

# EN

## ANNEX I

### to Commission Implementing Decision on Annual Action Programme 2021 for the Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Crisis Preparedness part of the thematic programme Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention

#### ANNUAL MEASURE

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> (Financial Regulation), and action plans in the sense of Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>2</sup>

## 1. SYNOPSIS

### 1.1. Action Summary Table

<b>1. Title</b> <b>CRIS/OPSYS</b> <b>business reference</b> <b>Basic Act</b>	Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness OPSYS/ number: Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) - Global Europe
<b>2. Team Europe Initiative</b>	No
<b>3. Zone benefiting from the action</b>	The action shall be carried out globally
<b>4. Programming document</b>	Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme on Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention 2021-2027
<b>5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results</b>	Priority 1: Continuing to enhance capabilities relating to analytical tools, methodologies, and mechanisms to better detect early signs of conflict, monitor conflict and design appropriate responses; Priority 2: Promote conflict prevention and conflict resolution measures, including by facilitating and building capacity in confidence-building, mediation, dialogue and reconciliation processes; Priority 3: Supporting peace processes and transitions of conflict-affected societies/communities, including stabilisation and peacebuilding efforts.
<b>PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION</b>	
<b>6. Priority Area(s), sectors</b>	Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention

<sup>1</sup> 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 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1).

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1).

<b>7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Main SDG: 16 Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies Other significant SDG: 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls			
<b>8 a) DAC code(s)</b> <sup>3</sup>	15220 - Civilian peace building, conflict prevention and resolution			
<b>8 b) Main Delivery Channel @</b>	21000 International non-governmental organisations (NGO) 23000 Developing country-based NGO			
<b>9. Targets</b> <sup>4</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <sup>5</sup> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance <sup>6</sup>			
<b>10. Markers</b> <sup>7</sup> (from DAC form)	<b>General policy objective @</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Principal objective</b>
	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"/>

<sup>3</sup> DAC sectors (codes and descriptions) are indicated in the first and fourth columns of the tab 'purpose codes' in the following document: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/dacandcrscodelists.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Actual contribution to targets will be confirmed ex-post based on a standardised methodology.

<sup>5</sup> This target is specific to INTPA. If the action is marked as contributing to the Education target, please make sure the target on "Social inclusion and Human Development" is also marked.

<sup>6</sup> Thematic target for geographic programmes (at least 15%) in delegated act.

<sup>7</sup> For guidance, see <https://www.oecd.org/development/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/> (go to "Data collection and resources for reporters", select Addendum 2, annexes 18 (policy) and 19 (Rio) of the reporting directive).

If an action is marked in the DAC form as contributing to one of the general policy objectives or to RIO principles as a principal objective or a significant objective, then this should be reflected in the logframe matrix (in the results chain and/or indicators).

11. Internal markers <sup>8</sup> and Tags <sup>9</sup> :	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <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"/>
	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"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities (methodology for marker and tagging under development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line: BGUE – B2021-14.020230-C1 – STABILITY AND PEACE Total estimated cost: EUR 15 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 15 500 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>Direct management</b> through: - Grants - Procurement			

## 1.2. Summary of the Action

The proposed action aims to support in-country civil society actors in their effort to prevent conflicts, respond to crises and build peace. Through funding disbursed and managed by FPI regional teams in close cooperation with EU Delegations, it is envisaged to support actions implemented by civil society (local civil society organisations, international non-governmental organisations) in conflict-affected contexts to strengthen their institutional, operational and networking capacity in four priority areas relating to conflict prevention and peace-building: i) security and stabilisation; ii) women, youth, peace and security; iii) media and conflict; and, iv) culture and peace.

<sup>8</sup> The internal markers have been created to report on the implementation of the Commission's own policy priorities in areas where no DAC reporting tool is available. For the sake of consistency and comparability, the methodology is equivalent to the DAC markers, with three possible positions (main target, significant target, not targeted)

<sup>9</sup> Methodology for additional tagging providing granularity on internal markers is under development.

<sup>10</sup> Art. 27 NDICI

## 2. RATIONALE

### 2.1. Context

Civil society organisations (CSOs) play a crucial role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. In many conflict-affected contexts, CSOs are the only, or among the few stakeholders, able to organise and manage initiatives to tackle violence and insecurity and bring about positive change for communities. Whether they are local and community based organisations or international non-governmental organisations, CSOs are often best placed to detect early signs of tension and conflict and to provide responses tackling root causes and symptoms of these conflicts. They also play a critical role in articulating citizens' concerns, in engaging in the public arena to demand responsive services, reforms and accountable governance. Empowering civil society to play an active role in conflict-affected contexts is therefore a building block to more resilient societies, more vibrant state-society relations and to long term peace.

Supporting and empowering civil society to play a role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding processes is a fundamental aspect of the EU External Action, as highlighted in the 2016 EU Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy<sup>11</sup>, the 2017 Joint Communication on A Strategic Approach to Resilience in the EU's External Action<sup>12</sup>, and the 2018 Council Conclusions on the Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises<sup>13</sup>. In this respect, continuous support has been provided to actions aiming at strengthening capacities of in-country civil society actors through the crisis preparedness component of the Instrument for Stability (IfS) (2007-2013) and the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) (2014-2020).

With regards to the four thematic areas prioritised for this action (i) Security and stabilisation; ii) Women, youth, peace and security; iii) Media and conflict; iv) Culture and peace, the role of civil society actors is considered critical to ensure an effective and comprehensive EU engagement. This is underlined in the 2016 Joint Communication on Elements for a EU-wide Strategic Framework to Support Security Sector Reform<sup>14</sup>, the 2017 issues paper suggesting parameters for a concept on Stabilisation<sup>15</sup> as part of the EU Integrated Approach to external conflicts and crises, the 2018 Council Conclusions on Women, Peace and Security<sup>16</sup>, the 2018 Council Conclusions on the role of young people in building a secure, cohesive and harmonious society in Europe<sup>17</sup>, the 2018 EU Action Plan against disinformation<sup>18</sup>, the 2019 Council conclusions on an EU strategic approach to international cultural relations and a framework for action<sup>19</sup>, the 2020 European Democracy Action Plan<sup>20</sup>.

### 2.2. Problem Analysis

Short problem analysis:

Support to in-country civil society actors under the AAP 2021 will focus on the following four priority areas:

#### **Security and stabilisation:**

A responsive security sector providing and guaranteeing security for citizens is a critical foundation of sustainable peace. Support to security related initiatives is one of the main EU contributions in conflict affected contexts, including stabilisation processes. While external support efforts focus mostly on state actors, law enforcement authorities and other statutory security forces, a broader engagement with all stakeholders, including non-state, communities and civil society actors, is necessary to ensure security related engagement is more participatory, locally owned and people-focused. In fragile and volatile contexts where state structures are either weak or non-existent, the presence of security actors can also fuel tensions and undermine stabilisation efforts. In order to prevent the cyclical

<sup>11</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/eugs\\_review\\_web\\_0.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/eugs_review_web_0.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52017JC0021&from=en>

<sup>13</sup> <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5413-2018-INIT/en/pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52016JC0031&from=EN>

<sup>15</sup> <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15622-2017-INIT/en/pdf>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37412/st15086-en18.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018XG0607\(02\)&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018XG0607(02)&from=EN)

<sup>18</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/action\\_plan\\_against\\_disinformation.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/action_plan_against_disinformation.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/da766854-8907-11e9-9369-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-HTML/source-106512600>

<sup>20</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0790&from=EN>

re-emergence of violence and lay the foundations for trusting relations between communities and state actors, including security actors, it is critical to ensure that security interventions are sensitive to local conflict dynamics and responsive to local communities' needs and expectations. Civil society organisations play an important role to articulate and advocate for human security needs and to hold security actors accountable.

**Women, youth, peace and security:**

Inclusivity is an important factor to assert peacebuilding effectiveness, ownership and legitimacy. In that respect, the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 2250 have brought the role of women and youth to the fore of the international peace and security agenda. Women and youth should not be considered as victims of conflicts only; they are peacebuilding actors in their own right and their role and agency should be strengthened and promoted. However, the inclusion of women and youth perspectives, and their participation, in peace and security initiatives is far from being systematic. Women and youth groups are key civil society actors that can advance inclusive peacebuilding approaches, from conflict analyses to responses. In contexts where youth constitute a majority of the population but are excluded from most decision making processes, their aspirations for change are often high. Civil society organisations can play a role to mobilise youth, channel and express their ambitions in constructive and non-violent ways.

**Media and conflict:**

Media play a critical role in shaping political opinions and bringing about social change, triggering both peaceful and violent transitions. Harmful content (such as hate speech, violence incitement, disinformation, violent extremist propaganda), notably spread online through social media, has become a critical challenge to peace and stability in the recent years. Orchestrated or manipulated contents trigger tensions and violence and in the longer term affect cohesion and resilience of already fragile states and societies. On the other hand, the new information and communication technologies (ICT) have broadened the possibilities to promote peace through the emergence of tools to, among others, analyse and monitor contexts, to mobilise social movements, to enhance dialogue, participation in and outreach of peacebuilding initiatives. Traditional media (written press and broadcast), often more trusted among the public, also have a critical role to play to promote access to reliable information and can help restore or strengthen legitimacy of public action and peacebuilding efforts. The role of civil society in tackling the impact that traditional as well as social media can have on peace and conflict dynamics is therefore an essential part of contemporary peacebuilding efforts.

**Culture and peace:**

Culture is the bond through which groups define themselves. It consists of, and is expressed through, language, customs, arts and creative industries, institutions, among others. Cultural identities and diversity have often been used to heighten divisions between groups, eventually leading to violent conflicts or mass atrocities during which cultural assets, such as cultural heritage, are targeted as a strategy to further annihilate an opposing identity. On the other hand, promoting a culture of peace and non-violence aims to bring to the fore values such as tolerance, cooperation and respect for human rights in order to strengthen more peaceful and resilient societies. In that respect, peace education constitutes an important building block to instil these values within societies at large from a young age through formal and informal education systems. Protecting cultural heritage and promoting cultural and creative interventions in conflict affected contexts can be important impulses for peace and state-building. Civil society organisations have a key role to play in implementing cultural interventions that strengthen social cohesion, foster reconciliation, accompany transitions and social transformations.

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

- International and national civil society organisations as direct beneficiaries of EU funding: their role is to manage the overall implementation of the projects to be funded in the framework of this action. They have a thematic expertise on one or several of the four priority areas identified above. Their organisations are based on solid and sound financial systems that allow them to manage EU funding effectively and transparently. They have established partnerships with local civil society organisations aiming to strengthen local capacities to deal with challenges to stability and peace. They are also able to engage national and international actors to advocate for changes at policy and practice levels.

- National and local civil society actors as partners of direct beneficiaries: their role is to implement activities of the projects to be funded in the framework of this action. They have experiences on the priority areas identified above, working with local communities, local and national authorities. Their financial systems do not allow them to manage EU funding. They also need support from international and/or national civil society organisations in order to

strengthen their capacities to better analyse and respond to challenges to peace and stability and engage policy and advocacy activities with international actors.

- Conflict-affected communities, community level structures such as peace committees, traditional leaders, youth and women's associations as ultimate beneficiaries: their role is to both take part and/or benefit from the activities of the projects to be funded in the framework of this action. They often do not have any formal or legal existence and therefore little, if any, capacity to manage processes or large scale funding on their own. They can benefit from collaboration with local, national or international civil society organisations that support their local level peacebuilding initiatives in order to maximise their effectiveness and sustainability.

- National and local authorities and stakeholders such as private sector organisations, media, unions, etc.: these actors sometimes take part in project activities. They also benefit from the projects outcomes that support their mandate to better respond to communities' needs.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

#### 3.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to build and strengthen sustainable, in-country capacities for effective conflict management and peace-building and support (sub-)national and regional initiatives in countries affected by/or emerging from conflict or whose peace and stability is at risk.

The Specific Objective of this action are to

1. Strengthen institutional and operational capacity of civil society actors with regards to the four priority areas;
2. Improve in-country civil society actors networking and advocacy skills, including increased civil society involvement in the four thematic areas relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peace-building;
3. Establish or enhance cooperation between civil society actors and local, national, regional or international institutions on subjects related to the four priority areas.

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

- 1.1 contributing to Outcome 1: institutional and operational capacity building interventions to better respond to challenges and opportunities in the four priority areas;
- 1.2 contributing to Outcome 1: peacebuilding interventions responding to the challenges and opportunities in the four priority areas;
- 1.3 contributing to Outcomes 2 and 3: strategic capacity building interventions to strengthen advocacy engagement and networking among civil society actors;

#### 3.2. Indicative Activities

##### **Activities related to priority area "security and stabilisation":**

- Security assessments and other relevant types of analysis aiming to better understand perceptions of and drivers and root-causes of insecurity, security risks and conflict dynamics, including political economy analysis;
- Capacity building of civil society organisations, networks and communities on security related issues, through training, accompaniment, peer-learning and exchanges;
- Advocacy towards, and partnerships with, national level authorities, security and justice actors as well as other relevant national, regional and international stakeholders on the design and implementation of security related frameworks, action plans and activities;
- Monitoring and oversight initiatives to ensure security actors comply with rule of law and human rights principles and effectively respond to the security needs of the population;
- Community security and other community-level types of initiatives aiming to establish dialogue and cooperation mechanisms between communities, local authorities, security actors to jointly tackle security challenges;

- Engagement with non-state security actors such as customary authorities, traditional courts, vigilante groups and other local non-state security providers, private military and security companies, and the private sector to improve their performance to provide security and justice in a conflict and gender-sensitive manner and according to human rights, non-discriminatory and strict do-no-harm principles.

**Activities related to priority area “Women, youth, peace and security”:**

- Support to women and youth organisations’ engagement with security and justice actors and initiatives aiming to make these processes more gender-sensitive and more effective at tackling gender based violence and fight against impunity;
- Support to initiatives aiming to enhance women and youth organisation engagement in dialogue and mediation and other peacebuilding initiatives and to make these initiatives more responsive to gender and youth differentiated needs and perspectives;
- Efforts to strengthen gender-sensitive approaches to conflict analyses and peacebuilding responses;
- Promote leadership of women and youth, their policy and advocacy engagement, their political participation and role in decision making through capacity building and accompaniment, networking, awareness raising, community level engagement, etc.;
- Actions related to the rehabilitation, trauma healing of youth affected by conflict, including mental health and psychosocial support for former youth combatants;
- Creating and building resilience of women and youth against recruitment for, participation in, and supporting extremist violence;
- Inter-generational exchanges aimed at strengthening/rebuilding youth to community connections putting youth at the centre of community-based conflict transformation activities and facilitating young people's civic engagement and volunteerism for peace;
- Use the potential of traditional and new media to promote change in social norms and to promote the role of women and youth in tackling challenges of conflict-affected societies;

**Activities related to priority area “Media and conflict”:**

- Strengthening conflict-sensitive investigative and reporting skills of journalists and editorial teams to promote more balanced coverage of conflict related events and stories;
- Support to fact-checking initiatives to combat disinformation;
- Monitoring and analysis of disinformation flows, including through technological means;
- Using the potential of media and new ICT to support peacebuilding, security and justice processes by allowing wider perspectives to inform their design and implementation, by reaching out to the public to enhance understanding and accountability;
- Promoting counter-narrative and positive messaging campaigns aiming to tackle hate speech, violence incitement, disinformation and other harmful content being spread online;
- Promoting collaboration between civil society and social media platforms to tackle harmful content online;
- Supporting media and digital literacy initiatives to strengthen skills of the broader public in critical thinking and promote a safe and ethical use of digital media;
- Development of civil society driven technological responses to tackle online disinformation;

**Activities related to priority area “culture & peace”:**

- Support the promotion of peace education in formal and informal education systems, including through training of trainers, development of curricula, policy and advocacy engagement, community engagement, etc.;
- Promote reconciliation, tolerance and mutual understanding through the use of arts, inter-cultural dialogue and cultural activities;
- Support initiatives contributing to the protection, restoration and rehabilitation of cultural heritage in conflict affected contexts;
- Promote new and innovative forms of expression to voice youth and other groups’ expectations for change;
- Support the creation of networks of artists, activists, opinion leaders/influencers, civil society actors to address tensions and conflicts within societies and promote positive and peaceful narratives.

### 3.3. Mainstreaming

## Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Environmental issues such as access to, and management of, natural resources are critical drivers of conflicts, especially when aggravated by the effects of climate change. Implementing partners will ensure that their respective projects' design and the implementation of activities take these issues into account and address them when relevant.

#### **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 projects to be funded in the framework for this action should take into account the differentiated needs of men, women, boys and girls when designing and implementing activities. Projects under the thematic priority “women, youth, peace and security” notably aim to enhance the participation of women and youth in peacebuilding, security and justice processes.

#### **Human Rights**

Projects to be funded in the framework of this action should aim to uphold human rights principles and a human rights based approach, in particular: participation in decision making processes, accountability of duty bearers, equality and non-discrimination, empowerment of individuals and communities to exercise their rights.

#### **Disability**

As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that project activities should aim to tackle challenges relating to disability and enhance the participation of people with disabilities when appropriate and relevant for the objectives of each project.

#### **Democracy**

Projects to be funded in the framework of this action should uphold fundamental democratic principles such as transparent and accountable governance, participation and fair representation, balance of power, respect of human rights.

#### **Conflict sensitivity, peace and resilience**

In line with the NDICI regulation, projects to be funded in the framework of the action should be based on a solid understanding of local conflict dynamics, should do no harm and maximise opportunities to make positive contributions to build peace and resilience at all levels.

#### **Disaster Risk Reduction**

Projects to be funded in the framework of this action should take into account any risks of environmental degradation and natural disasters and aim to reduce those risks, especially when constituting an opportunity to strengthen communities' resilience or achieving peacebuilding objectives.

### 3.4. Risks and Lessons Learnt

<b>Category</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
1	Deterioration of a security or political situation within selected countries/regions making it impossible or dangerous for implementing partners and final beneficiaries to conduct or take part	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with relevant EU Delegations, will maintain regular contacts with and ensure that implementing partners put in place adequate security measures adapted to the level of identified risk.



	in the planned activities.			
3	Lack of a reasonable pool of local civil society actors working on peace-building and conflict prevention issues and capable of effectively implementing projects.	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	Partnerships between international and local civil society actors in-country should be actively encouraged.

**Lessons Learnt:**

Drawing upon the experience of the previous programmes of action under the Instrument for Stability and the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace supporting in-country civil society actors to prevent and respond to crisis, and based upon recommendations of the 2017 mid-term evaluation of the IcSP, on regular exchanges with FPI regional teams and EU Delegations, and on annual consultations with civil society, the key lessons learnt for this Action are the following:

- Over the past several years, tangible results at grassroots level have been achieved through structural support to civil society actors (both international and national). In this regard the former have proven themselves effective in articulating responses to identified local peace-building and conflict prevention needs;
- Long term IfS and IcSP funding for civil society actors has constituted a flexible tool to support civil society led initiatives in the areas of conflict prevention and peace-building globally and in different types of conflict-affected and transition contexts;
- Sub-delegating the management of Calls for Proposals and grant contracts to FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with EU Delegations, is the most effective management mode for this kind of action, allowing greater local/regional focus, increased cooperation with in-country civil society actors and closer monitoring and follow-up of projects.

### 3.5. The Intervention Logic

If we provide support to civil society actors in the four priority areas identified above, THEN relevant in-country capacities and processes will be more effective at tackling conflict and security challenges BECAUSE:

- Civil society actors themselves will be better able to engage on these issues on their own and in collaboration with others;
- Relevant state institutions and state led processes will benefit from civil society expertise, analysis and support;
- Partnerships between relevant actors active in specific fields will be strengthened and collective efforts and impact will be maximised.

In the longer term, support provided through the projects will contribute to further empower these local actors to become agents of positive change and the building blocks of more peaceful and resilient societies.

### 3.6. Logical Framework Matrix

Results	Results chain (e): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (e): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
<b>Impact</b>	To build and strengthen sustainable, in-country capacities for effective conflict management and peace-building and support (sub-)national and regional initiatives in countries affected by/or emerging from conflict or whose peace and stability is at risk.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of civil society actors supported</li> <li>Number of peace processes supported</li> </ol>	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Outcome 1</b>	Strengthened institutional and operational capacity of civil society actors with regards to the four priority areas;	To be adapted according to each country context and priority area(s): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of appropriate measures identified and implemented by civil society to prevent conflicts and their outcomes.</li> <li>% of targeted population expressing confidence in and satisfaction towards civil society's effectiveness in tackling conflict risks, managing conflicts and building peace.</li> </ol>	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	
<b>Outcome 2</b>	Improved in-country civil society actors networking and advocacy skills, including increased civil society involvement in the four thematic areas relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peace-building;	To be adapted according to each country context and priority area(s): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number and type of policy advocacy actions undertaken by in-country civil society actors and their outcomes.</li> </ol>	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	
<b>Outcome 3</b>	Enhanced cooperation between civil society actors and local, national, regional or international institutions on subjects related to the four priority areas.	To be adapted according to each country context and priority area(s): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of civil society actors consulted by local/national authorities and involved in peace processes (e.g. conflict resolution initiatives, recovery plans).</li> </ol>	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	To be determined according to each project's priority area and specific objectives.	
<b>Output 1 related to Outcome 1</b>	The direct/tangible outputs will differ depending on the priority areas selected and the contexts of implementation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1</li> <li>1.1.2</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1</li> <li>1.1.2</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1</li> <li>1.1.2</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1</li> <li>1.1.2</li> </ol>	

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1. Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with a partner country/regional organisation/territory.

### 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 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

### 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 measures<sup>21</sup>.

#### 4.3.1. Direct Management (Grants)

##### **Grants: (direct management)**

##### **(a) Purpose of the grant(s)**

The purpose of the grant is to build and strengthen sustainable, in-country capacities for effective conflict management and peace-building and support (sub-)national and regional initiatives in countries affected by/or emerging from conflict or whose peace and stability is at risk.

##### **(b) Type of applicants targeted**

Civil society actors as defined in recital (46) of the NDICI Regulation No 2021/947 are considered eligible under this Action. For international non-governmental organisation applicants, partnerships with local organisations established and active in the countries targeted will be particularly important in order to meet this measure's objectives.

Interventions will target: countries affected by/emerging from a conflict; countries affected by high levels of violence, or whose peace and stability is threatened; fragile states with weak capacity to perform core governance functions; countries in democratic transition, or where the lack of civic engagement and opportunities for participation in public life is seen as a factor threatening peace.

##### **(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 international and local civil society organisations selected using the following criteria: experience working in, and good knowledge of, the country of implementation, expertise in the thematic area, experience working with and strengthening capacities of local civil society organisations, institutional and financial capacity to manage EU funds.

<sup>21</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://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.

Under the responsibility of the Commission’s authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because of the crisis situation in the country of implementation, as per article 195, paragraphs a) and f) of the Financial Regulation..

#### 4.3.2. Direct Management (Procurement)

Procurement relating to support measures for the management of Calls for proposals (awareness raising, information, publication costs, evaluation of applications, etc.) shall be eligible.

#### 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

<b>Indicative Budget components</b>	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>
<b>Grants</b> – total envelope under section 4.3.1	15 400 000
<b>Procurement</b> – total envelope under section 4.3.2	100 000
<b>Evaluation</b> – cf. section 5.2 <b>Audit</b> – cf. section 5.3	Will be covered by another decision
<b>Communication and visibility</b> – cf. section 6	N.A
<b>Contingencies</b>	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 500 000</b>

#### 4.6. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments will oversee the Action. The selection and subsequent management of the projects to be funded under this measure will fall under the responsibility of FPI regional teams, in close cooperation with relevant EU Delegations. FPI regional teams will monitor and report against the projects specific objectives and expected results, in line with those set out in this document. In order to promote synergies with other actions, other relevant Commission services and the EEAS will be regularly updated.

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.

## 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 (for project modality).

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).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

Data collection, analysis and monitoring will be the responsibility of, and carried out by, each project's implementing partners and will be financed under the regular budget of each project. In the case of multi-country projects, implementing partners will be requested to present how monitoring and data collection will be operated.

## 5.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, an evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components.

In case an evaluation is not planned, the Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 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<sup>22</sup>. 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

<sup>22</sup> See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)

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.

## APPENDIX 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

An Intervention<sup>23</sup> (also generally called project/programme) is the operational entity associated to a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Interventions are the most effective (hence optimal) entities for the operational follow-up by the Commission of its external development operations. As such, Interventions constitute the base unit for managing operational implementations, assessing performance, monitoring, evaluation, internal and external communication, reporting and aggregation.

Primary Interventions are those contracts or groups of contracts bearing reportable results and respecting the following business rule: ‘a given contract can only contribute to one primary intervention and not more than one’. An individual contract that does not produce direct reportable results and cannot be logically grouped with other result reportable contracts is considered a ‘support entities’. The addition of all primary interventions and support entities is equivalent to the full development portfolio of the Institution.

Primary Interventions are identified during the design of each action by the responsible service (Delegation or Headquarters operational Unit).

The level of the Primary Intervention is defined in the related Action Document and it is revisable; it can be a(n) (group of) action(s) or a (group of) contract(s).

Tick in the left side column one of the three possible options for the level of definition of the Primary Intervention(s) identified in this action.

In the case of ‘Group of actions’ level, add references to the present action and other action concerning the same Primary Intervention.

In the case of ‘Contract level’, add the reference to the corresponding budgetary items in point 4.5, Indicative Budget.

<b>Option 1: Action level</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single action	Present action: all contracts in the present action
<b>Option 2: Group of actions level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of actions	Actions reference (CRIS#/OPSYS#):
<b>Option 3: Contract level</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 1	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 2	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Contract 3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group of contracts 1	

<sup>23</sup> [ARES \(2021\)4204912](#) - For the purpose of consistency between terms in OPSYS, DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI have harmonised 5 key terms, including ‘action’ and ‘Intervention’ where an ‘action’ is the content (or part of the content) of a Commission Financing Decision and ‘Intervention’ is a coherent set of activities and results which constitutes an effective level for the operational follow-up by the EC of its operations on the ground. See more on the [concept of intervention](#).