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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 11.12.2017**

**on the Annual Action Programme 2017 (part III) for Environment and Climate Change  
under the Global Public Goods and Challenges Thematic Programme, to be financed  
from the general budget of the Union**

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**on the Annual Action Programme 2017 (part III) for Environment and Climate Change under the Global Public Goods and Challenges Thematic Programme, 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, 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 1605/2002<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

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 action<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the multiannual indicative programme (MIP) for the thematic programme “Global Public Goods and Challenges” for the period 2014-2020 on behalf of the European Union<sup>3</sup>. This sets out the following four priorities for environment and climate change: i) climate change adaptation and mitigation and support to the transition to climate resilient, low-carbon societies; ii) valuation, protection, enhancement and sustainable management of ecosystems; iii) transformation towards an inclusive green economy and mainstreaming of environmental sustainability, climate change and disaster risk reduction; and iv) international environmental and climate governance in respect of the above priority areas.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2017 part III to be financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument<sup>4</sup> address priorities i), ii) and iii) of the Multiannual Indicative Programme and propose 11 actions, listed below, supporting these priorities.
- (3) The action entitled “Replication and upscaling of Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) climate actions, via Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), at local level” aims to support local actors in carrying out climate adaptation and resilience building actions via Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in communities of 4 LDCs and SIDS countries (Africa: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania; one Pacific Island (Samoa); one Caribbean Country (Guyana). The action proposes to combine

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1

<sup>2</sup> OJ L OJ L 77 of 15 March 2014, p. 95.

<sup>3</sup> C(2014)5072 of 23 July 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020 (OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 44).

allocations from the GCCA+ and the CSO-LA programme. The action will be implemented through direct management (grants – call for proposals).

- (4) The action entitled “GCCA+ Building Local Climate Resilience in Mozambique” aims to build resilience to climate change at the local and provincial level and reinforce the Government of Mozambique’s knowledge-based decision making capacity in the management of the threats and challenges imposed by climate change. It will also support the implementation of concrete actions foreseen in the Local Adaptation Plans of two priority provinces (Nampula and Zambezia), identified by the Government for all EU 11th EDF rural development actions (principle of concentration). The action will be implemented through indirect management with the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and Indirect management with the Republic of Mozambique.
- (5) The action entitled “GCCA+ Scaling up Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change in Uganda” aims to strengthen inclusive and gender responsive resilience to climate change of rural populations and agricultural production systems in 9 districts of the central cattle corridor (Nakasongola, Luwero, Nakaseke, Mubende, Kiboga and Sembabule, Kalungu, Gomba, Lyantonde). The action will be implemented through indirect management with the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).
- (6) The action entitled “GCCA+ Mainstreaming of Climate Smart Planning and Implementation Approaches into the Productive Safety Net Program IV (PSNP4) in Ethiopia” aims to increase the capacity of Ethiopia's government to better integrate climate considerations into local development planning and implementation processes, in particular climate-smart public works planning and climate-smart livelihood planning, within the ongoing PSNP4. It will be implemented in 329 targeted *woredas* of the referred PSNP IV through direct management (Procurement of Services).
- (7) The action entitled “Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling-up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA)” aims to enhance climate change adaptation and resilience within ten Pacific islands (Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu) by implementation of integrated sector-based climate change and disaster risk management strategies and plans. The regional action will be implemented through indirect management with Regional Organisations – PAGODA Co-delegation agreement with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the University of the South Pacific (USP) - if USP is recognised as an International Organisation at the time of the signature of the agreement. Should USP not be recognised, a Grant agreement between the European Commission and USP will be signed.
- (8) The action entitled “Alliance mauritanienne contre le changement climatique (AMCC phase 2)” aims to increase government's institutional capacity to better integrate environmental and climate change dimensions into national development policies and plans, and for coordination and implementation. It will also support concrete actions of restoration of ecosystems, sustainable management of natural resources and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) services for local social -economic development of the most vulnerable populations in Mauritania. The action will be implemented in the sub-Saharan-Sahel zone, through direct management (Procurement of Services and Call for Proposals).
- (9) The action entitled “GCCA+ Climate Resilient Coastal and Marine Zone Project for The Gambia” aims to (1) support the implementation of recommendations identified in

the national ICZM Management and Strategic Plans (January 2016) and the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) implementation plan for the Gambia (April 2016); (2) enhance institutional governance for improved planning and implementation of climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures in coastal and marine zones. The action will be implemented in the sub-Saharan-Sahel zone, through indirect management (procurement of service and programme estimates) with The Republic of The Gambia.

- (10) The action entitled "GCCA + Support Uganda in the sectoral implementation of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) through Climate Smart Agriculture" aims to support rural population to sustain climate sensitive agriculture development in a gender responsive manner in 6 districts of Northern Region. The action will be implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through an Indirect Management Delegation Agreement.
- (11) The action entitled "Scaling up of solar and biogas in public buildings under the Ghana Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)" aims to support climate mitigation activities as outlined in the Ghana NDC, through the deployment of solar PV and biogas as well as improved waste management facilities in at least 20 schools and 10 hospitals of four Regions (Accra, Ashanti, Western and Eastern Regions). Direct management: service and works contracts (financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012).
- (12) The action entitled "Support to NDC implementation " will focus on supporting the preparation for implementation of the mitigation component of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In doing so, it supports the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The Action Document covers two sub-actions: 1) A contribution of EUR 10 000 000 to the fifth call of the NAMA-Facility in order to support transformational NAMAs that are implementation ready. 2) A support of EUR 6 910 000 to a UNDP initiative for capacity-building to NDCs. The proposed UNDP NDC Support Programme will assist 5-6 countries to put in place essential institutional frameworks and transparency systems for NDC implementation.
- (13) The action entitled "Up-Scaling Community Resilience through Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR)" will contribute to enhance resilience of communities and countries to disasters (including climate risks) by supporting scaling up of Eco-DRR actions in 10 countries and citizen-based monitoring of disaster and climate resilience policies and practices in 50 countries. The action will be implemented through indirect management with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) for the upscaling of the Eco-DRR actions and direct management with the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Risk Reduction (GNDR) for the monitoring component.
- (14) 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 1268/2012.
- (15) 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. The work programme is set out in Annexes I, VI, IX, X and XI.
- (16) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities specified in Annexes II, III, V, VIII X and XI, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1) and (2) of

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that these entities guarantee a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages Union funds. These entities comply with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and the supervisory and support measures are in place as necessary. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) is currently undergoing the assessment provided for in Article 61 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. In anticipation of the results of this review, the authorising officer responsible deems that, based on the entity's positive assessment prior to the entry into force of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and on the long-standing and problem-free cooperation with it budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

- (17) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the partner countries specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that measures are taken to supervise and support the implementation of the entrusted tasks. A description of these measures and the entrusted tasks are laid down in the Annexes II, V and VII to this Decision.
- (18) The authorising officer responsible should be able to award grants without a call for proposals only in the exceptional cases set out in Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (19) 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
- (20) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, any substantial change to a financing decision that has already been adopted should follow the same procedure as the initial decision. It is therefore appropriate that the Commission defines the changes to this Decision that are considered non-substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (21) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Development Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 233/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

##### **Adoption of the programme**

The Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2017 (part III) for Environment and Climate Change under the Global Public Goods and Challenges Thematic Programme, to be financed from the general budget of the Union, as set out in the Annexes, is approved.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex I: Replication and upscaling of GCCA climate actions, via Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), at local level;
- Annex II: GCCA+ Building Local Climate Resilience in Mozambique
- Annex III: GCCA+ Scaling up Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change in Uganda
- Annex IV: GCCA+ Mainstreaming of Climate Smart Planning and Implementation Approaches into the Productive Safety Net Program IV (PSNP4) in Ethiopia;
- Annex V: Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling-up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA);
- Annex VI: Alliance mauritanienne contre le changement climatique (AMCC phase 2)
- Annex VII: GCCA+ Climate Resilient Coastal and Marine Zone Project for The Gambia;
- Annex VIII: GCCA + Support Uganda in the sectoral implementation of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) through Climate Smart Agriculture
- Annex IX: Scaling up of solar and biogas in public buildings under the Ghana Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)
- Annex X: Support to NDC implementation
- Annex XI: Up-Scaling Community Resilience through Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR)

## *Article 2*

### **Financial contribution**

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 93 544 000 and shall be financed budget line 21.020701 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*

### **Methods of implementation**

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in Annexes II, III, V, VII, VIII, X and XI subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

The elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 are set out in Annexes I, IV, VI, IX, X and XI to this Decision.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the authorising officer responsible in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

*Article 4*

**Non-substantial changes**

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20 % of the contribution specified in the first paragraph of Article 2, 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 use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling set by this Article.

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

Done at Brussels, 11.12.2017

*For the Commission*  
*Neven MIMICA*  
*Member of the Commission*