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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX I

Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the multiannual action plan part II in favour of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) Regional South countries for 2021 - 2023

Action Document for Neighbourhood South Global Allocation for 2021-2023

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 of NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS Basic Act	Neighbourhood South Global Allocation for 2021-2023 Multi-annual plan measure in favour of Southern Neighbourhood for 2021-2023. OPSYS reference : ACT-60603 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe).
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Neighbourhood South countries :Algeria, Egypt, Israel ¹ , Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine ² , Syria ³ and Tunisia.
4. Programming document	Communication for a renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood JOIN (2021) 2 final of 09.02.2021 Commission Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Southern Neighbourhood Region for the period 2021-2027 - C(2021)9399 dated 16.12.2021.
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	. The action entitled ‘Neighbourhood South Global Allocation for 2021-2023’ aims to give the European Commission the possibility to finance small-scale measures and activities that are needed for the achievement of the objectives of the Southern dimension of the European

¹ See Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards on http://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2013.205.01.0009.01.ENG.

² This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

³ Co-operation with the Government of Syria suspended since 2011.

	Neighbourhood Policy and its operational and policy priorities, as specified in the MIP C(2021)9399.			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Cooperation facilities			
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1 only): N/A Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets: N/A			
8 a) DAC code(s)	430 – Other multisector 100%			
8 b) 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 60000 Private sector institutions			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development ⁴ <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<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"/>

⁴ For the Neighbourhood, activities related to education shall be marked as part of the “Social Inclusion and Human Development” target, in line with the NDICI-GE programming guidelines.

	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"/>
11. Internal markers	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	<u>Digitalisation @</u> Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<u>Connectivity @</u> Tags: transport people2people energy digital connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<u>Migration @</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line: 14.020110 Total estimated cost: EUR 45 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 45 000 000 The contribution is for an amount of EUR 15 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2021 and for an amount of EUR 15 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2022 and for an amount of EUR 15 000 000 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Implementation modalities (type of financing and management mode)	Project Modality Direct management through: - Grants - Procurement			

1.2. Summary of the Action

The Neighbourhood South Global Allocation for 2021-2023 is a support measure giving the European Commission the possibility to finance small-scale measures and activities that are needed for the achievement of the objectives of the Southern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy and its operational and policy priorities. The Global Allocation will finance project cycle management (feasibility, evaluation, audits, etc.) and communication activities. It will contribute to enhance the quality of the programmes as well as to better understanding of the European Union reputation, policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Article 24 of the NDICI states that Union financing may cover support expenditure for the implementation of the Instrument 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 programme, and to manage operations financed under the Instrument, including information and communication actions, and corporate information technology systems.

When support expenditure is not included in the action plans or measures, the Commission shall adopt, where applicable, support measures. 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

Short problem analysis

Delegations and services in charge of managing programmes need support at the different levels of programme cycle. Identification, monitoring, evaluation and audits as well as communication on the European Union actions and organisation of meetings will be covered by this support measure.

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

The citizens of the Southern Neighbourhood countries are the final beneficiaries of this action. The support to programming and management of actions will ensure the necessary analysis and preparation allowing for efficient project implementation; the studies, information and communication actions as well as meetings will enhance the visibility and understanding of external actions funded by the EU.

2.3. Additional Areas of Assessment [for Budget Support Actions only]

N/A

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to ensure a swift preparation of actions and projects, while enabling the European Commission to act with flexibility by means of an instrument which is capable of adapting itself to evolving circumstances and/or dealing with unforeseen situations. Besides, this action will help the European Commission explain and communicate on its activities to the Southern Neighbourhood citizens' audience.

The Specifics Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are:

1. to allow analysis and preparatory studies to help elaborating relevant and impactful programmes as well as evaluation and audits for lessons learnt and ex-ante control purposes
2. to contribute to better understanding of the European Union's reputation, policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood.

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): Number of PCM contracts.
- 2.1 contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2): Number of Communication contracts and meetings.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1: identification and feasibility studies, evaluation, audits

Activities related to Output 2.1: awareness raising campaign, communication products, meetings and conferences.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Outcomes of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening (relevant for budget support and strategic-level interventions).

N/A

Outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project).

N/A

Outcome of the Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project).

N/A

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G0⁵. In this action, as a means for multi-purposes analysis and activities, gender equality is not targeted.

Human Rights

In this action, as a means for multi-purposes analysis and activities, gender equality is not targeted.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0.

⁵ Principal objective / significant objective/ not targeted.

Democracy

In this action, as a means for multi-purposes analysis and activities, democracy is not targeted.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

In this action, as a means for multi-purposes analysis and activities, this aspect is not targeted.

Disaster Risk Reduction

In this action, as a means for multi-purposes analysis and activities, this aspect is not targeted.

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learned

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
No risks identified - the nature of the global allocation is to allow the Commission headquarters and delegations to plan, implement and follow up activities in a flexible way. The previous experience and use of the global allocation (since 2007 under ENPI and ENI) confirms the need for this tool.				

Lessons Learned:

The global allocation is a tried and tested measure under the former instruments, ENPI and ENI, allowing Commission headquarters and delegations to plan and implement cooperation related activities in a flexible way. The previous and ongoing experience and use of the global allocation confirm both the nature of the needs and the extent of its financing.

3.5. Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic for this action is that the Commission headquarters and delegations in the Neighbourhood South countries may use the global allocation funds depending on the needs arising during the year. At the beginning of the year, delegations and headquarters services prepare an initial annual plan stating the indicative need for funding in relation to project cycle management, implementation, follow-up, monitoring, studies, evaluations and audits as well as information and communication activities. The plan is updated throughout the year when needs occur. This facility is therefore managed in a flexible way.

3.6. Indicative Logical Framework Matrix

PROJECT MODALITY (3 levels of results / indicators / Source of Data / Assumptions - no activities).

Results	Results chain: Main expected results [maximum 10 @1]	Indicators [it least one indicator per expected result @1]	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to ensure a swift preparation of actions and projects, while enabling the European Commission to act with flexibility by means of an instrument which is capable of adapting itself to evolving circumstances and/or dealing with unforeseen situations. Besides, this action will help the European Commission explain and communicate on its activities to the Southern Neighbourhood citizens' audience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extent to which the Commission headquarters and delegations report on support received from the global allocation. 2. Level of quality of programme documents, evaluations and appraisal of projects and programmes. 3. Level of monitoring and follow-up of programmes. 4. Level of visibility of external actions funded by the EU 	1 2	1 2	1 2	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	Allowed analysis and preparatory studies to help elaborating relevant and impactful programmes as well as evaluation and audits for lessons learnt and ex ante control purposes	1.1 Number of analysis, studies and evaluation conducted	1.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	1.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	1.1 CRIS 1.2 HQ managed report	
Outcome 2	Contributed to better understanding of the European Union policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood.	2.1 Number of communication activities and meetings	2.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	2.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	2.1 CRIS 2.2 HQ managed report	

Output 1 related to Outcome 1	PCM contracts	1.1.1 Number of PCM contracts	1.1.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	EUR 10 000 000.00 per year contracted	1.1.1 CRIS	
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	Communication contracts and meetings	2.1.1 Number of Communication contracts and meetings	2.1.1 N/A, as long as the Global allocation is fully committed	EUR 5 000 000.00 per year contracted	2.1.1 CRIS	

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with any 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 by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

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 measures⁶.

4.3.1. Direct Management (Grants)

a) Purpose of the grant(s)

To allow analysis and preparatory studies to help elaborating relevant and impactful programmes as well as evaluation and audits for lessons learnt and ex ante control purposes.

To contribute to better understanding of the European Union policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood.

b) Type of applicants targeted

NGOs, think-tanks, universities and research centres.

4.3.2. Direct Management (Prize(s))

(a) Purpose of the prize: rewarding human rights activists, democracy advocates, journalists upholding freedom of speech and free press, inter alia, contributing to a positive image of the UE as universal values defender.

(b) The type of participants targeted: journalists, writers, artists, activists, civil society representatives, students, inter alia.

4.3.3. Direct Management (Procurement)

To allow analysis and preparatory studies to help elaborating relevant and impactful programmes as well as evaluation and audits for lessons learnt and ex ante control purposes.

To contribute to better understanding of the European Union policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood.

⁶ www.sanctionsmap.eu 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.

4.4. 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 2021 (in EUR)	EU contribution 2022 (in EUR)	EU contribution 2023 (in EUR)
Objective to allow analysis and preparatory studies to help elaborating relevant and impactful programmes as well as evaluation and audits for lessons learnt and ex ante control purposes composed of:	10 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000
Procurement (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.3	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000
Objective to contribute to better understanding of the European Union reputation, policies and programmes to the audience in the Southern Neighbourhood composed of:	5 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000
Prize (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.2	500 000	500 000	500 000
Grants (direct management) – c.f. section 4.3.1	500 000	500 000	500 000
Procurement (direct management) – c.f. section 4.3.3	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision	will be covered by another Decision	will be covered by another Decision
Communication and visibility – cf. section 6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Totals	15 000 000	15 000 000	15 000 000

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The global allocation is distributed yearly based on needs expressed by the EU Delegations at the beginning of each year. Mid-year updates allow fine-tuning the management of the allocation and the optimal use of the budget. Final distribution is ensured by the Headquarters.

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.

4.7. Pre-conditions

None.

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 results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

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

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

The Headquarters services managing the global allocation will regularly monitor the use of the global allocation and adjust through regular updates based on needs and absorption capacity by users.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, an evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components.

The Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partners.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁷. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing Decision.

⁷ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

5.3. Audit and Verifications

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

6. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

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

To that end they must comply with the instructions given in the [Communication and Visibility Requirements of 2018](#) (as updated by the communication and visibility requirements in force under the 2021-2027 programming), notably with regard to the use of the EU emblem and the elaboration of a dedicated communication and visibility plan, to be completed for every action at the start of implementation.

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

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

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

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

For communicating on Team Europe Initiatives, the EU and its Member States can rely on the specific guidance on the Team Europe visual identity:

This action already includes activities meant for supporting communication of the EU Delegations and the Commission Headquarters and in particular visibility of EU's policies and activities to the Southern Neighbourhood audience. Action plans will be devised at country level through respective communication contracts, wherever relevant.