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Annex

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Addendum No. 1 to Financing Agreement No. FED/020-961 (CRIS No. 20961) Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF I) – 10th EDF		
Total cost	EU contribution: Euro 1 500 000 Revised Total project cost / Revised Total EU contribution: Euro 5 000 000		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Project approach – Partially Decentralised Management		
DAC-code	15110	Sector	Economic and development policy/Planning

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Sector context

In various regions of the World, the EU uses a project as the Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) I for the provision of short-term consultancies to assist in identifying, preparing, evaluating, monitoring and auditing projects under the EU Programme of development co-operation. These projects enable a number of studies to be conducted, which assist in delineating EU interventions in various development sectors, assist in the preparation of specific programme proposals and allow the EU to undertake a number of evaluation exercises. As part of these project- and programme-related activities, it is often necessary to organise conferences of stakeholders and of officials and non-state actors in the ACP country. In addition, seminars, conferences, trainings etc. of more general interest than the focal or non-focal sectors of the national indicative programmes have always been financed through the indicative programme of the country. The Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) I continues these practices and, in addition, supports the National Authorising Officer (NAO) through its Support Unit in carrying out his day to day activities as NAO of the EDF.

This project is consistent with the 10th EDF Country Strategy Paper / National Indicative Programme (CSP/NIP) as part of the non focal sector "capacity building".

2.2. Lessons learnt

The Financing Agreement, for a total amount of 3 500 00 Euro, has been signed by the Beneficiary Country on the 17th of March 2009. At 1st May 2010 the balances to be contracted correspond to 1 945 800.09 Euro, and only in the current year (2010) it is foreseen to conclude new contracts for a total amount that could be around 1 650 000 Euro.

The original project objectives will not be modified. However, it is clear that the project needs additional resources and a budget reallocation to cover all activities that will need to be funded under a Technical Cooperation Facility till the end of programme duration¹.

2.3. Complementary actions

This budget revision will supplement the initial 3 500 000 Euro already allocated for this project. This will permit to continue the strategic support to the implementation of the 10th EDF and will benefit the The Gambia-EU cooperation as a whole. The TCF will support the design and implementation of projects and will also foster a more informed participation of key stakeholders (i.e. Government's departments, the civil society and the private sector) as well as a more structured dialogue on The Gambia-EU Cooperation and development and trade related issues.

2.4. Donor coordination

The TCF I will directly contribute towards Donor coordination through the organization of conferences and seminars on this specific topic. Coordination of activities funded under the TCF I with other Donors interventions and the Government's Development Agenda will be assured through direct consultation, thematic sector consultations, and through the supervision of the recently established Aid Coordination Directorate at the Ministry of Economic Planning and Industrial Development (MEPID). The same Ministry is in charge of implementing the Aid Effectiveness Action Plan of The Gambia.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The overall objective is to contribute to the effective implementation of the Gambia's Development Strategy, and ultimately to contribute to alleviate poverty, through the successful implementation of EU funded programmes and projects.

The project purpose is to facilitate and support, in all phases of the cycle of operations, the effective design and implementation of the actions funded by the EDF and other EU funds, together with improved awareness among key actors in The Gambia of development and trade related issues and of EU policies in these areas.

3.2. Expected results and main activities

The project will continue to aim the following **results**:

- i) Successful identification, formulation and implementation of programmes financed by the EDF, and support on the basis of needs and priorities arising in crucial domains for the Government's Development Strategy through the financing of studies and short and medium term technical assistance.
- ii) Financing of audits and evaluations of other projects whenever they cannot be financed out of the project itself or where it is convenient or efficient to combine a number of audits/evaluations of related interventions.

¹ The end of the contractualisation period is the 17th of March 2012 and the end of the operational implementation period the 17th of March 2013.

- iii) Improved capacities of the National Authorising Officer (NAO)'s Office, other involved administrations and key actors for the effective and timely implementation of The Gambia – EU Cooperation Strategy.
- iv) Increased understanding of general development and trade issues and of EU policies in these areas by key actors involved in The Gambia – EU Cooperation.

The **activities** to be implemented under the project will continue to include:

1. **Short term studies, audits and evaluations, short and medium term technical assistance.** These will be conducted in sectors linked to The Gambia – EU Cooperation and those consistent with the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) II, including horizontal issues (such as environment, gender, good governance, migration etc.).
2. **Support to the NAO** and to other administrations and key actors involved in The Gambia – EU Cooperation in order to enhance effective design, implementation and monitoring of projects and programmes funded by the EDF and other EU resources. This component will finance the NAO Support Unit, including training activities, local studies and seminars directly linked with the NAO functions.
3. Support to the organisation of and participation in **conferences, seminars and training activities** on development and trade related issues for the benefit of key actors involved in The Gambia-EU Cooperation including non state actors.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

The main risks associated with this project continue to be linked with:

- the availability and capacity to retain valuable human resources at the NAO Support Unit. This risk has been mitigated by the implementation of a new Salary Scale and remuneration package for EU supported projects;
- the recruitment of high quality consultants (concerns have been raised by the Government in some instances as regards the application of the Framework Contract);
- the availability and capacity to stimulate and effectively interact with competent and well empowered stakeholders and civil society platform for structured dialogue and coordination.

The positive effects of the support to the design and implementation of the EDF funded projects and above all of the in-built capacity building activities are likely to have lasting effects. Moreover particular attention will continue to be given to local ownership and to addressing cross-cutting issues.

3.4. Crosscutting Issues

Cross-cutting issues such as good governance and human rights, gender equality, environmental issues and migration will be taken into due account, particularly by mainstreaming these issues into the design of new EDF funded projects in line with the Development Strategy of The Gambia.

3.5. Stakeholders

The key stakeholders are the Government of The Gambia and in particular the NAO and its Support Unit, the European Union Delegation and the institutions whose activities are funded by the EDF. Other stakeholders include the civil society and other donors.

The primary beneficiary is the NAO, whose role is to plan and implement EDF resources. The TCF I will continue to provide NAO's services with adequate financial, material and human resources to carry out their day to day activities. Moreover the NAO, the Ministries and Agencies implementing EDF programs and other key development actors (from public, private and civil society institutions) will benefit from consultancies, short and medium term technical assistance, seminars and training in order to enhance relevant design and effective implementation of EDF funded projects.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Method of implementation

The programme is implemented by partially decentralized management through the signature of an addendum to the existing financing agreement with the Government of The Gambia.

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures and programme estimates

The provisions of the existing financing agreement in this regard remain unchanged.

4.3. Budget and calendar

The allocation from the 10th EDF provided as a top-up to the ongoing project is 1 500 000 Euro.

There are two main areas where a budget revision is required. Firstly, additional 1 330 000 Euro are needed for funding studies, short and medium term technical assistances, audits and evaluations. Secondly, the Support to the NAO services budget line needs to be increased by 150 000 Euro to finance related Programme Estimates while the Trainings, conferences and seminars budget line needs to be slightly reduced. Contingencies are increased in line with the increase of the total budget of the project.

The overall cost of the project will now be 5 000 000 Euro, up from 3 500 000 Euro provided under the original Financing agreement. The indicative breakdown is provided in the table below:

Activities	Budget before Addendum No 1	Modification of Addendum No 1	Budget after Addendum No 1
Studies, short and medium term technical assistances, audits and evaluations	1 665 000	+1 330 000	2 995 000
Support to the NAO services	1 500 000	+150 000	1 650 000
Trainings, conferences and seminars	100 000	-15 000	85 000
Audit of this project	80 000		80 000
Evaluation of this project	50 000		50 000
Contingencies	105 000	+35 000	140 000
TOTAL	3 500 000	+1 500 000	5 000 000

4.4. Performance monitoring

Progress in the implementation of the TCF I will be monitored by the NAO and particular attention will be given to the degree of success in addressing cross-cutting issues. The amount

of financial resources effectively committed under the NIP will serve as a key performance indicator as it will involve the successful identification, formulation, implementation and evaluation of actions in the Programme. The Programme Estimates implementing the Institutional support to the NAO will define specific performance indicators for this component. Reports of participants on training activities attended, minutes and records of attendance at seminars and conferences are sources of information to evaluate the successful implementation of these activities.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

An evaluation of the TCF I will be conducted at the end of the programme and a mid-term evaluation might be undertaken if necessary. A provision for Audit is included in the Budget of this Action Fiche.

4.6. Communication and visibility

The recommendations of the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions will be implemented in full, and its requirements will be made compulsory for all contractors implementing actions under the TCF I. Moreover, a communication strategy and annual communication plans will be set up within the Institutional support to the NAO.