document	willing to mainstream organic agriculture requirements.
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Technical capacity of the key stakeholders in supply chain from farming to retail for a sustainable organic agriculture system increased.	1) Total number of person/days that MoAF personnel receive training 2) Number of farmers trained 3) Number of controllers and certifiers trained 4) Number of extension workers and advisors trained 5) Number of training materials distributed 6) Number of participants attending study tours	N/A	1) 1745 2) 2220 3) 80 4) 500 5) 2610 6) 53 (project end date)	Attendance sheets, training evaluation reports and study tour reports, Impact analysis report for training programs	MoAF personnel, farmers and other related stakeholders are willing to participate in the training programs and farmers show interest in learning and implementing new technologies
Output 3 related to Outcome 1	1.3 Awareness on economic and environmental benefits of organic agriculture raised and pilot projects on benefits of holistic approach combining production and short supply chain and processing demonstrated.	1) Number of demonstrations successfully implemented 2) Number of new farmers in organic agriculture / organic area 3) Number of demonstrations for competitive value chain successfully implemented) 4) Number of attendants to meetings and conferences 5) Number of visibility materials distributed 6) Number of awareness-raising events organised	1) 70 in 2023 2) 2,500 new farmers in 2022 3) 0 4) 0 5) 0 6) 0	1) 120 2) Total 2250 new farmers/ 4500 total hectares new organic area 3) 5 (5 of 50) 4) 550 5) 95,030 6) 8 (project end date)	1) Demonstrations Result Report 2) OTBIS data 3) Competitive value chain Analysis report 4,5,6) Attendance sheets, invoices and event reports	Incentives for organic agriculture will not be removed during the project All stakeholders are willing to communicate, cooperate and support at the highest level; demand for organic products from the EU remains at a high level period.
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 Functioning framework enabling the setting-up and implementation of carbon farming in Türkiye in line with EU	2.1.1 CFS document developed and circulated among the relevant institutions 2.1.2 MRVs system to assess the benefit of the CF practices	2.1.1 No existing CFS and promoted	2.1.1 CFS with at least 15 CF practices is in place	2.1.1 Official regulation document 2.1.2 Official letter to	The Turkish Government continues to support the Green Deal and

	agriculture and climate <i>acquis</i> established.	2.1.3 Number of value chain studies with emphasis on the Green Deal to promote the CF practices	CF practices 2.1.2 No MRV system exists 2.1.3 No activities to develop the value chain of the CF practices (2023)	2.1.2 MRV system for at least 15 CF practices is established 2.1.3 15 recommendations developed to increase the value chain (project end date)	institutions for the circulation of the MRV system 2.1.3 Value chain reports	combating climate change CF practices have added value on the market
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 Institutional infrastructure and capacity of the MoAF strengthened through a sectoral strategy to support the alignment with the EMFAF implementation mechanism and decarbonisation of the fisheries sector.	2.2.1. Fisheries Support Policy to Align with the CFP developed 2.2.2. Ratio of the stakeholders with increased awareness on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture 2.2.3. Number of trainers trained on GHG calculation methods 2.2.4. Number of pilot sustainable models realized 2.2.5 Number of measures in line with the EMFAF implementation adopted for Turkish fishery and aquaculture sector support mechanism	2.2.1. 0 2.2.2. 0 2.2.3. 0 2.2.4. 0 2.2.5. 0 (2023)	2.2.1. 2 2.2.2. %80 2.2.3. 25 2.2.4. 4 2.2.5. 5 (Project End Date)	Attendance sheets, questionnaire, workshop reports, Regular Project Progress reports, SMC Meetings Minutes SUBIS data record	The Turkish Government continues to support the EU Green Deal
Output 3 related to Outcome 2	2.3. Implementation of integrated pest and disease management practices for a sustainable food system within the framework of Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy facilitated.	2.3.1. Number of laboratories developed 2.3.2. Number of trainees 2.3.3. Number of pilot applications implemented	2.3.1. 0 2.3.2. 0 2.3.3. 0 (2023)	2.3.1. 3 2.3.2. 460 IPM Coordinators from Provincial and District Directorates of the Ministry in 11	Regular project reports, SMC meeting minutes	The Turkish Government continues to support the EU Green Deal

		<p>2.3.4 Number of staff trained abroad on IPM applications</p>	<p>provinces, 165 agricultural consultants working in agricultural chambers and 55 agricultural consultants working in agricultural credit cooperatives</p> <p>2.3.3 5 forecasting and early warning systems on 2 products will be installed. Digital Remote Monitoring Trap with Camera will be established in 16 districts of 4 provinces on Citrus.</p> <p>Under the residue action plan, 82 sample applications will be carried out in 41 districts across 11 provinces. These applications will showcase integrated pest management (IPM) practices,</p>		
--	--	---	---	--	--

				<p>including non-chemical alternatives such as biological and biotechnical control methods, in 6 product/product groups.</p> <p>2.3.4 16 technical personnel have study visit to countries where IPM applications developed.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS⁵

4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to conclude a Financing Agreement with the Republic of Türkiye

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 will be implemented, is 48 months from the date of conclusion of the financing agreement.

Extension 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's 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 measures⁶.

4.3.1. Indirect Management with a pillar-assessed entity⁷

This Action may be implemented in indirect management with FAO. The envisaged entity has been selected using the following criteria:

1. Having the required specific global and national mandate, specialisation, possessing the knowledge of local context and stakeholders, and in-house expertise as regards to the subjects which are covered in this AD at global and local levels which are organic agriculture, agricultural climate action, carbon farming, fisheries and aquaculture, pesticide and antimicrobial management.
2. Having a successful track record on providing support on policy-making to governments and at the same time guidance at farm and farmer levels on disseminating, replicating and scaling-up of sustainable and climate smart agricultural and fisheries practices.
3. Having a successful track record on implementing internationally and/or nationally funded multi-stakeholder processes, multinational, national and local projects in Türkiye on diverse agricultural topics including demonstrating new and alternative sustainable agricultural and land-use practices.
4. Having globally recognised environmental, social and governance safeguards as well as strong monitoring, transparency and financial reporting rules and regulations.

This implementation entails the whole Action of this AD and achieving the required outcomes and outputs delineated in previous sections as well as other requirements set in other sections of this AD.

⁵ This section is to be completed by the EU Office/Delegation.

⁶ [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.

⁷ The signature of a contribution agreement with the chosen entity is subject to the completion of the necessary pillar assessment.

In case the envisaged entity would need to be replaced, the Commission’s services may select another replacement entity using the same criteria. If the entity is replaced, the decision to replace it needs to be justified.

4.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

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

The Commission’s authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.5. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Methods of implementation – cf. section 4.3	
Outcome 1 - To ensure integrity and establishment of competitive organic food supply chains by strengthening the organic agriculture system towards a more sustainable and climate resilient food system in the scope of the European Green Deal, and Outcome 2 To promote and facilitate the implementation of agriculture related measures of the Green Deal Action Plan of Türkiye through providing necessary tools for achieving climate resilient and sustainable agriculture and fisheries whilst promoting conservation of biological diversity	9 000 000
Indirect management with (an) entrusted entity(ies) – cf. Section 4.3.1	9 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision
Communication and visibility – cf. section 6	will be covered by another Decision
Contingencies ⁸	N.A.
Totals	9 000 000

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

For indirect management with international organisations, the EU Commission will be the Contracting Authority.

The Directorate for EU Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye is the National IPA Coordinator (NIPAC) of IPA programming in Türkiye. The secretarial services of the National IPA Coordinator are provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Directorate for EU Affairs. The NIPAC Office directly participates in steering committees and monitoring committee

⁸ Consider that contracts where no financing agreement is concluded, contingencies have to be covered by individual and legal commitments by 31 December of N+1.

The following Directorates within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will be beneficiaries under the project -General Directorate of Plant Production, General Directorate of Agrarian Reform, General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture, General Directorate of Food Control, and the General Directorate of European Union and Foreign Relations.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - the General Directorate of European Union and Foreign Relations will be the main partner among related directorates as the Directorate has the responsibility to harmonize Türkiye's national agricultural policies to EU and as the responsible body for coordinating National Green Deal Action Plan for sustainable agriculture.

As regards the climate related activities under this AD, the MoEUCC will be invited and included in the management of the actions since it is the managing authority in the field of environment and climate change and is additionally the coordinator for most of the sectors under Chapter 27 - Environment.

A Steering Committee (SC) will be set up at the each action level. The indicative composition of the SC includes: Representatives of the EU Delegation as co-chair, NIPAC, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and related Directorates covering the policy areas under this action, , The Entrusted Entity, Presidency of Strategy and Budget. Depending on the subjects to be discussed, additional stakeholders besides those mentioned above may also be invited to the SC on ad-hoc basis as decided by the SC. The SC will monitor and provide high-level strategic guidance and oversight on project implementation. SC will gather at regular intervals and on ad-hoc basis whenever deemed necessary.

The functions of Sectoral Monitoring Committee (SMC) are as follows:

- Review at each meeting the progress made towards achieving the specific targets of the Programme with reference to 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 at least twice a year at the initiative of MoAF. 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 regard to those issues.

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

The related Directorates of the MoAF will have a decisive role in implementing the actions indicated above.

Day-to-day management and coordination of the project activities will be carried out by the Operation Coordination Unit (OCU). Project activities will be coordinated with OCU, which is a body where a central team of experts from end-recipient institution takes place together with the EUD as the Contracting Authority and the technical assistance team, regarding all of the project activities.

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 log frame 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).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

- Monitoring tasks undertaken by the implementing partners/ beneficiary country, under the coordination of NIPAC Office, and NAO Office for financial monitoring, will consist of collecting and analysing data with the aim of informing on the use of resources and progress towards planned results, feeding the management of the action's decision-making processes.
- Monitoring tasks undertaken by the EU Delegation shall complement the implementing partners'/ beneficiary country's monitoring system, especially in key moments of the action cycle. It will also support follow-up of recommendations stemming out of external monitoring and will be used for informing the EU management. This monitoring could take different forms and methodologies (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 according to methodologies and tools included in DG NEAR guidelines on linking planning/programming, monitoring and evaluation, including the use of standard checklists.

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

- External monitoring / Results Oriented 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). These reviews might be composed of monitoring of the action, results data collection or any other task that is identified in the most recent EC guidelines.

The Steering Committees will be established at activity level in order to steer the implementation of activities, achievement of results against indicators in the action document, to discuss monitoring findings (including ROM findings) and agree on corrective actions as appropriate.

Monitoring will be an integral feature of managing for results to support and facilitate proactive management, continuous improvement, lessons learned and knowledge management. The monitoring of progress against the Logical Framework Matrix, including progress indicators and assumptions, will be conducted in connection with annual and final progress reports.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, evaluation(s) may be carried out for this action or its areas of support by the beneficiary via independent consultants. The evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines on linking planning/programming, monitoring and evaluation.

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.

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.

7. SUSTAINABILITY

Agriculture together with Environment and Climate Change horizontal sectors have a key role in any area of development. Demonstrations in these sectors 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 achievement of SDGs. An important element of sustainability is the political commitment to the EU *acquis* and vision, where the EU 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 the EU actions and Türkiye'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 legislations drafted, the roadmaps developed and the feasibilities of sustainable agriculture practices demonstrated will fortify the sustainability of the actions.

The activities on training and awareness raising 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.

The legal sustainability will be ensured through developing the new legislation proposal after the legislative gap analysis. The new legislation will then be put into implementation by the MoAF by following the official procedures. In addition, the existing IT systems will also be evaluated for updating and will be brought in compliance with the new legislation.

The development of human resources is naturally essential for the continuity of the change desired to be created by the project. In particular, the comprehensive training programs for both farmers and technical staff of the MoAF are planned and will be implemented to use new approaches. In addition, with the "training of the trainers" activity, it will be ensured that the knowledge and skill level of human resources is always at the highest level according to current and developing conditions after the project.

One of the most important outputs of the project is the strengthening of farmers' organisations and women's cooperatives. One of the main problems of many farmers' organisations is the sustainability problems caused by the lack of strategy. For this reason, strategic plans will be prepared within the scope of the Action and contribute to the sustainability of these organisations and women's cooperatives.

With the demonstrations included in the project outputs, the practices that are sensitive to the environment and that will guide improvements will be shown to the farmers and the practices will be copied and expanded after the project.