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ANNEX 7
of the Commission Implementing Decision on the 2017 Annual Action programme
for the Partnership Instrument

Action Fiche for Environmental Diplomacy in G7/G20

1. IDENTIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the action</th>
<th>Environmental Diplomacy in G7/G20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries</td>
<td>G7/G20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cost</td>
<td>Total estimated cost: EUR 2 500 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total amount of the EU budget contribution: EUR 2 500 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total duration¹</td>
<td>36 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of implementation</td>
<td>Direct management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Procurement – Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Markers (from CRIS DAC form)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rio Convention Markers</td>
<td>Not targeted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological diversity</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combat desertification</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change mitigation</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change adaptation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. RATIONALE AND CONTEXT

2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives

The EU Global Strategy acknowledges that environmental issues exacerbate potential conflict, in light of their impact on desertification, land degradation, and water and food scarcity, and calls upon the EU to invest in its partnerships to enhance environmental resilience.

¹ Maximum duration of the operational implementation period of individual contracts upon their signature.
In this overall context, this action aims to enhance the engagement of the EU in the G7/G20 on key EU priorities in the field of environment, in particular on resource efficiency and circular economy, marine litter, and green finance. It will strengthen the EU’s voice in the G7/G20 processes by delivering concrete results backing up initiatives within these fora. This environment diplomacy action will ultimately reinforce the EU positioning in these multilateral fora as key interlocutor for contributing to the environment-related objectives of inter alia the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

In particular, the action will facilitate EU’s engagement in relevant environment diplomacy activities in G7/G20, including in the context of the G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency, the Toyama Framework on Material Cycles, the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter, the G20 Green Finance Study Group, the G20 Partnership on Resource Efficiency, and G20 work to combat marine litter. The above is a tentative list of activities that will need to be adapted during the lifetime of this project to the evolving needs of the Commission and to the G7 and G20 agendas.

This action will build upon the work of a Policy Support Facility contract that is supporting environmental diplomacy in the G7/G20 in 2017.

2.2. Context

The G7 is an informal, leaders-led forum that deals with such issues as global economic outlook and macroeconomic management, international trade, energy, climate change, environment, and relations with developing countries. The European Commission President and the European Council President participate to the summits. Alongside the summits, there are regular meetings of the G7 foreign ministers finance ministers. Other ministers may also meet, depending on the Presidency. In many of the areas covered by the G7, the EU has a competence, either exclusive or shared with its Member States. The last meeting of the G7 environment ministers took place in Toyama (Japan) on 15-16 May 2016, with the participation of Commissioner Vella.

The G20 is also an informal, leaders-led forum that promotes discussion between major advanced and emerging economies on key issues related to the global economy. The G20 exerts significant and growing influence in areas where Union's competence exists and where strategic interests of the EU are at stake, such as macroeconomic policies, structural reforms, financial regulation, taxation, multilateral trade issues, regional integration, environment and climate change, financing for development, combating the financing of terrorism. The Commission participates in the G20 summits,

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2 Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the European Union.
3 Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, European Union, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
the ministerial meetings, the meetings at deputies' level and in the G20 working groups.

2.3. Lessons learnt

The EU seeks to advance the prosperity of its people by promoting growth, jobs, equality, and a safe and healthy environment. With most world growth in near future expected to take place outside the EU, trade and investment will increasingly underpin our prosperity. While a prosperous EU is the basis for a stronger Europe in the world, prosperity must be shared and requires fulfilling the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The EU has an interest in shaping global economic and environmental rules to this end by engaging with our key partners countries. The G7 and especially the G20 are two multilateral and authoritative fora where this can be done on the basis of informal processes, whereby leaders of these seven (G7) and nineteen (G20) countries and of the EU can determine not only national decisions but also exert their influence in guiding more formally institutionalised deliberations, such as at the level of the United Nations.

Experience shows that G7/G20 declarations may not be properly implemented unless follow-up activities are identified, developed and carried out. The present action supports the identification, development and implementation by the EU of follow-up G7/G20 activities in the field of environment.

2.4. Complementary actions

In the area of resource efficiency and circular economy, complementarity will be sought with ongoing activities supported by the EU in a number of G20 members, in particular through SWITCH and PAGE.

Concerning marine litter, complementarity will be sought with the PI project that is under development 'Towards a global partnership on reducing plastic waste and marine litter' that has the objective of establishing cooperation with China, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam on circular economy with a view to reducing plastic waste in the environment, including marine litter.

This action will also profit from (and in turn contribute to) the Circular Economy Missions that the Commission may organise in relevant G20 countries in the period during which this project will be operational. These missions consist of a series of high-level political and business meetings in third countries to communicate and promote sustainable and resource-efficient policies. The missions aim to build bridges between European

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6 http://www.un-page.org/.
institutions, NGOs and companies and the relevant stakeholders in those third countries, interested in the opportunities that the transition to the circular economy brings about.

3. **Detailed Description**

3.1. **Objectives**

The **overall objective** of the action is to develop high-profile EU environment diplomacy by supporting and fostering the environmental agenda in the G7 and G20 discussions and by strengthening the EU's voice and position in these multilateral fora as key interlocutor on environmental matters at global level.

The **specific objective** of the action is to support an enhanced engagement of the EU in the G7 and the G20 concerning priority aspects of EU interest related to environment topics, such as resource efficiency, marine litter, green financing and any other environment-related topics that G7/G20 presidencies in 2018-2020 will want to put on the agenda.

3.2. **Expected results and main activities**

The main **expected results** of the action are:

1. More effective EU's environmental diplomacy in G7/G20 and strengthened EU capacity to steer decisions taken in these fora in line with EU policies in the field of environment.

2. Increased visibility of the EU in G7/G20 and in individual non-EU G7/G20 countries, including by providing relevant support to EU Delegations in these countries, e.g. through dedicated reports.

3. Improved knowledge of policy makers of the policy and business environment in non EU G7/G20 countries in the field of environment, in particular resource efficiency and circular economy, marine litter and plastics management, and green finance.

4. New areas of bilateral cooperation between the EU and non-EU G7/G20 countries are identified and existing bilateral policy dialogues in the field of environment are reinforced.

5. Indirect support is provided to EU circular economy missions in non-EU G7/G20 countries, particularly when these countries hold the G7/G20 presidency.

The **main activities** of the action will include:

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1. Through e.g. dedicated studies, the publication of in-depth analysis and organisation of seminars, gaining a better understanding of the policy, legislation, funding and business opportunities in non-EU G7/G20 countries in the field of resource efficiency, green economy, sustainable consumption and production, circular economy, waste management, and marine litter (non-exhaustive list – adaptations to the evolving agendas of the G7/G20 will need to be embedded in the contract) that could serve the EU’s interests (policy and business) and the EU’s negotiators in G7 and G20.

2. Raising awareness on EU positions and fields of excellence in resource efficiency, green economy, sustainable consumption and production, waste management, and marine litter (non-exhaustive list) in non-EU G7/G20 countries, by providing basic facts and information to EU Delegations for dissemination through the press and social media, and by liaising with the local chambers of commerce and major industrial organisations of the country holding the G7/G20 presidency in any given year during the project's duration.

3. Identification of key challenges, opportunities and European solutions, to show-case in the framework of events organised through this action, to facilitate the involvement of European businesses, NGOs and CSOs in the events organised through this action,

4. Organising the logistical arrangements for a number of events (workshops, conferences) to take place in Brussels, in the countries holding the G7/G20 presidency in 2018-2020, or in other relevant locations (e.g. New York, Washington, Paris, Geneva, Presidencies' capital). Topics to be covered will include resource efficiency, circular economy, marine litter and green financing (non-exhaustive list).

5. Attending a number of environment-related events organised by G7/G20 countries in 2018-2020.

6. Organise one study visit to the EU per year in 2018-2020, to cover at least four EU Member States (two of which non-G7/G20 members), and/or EU institutions, for indicatively a maximum 40 officials at a time from non-EU G20 countries (to be further reassessed at due time based on actual needs) working in their national administrations on the implementation of policies related to resource efficiency, circular economy, marine litter or green financing.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

The main assumption is that environment and its related topics will continue to be of interests to members of G7/G20 during the project's duration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Risk level (H/M/L)</th>
<th>Mitigating measure</th>
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Agendas of G7/G20 are tabled by rotating presidencies, normally with short notice, which renders it difficult to know about priorities in advance. A risk exists that due to this rotation mechanism, environmental matters may receive less attention over time.

There are indications that Canada (G7 Presidency in 2018) would continue tackling environmental issues, especially resource efficiency and marine litter. The situation concerning Argentina (G20 Presidency in 2018) is less clear at this stage, although it is hoped that they will continue the work initiated by China in 2016 on green finance and by Germany in 2017 on resource efficiency and marine litter. The project in itself does constitute a mitigating measure for this risk as it aims to keep environment related matters at the core of the agendas of these two multilateral fora.

Lack of capacity by the project to reach out for dissemination at the level of each of the non-EU countries involved.

This risk will be mitigated by involving in the project, as relevant, EU Delegations, whose active engagement in G7/G20 matters would have positive repercussions on their bilateral work in the countries concerned.

3.4. Stakeholders

Potential partners of the action should include first and foremost EU Delegations in G7/G20 countries and EU Member States in G7/G20. The private sector, local governments, academia and civil society organizations will be associated when appropriate and relevant.

4. Implementation Issues

4.1. Method of implementation

4.1.1 Procurement (direct management)

(a) The project will be implemented through the procurement of services. Indicatively, one service contract will be signed.

(b) Indicative timing to launch the call: second quarter 2017.

4.2. Indicative budget

| Method of Implementation | Amount in |
4.3. **Performance monitoring**

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of the action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibility. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate progress and final reports.

The progress and final reports shall provide quantified and qualitative data in relation to the logical framework indicators which will include relevant indicators from the list of common Partnership Instrument indicators.

A steering committee shall be set up in support of the action. It will be chaired by DG ENV and consist of representatives of relevant Commission services and the EEAS.

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.

4.4. **Evaluation and audit**

For this project, the Commission may carry out interim and/or final/ex-post evaluation(s) via independent consultants contracted by the Commission based on specific terms of reference.

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.

As the “N+1” applies for contracting under this Decision, external evaluations and audits, as well as additional external monitoring referred to under section 4.3 above, will be funded from sources other than those allocated to this specific action.

4.5. **Communication and visibility**

Communication and visibility will be an integral part of the project. The implementing partners will establish a communication plan in line with relevant guidelines that, inter alia, will define the key messages and specific communication/EU visibility actions to be taken.

All documentation and promotional material produced in the framework of the project shall bear the EU flag and mention that is financed by the EU.
Exceptions to this rule may be considered on a case by case basis for duly justified reasons.