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ANNEX

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the action plan for EU foreign policy needs on support to EU public and climate diplomacy for 2024

Action Document for Support to EU public and climate diplomacy for 2024

ANNUAL PLAN

This document constitutes the annual work programme within the meaning of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, within the meaning of Article 23 of the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation.

1 SYNOPSIS

1.1 Action Summary Table

1. Title CRIS/OPSYS business reference Basic Act	Support to EU public and climate diplomacy for 2024 OPSYS number: ACT-62890 / JAD.1588838 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	Global Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela
4. Programming document	NA
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives / expected results	NA
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Multisector
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: SDG 17 – Partnerships to achieve the goal Other SDGs: SDG 5 – Gender Equality SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG 13 – Climate Action

	SDG 16 – Peace Justice and Strong Institutions			
8 a) DAC code(s)	43010 - Multisector aid			
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	61000 - Private sector in provider country			
9. Targets	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social inclusion and Human Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	General policy objective @	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	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"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11. Internal markers and Tags	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective
Digitalisation @		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
digital connectivity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	/
digital governance		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
digital skills/literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14 02 03 30 (Foreign Policy Needs) Total estimated cost: EUR 3 500 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 3 500 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Procurement			

1.2 Summary of the Action

This action will enable the EU to address short and medium-term foreign policy needs and opportunities by supporting innovative policies and initiatives, and by deepening EU relations and dialogues with target communities, forging alliances and partnerships. In particular, this action will enhance the ability of the European Union to play its role of “convener” and “agenda influencer” in key policy areas within international and multilateral organisations and reinforce the EU’s engagement with local governments in the Amazonian countries.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

Priority ‘EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism’: The European Union (EU) is the largest contributor to the United Nations (UN) budget, yet awareness of the impact of EU's contributions remains limited among UN bodies and beneficiary countries. This lack of recognition hampers the EU's ability to leverage its investments for greater visibility and influence.

In a polarized UN environment, where member states are often divided ideologically, the EU faces challenges in building consensus and fostering alliances. To effectively promote its core values, such as human rights, democracy, rule of law and multilateralism, the EU needs a coordinated strategy to enhance its role.

Unlike bilateral delegations, EU multilateral delegations often lack the resources for effective public diplomacy on EU policies and values, limiting their capacity to communicate contributions and engage key stakeholders. This is particularly concerning given the EU’s commitment to multilateralism.

To strengthen its influence, the EU will prioritize investment in a Team Europe approach while enhancing networking and negotiation facilitation with UN member states and regional organizations. By focusing on capacity building, knowledge sharing, and organizing joint activities for its multilateral delegations in New York and Geneva, the EU can better communicate the significance of its contributions, leveraging its

investments for increased visibility and influence within the UN. This will ultimately bolster the EU's collective voice and presence in the UN.

Priority 'Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments': Almost 70% of people in the Amazon region live in cities (so called "Urban Amazon"), yet there is a global lack of awareness regarding the significance of the Urban Amazon and its connection to climate global governance and challenges. The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), the world's most representative alliance of local governments is acting as a catalyst for climate action in local governments across the Americas. It provides technical support, training, climate diplomacy, and international visibility.

In 2023, Brazil's Amazonian agenda underwent a significant transition as the country endeavoured to regain its leadership in the international climate with the Amazon playing a pivotal role in this effort. In May 2023, President Lula announced that Belem would host COP30 to take place in 2025. In August 2023, Brazil and Colombia co-organised the summit of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO) in Belem. At this occasion, the Belem declaration was approved by the 8 ACTO countries¹, showing a renewed ambition for the region with a focus on sustainable development and security. At the same time, the Amazon Cities Forum was established, presided over by the city of Belem and incorporated to the ACTO, to promote dialogue between local governments, indigenous people and international organisations on sustainable urban development. The Forum will receive technical and financial support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in its first two years of operation.

2.2 Problem Analysis

Priority 'EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism': Global challenges such as Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, climate change, protracted conflicts, and extreme poverty cannot be addressed by individual countries alone. Collective action—agreed upon by all relevant actors—is essential for effective solutions that leave no one behind. Multilateralism holds the potential to achieve results that benefit both the EU and global interests.

As the world's leading proponents of a multilateral and rules-based global governance system, the EU and the UN collaborate across numerous areas, including democracy, human rights, rule of law, sustainable development, climate action, peacebuilding, and global health security. The EU's commitment to effective multilateralism is central to its external policy, emphasizing the need for a robust system grounded in universal rules and values.

However, despite being the largest contributor to the UN budget, the EU struggles to maximize the visibility and impact of its contributions. There is limited awareness of the significance of its financial support, hindering the EU's ability to leverage these investments for greater influence. Additionally, unlike many bilateral Delegations, EU multilateral Delegations often lack resources for effective public diplomacy, undermining their capacity to showcase the EU's leadership and reinforce its strategic priorities within the multilateral framework.

Priority 'Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments': In 2023, with the announcement of COP30 in Brazil, GCoM began focusing on actions with Amazonian cities, and supporting the city of Belem, in developing its greenhouse gas inventory. It has been engaged in discussions on "urban Amazon" with other institutions like the International Development Bank (IDB) and the World Resources Institute (WRI), and all clearly identify the needs for stronger governance and alignment on the demands of Amazonian cities on the global stage. This would allow closing the gap between the importance of the Amazon cities in the climate agenda and the lack of sustainable urban infrastructure and poor access to financial resources for their development. The GCoM Americas, in partnership with the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) South America through the Pan-Amazon Cities Forum and Brazilian Association of Municipalities (ABM), has established connections with cities in six countries² within the Amazonian territories, particularly engaging with 36 cities, of which 26 are Brazilian.

However, the scope and resources available within the GCoM no longer allow for direct actions with these cities. GCoM Americas financial support will cease in January 2025, approximately 9 months before COP30.

¹ Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela

² Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana and Peru

Therefore, the EU has a strategic interest to capitalise on the GCoM results to strengthen the EU's engagement with local governments in the Amazonian region and bolster their capacity to act within international climate fora. As a global leader in climate governance, the EU has a strong interest in diversifying risks and expanding alliances beyond government-to-government interactions. By capitalising on this unique window of opportunity, the EU can contribute to building political momentum towards COP30, empowering local actors to exert influence and shape the global climate agenda, thereby fostering a more participatory, bottom-up and grassroots-oriented approach. In parallel, this initiative will also serve to explore and strengthen potential linkages with the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Global Gateway Investment Agenda, opening new avenues for strategic collaboration between the European Union and the Amazonian region.

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

Priority 'EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism': The main focus are representatives of selected countries (or groups of countries) working for diplomatic missions of the UN system, as well as representatives of civil society organisations, media and other relevant stakeholders from those countries. To reach out to the above audiences, engagement with other partners could be envisaged such as: journalists; academics and think tanks; young leaders and civil society organisations. Partnership with EU Member States Embassies and Consulates, and other EU organisations would be sought.

Priority 'Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments': Key stakeholders are relevant municipalities in the Amazon region, ministries and State agencies in the Amazonian countries, private sector stakeholders, development banks, relevant non-governmental organisations and associations, EU Member State (EUMS), EU/EUMS agencies, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1 Objectives and Expected Outputs

The **Overall Objective** of this action is to support the achievement of the EU's foreign policy priorities in relation to urgent or imperative engagement in the fields of EU public and climate diplomacy.

The **Specific Objectives** of this action are to:

1. Enhance the ability of the European Union to play its role of "convener" and "agenda influencer" in key policy areas within international and multilateral organisations;
2. Strengthen the EU's engagement with local governments in the Amazonian countries in climate and environment related multilateral negotiations.

The **Outputs** to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives are:

- 1.1 Contributing to Outcome 1 (or Specific Objective 1): enhance the capacity of European Union Delegations in New York and Geneva to effectively engage with key partners and stakeholders, foster alliances, and highlight the EU's overall contributions to the functioning of the multilateral system.
- 2.1 Contributing to Outcome 2 (or Specific Objective 2): support Amazonian cities in defining their international priorities and demands and strengthen their representation to address their specific needs in climate finance, energy transition, and climate mitigation and adaptation; develop a unified, robust, and effectively communicated narrative for multilateral negotiations, reinforcing the connection between the urban and climate agendas in the Amazon; coordinate regional actions and strengthen the capacities of local leaders to integrate global governance mechanisms.

3.2 Indicative Activities

Activities relating to Output 1.1: organisation of dedicated public diplomacy activities supporting the work of EU Delegations to multilateral organisations; provision of expertise to facilitate internal coordination and enhance understanding of EU policies (including on values, democracy, rule of law, equality and inclusiveness, as well as human rights based approach to policy making), particularly in anticipation of key votes at UN General Assembly; drafting of short analyses/papers to inform on the above-mentioned activities and topics; networking opportunities and negotiation facilitation through meetings, seminars and study visits.

Activities relating to Output 2.1: production of targeted analytical materials to support the development of climate action plans and implementation of mentoring programmes; organisation of exchanges and dialogues between Amazonian cities, participation of selected Mayors and development of side events to COP30; public diplomacy and tailored communication support to targeted audiences to raise public awareness and visibility of the undertaken interventions.

3.3 Mainstreaming

This action mainstreams the following cross-cutting issues: multilateralism (building alliances) contributing to a global order based on international law, EU principles and values (democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for human dignity, the principles of equality, including gender equality, and solidarity), Resilience and Innovation.

3.4 Risks and Lessons Learnt

Risk	Likelihood (High/ Medium/ Low)	Impact (High/ Medium/ Low)	Mitigating measures
Unforeseen global events, such as geopolitical shifts or crises, could disrupt planned activities and influence stakeholder priorities.	M	L	The action will incorporate flexible planning that allows for adaptations in response to unforeseen circumstances.
The targeted countries do not actively engage and are not committed in the activities.	M	H	Regular engagement with relevant authorities.
The EU has limited capacities to follow up on the activities with strategic engagement.	M	M	Line services in Headquarters will regularly provide the EU Delegations with updated information about the activities of the programme, particularly regarding the implication of the concerned countries.
For priority “Climate diplomacy”: Local authorities have poor internal capacities.	M	H	Selection of cities with a minimum of requirements and commitment in terms of capacities.
For priority “Climate diplomacy”: Logistic difficulties related to the poor connections and infrastructures in the Amazon region.	M	M	Selection of adequate places and venues for related events and meetings.

Lessons Learnt:*Priority ‘EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism’:*

This initiative is a pilot project. However, similar projects funded by the FPI, particularly in the Americas region, have demonstrated significant success in engaging stakeholders and fostering collaboration with like-minded partners. These precedents underscore the potential for this pilot to achieve impactful results and enhance the EU’s influence within the multilateral system.

Priority ‘Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments toward COP30’:

The action will build on past activities with the International Urban and Regional Cooperation Latin America (IURC-LATAM) project and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) in the Americas.

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the partner countries.

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. This period includes 12 months for contracting and 48 months for implementation period of the corresponding contracts and agreements. 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 measures³.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Procurement)

The procurement will contribute to achieving specific objective 1 and 2 in section 3.1.

4.4 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (EUR)
Objective 1 - EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism	2 000 000
Objective 2 - Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments	1 500 000
Procurement (direct management) – total envelope under section 4.3.1	3 500 000
Totals	3 500 000

³ 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.

4.5 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

A strong policy steering and monitoring of the action will be ensured by the EEAS and FPI in coordination with other relevant Commission services. The EU delegations in the region will also ensure direct contacts with the implementing partners and monitoring of the activities.

Dedicated steering committees may be established to act as advisory and reporting mechanism in order to provide the strategic and policy guidance needed to ensure smooth project implementation. Steering committees will define the priority work streams to be addressed. Steering committees will review and endorse annual work plans, monitor project outputs and achievements, and not least provide advice on how to address obstacles and challenges identified during implementation. Steering Committees, whose composition will be further detailed in the legal commitments, will comprise representatives of the European Commission services, the EEAS and relevant EU Delegations.

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 and may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, for the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action and ensuring effective coordination.

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) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

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

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, a final evaluation may be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission. A possible midterm evaluation for the activity on multilateral diplomacy may be considered, in order to assess the performance of the pilot action and its possible replication.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision).

The Commission shall inform the implementing partners/contractors at least 3 months in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partners/contractors 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 may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁴. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

The financing of the evaluation may be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

⁴ See best practice of [evaluation dissemination](#).

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. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

In line with the 2022 “Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions”, it will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union’s support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement as appropriate on all communication materials related to the actions concerned. This obligation will continue to apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, partner countries, service providers, grant beneficiaries or entrusted or delegated entities such as UN agencies, international financial institutions and agencies of EU Member States.

Appendix 1 REPORTING IN OPSYS

A Primary Intervention (project/programme) is a coherent set of activities and results structured in a logical framework aiming at delivering development change or progress. Identifying the level of the primary intervention will allow for:

Articulating Actions or Contracts according to an expected chain of results and therefore allowing them to ensure efficient monitoring and reporting of performance;

Differentiating these Actions or Contracts from those that do not produce direct reportable development results, defined as support entities (i.e. audits, evaluations);

Having a complete and exhaustive mapping of all results-bearing Actions and Contracts.

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 chosen can be modified (directly in OPSYS) and the modification does not constitute an amendment of the action document.

The intervention level for the present Action identifies:

Contract level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single contract	<i>Priority 'EU Public Diplomacy Action for Multilateralism'</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single contract	<i>Priority 'Climate Diplomacy with Amazonian Local Governments'</i>