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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.12.2021

on the financing of the individual measure “EU response to the multiple crisis and support to a people-centred recovery in Lebanon” in favour of Lebanon for 2021

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947², of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe and amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 23(3).

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the “EU response to the multiple crisis and support to a people-centred recovery in Lebanon” for 2021, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing Decision, which constitutes the annual work programme for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (“Financial Regulation”) establishes detailed rules on financing Decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The new Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) EU-Lebanon will be aligned with the 2021-2027 Partnership Priorities, currently under discussion. Meanwhile, the 2016-2020 Partnership Priorities have been extended⁴. If need be following the adoption of the MIP, this individual measure will be modified to align with the MIP. The 2016-2020 Partnership Priorities are the following: (i) Security and Counter-terrorism, (ii) Governance and Rule of Law, (iii) Migration and Mobility, (iv) Fostering Growth and Job opportunities.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ 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 ST 11124/21

- (4) Pursuant to article 23(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, the adoption of this individual measure is justified in order to maintain EU response to the needs of the lebanese population.
- (5) The objectives pursued by this individual measure to be financed under the Neighbourhood geographic programme of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 are to mitigate the impacts of the current crisis in Lebanon.
- (6) The action entitled ‘EU response to the multiple crisis and support to a people-centred recovery in Lebanon’ seeks at supporting a people centred recovery and improving human rights, while strengthening relevant systems and reinforcing the role and oversight of civil society in line with the priorities outlined in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) for Lebanon.
- (7) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the measure.
- (9) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (10) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (11) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The annual financing Decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the individual measure “EU response to the multiple crisis and support to a people-centred recovery in Lebanon” in favour of Lebanon for 2021, as set out in the Annexe, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2021 is set at EUR 46 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14.020110 of the general budget of the Union.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.3 of the Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases⁵ or decreases of up to EUR 10 million and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated reassignments of funds between actions contained in an action plan not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph acting in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Article 5
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex

Grants may be awarded to the bodies selected in accordance with point 4.3.1.3 of the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 14.12.2021

For the Commission
Olivér VÁRHELYI
Member of the Commission

⁵ These changes can come from external assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing Decision.



EN

THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX

of the Commission implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measure “EU response to the multiple crisis and support to a people-centred recovery in Lebanon” in favour of Lebanon for 2021

Action Document for EU response to the multiple crises and support to a people centred recovery in Lebanon

ANNUAL MEASURE

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, and measure in the sense of Article 23(3) of NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS Basic Act	EU response to the multiple crises and support to a people centred recovery in Lebanon Annual measure in favour of Lebanon for 2021 CRIS number: NDICI-GEO-NEAR/2021/043-608 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried out in Lebanon
4. Programming document	N.A.
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	N.A.
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	N.A.
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 10: reduced inequalities Significant SDGs: - SDG 1: No Poverty

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – SDG 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – SDG 8: promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all; – SDG 16: promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; – SDG 17: strengthening the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development; 			
8 a) DAC code(s)	15160 Human rights (10%), 15130 Legal and judicial development (5%), 32130 Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development (20%); 15110 Public sector policy administrative management (12%); 25030 Business development services (20%); 16020 Employment creation (10%); 15150 Democratic participation and civil society (17%); 15210 Security system management reform (2%); 43060 Disaster risk reduction (4%)			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	20000 – Non Governmental organisations (NGOs) and Civil society 21000 International NGOs 40000 Multilateral organisations			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development ¹ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade development	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ 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.

	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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
	Digitalisation Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Connectivity 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"/>
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020110 - Southern Neighbourhood Total estimated cost: EUR 46 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 46 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Implementation modalities (type of financing and management mode)	Project Modality Direct management through: - Grants - Procurement Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.3			

1.2. Summary of the Action

Lebanon is enduring a severe and prolonged economic depression. According to the June 2021 World Bank Lebanon Economic Monitor, the economic and financial crisis is likely to rank in the top 10, possibly top 3, most severe crises episodes globally since the mid-nineteenth century. In the face of colossal challenges, continuous policy inaction and the absence of a fully functioning executive authority to implement reform threaten already dire socio-economic conditions and a fragile social peace with no clear turning point in the horizon.

Owing to continuous policy inaction and the absence of a fully functioning executive authority to implement reform, the World Bank estimates that in 2020 real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contracted by 20.3 percent, on the back of a 6.7 percent contraction in 2019 and that more than half the population is likely below the national poverty line, with the bulk of the labour force - paid in Lebanese Pound (LBP) - suffering from plummeting purchasing power.

This action aims at contributing to mitigate the impacts of the current crisis; supporting a people centred recovery and improving human rights, while strengthening relevant systems and reinforcing the role and oversight of civil society in line with the priorities outlined in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) for Lebanon.

The 3RF has been developed jointly by the EU, United Nations (UN) and World Bank (WB) and launched in December 2020 in response to the Beirut Port explosion of 4 August 2020 and in response to the growing multidimensional crises Lebanon is currently experiencing. The 3RF is supported and used as a forum for active policy dialogue by international donors² to formulate the most effective and collective response to the multidimensional crisis. This action consists of four strategic components, as follows:

- Component 1 – Support access to justice and restorative measures: in support of Justice and Human Rights activities under the 3RF, improving access to justice and independent oversight mechanisms through the National Human Rights Commission, the Bar Associations, in cooperation with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academia and actors of the judicial system; providing legal aid and support to victims of the Beirut Port explosion and to vulnerable groups in conflict with the law, including developing restorative criminal justice responses and preventing violent extremism.
- Component 2 – Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses: a two pronged approach aims at (i) mitigating direct impact of the Port explosion on businesses and vulnerable people by supporting business to resume essential activities and retain their workforce, and providing social services and strengthening institutional arrangements for multi-stakeholder dialogue; and (ii) increasing SME competitiveness within selected key economic sectors with potential to grow sustainably and create employment.
- Component 3 - Social inclusion and cohesion: fostering social inclusion and cohesion contributing to Lebanon's stabilisation and enabling economic recovery by providing responses to reduce social and political tensions within and among communities and maintaining social cohesion at community level building consensus among stakeholders from various background within EU community-based development programmes.
- Component 4 – Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery: improving accountability of national institutions responsible for security and safety of the population, in particular with regards to more effective disaster management and governance of the Beirut Port, as well as strengthening maritime management for economic recovery.

² Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, United States, United Kingdom, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction.

The action addresses EU priorities set out in the New EU Agenda for the Mediterranean³, which aims for a resilient and just recovery guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The action includes relevant aspects of the European Green Deal⁴.

Furthermore, the action follows a rights-based approach, encompassing all human rights, including the five working principles⁵ that will be applied at all stages of implementation. It will also promote meaningful and active participation of women in planning and decision making to ensure an inclusive recovery process, cover the needs, interests, and priorities of both women and men to ensure gender-sensitive programming, service delivery and support gender sensitive policies and address gender gaps.

Finally, the action promotes legally binding international standards to promote the respect of democracy, fundamental rights and the rule of law, accompanied by political dialogue. The action promotes monitoring the application of those values and advocates for corrective measures; the action addresses the priorities and recommendations identified in 2021 EU conflict analysis.

³ A new Agenda for the Mediterranean (JOIN(2021) (2 final).

⁴ European Green Deal, COM(2019)640. Brussels, 11.12.2019

⁵ Legality, universality and indivisibility of human rights; Participation and access to the decision-making process; Non-discrimination and equal access; Accountability and access to the rule of law; Transparency and access to information.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

Lebanon is enduring a severe and prolonged economic depression. According to the June 2021 World Bank (WB) Lebanon Economic Monitor (LEM)⁶ the economic and financial crisis is likely to rank in the top 10, possibly top 3, most severe crises episodes globally since the mid-nineteenth century. In the face of colossal challenges, continuous policy inaction and the absence of a fully functioning executive authority to implement reform threaten already dire socio-economic conditions and a fragile social peace with no clear turning point in the horizon. For over a year and a half, Lebanon has been facing compounded challenges: its largest peace-time economic and financial crisis, COVID-19 and the Port of Beirut explosion. As the LEM of Fall 2020 already laid-out, policy responses by Lebanon's leadership to these challenges have been highly inadequate. The inadequacy is less due to knowledge gaps and quality advice and more the result of: i) a lack of political consensus over effective policy initiatives; and ii) political consensus in defence of a bankrupt economic system, which benefited a few for so long. With a history of a prolonged civil war and multiple conflicts— Lebanon is identified by the World Bank as a Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) State - there is growing wariness of potential triggers to social unrest.

Lebanon with weak public institutions and poor quality public services is prey to deeply-rooted confessional divisions. The inefficiencies in the public administration results in citizens and businesses losing time and resources, and provides ample opportunities for corruption. Furthermore, the political system is designed to reinforce multi-confessional co-existence through checks and balances that provide for short-term stability but restricts the scope for reform. Corruption is widespread in public and private sectors and infiltrates all levels of society, as reflected by the country's global and regional average performances scores in most areas of governance. In addition, the limited role played by civil society at policy level renders the adoption and implementation of key government reform policies difficult.

The WB estimates that in 2020 real GDP contracted by 20.3 percent, on the back of a 6.7 percent contraction in 2019. In fact, Lebanon's GDP plummeted from close to USD55 billion in 2018 to an estimated USD33 billion in 2020, while GDP per capita fell by around 40 percent in dollar terms. Such a brutal contraction is usually associated with conflicts or wars. Monetary and financial conditions remain highly volatile; within the context of a multiple exchange rate system, the World Bank average exchange rate depreciated by 129 percent in 2020. The effect on prices have resulted in surging inflation, averaging 84.3 percent in 2020. Subject to extraordinarily high uncertainty, real GDP is projected to contract by a further 9.5 percent in 2021.

Conditions in the financial sector continue to deteriorate, while a consensus among key stakeholders on the burden-sharing of losses has proved elusive. The burden of the ongoing adjustment/deleveraging in the financial sector is highly regressive, concentrated on smaller depositors, the bulk of the labour force and smaller businesses.

Furthermore, more than half the population is likely below the national poverty line, with the bulk of the labour force - paid in Lebanese Pound (LBP) - suffering from plummeting purchasing power. With the unemployment rate severely on the rise, an increasing share of households is facing difficulty in accessing basic services, including electricity, health care, water supply/sanitation and education.

⁶ <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/394741622469174252/pdf/Lebanon-Economic-Monitor-Lebanon-Sinking-to-the-Top-3.pdf>.

Prior to the port explosion, Lebanon was already going through a deep economic, financial and social crisis. The eruption of the conflict in Syria exposed Lebanon's economic vulnerabilities, increasing pressure on already depleted natural resources and strongly affecting a lacking environmental management system, followed by public financial mismanagement, large macroeconomic imbalances, and deteriorating social indicators, all exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to these multidimensional crises, including in particular the Beirut Port explosion of 4 August 2020, the European Union (EU), jointly with the United Nations (UN) and World Bank (WB) developed in close cooperation with civil society, Lebanon's government and the international community the Reform, Recovery, Reconstruction Framework (3RF)⁷, which was launched in December 2020. It is a people-centred recovery and reconstruction framework to put Lebanon on the path of sustainable development focussing on essential actions, such as addressing the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations and small businesses affected by the crisis.

The 3RF takes a people-centered approach to recovery focusing on essential policy actions and support to address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations and small businesses affected by the explosion and the multiple crisis in the country. This people-centered support will largely rely on clear progress on immediate policy action to facilitate recovery, such as the adoption of appropriate actions plans and institutional measures. A new government under Prime Minister Mikati has been announced on 10 September 2021 following several months of political deadlock. The international community positioned such formation as a necessary first step for the implementation of the needed reforms to address the multiple crisis.

The 3RF relies on a new partnership and inclusive institutional arrangements that brings together the government, international partners, civil society, and private sector, underpinned by strong inter-ministerial coordination. A civil society led independent oversight board monitors 3RF implementation progress, provides periodic reports disclosed to the public and presented to the governing bodies and receives complaints and feedback from beneficiaries and citizens and report on its findings. In 2020 and 2021, the EU is co-chairing the Consultative Group, which acts as strategic sounding board of the 3RF.

The action addresses a subset of, and is fully aligned with the four strategic pillars of the 3RF: (i) improving governance and accountability, (ii) jobs and opportunities, (iii) social protection, inclusion and culture, and (iv) improving services and infrastructure.

Concerning *governance and accountability*, component 1 of this action addresses the slow pace of meaningful reforms and the lack of sufficient resources (i.e. human and financial allocations). Lebanon lacks functioning judicial assistance programmes, which hampers low-income persons exercising their right to seek the courts. Moreover, Lebanese legislation sets legal limits in criminal and civil cases that are not respected by the courts. In practice, the presumption of innocence is abrogated by long-term pre-trial detentions. There are gaps in the respect of fair trial principles which require the further strengthening of oversight mechanisms and checks-and-balances.

The weaknesses of the legal system were also exposed in the aftermath of the Beirut port explosion, when the international community called for the conduct of a transparent investigation on the causes of the explosion within a reasonable timeframe. Almost one year later, the EU regretted that no decision-maker in the country has so far been questioned, indicted, tried, or convicted. For many Lebanese, this is yet another sign that respect for judicial procedures and the independence of the judiciary is lacking.

⁷ The 3RF provides a roadmap to operationalise the finding of the Rapid Damage Needs Assessment (RDNA) and other assessment carried out in response to the devastating port explosion where a large amount of ammonium nitrate caused at least 210 deaths, reported missing persons, and more than 6,500 injured.

The problems are sector-wide and concern various law enforcement actors across the criminal justice chain, from arrest to imprisonment: insufficient co-ordination between the police and judicial authorities; culture of using detention in custody and imprisonment as measure of first resort; lack of alternative measures to detention and probations tools, confession-based instead of evidence-based prosecution system; inefficient judiciary; insufficient safeguards to ensure victims' rights, right to fair trial and access to justice, etc. Inter-institutional cooperation among judicial institutions, law enforcement authorities, intelligences services and penitentiary system across the criminal justice chain needs to be strengthened, including in tackling radicalisation and violent extremism.

Component 2 of this action support *jobs and opportunities*. Following the Port explosion the WB established in 2020 a multi-donor trust fund - Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF), to support a number of priorities under the 3RF. The objectives of the LFF include supporting the immediate socio-economic recovery of vulnerable populations and businesses affected by the Beirut Port explosion. It will also support the government to catalyse reforms and prepare for medium-term recovery and reconstruction. Under the LFF, a Partnership Council (PC) has been established to provide strategic guidance and direction on its objectives and priorities, and its implementation, and review progress. The PC is co-chaired by the WB and EU. Contributions to the LFF are driven by European donors including from the EU (AAP 2020), Denmark, Germany, France, and potentially Italy and Croatia.

In parallel to urgent socio-economic recovery, the private sector in Lebanon is a key actor for rebuilding the economy, creating jobs and preventing the brain drain. The productive sector has been in decline for many years with more than 80% of consumption being imported. The unofficial devaluation of the LBP and the difficulties on accessing hard currency are severely restricting imports while at the same time providing an opportunity to substitute some of them through local production. Local manufacture must however improve its quality and efficiency, and many companies are turning to innovation to do that. It is, therefore, important that industrial manufacturing companies are supported to modernise and diversify so as to be able to tap into the opportunities presented by the crisis and build a larger market share domestically and internationally. Innovation remains fundamental to achieving this objective, however innovation and technology development in Lebanon are significantly constrained with many companies failing to invest in upgrading processes or equipment, research and development or competitive enhancing initiatives.

Concerning *social protection, inclusion and culture*, component 3 of this action addresses tensions rooted in the Lebanese society and exacerbated by the current crisis where people with different background are at risk of being further divided. In October 2019, Lebanese citizens from various social, political, religious and economic background came together calling for the opportunity to build social cohesion for a common safe, prosperous and healthy environment as an entitlement for which they hold public authorities accountable. In October 2019, Lebanese citizens protested against the country's political system enshrined in the 1943 National Pact and reaffirmed in the "Taif Accords" (1989) that ended the Lebanese civil war. The objective of the agreements was to abolish political sectarianism and build a modern state but instead reinforced the deeply rooted confessional. Corruption, lack of competence, and social injustice have demolished the existing social contract. The Beirut Port explosion on 4 August 2020 triggered again more tension and mistrust between the different communities mainly along the sectarian and political divides, as well as between the Lebanese citizens and the government. A re-shaped social contract and new thinking about national and collective identity across confessions is warranted.

Concerning the *improvement of services and infrastructure*, component 4 deals with disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery recognising the crisis conditions render the country more prone to safety and security incidents requiring disaster response measures to be stepped up.

The Beirut Port explosion and more recently in Akkar exposed the disruptive potential on societies and economies of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) events. EU assistance on CBRN has helped the immediate response to manmade and natural disasters in the country: Lebanon activated the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and the CBRN regiment of the Lebanese Army deployed a team on site to detect the nature of the chemicals and limit health danger for the population.

In relation to the port, maritime transport plays a pivotal role in Lebanon's economy. However the revenues of the Port of Beirut – the main commercial port - witnessed a decline of over 10 percent in 2019. Moreover, according to statistics released by the Port of Beirut, in the period August 2019 – August 2020 freight activity declined by over 35 percent reaching 2 895 000 tons in the first eight months of 2020, compared to 4 695 000 tons in the same period in the previous year. During the same period loss in revenues accounted for 62,41M USD.

These figures are a worrying indicator not only of the country's economic situation but also of the economic impact of the widespread corruption at the harbour, a microcosm of a dysfunctional state. Tons of ammonium nitrate stored in a warehouse for at least six years, represents a systemic failure of port accountability and a breakdown of the ability to control in a secure mean port facilities and storage. Corruption smooths regular smuggling of drugs and weapons: consistent quantities of captagon and hashish to Europe and Gulf States have been seized at the Lebanese seaports, hidden in big containers of tradable goods. Drugs and arms trafficking is a source of financing terrorism activities around the region and the world.

Finally, the latest EU conflict analysis, recommends to enhance security institutions' capacities to counter violent incidents and strengthen the management of borders as well as maritime safety and security, due to the deteriorating socio-economic situation and a potential increase of irregular migration and illegal traffic.

2.2. Problem Analysis

Component 1 – Support access to justice and restorative measures

The Lebanese criminal justice system is characterised by limited human, financial, and technical resources. In the absence of a state budgetary allocation, the provision of legal aid services (i.e. counselling and court representation) continues to rely on the Bar Associations, civil society organisations and international donors. Lebanon lacks a formal judicial assistance program, which hinders low-income persons exercising their right to seek the courts.

So far, the Parliament has not approved the pending draft-law on the organisation of the judiciary. The EU supported the drafting of a comprehensive draft law through the non-governmental organisations (NGO) Legal Agenda that aims to make the judicial branch independent and transparent. Comprehensive policy reforms are yet to be introduced to establish functional judicial, penitentiary and criminal justice systems and further align legislative and institutional frameworks to International and European standards.

Even though torture and ill-treatment are prohibited by Lebanese law, in practice both are still common, especially during interrogations at police stations. Many confessions are made under torture, denying detainees the right to a fair trial. Human rights-based training to police officers remains therefore a high priority.

Furthermore, the Lebanese penitentiary system suffers from limited resources and organisational weaknesses, poor infrastructure, an increasing prison population (overcrowding), a lack of specialised personnel nor adequate training and a deficit of transparency and accountability. Prisons are not administered according to international standards (i.e. prisons' management, sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, healthcare services), especially considering that only two of them were initially designed to accommodate convicts. The overcrowding of prisons has put an additional strain on the already poor social services inside the prisons. The overall environment is not conducive to the rehabilitation of the prisoners, nor to tackle radicalisation and violent extremism in prisons including on prevention, rehabilitation, disengagement, de-radicalisation and reintegration. The space available is increasingly limited, hygiene is appalling, and the lack of a classification system results in pre-trial detainees and convicted inmates being mixed up with no separation either on the basis of their criminal records. This is particularly difficult in Rehabilitation programmes and vocational training do exist but the offer needs to be enhanced as it currently depends mostly on donors' contributions.

Law 138/2019 on Community Orders offers the possibility for sentenced adults to carry out community work for offences entailing less than one year of imprisonment. Around 10% (340 prisoners) could already benefit in case prosecutors and judges would become more confident on the benefits and capacities of using alternative measures instead of pre-trial detention and sentence of imprisonment. However, despite being a step in the right direction, the law contains serious flaws that undermine its sustainable implementation, particularly with regard to the high number of community service days, which deems it could amount to cheap forced labour.

Another challenge faced is the increase in number of children, mostly boys, some of which with offenses related to violent extremism, including terrorism. Children with offences related to violent extremism including terrorism are trailed at the Military Court in contradiction to law 422/2002 titled “Protection of Children in Violation of the Law or Exposed to Danger” addressing the functions of juvenile courts which highlight that the detention should be at last resort. Indeed, only after the investigation process and the distribution of charges, children cases are referred to the Juvenile Court for sentencing and follow up for social reintegration purposes.

Main stakeholders and target groups

Government and law enforcement services: Internal Security Forces (ISF) are the core of what constitutes the internal security system and a civilian police force in charge amongst others of managing civilian prisons for men, women and children under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities. ISF's mandate has a strong emphasis on providing state security, in the area of prisons ISF officers have traditionally favoured a punitive-oriented approach over actions more orientated towards the rehabilitation and social reintegration of the individuals incarcerated.

Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs, and Ministry of Public Health are also key stakeholders as they are strategic actors, for instance, for the establishment and operationalisation of effective data collection systems and referral mechanisms. Its mandate is to organise all matters regarding children in conflict with the law, thus playing a lead role in ensuring their access to justice. The Ministry of Justice co-operates with relevant line ministries as well as civil society to run educational/vocational programmes for young offenders in prison aiming at their social reintegration and vulnerable children at risk and in need of protection.

Judiciary: the judiciary has not been able to alleviate the pressure on the prison's system due to a number of reasons such as the insufficient number of judges and their limited technical capacities – specially at first instance level which results in a high number of appeals-, the slow pace of the legal proceedings and even recurrent judicial strikes that slow down even more the processing of judicial cases. Such judicial constraints coupled with a culture within the police services and the judiciary of resorting firstly and primarily to detention and imprisonment of individuals are amongst the root causes of the high levels of lengthy pre-trial detention of suspects and the aggravated overcrowding in places of detention. Furthermore, judicial inspections lack of

independence and accountability and criminal justice proceedings lack of efficiency. The judiciary is widely perceived as being clearly prone to political interference and having limited independence.

Bar Associations: access to justice in Lebanon is compromised by the limited availability of legal aid and public defender programs, high court costs, and large sectors of the population in need of legal representation. The Bar Associations have Legal Aid Committees to provide legal representation for the indigent in civil and criminal cases. The existing scheme is funded by the Bar, however the available resources are limited.

Independent oversight institutions: two other relevant actors for the programme are the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) and, at a second level, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). So far, no further steps were taken to operationalise the NHRC and the NPM. Since the last years' appointment of its members and a submission of by-laws, both bodies are not yet fully operational. The authorities have not issued needed decrees or allocated a budget to fulfil their mandate in an independent and effective manner. The proposed programme plans to help implement their legal mandate in an effective manner as per best international standards.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs): the role of NGOs specialised and active in the area of prisons is mostly oriented to service delivery. Yet, there exist CSOs with the required technical capacities to also engage effectively in monitoring, advocacy and policy formulation on aspects such as detention conditions and prisoners' rights. In addition, in line with the EU Council conclusions on EU External Action on Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism (June 2020), CSOs work should focus on strengthening the resilience against radicalisation which leads to violent extremism and terrorism. Their involvement in the implementation of this programme will therefore be sought.

Relevance and credibility of partner country

Component 1 aims at providing legal assistance, and advancing oversight and strengthening restorative measures supporting the implementation of recent initiatives/commitments of the Lebanese authorities.

EU Added Value

The action component replies to priorities highlighted in the new Agenda for the Mediterranean in particular: “Good governance and the respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, democratic institutions and the rule of law are foundations of the EU” and “Major security threats such as terrorism, cyber and hybrid threats as well as organised crime, such as, trade of illegal firearms, trafficking in human beings, drug trafficking and money laundering are key challenges and can only be addressed through joint efforts. Building on existing cooperation, notably on law enforcement, we need to step up our efforts on the prevention of radicalisation and on capacity building to address violent extremism, recruitment on-line and prevention of cyber terrorism.”

In line with the “EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy for 2020-2024”, the EU will continue to work with partners in Lebanon to ensure that human rights are guaranteed for all and to foster inclusive governance. Well-functioning, fair, transparent and accountable civil and judicial administration can help increase sustainability, reduce inequality and enhance well-being for all people.

The component is supporting the Lebanon 3RF in particular needs in the field of justice and human rights. The component will also support the implementation of EU acquis in procedural and victim's rights, as well as Council of Europe standards and best practices in the field of judicial reform, criminal justice and fundamental rights.

Complementarity with EU and other donors/partners:

The proposed intervention has been designed based on reflections, lessons learned and experiences from implementing this and other relevant EU programmes in the justice and security areas. It will seek synergies with all relevant EU criminal justice actions funded through bilateral and thematic budget lines and other donors particularly. Close co-ordination will be undertaken to ensure synergy of efforts.

Component 2 – Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

The Port of Beirut explosion amplified the impact of the already ongoing economic, financial and health crisis on the productive sector. Prior to the explosion, businesses were facing severe challenges due to a lack of liquidity, a severe shortage of dollars, informal capital controls, parallel exchange rates, inability to import inputs and final goods, and interruption of operations due to lockdown. The destruction and losses caused by the explosion topped off the already weighed down productive sectors operating directly in Beirut and the surrounding region, with higher level impacts also felt due to the disruption in the value chains activities.

There is thus an urgent requirement to support the immediate and short term needs of the productive sector and its workforce, and to help restore pre blast conditions while building back better. For this, a set of priority programs are needed including: (i) a business recovery fund to provide to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) impacted by the explosion with grants, concessional loans and non-financial assistance; (ii) a livelihood and economic opportunities programme that provides short-term income opportunities for local workers and residents affected by the explosion; and (iii) technical assistance to strengthen key productive sectors and most-affected value chains in meeting the reconstruction needs.

As regards economic recovery specifically, the government would need to restore economic opportunities and livelihoods in the immediate term and to revamp business activity in the short term. In the longer term, businesses will need sustainable financing solutions; otherwise, the lack of liquidity will lead to insolvency and job destruction. Post-explosion assessments found that at least 5,000 formal business facilities have been damaged and need urgent financial assistance across all sectors: tourism, commerce and industry, creative industries, utilities, health, and education. Besides, microfinance institutions (MFIs) reported that over 5,200 borrowers were affected by the explosion. Based on the damages and losses, the needs for recovery and reconstruction of privately-owned establishments range from US\$ 370 to 460 million.

In parallel to addressing immediate short-term needs, there is also an urgent need to support those enterprises in key productive sectors throughout the country that have the potential to increase their competitiveness and make use of the opportunities presented by the current crisis in order to grow, expand and create jobs, while preventing brain drain. Improvement in efficiency, quality, market access and competitiveness are however needed, and innovation can play an essential role in helping Lebanese SMEs to seize this opportunity to develop more efficient and sustainable approaches.

The main problems affecting the innovation ecosystem in Lebanon are related to a weak culture of collaboration; lack of activities and funding available for researchers in the prototyping stage; lack of incentives and reward mechanisms; and limited activities focusing on technology transfer. There is thus a need to co-invest in activities to stimulate development and adoption of new products, processes, and expansion plans, which could have a significant beneficial impact in the economy.

Insufficient international dimension is also a limiting factor for researchers and businesses alike. Lebanese researchers need to start engaging with regional and international market players in order to explore their full potential, and businesses could benefit from collaboration with foreign researchers through international partnerships and agreements.

At the same time, economic recovery should be inclusive and transparent, with all stakeholders, namely Civil Society Organisations, playing a meaningful role in the broader reform processes and – importantly - being more systematically involved and consulted to promote a culture of integrity and enhancing transparency and accountability in all relevant corruption-prone sectors.

Main stakeholders and target groups

The main target groups of component 2 are all Lebanese citizens.

Private Sector: The effects of the blast on Beirut and, by extension, on the Lebanese economy, go far beyond the immediate vicinity of the port. The destruction of some of the largest small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the retail, trade and banking sectors, has had a dramatic impact. In an instant, an estimated 100,000 women and men working in small businesses (many of them informal) became unemployed and highly food insecure. Around 10,000 enterprises have been destroyed or put out of business (most of them in the hospitality sector).

The main target group may consist as well of growth oriented, innovative Lebanese SMEs which are selected on the basis of their potential and capacity to grow and expand by adopting and developing sustainable innovative products and services. A second important target group is composed of researchers and research institutions (Universities, etc.) mostly in Lebanon but also in Europe, which have the skills, capacities and willingness to collaborate with Lebanese industry in promoting sustainable and greener innovative solutions.

Civil Society Organisations: Lebanon has a vibrant, diverse and active civil society, representing a wide range of voices in reform and development debates, particularly on the vulnerable and marginalised population, while also taking responsibility for the delivery of services. They represent Lebanese citizens calling for better services delivery, reform, political accountability and transparency. Emerging CSOs and Lebanese citizens, both men and women, were mainly those involved in the current protests and those which came first in support to early recovery in the areas affected by the blast.

In spite of the liberal CSO environment in Lebanon compared to other countries in the region, CSOs face legal, financial and political constraints. They suffer from weak institutional capacity, low performance, and limited competence in policy development. In addition, the absence of dialogue and interaction among CSOs and between CSOs and the government limits the impact that civil society could have on the reform agenda, including on the fight against corruption. Civil Society will be the main stakeholder and final beneficiary of the action and will have an essential role to play as watchdog, by leading an independent Oversight Body to monitor the 3RF implementation progress.

Relevance and credibility of partner country

A number of strategies and economic plans in support of general economic recovery, and private sector in particular, have been prepared in recent years by successive governments. The more relevant ones are the 2014 "Lebanon SME Strategy: a Roadmap to 2020"; the 2017 study aimed at setting a vision for Lebanon's economy under the title 'Lebanon's Economic Vision, and ways to achieve it' (the McKinsey report); and more recently a Government Economic Plan was produced by the Ministry of Economy and Trade in September 2020. Despite the relevance of many of these documents, which emphasise the need to diversify the economy and support productive sectors, very little of them, if anything, has been implemented.

On 10 September 2021 a new Government was nominated. It will take some time to find out if they are more committed to reforms than previous ones, but in any case the economic and financial situation of the country will not make their task easy. On the other hand Parliamentary elections are scheduled for May 2022, which could potentially represent a substantial change to the status quo. Given these uncertainties this component should remain as flexible as possible.

On 1 October 2020, in response to the explosion, the Parliament adopted a law aiming to protect the areas and the population affected by the Beirut blast and to support reconstruction. The law sets up a committee in order to follow up the damage assessments and the reconstruction.

EU Added Value

The EU is a world leader in innovation, research and development, with ample successful experiences in promoting innovation and linkages between SMEs and research institutions. The European experience in leveraging the potential of innovation for economic development will be capitalised by this action, adapting it to the Lebanese context. Alignment to the existing Lebanese strategic documents mentioned in section above

will be further reinforced and strengthened by the intended linkages that the action will facilitate between Lebanese and European SMEs and knowledge providers.

Complementarity with EU and other donors/partners

For the purpose of ensuring complementarity, synergy and coordination, the Commission may sign or enter into joint donor coordination declarations or statements and may participate in donor coordination structures, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union.

The European Green Deal is the backbone of the new programming phase and the EU's policy response to the environmental degradation that comes with economic activities. Although playing an important role for each element of the European Green Deal, research and innovation will be central in the industrial strategy for a clean and circular economy. Innovation in circular economy and in energy are fundamental aspects of the Green Deal: moving to circularity requires novel materials and products with new design, new technologies and production processes. Using less material and high impact materials to get the same or higher utility from products is an important part of the shift to circularity. Innovation is crucial to fill knowledge gaps and develop specific technological solutions that can make Lebanese SMEs more competitive but also more sustainable, reducing their environmental and carbon footprint. Innovation allows for low-carbon solutions, promoting carbon neutrality.

The New EU Agenda for the Mediterranean⁸ aims for a green, digital, resilient and just recovery, guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and the European Green Deal. The EU Agenda highlights the importance of research and innovation. The document also recognises the fundamental role that SMEs play in sustainable economies, contributing to over 60 percent of total formal employment in the region.

Accompanying the new Agenda, the Economic and Investment Plan for Southern Neighbours⁹ proposes a regional flagship programme to help strengthen the *set of interconnected actors who contribute to driving innovation at the local, national, and regional levels* (i.e. innovation ecosystems). To the extent possible this component will try to make linkages with this flagship programme.

Component 3 - Social inclusion and cohesion

The system of confessional governance in Lebanon has come under strong criticism by the population. The 15 years of civil war in Lebanon resulted in a deeply divided society cut across sectarian and political lines. The same political leaders who were fully engaged in the civil war in Lebanon are still leading many of the largest political parties thus gaining the largest representation in the Lebanese Parliament. Lebanon is since then in a deeply divided society across sectarian and political lines, with a severe economic and financial crisis which has now reached an unprecedented level and the impact of which is felt most severely by the marginalised, minorities and vulnerable segments of the population. There is still much to be done on social cooperation at national and notably community level where citizens from different societal groups, political and religious backgrounds could come together across communities to challenge the issues that affect them. Such kind of dialogue and cooperation could promote the conditions for social cohesion in Lebanon.

Restoring trust of Lebanese citizens in the state is difficult to achieve without the government's will and ability to deliver on basic people's needs, upholding the rights of the people, and moving forward with necessary public sector reforms in the country. The prevailing absence of trust coupled with the existing lack of social cohesion and a vision for Lebanon's future can hamper recovery and economic growth. Moreover, rebuilding trust in government would reinforce the need for re-shaping the social contract between Lebanese citizens and the State, a need addressed throughout the uprising movements since 17 October 2019. For this, new ideas

⁸ A new Agenda for the Mediterranean (JOIN(2021) 2 final).

⁹ SWD(2021) 23

and narratives on topics of common interests (e.g. environment, cultural, public goods, ...) need to be developed and discussed across communities.

In the current context, Lebanon is in need to build the resilience of the Lebanese population, which is important to maintain social cohesion. There is a need to further strengthen resilience within communities to foster dialogue and exchange with a view to generate a new vision for the future of Lebanon, underpinning a re-shaped social contract and a new thinking about national identity across confessions in Lebanon; protecting citizens fundamental rights in their efforts to set up an inclusive, democratic and modern political system, economically viable, delivering on core services, providing security and stability to all its citizens, and being accountable to its electorate; reducing poverty through empowering communities to increase income generating opportunities that could boost their living standards. Reducing economic and social inequality and facilitating access to public goods (e.g. access to Social Development Centers, Public Health Centers) at national and community level can improve both inclusive growth and social cohesion among Lebanese citizens.

Main stakeholders and target groups

The main target groups of the component are civil society organisations, media operators, cultural operators, individual citizens with new narratives, local government, community leaders, faith-based organisations, minority groups including People with Disabilities (PWD) and LGBTQI+, women and youth groups who recognise the commonalities and diversity between the diverse Lebanese groups, as well as other entities with the required expertise in organising dialogues and platforms to foster dialogue and exchange in the political, social and cultural spheres:

Civil Society Organisations: Civil Society will be one of the stakeholders and final beneficiary of the action and will have an essential role in incorporating social cohesion into their work. Civil society organisations, mainly women and youth, will contribute to promoting culture as a strong tool to promote constructive dialogue, conflict resolution, inclusion, and to help prevent and fight radicalisation. They also contribute to building consensus around key themes associated with inclusion, accountability and identity thus backing to social cohesion and resilience of the Lebanon Society. CSOs that will be targeted will include but not be limited to, women and youth groups, organisations working with persons with disability (V) and gender based violence (GBV) survivors, faith-based groups.

Media operators: Media can mainstream social cohesion into their work. Media operators will work actively for promoting social cohesion, seek solutions to social and economic problems, highlight success stories of social cohesion (e.g. successful dialogue/cooperation with local government for long term reconciliation across sectarian divides... etc.)

Cultural operators: Cultural operators, community members, individual citizens and other operators who could contribute to fundamental change in Lebanese citizen's perceptions and convictions. They will be able to present a new narrative on a variety of topics (e.g. environmental, cultural, public goods, ...) and promote the development of a national identity across communities, accepting that they are at the same time citizens of their community, their sect and ultimately citizens of Lebanon. Cultural operators will contribute to creating bottom up initiatives fostering dialogue and generating new ideas, envisioning a vision for the future of Lebanon by stimulating exchange and consensus building around key themes associated with social cohesion and resilience of the different Lebanese societal groups.

Local Government: Municipalities will build collaborative relationships with civil society groups mainly in setting up a social accountability mechanism. Local government will be engaged in ensuring (existing/new) that EU development and livelihood programmes at community level reach most vulnerable categories and minorities. Cooperatives will be used at local level in an effort to promote social cohesion agricultural initiatives already showcased in EU-support programmes and to mainstream these lessons learned to other programmes.

The final beneficiaries of this component are all Lebanese citizens, as individuals, across cultural divides, or involved in the local governance. The social cohesion programme will have a key focus on youth, women and girls, and vulnerable communities in Lebanese society that continue to suffer the consequences and impact of 15 years of civil war in Lebanon which created severe political and confessional divisions among Lebanese societal groups.

EU Added value

Component 3 is in line with the revised version of the EU Roadmap for engaging with civil society for 2021-2027, which includes a more people centred approach aimed at strengthening the cohesion and resilience of the Lebanese society. In this sense, the programme aims at enabling individual citizens, civil society groups, cultural operators as well as local government to provide strategic support to Lebanese citizens with different backgrounds for transformative, intercultural dialogue between Lebanese with Lebanese talking to each other in various formats. The programme also aims at conducting various activities that create societal reconciliation, and maintain social cohesion and inclusion in its different formats in terms of rights, duties and activities at community level.

Component 3 is also in line with the Human Rights Country Strategy (2021-24) promoting human rights and good governance and to strengthen participatory development and inclusion of all actors. It also seeks to contribute to fostering economic growth and job opportunities including women, youth and minorities (e.g. LGBTIQI+, People with Disabilities, etc.).

Following the Gender Action Plan's (GAP III) (2021-2025) objectives aiming at advancing equal participation and leadership, and implementing the women, peace and security agenda, the component will implement initiatives focusing on key areas of resilience, protection and recovery. The proposed action specifically supports and addressed one of the three thematic policy areas of GAP III in promotion of women's economic and social rights. It will be implemented in a participatory and transparent way based on the core human rights values including gender equality and social justice namely re-shaping of a new social contract between Lebanese citizens and the government. The approach adopted will ensure that women's rights are reflected across the entire component and that political, religious, economic and/or inter-cultural dialogue and activities will have positive impact in terms of women's rights in its general terms.

Complementarity with EU and other donors/partners:

The proposed intervention has been designed based on reflections, lessons learned and experiences from previous relevant EU programmes. It will seek synergies with all relevant EU actions funded through bilateral and thematic budget lines and other donors. Close co-ordination will be undertaken to ensure synergy of efforts.

Component 4 - Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

The Port of Beirut is the country's main gateway for imports and exports. With a free zone, a container terminal and a general cargo terminal, it is a hub for maritime trade in the Mediterranean Sea. The absence of a real port authority has caused state revenues from the port to decline, with serious governance and accountability issues. Under the 3RF framework, the World Bank along with the Port of Rotterdam have advanced on the legal framework for the new institutional set up for the port sector in Lebanon, but the endorsement of the Lebanese government is still pending.

The port explosions of 4 August 2020 made evident the importance of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) prevention and response and as well of port management in a wider context of maritime security and safety to contribute efficiently to the economic recovery. In line with the National CBRN Action Plan, the harbour explosions prompted a request of international assistance for mapping and disposal of badly stored hazardous chemical material, which constitutes a high security risk all over the country. Few weeks after the explosion the Lebanon's army found additional 4.35 tonnes of ammonium nitrate in four containers

stored near the port. In January 2021, the disposal of about 50 containers damaged by the explosions exposed stocks of highly toxic and polluting chemical products, potentially explosive.

Survey activities ongoing at the port and as well around the city of Beirut indicates presence of asbestos and revealed that poor storage of dangerous material is a widely spread dangerous practise; industrial sites also represent a potential risk for the health and life of the population.

Radioactive waste, along with the growing industry of sealed radioactive sources in medical, industrial and research fields, poses a serious problem for authorities due to the lack of an adequate national store for disused radioactive sources. Assistance from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is ongoing and a national store for radioactive sources at the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission (LAEC) is being established.

Proper storage of imported dangerous material, its disposal and detection of illicit entry of CBRN materials is also a key priority and law enforcement agencies and Customs officials play a key role in ensuring border and supply chain security. Adapting cargo information systems is essential to strengthening monitoring and risk based controls of international supply chains in order to ensure that CBRN material are not illicitly entering; additional measures to strengthen dual-use trade controls are also required.

The national CBRN team has also prioritised potential actions to enhance CBRN capabilities and particularly the need to reinforce the operational capacity of the first responders in the field, specifically the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), the Internal Security Forces (ISF) the Civil Defence (CD) and the Beirut Firefighters.

UNIFIL, international donors (EUMS and USA) and national counterparts have commended the EU for the vision in starting a much-needed strategic assistance in drafting an Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP). Lebanon considers the drafting of the IMP a high priority, even more after the port explosions, which showed deadly weaknesses in the governance, security and safety of the site and response capacity including search and rescue operations. Collaboration with France was developed under the ongoing integrated border management project to provide state-of-the-art assistance in the drafting of the IMP which will provide the framework to deal with the multiple challenges of maritime affairs, and also the powers to tackle them, are spread between numerous public and private players at different levels of governance.

Indeed the modernisation of the port infrastructure must be accompanied by a critical improvement in its governance structures and management for economic recovery. Adequate control of people entering at the port and cargo control are lacking alongside with fully established governance structures, if Lebanon wishes to guarantee the proper management, security and safety of the site. Staff operating at the Port must be aware of the peculiarities of the working environment and its inherent risks and be prepared to intervene in case of accident also in view of securing sensitive data to allow operational continuity. Such expertise might also apply to offshore oil and gas exploration sites, which are an important source of revenues, but also represent a risk for the safety and security of workers and proxy population.

The Navy received consistent support from the UNIFIL MTF and EUMS (particularly France, Italy and Germany), but other agencies (GS, ISF and Port Authority) with a key role in ensuring the rule of law at sea, on the coasts and at the seaports are lagging behind. This situation creates a gap in the security system, which can be easily exploited for criminal activities at sea, on the coast and within the seaports premises. While coordination and cooperation among relevant national stakeholders plays an important role in maritime security it is also necessary to ensure that Lebanon access updated technologies to guarantee a proper monitoring and risk analysis of movement of goods and people, and timely sharing of information with international partners, whenever relevant.

Under the 3RF framework, the new institutional set up for the port sector in Lebanon is under discussion. The document touches upon the main pillars that need to be referred to in the law and includes all aspects linked

to digital infrastructure in the port. Support to the institutional development of the port governance under this process is crucial and EU support may be added under this action document.

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

Main stakeholders and target groups

By Decree 2382 of 19 February 2018 the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (MPWT) is responsible for the implementation of all relevant international conventions and setting, implementing and monitoring policies related to maritime transport. The MPWT General Directorate of Land and Maritime Transport cooperates and coordinates with relevant local, regional and international bodies on maritime affairs. Moreover, it follows up on search and rescue activities within and outside territorial waters (TW) and investigates maritime accidents within TW.

In the maritime domain, Lebanese security and border agencies carry out their missions in compliance with the rules and principles enshrined in the national law, existing treaties, international law and other relevant instruments. The responsibility of sea border control is given to the Lebanese Navy whilst General Security (GS) and the Lebanese Customs Agency (LCA), assisted by Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), are responsible for security in the harbours. Additionally, LCA Maritime Brigades perform also surveillance of the blue borders. Customs Brigade (CBD) and Anti-Drug Police (ADP) are two divisions of Customs. CBD works with customs inspectors and operates at all gates of the port. ADP monitors and inspects import and export cargo to prevent trafficking in illegal drugs. In addition, ADP coordinates, collects and exchanges information with foreign intelligence and foreign enforcement agencies. Collaboration and coordination of the stakeholders is challenging.

As from 2019, the State Security Directorate is responsible for collecting information related to internal security inside the Port of Beirut and sharing it with all other security agencies. ISF Coast Detachment is fighting crime in Lebanese territorial waters and has a wide-ranging role, which includes a) implementing maritime laws and regulations within TW b) public safety c) fighting crime (especially smuggling) d) pollution control e) illegal building in the coastal area.

In response to the rising risk of chemical attacks, or smuggling of hazardous chemical products through the Lebanese territory, the office of the Prime Minister created in November 2013 the CBRN National Commission. The Commission is in charge of the national coordination on CBRN issues and it is composed of representatives of different institutions: Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, LAF, ISF, GS, LCA, Civil Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Environment. The CBRN Response Plan is duly integrated within the National Emergency Response Framework. A draft CBRN National Action Plan is still waiting approval.

Lebanon also established a Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit within the Prime Minister Office with the aim to prioritise planning and coordination of critical Disaster Risk Reduction measures to be implemented at the national and local levels and across sectors. The DRM Unit remains a UNDP project linked entity and the proposed creation of a National Disaster Management Commission to institutionalise the strategic coordination of disaster risk reduction and management actions for the country is still pending.

The above shows that while structures are in place their uncoordinated actions, overlapping functions, political rivalry among different ministries affects the proper functioning of the national system to the detriment of the security and safety of the population.

Civil society inclusion in disaster management and port transformation is ensured by regular consultation and participation in the related working group of the 3RF in a view to enhance people's trust and engagement. Close collaboration with the Beirut Port City platform that provides transparency and an opportunity for

participation for the Lebanese people, initiated by Hamburg Port Consulting will be ensured. Additional support to CSO to actively participate in the 3RF is envisaged.

EU added value:

The EU has been providing support to Lebanon in the design of the National CBRN Policy and Disaster Management Plan and a National Maritime policy. Those policies aim to frame the role and mandate of a multitude of stakeholders and to improve their coordinated action in view of reinforcing the overall governance and supporting the respect of rule of law and international conventions.

Lebanon benefits from the excellent collaboration established between the EU Delegation and EUMS in the security sector. The assistance by EUMS peer-agencies is appreciated by the Lebanese counterparts. The model of cooperation is also welcomed by the EUMS given the possibility to integrate their bilateral cooperation in a more efficient way. On the EU side such approach allows for a long-term sustainability of the support by creating solid connection between Lebanon and EUMS peer-agencies which is essential to support international collaboration on common security threats.

Complementarity with EU and other donors/partners:

The proposed intervention has been designed based on experiences from previous relevant EU programmes. It will continue to favour a holistic approach to security sector support, with an attention to a balanced civilian-military assistance and offering the most up-to date knowledge thanks to the EU MS expertise. The intervention will seek synergies with all relevant EU actions funded through bilateral and thematic budget lines and other donors. Close co-ordination will be undertaken to ensure synergy of efforts.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

This action aims at mitigating impacts of the current crisis; supporting a people centred recovery and human rights, while strengthening relevant systems and reinforcing the role of civil society in line with the priorities outlined in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) for Lebanon.

Component 1 – Support access to justice and restorative measures

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this component 1 is to improve access to justice and independent oversight mechanisms; and providing legal aid and support to victims of the Beirut Port explosion and to vulnerable groups in conflict with the law, including developing restorative criminal justice responses and preventing violent extremism.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this component 1 are to:

1. Enhance access to justice, legal aid for victims of the Beirut port explosion and vulnerable groups, and independent oversight mechanisms of the justice system.
2. Improve fundamental rights safeguards in the criminal justice system, support restorative measures for vulnerable groups/minors in conflict with the law and further counter/prevent violent extremism.

The Outputs to be delivered by this component 1 contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

Contributing to Specific Objective 1 (Outcome 1):

- 1.1 Legal assistance and support to the Bar Association is provided to victims of the blast or vulnerable groups.
- 1.2 Access to justice, including alternative dispute resolution and mediation mechanisms are improved and enforced.
- 1.3 Oversight mechanisms in the justice system are strengthened, including capacities of civil society organisations, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and the National Preventive Mechanisms (NPM).

Contributing to Specific Objective 2 (Outcome 2):

- 2.1 National and CSOs' capacities to provide basic services, alternative and preventive services, rehabilitation and reintegration measures, protection and social reinsertion activities with particular attention to specific needs of women, minors and vulnerable groups are strengthened throughout the criminal justice chain
- 2.2 Measures to counter and prevent violent extremism and radicalisation and handling of high-risk profiles are further improved in the criminal and penitentiary systems.
- 2.3 Detention conditions, education/social programmes and services for juvenile offenders or suspects are improved and conducive to their protection and social reinsertion, with particular attention to the specific needs of girls, and including the operationalisation of the Warwar correctional facility for children in line with international standards.

Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this component 2 is to contribute to sustainable, environmentally friendly and inclusive socio-economic recovery and job creation in Lebanon.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this component 2 are to:

1. Support immediate socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses following the explosion in Beirut on 4 August 2020 and build the foundations for medium term recovery and the sustainable reconstruction of the Port of Beirut and affected neighbourhoods, based on the build-back-better principles.
2. Increased competitiveness of SMEs within selected key economic sectors with innovation as key vector for sustainable growth.

The Outputs to be delivered by this component 2 contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

Contributing to Specific Objective 1 (Outcome 1)

- 1.1 Urgent socio-economic recovery priorities of poor and vulnerable communities/households and businesses in Beirut are addressed.
- 1.2 Targeted economic, financial, environmental and governance reforms identified in the 3RF are implemented and supported.
- 1.3 Strengthened multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination, monitoring and evaluation and citizen engagement.

Contributing to Specific Objective 2 (Outcome)

- 2.1 Sustainable innovative products, systems and processes are adopted and developed by Lebanese SMEs in selected economic sectors through collaboration with local and international research institutions
- 2.2 Increased access to local and/or international markets of selected Lebanese SMEs.
- 2.3 Enhanced networking and partnerships between key actors of the Lebanese innovation ecosystem promoting transfer of technology and innovation.

Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this component is to contribute to the stabilisation of Lebanon through fostering social inclusion and cohesion, enabling economic recovery.

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this component 3 are:

1. Providing responses to reduce social and political tensions and foster social cohesion within and among Lebanese communities, and collectively building a vision for a better Lebanon.
2. Mainstreaming social cohesion at community level through inclusive and participatory approaches to develop consensus building among Lebanese stakeholders from varied backgrounds into EU community-based development programmes.

The Outputs to be delivered by this component 3 contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

Contributing to Specific Objective 1 (Outcome 1)

- 1.1 Cohesion and resilience of the Lebanese society as a whole is strengthened through inclusive initiatives, sustainable dialogue, meetings, events and activities.
- 1.2 A common identity is promoted and included in the decision making process through encouraging connections between citizens from different background, using a gender and age lens (e.g. environmental problems are addressed at community level, integration of people with disabilities into the development programmes).
- 1.3 Trusted partnerships and connections with civil society are built, specifically with women and youth groups, relevant local actors and community leaders in order to encourage these to play a critical role in contributing to social cohesion using innovative approaches that contribute to the reduction of intercommunal tensions (e.g. culture, artistic and creative expressions, and intercultural dialogue).
- 1.4 Resilience is boosted in the face of sectarian division, conflict resolution and inclusion to prevent radicalisation mainly in vulnerable areas with high risk of sectarian divide (e.g. North of Lebanon) as well as areas of high tension among different political groups within the same sect.)

Contributing to Specific Objective 2 (Outcome 2)

- 2.1 Ongoing EU development programmes are used to transform conflict into a more sustainable and peaceful relationship among diverse groups at community level (i.e. in terms of rights, duties and activities).
- 2.2 EU development programmes in Lebanon are better coordinated to promote and complement civil society engagement at community level and groups, mainly among those with diverse identities (i.e. gender, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability).
- 2.3 EU development programmes ensure engagement with civil society and complement it with technical support for sustainable economic recovery, consensus building and inclusive approach is mainstreamed in EU community projects through conservation and safeguarding of cultural assets

at community level creating as such temporary job opportunities mainly for youth, women and minorities.

Component 4 - Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this component 4 is to contribute to a secure and safe environment in Lebanon through accountable institutions,

The Specific(s) Objective(s) (Outcomes) of this component 4 are:

1. Reinforcing governance and effectiveness in the management of port and maritime affairs, in line with the rule of law and international conventions
2. Strengthening effectiveness in Disaster Management

The Outputs to be delivered by this component 4 contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

Contributing to Specific Objective 1 (Outcome 1)

- 1.1 Strengthened institutional and operational capacities on port governance, and maritime safety and security.

Contributing to Specific Objective 2 (Outcome 2)

- 2.1 Improved emergency prevention, preparedness and response capacities, in particular CBRN incidents.

3.2. Indicative Activities

Component 1 – Support access to justice and restorative measures

Activities related to Output 1.1-1.3

Activities will support the effective implementation of the Law to strengthen basic guarantees and activate human rights that allows recourse to an attorney during preliminary investigations. Enhanced access to justice without delays, access to legal aid services, including Alternative Dispute resolution (ADR) and mediation with a special focus on cases involving juveniles, women and girls, victims of the blast. Support to CSOs, the NPM and NHRC to undertake monitoring, reporting, investigating complaints (i.e. on-sight visits, workshops, trainings, provision of expertise, and participation to the penitentiary reform working group). Activities may support the strengthening of the investigatory and prosecutorial capacities of justice institutions; including the legal and institutional framework should there be a reform oriented government in place.

Activities related to Output 2.1-2.3

Capacity building activities for judicial and prison staff, human rights-based tailor-made 'on-the-job training and mentoring' including focus on vulnerable groups (women, juveniles and persons with disabilities). Capacity building activities, programmes and cooperation in collaboration with central /local authorities and CSOs aiming at providing basic services, rehabilitation, reintegration/social reinsertion programmes, legal assistance with particular attention to the needs of female and juvenile prisoners improve the use of alternative sentencing (i.e. community work) for misdemeanours, help improve handling of high-risk profiles, disengagement and prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism in prisons. Provision of supplementary training and equipment to the new Warwar correctional centre to support a rehabilitative, safe and child friendly environment (i.e. rooms, library, workshops, family visit areas etc.) for imprisoned children.

Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

Activities related to Output 1.1

Activities will mainly focus on (i) providing support for the recovery of micro- and small enterprises (MSME) to sustain their operations and maintain jobs (provision of customised technical assistance and direct grants to MSMEs and Micro Finance Institutions); (ii) supporting Beirut's immediate social recovery services to support the survivors of sexual gender based violence (SGBV) (providing grants to support emergency shelter and specialised services for SGBV) and build capacity for aid workers as well as awareness raising of SGBV through building a communication strategy. Enhancing psycho-socio wellbeing and direct support to persons having lost their livelihoods, including Persons with Disabilities (PwD), migrants (including domestic workers), refugees and youth.

(iii) Activities will also include securing the port, and implementing critical waste management interventions inside the port as well as ensuring the safety management and disposal of 150.000 mixed debris outside the port.; And (iv) Supporting a collaborative platform for stakeholders' engagement and implanting priority action for Beirut reconstruction Agenda. Environmental monitoring and enforcement activities for hazardous waste in Beirut. Recovery of cultural heritage residential building and support culture and creative industries affected by the explosion.

Activities related to Output 1.2

Activities will mainly focus on improving capacity of formal accountability institutions for public officials and the implementation of public sector programmes such as building the capacity in forensic audit, financial inspections, and roadmap for sustainable public administration reforms. Support to the national anti-corruption Commission for the development of an electronic asset declaration system. Building an effective public investment management (PIM) system by the creation of a PIM unit and action plan. Institutionalising a public procurement framework to support a new public procurement agency and the establishment of a new independent public procurement review body and to develop secondary legalization and standard public procurement documents.

Based on the successful implementation of the above activities, a second phase would focus on strengthening judiciary oversight bodies to increase independence, efficiency, effectiveness and access.

Concerning Port sector reform, activities would pave the way to build back a Port of Beirut by developing a roadmap to establish a collaborative platform for citizen and stakeholder engagement on the Port of Beirut reconstruction.

Activities related to Output 1.3

Activities will mainly focus on supporting the 3RF Secretariat and the establishment of an independent civil society oversight body. Establishment of a citizen engagement initiative for the 3RF with a digital citizen portal, feedback and a grievance mechanism and a community based monitoring. Support the strategic monitoring and communication of the 3RF.

Activities related to Output 2.1

Activities will mostly focus of measures promoting the adoption and development of sustainable innovative products, systems and processes by Lebanese SMEs through collaboration with local and international research institutions, to help them adapt to and exploit the opportunities presented by the current economic crisis. They may include the provision of monetary and non-monetary incentives to technology acquisition and development, targeting SMEs with high-growth potential through a combination of small grants and customised technical assistance; support to Technology Acquisitions, Research and Development of new products, and others. Special attention will be given to SMEs willing to transition to more sustainable approaches. Other measures to support joint venture research and spinouts could also be considered, to be

further explored and detailed during the formulation of specific contracts. When feasible, these measures should include incentives and facilitations for initiatives promising to positively impact on the environment and climate change.

The three key productive sectors tentatively targeted by this component are agri-food, medical (in particular pharmaceuticals), and ICT/creative industries.

Activities related to Output 2.2

Increased competitiveness leads to increased access to local and/or international markets of selected Lebanese SMEs.

The customised technical assistance under this output will also cover specific support to expansion to national, regional and/or international markets. Expert advice and coaching/mentoring will be provided to selected growth-oriented innovative enterprises to achieve their market potential by their newly acquired/developed innovations. This will be facilitated notably by: assessment and identification of market barriers; advice on legal and regulatory aspects; enhance compliance with technical specifications and standards (i.e. SPS); facilitate certification; identify market opportunities; and develop marketing strategies, among others. The TA will also facilitate access to financing opportunities for additional expansion, by identifying existing funding sources and helping enterprises to link up with them.

Activities related to Output 2.3

Enhanced networking and partnerships between key actors of the Lebanese innovation ecosystem promoting transfer of technology and innovation. The exact description of activities will build up on results achieved by the ongoing EU financed Technical Assistance Facility for the Lebanese Private Sector (TAF). Some of the indicative activities may include the conduction of 'Innovation Surveys' (as per OECD methodology); support Technology Transfer systems and building capacity of the Technology Transfer Offices, reinforcing their connexions with businesses.

Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion

Activities related to Output 1.1-1.4

Indicative activities will primarily focus on identifying, promoting and implementing bottom-up initiatives contributing to social cohesion and the steady reduction of intercommunal tensions (e.g. culture, artistic, cultural heritage and creative expressions, information campaigns, and awareness sessions on issues of common interest to citizens at community level); creating safe spaces for community dialogues to share and/or revisit the past, addressing trauma healing from the civil war and generating new ideas and a vision for the future of Lebanon with collective national identity; Organising group work among community citizens that reinforce shared identity across groups and enhance social responsibility through working toward the common good in the best interest of the society; promotion and support to existing initiatives that increase collaboration between CSOs and local authorities to better serve the communities in which they work by providing efficient, effective and equitable services and public goods (e.g. support for citizens' psychosocial wellbeing, engage with local leaders to increase social cohesion) to their citizens; preparation and implementation of capacity building programme(s) based on real needs of the targeted groups (e.g. team work, social networking, technical and practical skills (e.g. leadership, media, social entrepreneurship dialogue, problem solving and others); dialogue among different citizen groups at community level, including faith-based groups; organisation and promotion of cultural events, film festivals, exhibitions and initiatives to promote social cohesion and collaboration amongst Lebanese citizens on different topics concerning the society as a whole, in remembrance of the past and more recent events which have affected the country.

Activities related to Output 2.1-2.3

Indicative activities will primarily focus on: awareness raising and information dissemination sessions to citizens on the conception and implementation of EU initiatives engaging with national, private sectors and local authorities (e.g. listening session, focus group discussion with civil society actors, local communities and local authorities); providing support to the beneficiary in mainstreaming social cohesion in EU existing programmes and monitoring implementation of grant contracts awarded to CSOs through Financial Support to Third Party (FSTP); implement initiatives in collaboration between Local Authorities (LAs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), including youth, women and faith-based groups to try to improve the provision of services in targeted communities in an inclusive manner allowing better access to livelihood opportunities mainly of youth, women, minorities and vulnerable; adapt-re-orient local development initiatives in existing EU programmes to mainstream social cohesion in particular in vulnerable and poorest areas in Lebanon mostly affected by the high influx of Syrian refugees; cash-for work activities and initiatives to improve livelihood opportunities for women, youth, minorities and vulnerable people including through existing EU projects; economic empowerment activities that address youth unemployment problem e.g. under heritage-related tourism to promote urban development.

Component 4 - Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

Activities related to Output 1.1

Activities will primarily focus on: supporting and assisting institutional reforms in line with the 3RF framework and interlinked policies; developing agencies systems to improve internal governance; supporting coordination bodies and interagency cooperation; developing risk analysis and early warning systems; assisting in development and implementation of national implementation plans; facilitating international cooperation; including through membership of multinational forums and partnerships with EU/International agencies; developing Lebanese agency-owned training systems, mechanisms and capacity; regional and international training and lessons exchange partnerships and networks; infrastructure and equipment support based on accurate needs assessment; development of logistics and procurement programmes and plans, investment policy, capital and operational budget plans and procurement procedures; development, dissemination and training of codes of conduct; awareness on reporting 'hotline' for members of the public to report allegations of corruption or abuse of authority, support to CSOs in communication and reporting. The activities will support port governance under the 3RF framework and interlinked strategies, i.e. the integrated maritime policy, and assist in its operationalisation.

Activities related to Output 2.1

Activities will primarily focus on: Cross-sectorial training and exercises; continue Strengthening national CBRN response capacity; assist in performing gap analysis on the detection of CBRN materials and dual-use goods; support in developing risks analysis/assessment tools and national Early Warning and Response System (EWRS); improve awareness, preparedness and response particularly to chemical and bio-risks, including emerging threats; support national CBRN forensic and forensic cooperation; supporting the implementation of national plans and operationalisation of crisis management operations rooms; facilitating international cooperation, including activation of EU ERCC and CPM; facilitating membership of multinational forums and partnerships with EU/International agencies to promote best practises sharing; developing Lebanese agency-owned training systems, mechanisms and capacity; equipment support based on accurate needs assessment; preparation and simulation of joint interventions in case of emergencies.

The list of activities for each of the outputs is purely indicative and it can be adapted to the achievement of the objectives.

3.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Environmental sustainability and carbon neutrality are relevant aspects of the European Green Deal. Special attention will thus be paid to the potential of innovation in bringing green solutions and a more optimal use of energy and resources, including by promoting digitalisation. The action will support *inter alia* innovation, which can play a critical role in improving resources use and reduce environmental impacts. The exchange of experiences with European and international partners will allow to promote environmentally friendly and climate-smart solutions.

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

The EIA screening classified the action as Category B (not requiring an EIA, but for which environment aspects will be addressed during design).

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

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

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that the action will promote meaningful and active participation of women in planning and decision making to ensure an inclusive recovery process, cover the needs, interests, and priorities of both women and men to ensure gender-sensitive programming, service delivery and support gender sensitive policies and address gender gaps. The project will be in line with the Gender analysis and all data will be sex disaggregated. Despite the many efforts made over the past years to achieve gender equality in line of SDG 16 calling for promotion and enforcing non-discriminatory laws and policies, Lebanon still lacks the "Gender Integration" approach in many legislations and policies.

Human Rights

The programme follows a rights-based approach, encompassing all human rights, including the following five working principles that will be applied at all stages of implementation: Legality, universality and indivisibility of human rights; Participation and access to the decision-making process; Non-discrimination and equal access; Accountability and access to the rule of law; Transparency and access to information.

Disability

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, for Specific Objective 1, 2 and 4 this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the inclusion of persons with disabilities is not a significant objective. However, inclusion will be mainstreamed within the action whenever possible and relevant, by favouring the participation of disabled persons in business management and job creation. For Specific Objective 3 this action is labelled as D1. This implies that Specific Objective 3 will aim at increasing the participation and inclusion of disability and specifically persons with disability in light of increasing disability inclusion. This will be done through mainstreaming of PWDs inclusion within the activities proposed by this part of the action.

Democracy

In democratic context, such as Lebanon, the population expects the State to ensure its safety and protection from internal and external threats. The Beirut Port explosion is a tragic example how the manifest weaknesses in the national systems to promote citizen security, reduce crime and contain threats, may result in lack of

credibility of public institutions, particularly the security and judiciary systems, and negatively affect trust in democratic governance.

In its assistance, the EU promotes legally binding international standards to promote the respect of democracy, fundamental rights and the rule of law. Through an intensive political dialogue, the EU promotes the monitoring in the application of those values and advocates for corrective measures.

Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience

This action addresses the priorities and recommendations identified in the recent EU conflict analysis, which has been prepared in line with Art. 12 of the regulation (EU) 2021/947 establishing NDICI.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction is one of the main expected results of Specific Objective 4 of the action.

3.4. Risks and Lessons Learned

Category	Risks	Likelihood (High/Medium/Low)	Impact (High/Medium/Low)	Mitigating measures
1-External environment	Political stalemate and social tensions resulting in an overall deterioration of the situation, including security	High	High	EU Delegation continuously monitors the overall situation in the country and follows-up to address risk, including security. Project execution will be contingent upon the possibility to operate under the prevailing conditions
	Lack of political commitment to undertake reforms or support the action	Medium	Medium	3RF institutional arrangements with government participation as well as strong donor coordination provides a solid forum for advocacy and cooperation.
	Limited inter-institutional cooperation	Medium	Medium	Maintain high-level dialogue and correspondence with authorities on several levels, EU and partner representatives to call for reform
	Collapse of the financial and economic system, including increasing inflation and further devaluation of the Lebanese pound	Medium	Medium	EU Delegation, in close coordination with the UN/RC already coordinates on macro-economic mitigation measures, including dollarization of aid in an effort to continue to ensure the smooth running of aid programmes in Lebanon. Part of the action provides tools to the private sector to recover while increasing resilience to better withstand adverse economic conditions.
2-Planning, processes and systems	EU assistance lack of responsiveness to changing needs of beneficiaries	High	Medium	The action components are designed in a flexible manner. Synergies between other NDICI/Global Europe financing tracks will be continuously monitored and if needed reinforced or adapted

	Lack of sustainability and commitment for continuation of the developed systems by the government	Medium	Medium	Request strong commitment by the government continuously throughout the implementation of the action to maintain the systems developed and adopt long term approaches to reforms
3-Legality and regulatory aspects	Risk of corruption effecting the impact of the action and the fulfilment of its strategic objectives	High	High	Corruption risk management process are in place for the implementation of the 3RF in addition to an independent civil society led oversight body.
4-Communication and information	Misperception of the nature of the EU intervention by the public leading to critical opinions	Medium	Medium	Strong efforts by implementing partners under the guidance of the EU Delegation to ensure accurate transparent and communication on the action

Lessons Learned:

Component 1 – Support for access to justice and restorative measures

Previous and on-going EU interventions in the area of justice and security sector reforms as well as human rights promotion and protection need to be optimised and built upon. Continuous and long-term support is required to ensure sustainability of our assistance.

From past interventions, a number of weaknesses have been observed, namely: i) restricted financial and human resources made available by the state with a lack of recognition that outsourcing services with international funds is not sustainable; ii) inadequate inter-institutional co-ordination and co-operation (i.e. ISF and judiciary); iii) limited transfer of knowledge (i.e. high ISF turn over); iv) limited governmental inclusion of civil society whose role is mostly focused on service delivery and, to a certain extent, advocacy work; v) limited role played by CSOs for external oversight of performance of ISF prisons’ services; vi) lack of transparent and effective internal accountability mechanisms, hence the need to speed up the operationalisation of independent monitoring mechanisms such as the National Human Rights Commission /National Prevention Mechanism.

With EU funds and in close association with keys actors in the field of Access to Justice, Connecting Research to Development (CRD) is currently implementing “Bridging gaps for better Legal Aid (LA) in Lebanon” within the framework of the ENI issued contract NEAR-TS/2018/399-016. This project is executed in partnership with the two Lebanese Bar Associations (BARs) in Beirut and Tripoli, the Directorate of Prisons at the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), and the Faculty of Law at the Lebanese University (LU): these actors joint efforts in the aim of improving access of vulnerable populations to quality LA services through the achievement of the below specific objectives: Ensure proper access of vulnerable populations to quality legal aid (LA) services; Enhance coordination between all key stakeholders involved in the provision of LA services; Sensitize all relevant stakeholders on the right to access LA services.

The evaluation report of a previous EU funded project "Reinforcing Human Rights and Democracy in Lebanon - Penal Reform Focusing Prison Reform” stressed the need to support alternatives to imprisonment (including for minors and juveniles) as part of Lebanon’s criminal justice system. Likewise, the evaluation underlined the need to make further progress concerning prisoners’ rights and institutional accountability. Ongoing EU projects supporting inter alia in-prison service delivery, refurbishment of prison facilities, prisoners ‘rights

‘awareness raising, curricula’s human rights’ mainstreaming, and protection of children in conflict with the law must be complemented with an additional focus, across the criminal justice chain, on reducing overcrowding and improving conditions of detention in a comprehensive, efficient and sustainable manner.

A general conclusion derived from justice and human rights projects (EU funded and others) is the slow pace of reforms and implementation by parliament and government. Adopting a step by step approach aiming at improving certain aspects of the justice sector on the basis of existing policies, legislation and resources is therefore preferable, in particular when legislation is in place and needs only to be implemented accordingly.

Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

The Lebanese people – and especially the most vulnerable among them – are paying a high price for the multiple ongoing crises and have become increasingly distrustful of the current political and economic system. The explosion must therefore serve as a wake-up call for rapid and systemic change.

In this context, the current crisis provides a critical opportunity to build back a better Lebanon, guided by principles of transparency, inclusion, and accountability. The 3RF process follows a “Whole of Lebanon” approach, bringing together government, civil society, the private sector, activist groups, youth groups, think tanks, academia, and the international community around a common vision and strategic objectives. This process ensures representation of all segments of the Lebanese society, including women and other vulnerable groups, and takes into account the voices and interests of refugees and migrants. This programme directly meets the urgent needs of the affected population while ensuring that results are delivered in an efficient, equitable and transparent manner.

Therefore, the 3RF as a common vision will help kick starting the recovery process and establishing the foundation for reconstruction in an inclusive and consultative way.

Links with previous financial assistance: this component complements and strengthens the intervention of the European Union Regional Trust Fund (EUTF) in Response to the Syrian Crisis: SPS Beirut for Supporting the Private Sector Ecosystem in Beirut Impacted by the 4 August Explosion. The action also complements the Annual Action Programme 2018 and 2020 funds. Through the former, support is being made available in the domain of rubble removal. Through the latter, the EU has made a first contribution to the Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) Multi-Donor Trust Fund. In addition, the action complements existing ENI and EUTF support targeting economic development and livelihoods.

The second outcome of this component of the action draws essential information from two recent EU-funded studies on the innovation ecosystem in Lebanon (i) Diagnostic Study of the state of Technology Transfer in Lebanon, by DG Joint Research Center, (under publication) and (ii) Technology Transfer and Commercialisation in Lebanon. Technical Assistance Report, May 2020, by The Next Society, an EU-funded regional initiative to strengthen innovation ecosystems in the Mediterranean implemented by Anima Investment Network and Berytech (Lebanon). These two reports provide a comprehensive description of the innovation ecosystem and its main actors, gaps and opportunities, plus a set of actionable recommendations, on which the present Action is largely inspired.

Links with previous financial assistance: This outcome will build on and closely coordinate with the ongoing EU-funded Technical Assistance Facility for the Lebanese private sector (TAF), and will build on some of its achievements. Synergies will also be established with The Next Society, an EU-funded regional initiative to strengthen innovation ecosystems in the Mediterranean implemented by Anima Investment Network and Berytech (Lebanon).

Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion

In order to move forward in the reform process and for the 3RF to succeed in restoring the trust of Lebanese citizens in the state, promoting social cohesion, inclusion, and dialogue are indispensable to help mitigate

tensions and misperceptions between Lebanese citizens originating from different societal and political groups. Social cohesion is considered as a pre-requisite for any successful implementation of the reform plan in all sectors and as the main approach to create a common consensus among Lebanese.

Designing and implementing socio-economic projects, including a cultural and value dimension necessitates considering meaningfully the human dimension, both at individual and community level. Accordingly, the action will refer to on-going local development projects contributing to provision of public goods and integrate social cohesion component in order to maximise existing structures and outreach to communities in large.

Particular effort will be drawn to scale up local-level support through referring to evaluations and/or Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) missions carried out on existing and previous EU funded projects under various thematic and bilateral instruments including European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.

Component 4 - Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

Past cooperation in the security sector indicated the need to ensure a proper balance between the military and civilian components in order to promote the coordinated role of all relevant stakeholder and ensure state-owned policy and strategy design and implementation.

The civilian and military aspects are both looked at in the EU assistance to the security aspect; which privileges an all-inclusive approach benefiting all relevant actors. In several coordination fora the EU has been promoting such approach and alerted other international donors on the inherent risks of a LAF-focused assistance. The single-agency approach to security would only perpetrate the unbalance and inefficacy of a national security system where the LAF will continue to perform policing tasks. An important initial step towards a more integrated security support was represented by the approval of the EU supported Integrated Border Management (IBM) strategy, and it is further reinforced with the drafting of an Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP).

Additionally, under the IBM phase 3 programme, the EUD promoted the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Multinational CIMIC Group (MNCG) to provide Lebanon with up-to-date expertise on civilian and military cooperation, to benefit particularly the most unstable communities.

In the EU assistance, the CIMIC approach is not limited to the national Army but expand to other security actors and with EU support CIMIC-like units were created within the ISF and GS to promote engagement with the citizens.

Since almost 3 years, Lebanon benefits from the close collaboration established between the EU Delegation and EUMS in the security sector. Through the build-up of an innovative project design on CBRN assistance, it was possible to ensure the deployment of EUMS on-duty officers from the French Ministry of Interior and Italian Ministry of Defence.

Thus, based on previous positive experiences, the programme will continue to favour a holistic approach to security sector support, with an attention to a balanced civilian-military assistance and offering the most up-to date knowledge thanks to the EU MS expertise.

3.5. Intervention Logic

The underlying intervention logic of this action aims at contributing to mitigate impacts of the current crisis and supporting a people centred recovery and human rights, while strengthening relevant systems and reinforcing the role of civil society in line with the priorities outlined in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) for Lebanon. More specifically for the four components:

Component 1 – Support to access to justice and restorative measures

Component 1 builds on and complements EU interventions in the area of justice and human rights. It has been designed on the basis of 3RF priorities in the field of Justice and Human Rights

In view of the current political uncertainty as well as the weak political commitments and a fragile administration, the component addresses the aforesaid most pressing priority issues for which the EU has proven added-value and can achieve a tangible such as the provision of legal assistance. The component will favour a strengthened partnership with independent human rights' oversight mechanisms and civil society organisations. It will have a focus on the most vulnerable groups of the population, and continue EU support in access to justice, right to fair trial, legal aid, help strengthening oversight mechanism and criminal justice.

The rights-based approach clearly enshrined in the proposed programme shall counter the risk that security actors benefiting from EU assistance might act in a biased, discriminatory or abusive way towards prisoners and/or individuals in conflict with the law. Additionally, EU assistance will be continuously monitored and the EU will maintain a regular policy/sectoral dialogue with the Lebanese authorities and counterparts concerned, beyond the activities addressed by the programme. Should grave violations not be properly addressed by national authorities with the intention to bring those to an end, the EU shall consider taking appropriate measures including discontinuing support.

The choice of implementing partner(s) take due consideration of their proven technical expertise and added value in the rule of law area. Mainstreaming of civil society actions will also be ensured through organisations with a proven track-record of satisfactory work in relevant areas. This strategic choice of potential implementers shall mitigate any risk of overlaps.

In case of a reformist government, the action could be reoriented towards more system strengthening elements.

EU visibility will be ensured through a close monitoring of the implementation of the programme by the EU Delegation.

Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

Outcome 1 of this component aims at alleviating the impact from the Port of Beirut explosion on small and medium enterprises and vulnerable population. The 3RF is guided by principles of transparency, inclusion and accountability, and it brings together all Lebanese stakeholders and the international community around a common vision and strategic objectives to 'Build back a better Lebanon'. The approach and scope of activities proposed in the 3RF recognises that short-term emergency assistance, and preparing the ground for longer-term modernisation need to proceed in parallel and align closely with government commitments to reform. The EU contribution to the LFF is expected to mainly provide immediate financial and technical support to business rebuilding and recovery to resume essential activities and maintain jobs; support Micro Finance Institutions to capitalise and resume their lending operations; and provide social services to vulnerable groups affected by the blast such as the elders, persons with disabilities and survivors of sexual gender based violence (SGBV), among others. The LFF will strongly promote dialogue and coordination between all stakeholders, including a prominent role for the Civil Society, including in monitoring and evaluation.

In parallel, outcome 2 of this component will support dynamic SMEs committed to expand sustainably in key economic sectors identified as having potential for growth, including through import substitution. These are tentatively the agri-food, Medical and ICT/Creative industries sectors. The intervention will address critical factors hampering SMEs' efforts in taking advantage of the market opportunities presented by the country dwindling imports, as well as in developing their potential for growth and job creation.

The provision of incentives to technology acquisition and development will provide a timely opportunity for enterprises and researchers to jointly work and devise sustainable and greener solutions adapted to current market needs, while the customised technical assistance will address company's identified weaknesses, making them better prepared to compete in local and international markets. Support to internationalise these achievements by facilitating collaboration with European research institutions, as well as by tapping into

potential EU and other markets abroad will increase the chances for these companies to exploit their full potential. The proposed activities are expected to provide concrete advantages for the enterprises, increasing their competitive edge and allowing them to gain market share, locally and internationally, thus eventually growing and creating additional jobs, while contributing to a more sustainable socio-economic development of the country.

Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion

The underlying intervention logic for component 3 should contribute to the stabilisation of Lebanon through fostering social inclusion and cohesion, enabling economic recovery. For outcome 1, this will be achieved through promoting social reconciliation activities among Lebanese communities with different social economic, political and religious backgrounds. Improving economic growth and building social capital, cooperation and trust among Lebanese citizens of a community is the building block of an inclusive and prosperous society. In order to reduce social and political tensions and foster social cohesion within and among Lebanese communities, a variety of initiatives aiming at building consensus among people of different religious, political views and diverse social backgrounds in the different geographic regions will be implemented. This will boost resilience in the face of sectarian division, reduce sectarian tensions and promote a more coherent vision for the future of Lebanon. Conflict analysis will be used as a tool for citizens to design interventions that promote governance, development, building resilience and does not increase or create conflict.

Concerning outcome 2, the focus is on mainstreaming social cohesion at community level through inclusive and participatory approaches to develop consensus building among vulnerable groups, including women and youth. This will be achieved with the support of a technical team that will provide assistance to the implementing partners in managing, monitoring and evaluating the programme activities, including the Financial Support to Third Party scheme. Support will be provided to implementers to mainstream inclusive approach and consensus building in EU developing activities and ensuring proper coordination of the different activities and mainstreaming social cohesion into existing EU development programmes at community level.

Component 4 – Disaster management, port and maritime reform for economic recovery

The underlying intervention logic for this component is that the 4 August 2020 explosions dramatically showed the close interlink between security and development. The event was a tragic result of years of malpractices and corruption that have nourished a negligent attitude in properly addressing evident safety and security problems, including the risks posed by the trade of dual use goods in a port built in the proximity of a densely populated area. The sense of impunity also made the port and the sea a privileged spot for illegal trafficking and smuggling activities.

The magnitude of the event exposed as well the vulnerability of the national system to prevent hazard, manage crisis and conduct complex investigation to identify timely the culprits and make them accountable before the justice.

In view of the above, the component proposes to intervene on two interconnected axes aiming to:

- 1) reinforce the governance, safety and security of the maritime sector by promoting the implementation of adequate procedures of control on trade of dangerous goods and counter illegal activities and ultimately restoring the rule of law;
- 2) support the disaster risks prevention and management, including the reinforcement of forensic capacity to support timely investigation.

The two components ultimately aim to rebuild the trust between the citizens and the State, as the legitimate provider of security.

Through the provision of expertise, supply of equipment and infrastructural support the programme will assist Lebanon in promoting better governance of national administration and guarantee efficient operational capacity of military and civilian actors in charge of safety and security. The project will build the capacity of relevant stakeholders to operate in a transparent, accountable and coordinated manner to prevent, respond to and investigate security threats by ensuring the rule of law according to international standards. Efficient control and improved risk analysis and sharing of information at national and international level will facilitate the control and safety of critical economic infrastructure and support the legal cross border trade thus contributing to improved economy and long-term development.

3.6. Indicative Logical Framework Matrix

Component 1: Support to access to justice and restorative measures

Results	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To improve access to justice and independent oversight mechanisms; and providing legal aid and support to victims of the Beirut Port explosion and to vulnerable groups in conflict with the law, including developing restorative criminal justice responses and preventing violent extremism.	Percentage of 3RF “Justice and Human Rights” pillar commitments implemented.			Internal survey/evaluation (pre/post) of actors	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1. Enhance access to justice, legal aid for victims of the blast and vulnerable groups, and independent oversight mechanisms of the justice system.	Progress on improving procedures, processes and implementation in the justice system in line with International and European standards.. Justice actors and independent oversight mechanisms are actively engaged in enhancing access to justice. 1.1	Priorities identified by 3RF justice section Current state of implementation of 4 key laws (82/2018; 138/2019; 191/2020; 62/2016) is deficient	Progress is accomplished on at least 6 existing draft laws/decrees or new draft laws/decrees Progress in implementation is observed Judicial actors, CSOs, NHRC/NPM are all actively engaged	Official journal, Minutes of Parliamentary Commission/ text of draft laws Implementation decree/Internal activity reports	National commitment by Justice and security stakeholders to implement reform. Commitment by Parliament to reform system

<p>Outcome 2</p>	<p>2. Improve fundamental rights safeguards in the criminal justice system, support restorative measures for vulnerable groups/minors in conflict with the law and further counter/prevent violent extremism.</p>	<p>Percentage of detained persons that have access to improved detention conditions, basic services rehabilitation and reintegration services</p> <p>Number of trained staff handling high risk prisoners</p> <p>Number of persons benefiting from enhanced use of alternative measures to detention and sentencing.</p> <p>Additional levels of improvement of Warwar facility through upgraded detention conditions and services for children that are conducive to their protection and social reintegration</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation reporting.</p> <p>MoJ data analysis reports</p> <p>Reports and documentation of the piloting of alternatives</p> <p>Project progress reports</p> <p>MoJ and MoJMs reports / statistics;</p> <p>project progress reports, external, evaluation reports;</p> <p>CSOs reports;</p> <p>Steering Committee reports</p> <p>Project progress reports</p>	<p>National commitment to operationalise actions to improve prisons' management and detention conditions.</p> <p>Security parameters, political and COVID-19 situation are stable.</p> <p>National commitment to operationalise actions in the best interest of the child.</p>
<p>Output 1 related to Outcome 1</p>	<p>1.1 Legal assistance and support to the Bar Association are provided to victims of the blast and/or vulnerable groups throughout the criminal justice chain (arrest, pre-trial/trial and detention phases).</p>	<p>number of persons benefitting from legal aid services (i) through legal aid helpdesks (ii) through referral mechanisms in Bar associations</p> <p>number of people benefitting from legal assistance during investigation phases through referral mechanisms in Bar</p>	<p>system not yet fully operation</p> <p>Laws adopted in Q4 2020, encountering resistance from judiciary and security actors</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>MoM of group</p> <p>Activity report</p> <p>activity report of Bar associations</p> <p>Internal activity report/reports from Bar Association</p>	<p>Smooth coordination between CSOs, MoJ and MOIM on legal aid service delivery to detainees;</p> <p>Openness of Justice & Security institutions to</p>

		associations (disaggregated by sex and age) number of personnel from justice/security sectors sensitized and/or trained on law to strengthen basic guarantees and activate human rights (191/2020)				dialogue on law 191/2020 and initiate its implementation (or alternatively to discuss amendments)
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Access to justice, including recourse to alternate alternative dispute resolution and mediation mechanisms are improved and enforced.	number of people benefitting from mediation/ADR services through (i) legal aid helpdesks (ii) bar associations (disaggregated by sex and age) number of awareness sessions on mediation/ADR conducted number of capacity building sessions for judges, prosecutors and legal professionals conducted progress in implementation of mediation laws progress on developing and implementing monitoring/oversight tools Progress in strengthening capacities of NHRC/NPM	USJ and Tripoli Bar associations existing efforts. Numbers to be confirmed Committee does not exist (2020) Law on judicial med adopted in 09/18-no implementation decree yet; non-judicial mediation draft law yet to be passed. Strong concerns as to compatibility of 2 texts	at least 2 new tools, including framework (referential) for monitoring, developed and piloted NHRC/NPM conducting monitoring, reporting activities with developed tools	activity report of helpdesks (ii) activity reports of Bar associations Internal activity report Internal reporting, validated TORs of committee, MoM Official journal; MoM of steering committee Internal activity report/ NHRC/NPM activity report	Commitment of relevant stakeholders (MoJ, Parliament, bar associations...) to prioritise and ensure efficient coordination Commitment of justice institutions (HJC, JIC) to reform as per 3RF agenda. Allocation of a minimum of resources to NHRC/NPM
Output 3 related to Outcome 1	1.3 Oversight mechanisms in the justice system are strengthened, including capacities of civil society organisations, the National Human	Progress on developing and implementing monitoring/oversight tools	NHRC/NPM is not operational (2020)	Justice actors and NHRC/NPM conducting	Sub-granting to NGOs NGOs reports.	Commitment of justice institutions (HJC, JIC) to reform as per 3RF agenda.

	Rights Commission, and the National Preventive Mechanisms.	Progress in strengthening capacities of NHRC/NPM		monitoring, reporting activities with developed tools	Internal progress reports/ official hearing records. Internal activity report/ NHRC/NPM activity report	Allocation of a minimum of resources to NHRC/NPM
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 National and CSOs' capacities to provide basic services, alternative and preventive services, rehabilitation and reintegration measures, protection and social reinsertion activities with particular attention to specific needs of women, minors and vulnerable groups are strengthened throughout the criminal justice chain.	<p>Number of prisons and detention facilities improved</p> <p>Number of staff trained to enhance their capacity in improving detention conditions and services provided</p> <p>Number of staff trained on data entry and production of analytical reports</p> <p>Percentage of prisoners benefiting from rehabilitation and reintegration programmes</p> <p>Number of prisoners (male and females) benefiting from basic services</p>	TBD	TBD	<p>Contracts and Invoices</p> <p>Official correspondence</p> <p>MoJ inspection reports</p> <p>Reports and attendance sheets for training sessions</p> <p>Pre and post training tests</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation reporting</p>	<p>Ease of accessibility for refurbishment contactors to prisons and detention facilities</p> <p>Suitable staff rotation to allow effective use of newly-acquired skills and knowledge</p>
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 Measures to counter and prevent violent extremism and radicalisation and handling of high-risk profiles are further improved in the criminal and penitentiary systems.	<p>Number of sub-granting to NGOs provided</p> <p>Number of CSOs providing assistance</p> <p>Percentage of prisoners benefiting from rehabilitation and reintegration programmes</p> <p>Number of personnel trained</p>	TBD		<p>Reports and attendance sheets for training sessions</p> <p>Pre and post training tests</p>	<p>Dedicated personnel working with high risk prisoners.</p> <p>Suitable staff rotation</p> <p>Inter-ministerial cooperation</p>

		Percentage of qualified front-line personnel Number of SOPs approved				including with NGOs
Output 3 related to Outcome 2	2.3 Detention conditions, education/social programmes and services for juvenile offenders or suspects are improved and conducive to their protection and social reinsertion, with particular attention to the specific needs of girls, and including the operationalisation of the Warwar correctional facility for children	Percentage of qualified front-line personnel Number of services provided Number of service providers trained on reintegration approaches. Percentage of prosecutors judges using alternative measures to pre-trial and prison sentences Percentage of judges using alternative measures to pre-trial and prison sentences Percentage of persons benefiting from alternative measures Number of additional refurbishments and equipment procured and fully operational Number of staff trained on responding to children's needs and disengagement from violence Number of SOPs/Code of conduct developed Percentage of children benefiting from rehabilitation and reintegration programmes	TBD	At least two sub-grants to NGOs	Contracts/Invoices Field visits Official correspondence Inspection reports Project progress reports Monitoring and evaluation reports Field visits Documented success stories Reports and documentation of the piloting of alternatives Statistics on sentences including alternatives Civil Society reports	MoSA/ MOIM/ CSOs are committed to provide reintegration resources and services. MoJ more specifically judges are committed to take alternatives measures Implementing partners (judges and NGOs) are engaged in piloting the alternative measures Equipment provided are not diverted and used for their assigned purposes MoJ, ISF and CSOs' capacity to

						engage in this field.
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Component 2: Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

Results	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To contribute to sustainable, environmentally friendly and inclusive socio-economic recovery and job creation in Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty rate 2. Unemployment rate 3. Food security and livelihoods indicators 4. Lebanon score in the Global Competitiveness Index 5. Global Innovation Index (WIPO) 6. Industrial sectors contribution to GDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 2 3 4.- 56,3 (2019) 5.- 87/131 (2020) 6.- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 2 3 4.- 60 (2025) 2 5.- 80/131 (2025) 3 6.- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. World Bank 2. IMF 3. SDG reports 4. World Economic Forum 5. WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) 6. IMF 4. World Bank poverty indicators 5. SDG indicators 6. 	Not applicable
Outcome 1	1- Support immediate socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses following the explosion in Beirut on August 4 th 2020 and build the foundations for medium term recovery and the sustainable reconstruction of the Port of Beirut and affected neighbourhoods, based on the build-back-better principles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of beneficiaries benefiting from improved services, training and social programmes (disaggregated by women, boys, care workers, people with disabilities, older persons) - Percentage of cultural heritage residential building affected by the blast that have been rehabilitated. - Share of Micro and Small beneficiary enterprises that are operational for at least 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1- 1.2- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1- 1.2- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1- 1.2- 	The country does not descend into a situation of chaos and widespread insecurity, which would jeopardise the implementation of this Action.

		<p>12 months after receiving the grants (percentage), of which are women-owned enterprises (percentage)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of Microfinance Institutions operational for at least 24 months after receiving support (number). - Number of jobs maintained and/or created by supported MSMEs, disaggregated by gender. - Detailed port reform road map delivered and consulted upon - Collaborative platform for stakeholders' engagement on the port sector established and operational. - 3RF beneficiaries reporting that citizen engagement processes are transparent, inclusive and responsive (disaggregated by gender and age). <p><i>Note</i>¹⁰</p>				
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¹⁰ In the absence of outcome level indicators for the Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) and its constituent projects, the 3RF outcome level indicators for its four pillars are used to offer an indication only.

Outcome 2	2- Increased competitiveness of SMEs within selected key economic sectors with innovation as key vector for sustainable growth	2.1. Number of direct jobs supported or sustained by the intervention, disaggregated by gender (EU RF 2.11) 2.2. Percentage of supported firms that report an increase in net income as a results of support 2.3. Percentage of supported firms that report an increase in market share (locally and/or internationally) as a result of support 2.4. Number of businesses applying digital solutions with intervention support, disaggregated by sex of owner 2.5. Number of MSMEs applying Sustainable Consumption and Production practices with EU support (EU RF 2.20)	2.1. 0 2.2. 0 2.3. 0 2.4. 0 2.5. 0	2.1. 2.2. 2.3. 2.4. 2.5.	For all: Programme M+E system	
Output 1 related to outcome 1	1.1. Urgent socio-economic recovery priorities of poor and vulnerable communities/households and businesses in Beirut are addressed	1.1.1- Number of MSMEs provided with liquidity and in-kind support to reach pre-blast activity levels 1.1.2- Number of measures implemented to support the development of better business foundations to overcome future shocks 1.1.3- Number of measures implemented to support housing recovery and the stabilisation of cultural assets	-	-	Each project's M&E under the LFF	The security situation in Lebanon does not deteriorate following the protests against the authorities since 2019 and after the blasts, and subsequent Prime Ministers' resignations.
Output 2 related to outcome 1	1.2. Targeted economic, financial, environmental and governance reforms identified in the 3RF are implemented and supported	1.2.1- Number of economic, financial, environmental or governance reforms implemented and supported	-	-	Each project's M&E under the LFF	Lebanon's internal political situation and stability enables the stakeholders to implement reforms required. All political actors at central and local level

						remain committed to the reform process as per CEDRE recommendations.
Output 3 related to outcome 1	1.3. Strengthened multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination, monitoring and evaluation and citizen engagement	1.3.1- Number of institutional arrangements for multi-stakeholder dialogue established and operationalised	-	-	Each project's M&E under the LFF	The Lebanese government is willing to take part in the structured dialogue with civil society. Civil Society Organisations are willing to participate in the policy dialogue and are committed to playing a watchdog role in fighting corruption.
Output 1 related to outcome 2	2.1 Sustainable innovative products, systems and processes are adopted and developed by Lebanese SMEs in selected economic sectors through collaboration with local and international research institutions	2.1.1 Number of successful collaboration agreements between SMEs and knowledge providers 2.1.2 Number of businesses introducing a new product/service to the market with intervention support 2.1.3 Number of business who manage to bring a sustainable innovation up to commercialisation stage	2.1.1- 0 2.1.2- 0 2.1.3- 0	2.1.1- 2.1.2- 2.1.3-	For all: - Programme M+E system	
Output 2 related to outcome 2	2.2 Increased access to local and/or international markets of selected Lebanese SMEs	2.2.1 Number of firms increasing market share locally 2.2.2 Number of firms increasing exports 2.2.3 Number of firms supported that meet standards and technical requirements for exports	2.2.1- 2.2.2- 2.2.3-	2.2.1- 2.2.2- 2.2.3-		
Output 3 related to outcome 2	2.3 Enhanced networking and partnerships between key actors of the Lebanese innovation ecosystem	2.3.1 Number of partnerships established 2.3.2 Number of technology transfer cases tracked and promoted	1.3.1- 1.3.2- 1.3.3-	1.3.1- 1.3.2- 1.3.3-		COVID-19-related full restrictions on mobility and access to work do not

	promoting transfer of technology and innovation	2.3.3 Number of actors joining a coordination/collaboration platforms/mechanisms established by the intervention				continue during project implementation.
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Component 3: Social inclusion and cohesion

Results	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To contribute to the stabilisation of Lebanon through fostering social inclusion, cohesion and economic recovery	Poverty rate Unemployment rate Community participation in social cohesion interventions	SDG indicators	Restoring citizens livelihood and well being	Monitoring reports	Not applicable
Outcome 1	1 - Social and political tensions reduced and social cohesion enhanced within and among Lebanese communities fostered	1.1 percentage of citizens participating in social cohesion initiatives	To be established	N/A	Programme reports Beneficiaries feedback/surveys	Unpredictable conditions outside the project management's contract may affect implementation of activities and influence the output-outcome linkage
Outcome 2	2 - Mainstreaming social cohesion at community level through inclusive and participatory approaches to develop consensus building among Lebanese stakeholders from varied backgrounds into EU community-based development programmes.	2.1 number of initiatives fostering inclusiveness at community level implemented by local actors 2.2 percentage of citizens of different groups engaged in social cohesion activities 2.2. percentage of women, youth and minorities engaged at community level in consensus building initiatives	To be establish	Decrease in the rate of migration Increase in the employment rate Increase of women and youth participation in local decisions	Yearly reports Survey/meetings reports	

Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 Cohesion and resilience of the Lebanese society as a whole is strengthened through inclusive initiatives, sustainable dialogue, meetings, events and activities	1.1.1 Number of vulnerable groups (i.e. ethnic/religious minorities, persons with disabilities) included in social cohesion initiatives	To be established	Improved number of vulnerable groups included in social cohesion initiatives	Focus groups discussion at inception and upon initiatives completions under the programme	<p>External environment allows for the continuation of project activities to be undertaken and implemented in Lebanon</p> <p>Risk analysis and appropriate mitigations continue to be monitored and updated in line with changing operational environment in Lebanon</p> <p>Donor coordination measures are in place in order to ensure harmonisation and advocacy for the smooth running and implementation of the Action</p> <p>EU, WB and UN remain committed to the 3RF and its implementation in Lebanon</p>
Output 2 related to Outcome 1	1.2 Common identity promoted and trust building initiated among citizens	1.2.1 Number of persons sensitized on building resilience and trust in target communities	To be established	To be determined during project implementation	<p>Project reporting and analysis, ROM, M&E reports</p>	
Output 3 related to Outcome 1	1.3 Trusted partnerships and connections built with civil society and intercommunal tensions reduced	1.3.1 Number of new partnerships formally established between civil society groups and local authorities	N/A-new indicator	To be determined during project implementation		
Outcome 4 related to Outcome 1	1.4 Social resilience and inclusion is improved and able to prevent radicalization mainly in vulnerable areas with high risk of sectarian and political divide	1.4.1 Number of vulnerable groups (i.e. ethnic/religious minorities, persons with disabilities) included in social cohesion initiatives	N/A-new indicator	To be determined during project implementation		
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 Ongoing EU development programmes are used to transform conflict into a more sustainable and peaceful relationship among diverse groups at community level (i.e. in terms of rights, duties and activities).	2.1.1 Number of EU funded projects re-adapted to integrate social cohesion dimension	N/A-new indicator	To be determined during project implementation		
Output 2 related to Outcome 2	2.2 EU development programmes in Lebanon are better coordinated to promote and complement civil society engagement at community level and groups, mainly among those with diverse identities (i.e. gender, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability).	2.2.1 Number of EU funded projects provided with technical assistance to manage and monitor programme activities	N/A-new indicator	To be determined during project implementation		
Output 3 related to Outcome 2	2.3 CSOs integrated in EU programmed are provided with technical assistance for better	2.3.1 Capacity building plan established and implemented	N/A-new indicator	To be determined during project implementation		

	cooperation and coordination with local government promoted	2.3.2 Number of capacity building programmes developed and implemented by the technical assistance				
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Component 4: Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

Results	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (2020)	Targets (2026)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To contribute to a secure and safe environment in Lebanon through accountable institutions ,	1 Security threat index 1 Corruption perception index 2 Government effectiveness index	1 7.80 (2020) 1 28 (2019) 2 -0.83 (2019)	1 6.50 2 31 3 -0.40 4 Custom law approved and implemented	Reports by 1 theglobaleconomy.com 2 Transparency international 3 World Bank	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	1 Reinforced governance and effectiveness in the management of port and maritime affairs, in line with the rule of law and international conventions	1.1 Extent to which a Risk management system is established and operational 1.2 Extent of interagency coordination	1.1 No risk management system in place 1.2 informal and limited coordination	1.1 Risk management in place and operational 1.2 Formal coordination structures in place and enforced	1.1 World Bank Coordination meeting minutes 1.2 National Agencies activity Reports 1.3 Intervention related reports (progress reports, ROMs, evaluation)	IMP adopted Port Sector Law enacted Established Risk Management Working Group continues to deliver Customs reform is ratified Effective donors' coordination

Outcome 2	2. Strengthened effectiveness in Disaster Management.	2.1 Extent to which security agencies work in coordination. 2.2 Extent to which preventive measures are enforced	2.1 Initial interagency coordination in place 2.2 low implementation level of preventive measures policies	2.1 Structured interagency coordination in place 2.2 preventive measures effectively applied	2.1 CBRN Commission Activity reports 2.2 Activity Report from Civil Defence and Fire Fighters on control to preventive measures application 2.3 Intervention related reports (progress reports, ROMs, evaluation)	Continued effective cooperation with national stakeholders Prevention continue to be considered a priority by national counterparts
Output 1 related to Outcome 1	1.1 Strengthened institutional and operational capacities on port governance, and maritime safety and security.	1.1.1 No of Standard Operating Procedures developed/updated to increase interagency cooperation on port management 1.1.2 Training curricula on port management developed with attention to interagency aspects	1.1.1 Limited interagency SOPs in place 1.1.2 Standard Curricula not available	1.1.1 Interagency SOP available and implemented 1.1.2 Curricula available	1.1.1 SoPs 1.1.2 Curricula 1.1.3 Intervention related reports (progress reports, ROMs, evaluation)	Political willingness towards IMP adoption and implementation National agencies commitment to interagency cooperation
Output 1 related to Outcome 2	2.1 Improved emergency prevention, preparedness and response capacities, in particular CBRN incidents	2.1.1 Extent to which a Chain of command and the interagency coordination in case of an emergency is defined	2.1.1 Unclear coordination mechanism	2.1.1 Clear Chain of Command and interagency coordination in place	2.1.1 Reports by GoL and security agencies 2.1.2 MoU and SoPs 2.1.3 Training reports	Open collaboration among national stakeholders Agreement on chain of command

		<p>2.1.2 No of preventive measures protocols in place.</p> <p>2.1.3 Interagency operations and response capacities is strengthened.</p>	<p>2.1.2 Protocols are not established/implemented</p> <p>2.1.3 Operations and response not done at interagency level</p>	<p>2.1.2 At least 3 protocols in place (CBR)</p> <p>2.1.3 Interagency operations and response do happen at least in Beirut</p>	<p>Annual report of activities by relevant agencies</p> <p>2.1.4 Protocols Reports by agencies</p> <p>2.1.5 Intervention related reports (progress reports, ROMs, evaluation)</p>	<p>Interest in interagency training on preventive/response measures</p>
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4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing Agreement

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

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.

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 measures¹¹.

4.3.1. Direct Management (Grants)

4.3.1.1. Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to achieving outcome 2 of component 2 to increase the competitiveness of SMEs within selected key economic sectors with innovation as key vector for sustainable growth.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Applicants targeted are NGOs, CSOs, research institutions, universities, public and private sector operators. International organisations may also be eligible.

4.3.1.2. Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to achieving the outcomes of component 3 contributing to the stabilisation of Lebanon through fostering social inclusion and cohesion, enabling economic recovery.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Applicants targeted are NGOs and international Organisations.

4.3.1.3. Component 4 - Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to achieving the outcomes of component 4 contributing to a secure and safe environment in Lebanon through accountable institutions,

¹¹ 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.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Applicants targeted are Non-profit organisations, local authorities, public bodies, international and inter-governmental organisations, foundations, non-governmental organisation, public sector operator, economic operators.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to one of the type of applicants referred to under (b) selected, using the following criteria:

1) technical knowledge and proven special technical expertise in security sector, disaster management or 3RF framework in Lebanon; 2) proven experience in managing EU funds for the delivery of development assistance; 3) knowledge of the country and positive track record on co-operation with relevant Lebanese authorities; 4) demonstrated ability in multi-stakeholder collaboration and to close cooperation with EU Member States.

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposal is justified because component 4 is a highly sensitive security sector of intervention that requires a specific type of beneficiary selected for its technical competence, specialisation or administrative power as per Article 195(f) FR.

4.3.2. Direct Management (Procurement)

The procurement will contribute to achieving outcome 2 of component 2 to increase the competitiveness of SMEs within selected key economic sectors with innovation as key vector for sustainable growth.

4.3.3. Indirect Management with an international organisation

4.3.3.1 Component 1 – Support access to justice and restorative measures

A part of component 1 may be implemented in indirect management with a pillar assessed international organization(s) which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: i) the necessary capacity to effectively address political, technical, logistical and institutional challenges; ii) sound track record in implementing projects in Lebanon relating to penitentiary reforms, promotion of human rights and reinforcement of the rule of law; iii) proven experience in implementing in Lebanon EU funded justice and security actions similar to the programme proposed; iv) capacity to mainstream oversight and civil society activities.

The implementation by this entity will entail all the activities contributing to the outcomes of component 1.

4.3.3.2 Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses

A part of this component may be implemented in indirect management with an entity that will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

i) necessary capacity to effectively address political, technical, logistical and institutional challenges; ii) sound track record in implementing projects in relation to reform, recovery and reconstruction; iii) proven experience

in implementing in Lebanon actions similar to the programme proposed; iv) capacity to mainstream oversight and civil society activities.

The implementation by this entity will entail all the activities contributing to outcome 1

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

In case any of the components in direct management cannot be implemented through grant (as per section 4.3.1) or procurement (as per section 4.3.2) due to circumstances outside of the Commission’s control, these components may be implemented in indirect management with an entrusted entity that will be selected by the Commission’s services using the following criteria: 1) specific technical competence and specialisation 2) ability to mobilise highly specialised EU know-how, 3) transparent and accountable procurement procedures 4) ability to complement international assistance.

In case any of the components in indirect management with an international organisation as per section 4.3.3 cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission’s control, this component may be implemented under direct management through grants or procurements by the type of applicants described in 4.3.1.3 (b), that will be selected by the Commission’s services using the following criteria: 1) specific technical competence and specialisation 2) ability to mobilise highly specialised EU know-how, 3) transparent and accountable procurement procedures 4) ability to complement international assistance.

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)
Implementation modalities – cf. section 4.3	
Component 1 – Support to access to justice and restorative measures	6 000 000

Indirect management with an international organisation – cf. section 4.3.3.1	6 000 000
Component 2 - Socio-economic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses	28 000 000
Indirect management with an international organisation – cf. section 4.3.3.2	10 000 000
Grants (direct management) - cf. section 4.3.1.1	N.A.
Procurement (direct management) - cf. section 4.3.2	N.A.
Component 3 – Social inclusion and cohesion	6 000 000
Grants (direct management) – cf. section 4.3.1.2	N.A.
Component 4 – Disaster management, port governance and maritime reform for economic recovery	6 000 000
Grants (direct management) - cf. section 4.3.1.3	N.A.
Grants – total envelope under section 4.3.1	26 000 000
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.3.2	4 000 000
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	will be covered by another Decision
Communication and visibility – cf. section 6	N.A.
Contingencies	N.A.
Totals	46 000 000

4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The EU Delegation is part of the governing arrangements of the 3RF and initially co-chairing the Consultative Group (CG) jointly with the Prime Minister, UN Resident Coordinator and a civil society representative. The CG with the participation of selected line Ministers, Members of Parliament, international donors and civil society is a forum for high-level political dialogue and provides strategic guidance for coordination and oversight of the overall 3RF implementation. A civil society led Independent Oversight Body monitors 3RF implementation progress, provides periodic reports disclosed to the public and presented to the governing bodies and receives complaints and feedback from beneficiaries and citizens and report on its findings.

In addition, for each of the four components, a project steering committee (PSC) shall be set to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project. It will also provide guidance for the programme activities and oversight of implementation, provide co-ordination to ensure overall coherency. The PSC shall meet minimum twice a year.

The implementing consortium will assist the PSC by fulfilling a technical secretariat functioning jointly with technical and operational counterparts and ensuring an active and meaningful participation of right holders as applicable (i.e. representatives of the relevant Ministries, beneficiary agencies, civil society, women, youth, minorities, public and private sector organisations, academia/research representatives) in each of the programme activities and in the decision making.

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.

For component 2, a Partnership Council (PC) of the Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) for Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) is established to a) ensure alignment of MDTF priorities and work plan with the 3RF priorities and other development partner efforts; b) provide strategic guidance and direction on MDTF objectives and priorities, and its implementation; c) review and endorse multi-year Results Framework for the MDTF, and review progress reports provided by the World Bank based on the results framework; d) endorse an annual work plan and budgets; e) review and approve funding requests submitted. The PC will be co-chaired by the World Bank Country Director and EU Delegation senior-level representative, and will consist of: (a) one representative of each of the Donors to the MDTF above a minimum contribution of US\$ 5 million (over five years); (b) representatives from the Government of Lebanon; (c) the UN Resident Coordinator as observer; and (d) representatives from CSO, NGO, private sector (on a rotational basis) as observers. It is envisaged that the Partnership Council will meet quarterly, as convened by the World Bank.

Under the LFF, a PC has been established to: a) ensure alignment of the Trust Fund's priorities and work plan (draft and final) with the 3RF priorities and other development partner efforts; b) provide strategic guidance and direction on Trust Fund's objectives and priorities, and its implementation; c) review and endorse multi-year Results Framework for the Trust Fund, and review annual progress reports and other progress updates provided by the Bank based on the results framework; d) review year-end single audit reports; and e) review and endorse annual work programs and budget allocations.

The PC is co-chaired by the WB and EU and consist of: (a) one representative of each of the Donors to the MDTF above a minimum contribution of USD 5 million (over five years); (b) up to three representatives from the Government of Lebanon; (c) the UN Resident Coordinator as observer; and (d) three representatives from CSO, NGO, private sector (on a rotational basis) as observers. Contributions to the LFF are driven by European donors including from the EU (AAP 2020), Denmark, Germany, France, and potentially Italy and Croatia.

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.

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).

The 3RF Secretariat would be responsible for supporting technical coordination of the 3RF and promoting coherence between efforts of the government, donors and civil society. It would also provide support to the operationalization of agreed arrangements for monitoring and oversight (including monitoring of financing streams) and inform the Consultative Group on overall 3RF strategic progress.

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

- Implementing partners will be requested to identify clear baselines setting and targets and specify whether additional surveys are needed in case data are not yet available and/or should be refined during the inception phase. If needed, additional survey can be funded at contract level and budget lines to this aim to be clearly identified in the contract.
- Collection of data will be the responsibility of the applicant/grantee and baselines data must be available at the latest at the end of the inception phase while results data must be collected on time for the submission of the final report.
- Analysis of sex-disaggregated data will be encouraged whenever relevant and possible.
- Implementing partners will be requested to identify yearly milestones/targets to ensure a proper monitoring of the achievements at the time of the submission of the annual report. Grants contracts logical framework will be developed based on the logical framework for each of the Outcomes to promote coherent data collection and reporting.
- To promote the measurement of the impact of the action, the programme will make use of and possible participate in surveys done by others (i.e. national authorities or other donors).
- Peer review mechanisms will be favoured, alongside with the engagement of relevant national stakeholders in order to promote stronger national M&E capacities.

For outcome 2 of component 2, the LFF Results Framework will be developed in consultation with Partnership Council members on the basis of its work program and level of donor funding. The outputs and outcomes will be monitored regularly by the World Bank and presented at the LFF Partnership Council meeting. This information will also be shared with the 3RF Consultative Group to inform wider 3RF coordination and monitoring efforts. Each project under the LFF will have its own monitoring and evaluation arrangements, including a results matrix that will describe the project impact and outputs through indicators that can be monitored over the project life.

Specifically for component 2, the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) is entrusted to develop and implement an overall Monitoring system, including progress and final reports integrating the progress of each of the programme Outputs, so as to provide a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the degree of achievement of the whole outcome.

5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, for Component 1 and 2 a mid-term and a final evaluation will be carried out via independent consultants contracted by the Commission. For Component 3, a mid-term evaluation and for Component 4, a final evaluation will be carried out via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

The mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes, in particular to validate chosen approaches, efficiency and impact as applicable.

The final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels including for policy revision.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 45 days in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

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

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

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](#) (or any successor document), 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 delegation 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.