



Brussels, 12.12.2017
C(2017) 8306 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 12.12.2017

**on the Special Measure 2017 in favour of Israel to be financed from the general budget
of the Union**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 12.12.2017

on the Special Measure 2017 in favour of Israel to be financed from the general budget of the Union

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action¹ and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The EU and Israel agreed an Action Plan in April 2005 with the purpose of building a strong partnership and gradually integrating Israel into European policies and programmes. In the absence of a multi-annual programming document this action is proposed as a special measure on the basis of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.
- (2) The objective pursued by this special measure, to be financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument³, is to continue developing closer relationships between the EU and Israel, aiming at achieving a significant level of economic integration and deepening political co-operation.
- (3) The institutional twinning projects to be financed under this measure will promote legislative approximation (including with regard to participation in European Union programmes) and strengthen the dialogue between the EU and Israel at political and administrative levels.
- (4) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁴.
- (5) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument, OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27.

⁴ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

- (6) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (7) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (8) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall in the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The measure should be communicated to the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by Article 15 of the financing instrument referred to in Recital 2 within 14 days from the day of adoption of this Decision.
- (9) The eligibility criteria formulated in Commission Notice Nr. 2013/C- 205/05 shall apply for all actions under this Special Measure 2017, including with respect to third parties receiving financial support in the cases where the respective action involves financial support to third parties by grant beneficiaries in accordance with Article 137 of the EU's Financial Regulation.
- (10) This Decision will be implemented in conformity with the European Union's position that the territories which came under Israeli administration in June 1967 are not part of the State of Israel.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The Special Measure 2017 in favour of Israel, as set out in the attached Annex, is approved.

The Special Measure shall include the following action:

- Support to the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the measure referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 1.8 million and shall be financed from budget line 22 04 01 02 of the general budget of the Union for 2017.

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

Article 3

Implementation modalities

The section “Implementation” of the Annex to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases not exceeding 20% of the contribution set by the first paragraph of Article 2 while not bringing that contribution above EUR 10 million, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 12.12.2017

For the Commission
Johannes HAHN
Member of the Commission



ANNEX

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Special Measures 2017 in favour of Israel
to be financed from the general budget of the Union

Action Document for "Support to the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan"

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012) in the following sections concerning calls for proposals: 5.3.1.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Support to European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan CRIS number: ENI/2017/040-346 financed under European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Israel The action shall be carried out at the following location: throughout the country. ¹	
3. Programming document	N/A	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	All sectors	DEV. Aid: NO
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 1,800,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 1,800,000	
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	Project Modality Direct management grants – call for proposal and procurement of services	
7 a) DAC code(s)	43010	

¹ The eligibility criteria formulated in Commission Notice Nr. 2013/C-205/05 (OJEU C-205 of 19.07.2013) shall apply to the call for proposals linked to this Action Programme. This notice, entitled "Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards", can be consulted at: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2013.205.01.0009.01.ENG

	Multisector Aid			
b) Main Delivery Channel	10000 – Public Sector Institutions			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<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"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	N/A			
10. SDGs	N/A			

SUMMARY

Israel is part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), and being a member of the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD)² receives only limited funding from the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) for the implementation of Twinning projects. Twinning is the institutional building tool of the ENI bilateral cooperation with Israel; all activities are implemented within internationally recognised Israeli borders.

The EU-Israeli Association Agreement³ remains the framework for cooperation, while the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan⁴ contains a set of common objectives and commitments. It also provides the basis for increased co-operation and exchange of views, with an aim to explore the possibility of legislative and regulatory approximation in jointly identified priority areas.

There is no multiannual programming for Israel. The actions, financed through special measures, have to reflect Israel's interest and capacity to implement the jointly agreed

² Israel is a member of the OECD since 2010.

³ http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/delegations/israel/documents/eu_israel/asso_agree_en.pdf

⁴ http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/enp/pdf/pdf/action_plans/israel_enp_ap_final_en.pdf

priorities and have to follow the rules set for institutional Twinning instrument on the *acquis communautaire*.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector

The legal basis for the EU relations with Israel is the EU-Israel Association Agreement, which has been in force since 2000. The EU-Israel Association Committee last met on 2 May 2012, and the Association Council on 24 July 2012, during which the EU and the State of Israel identified concrete activities for cooperation in over 15 specific fields. The Preamble of the Association Agreement establishes the overarching framework of cooperation: "CONSIDERING the importance which the Parties attach to the principle of economic freedom and to the principles of the United Nations Charter, particularly the observance of human rights and democracy, which form the very basis of the Association". The overall aim of this agreement is to provide an appropriate framework for political dialogue and economic cooperation between the EU and Israel.

The current EU-Israel ENP Action Plan was adopted in April 2005. It provides the general policy framework for bilateral relations and both parties committed themselves to establishing a partnership which provides for close political and mutually beneficial trade and investment relations together with economic, social, financial, civil scientific, technological and cultural cooperation. The validity of the EU-Israel Action Plan is extended annually by mutual agreement of the two sides, most recently until end of 2017. Although there were no Association Committee or Association Council meetings since 2012, cooperation and bilateral dialogue remains active.

At technical level, the implementation of institutional Twinning projects has proven to be very successful in Israel. In addition, technical assistance through Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission (TAIEX) is equally valued by Israel and is used for targeted exchanges of public expertise. Israel also participates in regional and multi-country programmes funded under the ENI as well as benefits from the thematic programme (including human rights and democracy, civil society and local authorities).

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

Israel is among the EU immediate neighbours included in the ENP which offers the perspective of moving beyond cooperation to a significant degree of integration through a stake in the EU's Internal Market and the possibility to participate in key aspects of EU policies and programmes. Israel was among the first wave of countries to agree on an ENP Action Plan with the EU. This entered into force in April 2005 and has been regularly extended, most recently until the end of 2017. The identification of new EU-Israel Partnership Priorities (PPs) in line with revised ENP remains to be launched in the near future. It is anticipated that the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan be extended for the year 2018.

Building on the institutional framework set up by the EU-Israel Association Agreement, the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan set out in more detail a comprehensive set of jointly developed priorities with a programme of specific activities to which both sides are committed. The areas for greater cooperation under the ENP Action Plan include: upgrading political

cooperation; promoting peace in the Middle East; approximating Israeli legislation to that of the EU as a way of opening the EU's Internal Market to Israel; pursuing greater liberalisation of trade, services and agriculture; the fight against organised crime; cooperation in transport, energy and communications; closer links in science and technology and people-to-people contacts in education, culture and civil society.

Since the entry into force of the ENP Action Plan several new agreements have been signed: Agreements on Procurement by Telecommunications Operators and on Government Procurement and Agreement on Good Laboratory Practice. One highlight of 2009 was the conclusion of an EU-Israel agreement on agriculture. On 4 November 2009 the European Commission and Israel signed the new agreement concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products. Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of industrial products (ACAA) entered into force on 19 January 2013. The Agreement contains an annex on good manufacturing practices for pharmaceutical products which will allow for EU-certified pharmaceuticals to be placed on Israel's market and vice-versa, without additional certification. In June 2013 the EU and Israel signed a comprehensive air transport agreement which will gradually open up and integrate their respective markets, develop an aviation area with common rules, offer economic benefits for consumers and new opportunities for the industry. Finally, in 2014, Israel and the European Union signed the agreement associating Israel to the Horizon 2020 – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020). The agreement provides Israeli researchers, universities and companies with full access to the Horizon 2020 Programme.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The direct beneficiary of the programme is the Israeli public administration, while the indirect beneficiaries are all residents of Israel, with specific focus on marginalized groups notably through mainstreaming of the right-based approach.

A variety of relevant stakeholders are involved in relation to each sector of cooperation, from Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Associations of Industries, Academics and etc.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

Discussions with the Israeli authorities show that their main indicative priority areas for new twinning projects are equal opportunities, energy, environment, health, justice, public service, social and legal affairs.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
The formal necessity of including a clause defining “territoriality” may delay signing the Financial Agreement.	L	This risk will be mitigated through offering exchange of letters accompanying the Financing Agreement.
Prior consultation process with	L	This risk will be mitigated through starting

Israeli Ministries may delay signing the Financial Agreement.		the consultation in the first quarter of year N+1.
Preparation of the twinning fiches could possibly be delayed due to limited experience on the Israeli side in dealing with EU programmes and the lack of resources attributed to the subject.	M	This risk will be mitigated through offering support by recruiting EU external experts to draft the Twinning project fiches.
<p>Assumptions</p> <p>A degree of commitment to the twinning instrument at the political level in Israel will remain high despite possible disagreements in some EU-Israel policies or slow consultation process on identifying Partnership Priorities under new ENP.</p> <p>On December 2016, due to the internal reorganisation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the Programme Administration Officer - one part-time official in charge of managing the Twinning and TAIEX instruments – left and was replaced by the higher level official. While the Programme Administration Officer replacement is committed to his task and is clearly doing his best to communicate information about the Twinning and TAIEX instruments to the ministries in Israel, still a lot of operational tasks fall on the Delegation services to manage.</p>		

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

Since 2006 Israel has been receiving support from the TAIEX instrument and has since become one of the most frequent users of this instrument amongst ENP Souths countries. The financing agreement for the first bi-lateral allocation in support to the ENP Action Plan was signed in July 2008 in order to implement twinning activities.

Since then, eleven twinning projects have been successfully implemented. These projects benefitted several Israeli Ministries. One twinning project is ongoing to provide support to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics in improving the quality of official statistics. New twinning project with the Israeli Ministry of Communications will be signed in order to strength the regulatory capacity of Israel in the field of telecommunications, with a focus on service provision over networks owned and operated by others. The twinning project with the Ministry of Education is in its early preparatory stage. Two concept notes were submitted by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Economy. Discussions are taking place to further explore cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Justice on how to fight against human trafficking, as well as with the Ministry of Interior on how to support their regionalisation efforts and financial capacities of Israel local authorities.

Results-Oriented Monitoring experts have consistently highlighted the high impact of ongoing projects as well as underlined the sustainable impact of the twinning projects.

Finally, the year 2015-2017 saw the successful implementation of TAIEX events in sector such as health, energy efficiency, justice and tourism, etc. setting up new basis for renewed

dialogue on cooperation opportunities, including the Ministry of National Infrastructures, Energy and Water Resources which remains a priority.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

Given Israel's high income level, the majority of donors do not provide any funding. This is a unique action.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

During all phases of this programme, particular attention will be devoted to the principle of equality of treatment and opportunity in both gender issues and minority rights.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

The general objective is to develop an increasingly close relationship between the EU and the State of Israel aiming at achieving a significant level of economic integration and deepening political co-operation.

Specific objectives:

- to strengthen the dialogue between the EU and Israel at political and administrative levels;
- to promote legislative and regulatory approximation (including with regard to participation in European Union programmes).

The expected results are:

- the implementation of the priorities agreed in the ENP Action Plan;
- the reinforcement of the administrative capacity of Israel through partnership co-operation between Israel public administrations and those of EU Member States.

This programme is relevant for the Agenda 2030. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Goals n°8 "Decent Work and Economic Growth" and n°16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", but also promotes progress towards Goals 9 "Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure", 12 "Responsible Consumption and Production" and 13 "Climate Action". This does not imply a commitment by the country benefiting from this programme.

4.2 Main activities

This Action Programme supports the approximation of Israeli legislation to EU norms and standards with a view to facilitating and improving co-operation and paves the way to the participation in the EU Programmes. A new twinning project with the Israeli Ministry of Communications is in its preparatory stage. Negotiations have started with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Economy and Industry, and Ministry of Energy. Final identification of specific areas and actions will be in line with the priorities agreed within the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan.

4.3 Intervention logic

An initial logical framework is attached.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 48 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this Decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

5.3 Implementation modalities

5.3.1 Grants: call for proposals on twinning projects (direct management)

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

Call for proposals will be launched to implement twinning projects. The size of the grant will be decided based on the type of acquis sector identified, needs of the beneficiary administration and duration of the project in the specific field of the project.

Discussions with the Israeli authorities show that the main indicative priority areas for new twinning projects are equal opportunities, energy, environment, health, justice, public service, social and legal affairs. Final identification of specific areas and actions will be in line with the priorities agreed within the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan.

The expected results are to implement the priorities agreed in the EU-Israel ENP Action Plan as well as to reinforce the administrative capacity of Israel through partnership co-operation between Israel public administrations and those of EU Member States.

(b) Eligibility conditions

In line with Article 4(10)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 participation in Twinning call for proposals is limited to public institutions, national public bodies or private law entities entrusted with public service tasks of a Member State.

In addition, Commission Notice Nr. 2013/C- 205/05 shall apply for all Israeli entities receiving financial support from the European Union.

The eligibility criteria formulated in Commission Notice Nr. 2013/C- 205/05 shall apply for all actions under this Special Measure 2017, including with respect to third parties receiving

financial support in the cases where the respective action involves financial support to third parties by grant beneficiaries in accordance with Article 137 of the EU's Financial Regulation.

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

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

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

In accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be up to 100%. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission's authorising officer responsible in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(e) Indicative timing to launch the call

Last quarter of year 2018.

(f) Exception to the non-retroactivity of costs

Not applicable.

5.3.2 Procurement (direct management)

Subject in generic terms, if possible	Type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative number of contracts	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Services contracts	Services	3 to 4	In 2019 and 2020

5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply, on the basis on Commission notice Nr 2013/C 205/05. In accordance with EU policy, this agreement shall not apply to the geographic areas that came under the administration of the State of Israel after 5 June 1967.

5.5 Indicative budget

Module	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified

5.3.1 – Call for proposals on twinning projects (direct management)	1,630,000	N.A.
5.3.2 – Procurement (direct management)		N.A.
Procurement – total envelop under section 5.3	100,000	N.A.
5.8 – Evaluation, 5.10 – Audit	45,000	N.A.
5.10 – Communication and visibility	25,000	N.A.
Contingencies	N.A.	N.A.
Totals	1,800,000	N.A.

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

Organisational set-up and responsibilities are defined in accordance with the applicable Twinning Manual, Section 4: Main actors. They include in particular the Member State National Contact Points, the Member State Project Leader, the Resident Twinning Adviser and Short-term experts.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of projects resulting from a call for proposals will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

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

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a mid-term, a final or an ex-post evaluation(s) will be carried out for this action or its components through a joint mission or independent consultants contracted by the Commission. It will be carried out for problem solving, learning purposes, in particular with respect to the intention to continue the action (in case of a mid-term evaluation) or for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision) in case of a final or ex-post evaluation is foreseen.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least one month in advance of the dates foreseen 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. 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.

Indicatively, one contract for evaluation services shall be concluded under a framework contract in last quarter of 2020.

5.9 Audit

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

Indicatively, one contract for audit services shall be concluded under a framework contract in last quarter of 2020.

5.10 Communication and visibility

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

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

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

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

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY)

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

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	To contribute to develop an increasingly close relationship between the EU and Israel.	Nature and content of political statements. Status of approximation of regulation.	ENI Action Plan	N/A	Minutes of the planned Association Council PPs with Israel EU-IL Action Plan	N/A
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	To strengthen the dialogue between the EU and Israel at political and administrative levels. To promote legislative approximation (including with regard to participation in European Union programmes).	Secondary legislation amended in line with the EU <i>aquis</i> . Bilateral negotiations started/concluded. Bilateral agreements signed.	Number of Twinning Project concept notes submitted in 2018.	N/A	Israeli Law Minutes of the ENP Action Plan sub-committees	Support from the political sector. Reasonable stability of the regional framework.
Outputs	The priorities agreed in the EU-IL ENP Action Plan have been implemented. The administrative capacity of Israel public administrations has been reinforced in line with EU <i>aquis</i> .	Number of EU programmes/initiatives with Israeli participating. Status of public opinion awareness about the EU-IL relationships.	Successfully finalised Twinning projects Surveys in 2018.	These elements will be defined when implementation starts.	Reports of the ex-post Twinning Review Missions Media coverage External surveys	Increased interest for twinning projects from relevant institutions.