

EN

ANNEX

Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe

Exceptional Assistance Measure regarding Yemen

1. IDENTIFICATION

Action: Yemen - Support for truce monitoring and situational awareness

Action Reference: NDICI CR 2022/29

Cost: EUR 1 600 000 (European Union (EU) contribution).

Budget Line: 14 02 03 10

Duration: Maximum 18 months. The authorising officer responsible may decide to extend this period twice by a further period of up to six months, up to a total maximum duration of 30 months, under the conditions laid down in Article 23(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

Lead service: FPI

2. ACTION SUMMARY

This action builds on efforts commenced in a previous phase¹ and will deliver tailor-made tools to support the monitoring by the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen (OSESGY) of conflict parties' adherence to the truce, in preparation for an eventual longer-term cessation of violence. The action will support the further development of conflict resolution tools to enable more evidence-based decision-making, de-escalation and mediation using input from conflict participants, third-party monitors, and relevant open source media. Furthermore, the action will train new field observers on truce monitoring, primarily focusing on commitments regarding shipments, air flights, and road openings.

3. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

3.1 BACKGROUND

More than seven years of fighting in Yemen has seen tens of thousands of civilians killed and has left approximately 23.4 million people (almost 80% of the population) in need of assistance. Recognising the urgent need to de-escalate violence and to address humanitarian and economic needs, all warring parties in Yemen agreed to a two-month truce, brokered and

¹ Commission Decision C(2020) 3750

announced by the UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen. The truce started on 2 April 2022, and was extended on 2 June for an additional two months and again on 2 August until 2 October. The temporary truce is an important first step to de-escalate the war in Yemen and to build a more permanent ceasefire. It is also a crucial stepping stone for enhancing early recovery work addressing human suffering in Yemen.

However, the truce remains fragile. There are continued acts of violence which compromise civilian trust in the peace process and lead to disengagement from consultations by the parties. It is therefore crucial to increase the Office of UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen’s (OSESGY) situational awareness and provide it with almost real-time information to help respond to events on the ground and to keep the warring parties engaged. As the country shifts towards a transitional period, it is important to help build trust in the peace process among the Yemeni communities, and to build their peacebuilding capacity. The tools developed through this action will be used to facilitate communication and coordination between the OSESGY and the military party liaison personnel appointed by the conflict parties.

3.2 RATIONALE FOR CRISIS RESPONSE ACTIONS UNDER THE RAPID RESPONSE PILLAR OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION INSTRUMENT

The current situation of instability in Yemen constitutes an exceptional and unforeseen situation in the sense of Article 4(4) of the NDICI Regulation. An adequate response cannot be provided under any other European Union Instrument due to the urgency with which the funds are required and due to available resources already being firmly committed.

Annex IV, paragraph 1, second paragraph, points (a), (d) and (n) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 specifically provides for the use of the NDICI rapid response pillar to cover (a) support, through the provision of technical and logistical assistance, for the efforts undertaken by international, regional and local organisations and by State and civil society actors in promoting confidence-building, mediation, dialogue and reconciliation, transitional justice, women’s and youth empowerment, in particular with regard to community tensions and protracted conflicts; (d) support for the development of democratic, pluralistic state institutions, including measures to enhance the role of women in such institutions, effective civilian administration and civilian oversight over the security system, as well as measures to strengthen the capacity of law-enforcement and judicial authorities involved in the fight against terrorism, organised crime and all forms of illicit trafficking, and (n) support for measures to promote and defend respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law, and the related international instruments.

3.3 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating activities
Working in high-risk contexts which could endanger the security of implementing partners and	Medium	High	Implementing partner(s) will commit to minimize safety risks through continuous feedback from the field, and if needed, suspend activities in a

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating activities
beneficiaries.			timely manner.
Changes in political will/support from key stakeholders.	Medium	Medium	The action will closely coordinate with the OSESGY, stakeholder experts, and local partners to ensure work is grounded in a clear understanding of the current situation and will be organised to minimise the impact of any potential set-back in the political process.
Changes in Yemeni beneficiary/peace process needs and expectations.	Medium	Medium	The action is designed in a flexible manner which allows for it be customised to new contexts and conditions on the ground. Partnership with the local organisations and OSESGY ensures early information about changes in the political context.
<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Security situation allows access and implementation; - Political will is sustained among all relevant Yemeni stakeholders to participate in the action's activities; - Regional and international actors are supportive of the action's objectives and do not block it politically or physically; - The UN-led political process for Yemen maintains its current momentum and is able over time to generate results. 			

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the action is to support adherence to the current truce, in preparation for an eventual longer-term cessation of violence in Yemen.

4.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

4.2.1 To develop technological innovative solutions for verification of violence in order to enhance the likelihood of meaningful de-escalation of the conflict.

5. ACTION COMPONENTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The main expected results/outcomes include:

Expected Result (1): Truce monitoring and fulfilment of commitments by conflict parties, emphasizing the overall principles of dialogue and de-escalation, rendered easier.

Activities (indicative):

- 5.1.1 Develop and optimize data-driven technological solutions to facilitate inter-party incident de-escalation and mediation using input from conflict participants, third-party monitors, and relevant open media;
- 5.1.2 Continue modifications of mobile apps for trained civilian monitors, and, to the extent possible, broaden it to include conflict participants, and the general public;
- 5.1.3 Support the OSESGY in enabling direct and frequent communication between the parties to deescalate incidents.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

The Commission will ensure that the appropriate EU rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures².

6.1.1 Grant: direct award (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant

This grant will contribute to all the identified objectives and expected results under points 4 and 5.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

The types of applicants targeted for this direct award are international and national non-profit organisations and private companies.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

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 **the action entails crisis management aid as referred to in Article 195(a) and as defined in Article 2(21) of the Financial Regulation** at the date of the Financing Decision.

6.2 INDICATIVE BUDGET

The total European Union contribution under this Financing Decision **will not exceed EUR 1 600 000**. A breakdown among components is provided hereunder, and is indicative.

Indicative budget breakdown

² 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.

Components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified
Component 1: Yemen - Support for truce monitoring and situational awareness		
6.1.1 – Direct grant (direct management)	1 600 000	N/A
Total	1 600 000	N/A

6.3 ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The action shall be implemented under direct management. It will be devolved and sub-delegated to the **European Union Delegation in Yemen**, with the support of the Commission for the conclusion of the contracts implementing the action.

6.4 PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS 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 report. Each 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 outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the Logframe matrix. The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

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).

6.5 EVALUATION

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

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 financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

6.6 AUDIT

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 for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

6.7 COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Requirements for European Union External Action (or any succeeding document) shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

7. COMPLEMENTARITY, COORDINATION AND FOLLOW-UP

The action will be closely coordinated with EU-funded actions in the sector in particular those implemented and planned by the Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) which focus on local level peace initiatives, building inclusive local level security approaches and reducing youth vulnerability to radicalisation, as well as humanitarian actions funded by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), in particular measures aimed at preventing state failure, including through the provision of basic services.

Overall, this initiative complements, supports and coordinates with ongoing initiatives by the UN Special Envoy to Yemen.