

SUMMARY

Support Measure 2017 in favour of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to be financed from the 11th European development Fund

1. Identification

EDF allocation	EUR 900 000
Total cost	EUR 900 000 of EU contribution
Basic act	11 th European Development Fund

2. Country background

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is an archipelagic state in the Eastern Caribbean, comprising 32 islands and cays. The total area of the country is 389 sq. km of which the main island is 344 sq. km. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) with an estimated population of 109,991. The country's population consists of 48.7% female and 51.3% male. Over the past two decades, the population has migrated from the rural areas to the urban areas, where 46% of the population now resides.

An important characteristic of this island-state is that its economy is especially vulnerable to external shocks and natural disasters. More specifically, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is particularly vulnerable to a range of weather-related natural hazards, such as winds, floods, hurricanes and droughts. In addition to this, the risks associated with natural hazards are expected to increase with climate change. The island's vulnerability was demonstrated in December, 2013 when a tropical trough system interacting with a high pressure system to the north, caused extraordinarily heavy rains on mainland Saint Vincent which resulted in rapid and intense flash flooding that directly affected over 50% of the population. The flooding and associated landslides resulted in significant damage to infrastructure (USD 110 million, approximately EC\$299 million or 8% of the gross domestic product) - particularly in the water, electricity and transport sectors. Numerous private dwellings were lost or damaged and nine (9) persons were confirmed dead and three (3) are still missing and are presumed dead.

The estimated gross domestic product (GDP) at market price in 2015 was EC\$1.7 billion (roughly EUR 590 million). In the past, agriculture was the main source of income in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, but within recent times, tourism and related services, construction and other sectors have become increasingly important contributors to the national economy. In 2015, public external debt and total public debt relative to GDP were 48 and 78 percent, respectively.

According to the 2015 Human Development Index, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is ranked 97 with an index of 0.72 (among other Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis enjoy better HDI). Meanwhile, life expectancy is 72.9 years and expected years of schooling of 13.4.

3. Summary of the Action Programme

The overall objective of the Technical Cooperation Facility and Support Services to National Authorising Officer (NAO) programme is to ensure the efficient and effective utilisation of EU development assistance in support of the implementation of the development strategies and policies of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The current and future portfolio of the NAO features a number of EU-funded programmes that are key to the country's development, namely the B-envelope project to aid in reconstruction following the Post Trough of December 2013 and the bilateral A-envelope to assist in the development of rural infrastructure.

This action will support the operations of, and improve the institutional capacity within, the Office of the NAO for the efficient planning, implementation and monitoring of development projects and programmes financed by the EU (i.e. bilateral EDF, B-Envelope and Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM)). It will also improve awareness among key actors in the country of general development and of EU policies in these areas. An indicative amount of maximum EUR 555,000 is foreseen for support to the National Authorising Officer.

Another important component is the Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) for the provision of technical assistance to the focal sector and other areas of common interest. The TCF will be used to provide short- and long-term technical assistance, policy advice and studies as needed in the programming, preparation or implementation of actions, as well as for audits and evaluation if not covered under the respective FAs. An indicative amount of maximum EUR 320,000 is foreseen for the TCF, of which EUR 30,000 is specifically earmarked for audit and evaluation of projects that do not have funds earmarked for such activities.

4. 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 and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.5 above.

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 Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

Communication and visibility activities will be implemented by the National Authorising Officer during each year of the implementation period. The overall budget allocation is €25 000.

5. Cost and financing

	EU contribution (EUR)	Indicative Government of SVG contribution (EUR)
1. Result 1: <i>Technical Cooperation Facility – Improved technical capacity of relevant ministries to design and implement development programmes and projects (TCF) (Indirect Management)</i>	290,000	0
2. Result 2:		
a) <i>Support to NAO – to effectively implement/manage actions under 11th EDF (Indirect Management)</i>	555,000	0
b) <i>Audits and evaluations of projects that do not have funds earmarked for such activities (Direct Management)</i>	30,000	
3. Result 3: <i>Support to the NAO – Strategic communication on EU development policy priorities (Indirect Management)</i>	25,000	0
Totals	900,000	0



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ANNEX

of the Commission Decision on the Support Measure in favour of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) and Support to National Authorising Officer (NAO)

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Technical Cooperation Facility and Support Services to the National Authorising Officer (NAO) CRIS number: 2014 / 037-557 financed under 11 th European Development Fund		
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		
3. Programming Document	NIP 2014-2020		
4. Sector of Concentration/ Thematic Area	Transport/Rural Roads		
5. Amounts Concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 900 000 (13% of NIP) Total amount of EDF contribution: EUR 900 000		
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	Project Modality Indirect Management with St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Direct Management		
7. DAC-code	21010 (TCF) – 15110 (NAO) –	Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport policy and

			administrative management	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Public sector policy and administrative management	
8. Markers (From CRIS DAC Form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	Aid to environment	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not Targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

The overall objective of the Technical Cooperation Facility and Support Services to National Authorising Officer (NAO) programme is to ensure the efficient and effective utilisation of EU development assistance in support of the implementation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' development strategies and policies. The current and future portfolio of the NAO features a number of EU-funded programmes that are key to the country's development.

This Action will support the operations of, and improve the institutional capacity within, the Office of the NAO for the efficient planning, implementation and monitoring of development projects and programmes financed by the EU (i.e. EDF, B-Envelope and Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM)). It will also improve awareness among key actors in the country of general development and of EU policies in these areas. An indicative amount of maximum EUR 585,000 is foreseen for support to the National Authorising Officer.

Another important component is the Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) for the provision of technical assistance to the focal sector and other areas of common interest. The TCF will be used to provide short- and long-term technical assistance, policy advice and studies as needed in the programming, preparation or implementation of actions, as well as for audits and evaluation if not covered under the respective FAs. An indicative amount of maximum EUR 290,000 is foreseen for the Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF).

1. CONTEXT

1.1. Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is an archipelagic state in the Eastern Caribbean, comprising 32 islands and cays. The total area of the country is 389 sq. km of which the main island is 344 sq. km. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a small island developing state (SIDS) with an estimated population of 109,991. The country's population consists of 48.7% female and 51.3% male. Over the past two decades, the population has migrated from the rural areas to the urban areas, where 46% of the population now resides.

An important characteristic of this island-state is that its economy is especially vulnerable to external shocks and natural disasters. More specifically, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is particularly vulnerable to a range of weather-related natural hazards, such as winds, floods, hurricanes and droughts. In addition to this, the risks associated with natural hazards are expected to increase with climate change. The island's vulnerability was demonstrated in December, 2013 when a tropical trough system interacting with a high pressure system to the north, caused extraordinarily heavy rains on mainland Saint Vincent which resulted in rapid and intense flash flooding that directly affected over 50% of the population. The flooding and associated landslides resulted in significant damage to infrastructure (USD 110 million, approximately EC\$299 million or 8% of the gross domestic product) - particularly in the water, electricity and transport sectors. Numerous private dwellings were lost or damaged and nine (9) persons were confirmed dead and three (3) are still missing and are presumed dead.

The estimated gross domestic product (GDP) at market price in 2015 was EC\$1.7 billion. In the past, agriculture was the main source of income in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, but within recent times, tourism and related services, construction and other sectors have become increasingly important contributors to the national economy. Although commerce is becoming decentralized, the main area of economic activity is Kingstown - the country's capital. In 2015, public external debt and total public debt relative to GDP were 48 and 78 percent, respectively. These are some of the contributors to the country's limited capacity to manage the fiscal impacts of exogenous shocks.

The 2007/2008 Country Poverty Assessment (CPA) recorded an incidence of poverty of 30.2 percent in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The CPA also found that 48.2 percent of the population is below the vulnerability line which measures the number of persons who are not poor, but are at risk of falling into poverty, as a result of economic shocks or other types of disruptions. In particular, in some rural communities, the CPA assessed poverty as high as 43.1 and 55.5%.

According to the 2015 Human Development Index, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is ranked 97 with an index of 0.72 (among other Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis enjoy better HDI). Meanwhile, life expectancy is 72.9 years and expected years of schooling of 13.4.

1.1.1. Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The blueprint for long term socio-economic development in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is embodied in its National Economic and Social Development Plan (2013-2025). This Plan envisions the continued development and fortification of the national institutions as well as the enhancement of the technical and administrative capacity to not only cope with the challenges that arise but also capitalize on opportunities presented.

The five strategic goals as outlined in the Plan are:

1. “Re-engineering Economic Growth
2. Enabling Increased Human and Social Development
3. Promoting Good Governance and Increasing the Effectiveness of Public Administration, including:
 - The enhancement of participatory democracy, accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in the provision of public goods and services;
 - The development of a peaceful, safe and secure environment;
 - The improvement of the quality of the judicial and legal system and the enhancement of public confidence in it;
 - The enhancement of the role of civil society in the maintenance of democracy;
 - The widening and deepening of diplomatic relations.
4. Improving Physical Infrastructure, Preserving the Environment and Building Resilience to Climate Change
5. Building National Pride, Identity and Culture

The Plan articulates a vision for more efficient and effective delivery of public services. Specifically it seeks to strengthen the capacity of the public sector to manage the economy and deliver accountable, reliable and transparent public services.

A multi-tiered planning horizon will be used in implementing the Plan. This is configured in the long-term or 13-year plan while the medium-term horizon provides for the implementation of specific objectives, strategies and action plans over 3-year intervals. The latter would inform the annual budgetary exercise.

The Ministry of Economic Planning, Sustainable Development, Industry, Information and Labour has responsibility for monitoring and evaluation of the Plan. This will be done in conjunction with other public sector agencies, as well as the private sector and civil society¹.

¹ National Economic and Social Development Plan 2013-2025

This European Development Fund (EDF) contribution is in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action, the EU Code of Conduct, the Paris Agreement, the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the most recent framework for action and follow-up measures stemming from the Rio+20.

1.1.2. Stakeholders analysis

For a programme such as the TCF and Support to the NAO, it is difficult to conduct an exact analysis of stakeholders, as the areas of focus are very broad and the numbers of stakeholders are many.

Prime beneficiaries will be the public and private sector agencies actively involved in the execution of EU-funded programmes; through programming, identification, formulation and implementation. This will include the Ministries of Economic Planning, Sustainable Development, Industry, Information and Labour, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Health, Wellness and the Environment, Transport and Works and the Roads, Buildings and General Services Authority (BRAGSA), as well as non-state actors.

1.1.3. Priority areas for support/problem analysis

The EU support aims at supporting the efforts of the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to fully recover from the effects of recent global economic and financial crises, restore macro-economic stability, and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The 11th EDF also reserves an allocation for strengthening of the role of the civil society in the country. The 11th EDF intervention will facilitate Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in implementing its National Economic and Social Development Plan, in order to progress in developing a more efficient and effective delivery of public services, and to enhance the quality of and to improve climate change resilience of the road network in particular rural roads, in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

St Vincent and the Grenadines ratified the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in November 2012, confirming the critical role of trade and investment, and its support for closer economic and regional integration, as agents of growth, jobs and poverty reduction. It is expected that this action will also be used to address capacity issues in the trade areas, in particular those related to the implementation and monitoring of trade measures, and the EPA implementation in particular.

The EU has a long experience of working with institutions in more efficient and effective delivery of public services. Experience has shown that there are continuous needs for technical assistance aiming at evaluation of policies implementation, support for policy development of new programme formulation, specific capacity building related to new political orientations and complementary activities in the focal sectors.

This project aims at supporting or accompanying the programming, preparation or implementation of actions under the 11th EDF. It will support all stages of the project cycle and will address specific needs to enhance policy dialogue in strategic areas. Specifically, the project will focus on providing technical support to adequately formulate, implement and manage the

overall 11th EDF programme; assisting the implementation of the public finance management reform strategy; facilitate the creation of sector cooperation and governance systems in the areas supported by the 11th EDF; assess the institutional capacity constraints; better address the incorporation of the crosscutting issues and performance monitoring; and develop and implement an effective communication and visibility strategy, of the EU's contribution to the development of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Furthermore, this programme aims to provide support to the NAO to execute the main stages of the project cycle and ensure the effective implementation of the National Indicative Programme (NIP) and other EC programmes in line with the country's development strategy. It should be noted that the staff of the Office of the NAO are fully remunerated directly by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and supported in delivery of their tasks by colleagues within other technical ministries. Therefore no salaries or top ups are foreseen under the current proposal.

Moreover, by facilitating short- and long-term TA and studies, on an *ad hoc* basis, the Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) will be a flexible instrument that will strengthen capacities in the relevant government ministries, while also responding quickly to technical needs as they arise during project implementation. It is expected that the TCF will be used to address capacity issues in economic, social and environmental dimensions of national development. TA will be engaged to assist with specific tasks related to: identification, preparation and assistance with tender procedures and with evaluation and monitoring or audit for EU projects/programmes where this has not been provided for in the project itself, or the project has already been closed. These services will be provided by consultants and/or individual experts recruited by the NAO in accordance with EDF procedures, with the exception of audits and evaluations which the European Commission (EC) will implement and recruit experts.

2. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Inadequate financial support to cover full cost of the intervention. Sources of additional funding to support the results of the programme may not be forthcoming. [NAO]	L	Sources of additional funding will be sought, e.g. from World Bank, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). Implement methods to improve efficiency and reduce cost of Office operations.
Qualified consultants are available at an affordable price to effectively execute the different components of the programme. [NAO]	L	Services will be advertised nationally, regionally and internationally where applicable

Inadequate capacity within key technical agencies. [TCF]	H	The TCF programme will emphasise capacity building through, but not limited to short and long term training and exchange visits.
Government does not fully assume donor coordination and information dissemination role. [TCF & NAO]	H	Such risk is mitigated by the NAO component of this programme through institutional strengthening. Strengthen the role of the Steering Committees.
Assumptions		
Government will maintain its provision of rent-free premises, and payment of water, electricity, VAT and other taxes, for the office of the NAO. [NAO]		
The office of the NAO is able to retain suitably qualified, dedicated and motivated staff; and acquire the appropriate information and materials. [NAO]		
All contracts financed from the TCF show a clear capacity building emphasis – either through short term training or exchange visits. [TCF]		
The Government will maintain most of its efforts at capacity building in relevant ministries. [TCF & NAO]		
Departments collaborate to achieve results. [TCF & NAO]		
Communication amongst all stakeholders is timely and effective. [TCF & NAO]		

3. LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1. Lessons learnt

Lessons learnt through the implementation of projects in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, include: (1) the need for increased community involvement at all levels of the project; (2) the need for a strong publicity component in the project to keep information flowing to the beneficiaries on a continuous basis; (3) the need to ensure that reporting lines and roles are clearly defined to reduce ambiguity in lines of communications; and (4) the need to continue to foster coordination, information sharing and participation among different stakeholders. In accordance with the European Consensus for Development and the objectives of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Backbone Strategy on Technical Cooperation and Project Implementing Units, it is a priority to coordinate technical cooperation activities with donors and stakeholders

The implementation of earlier projects within Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has demonstrated the need for closer alignment of all projects with government's development policies, while efficiently managing transaction costs.

A number of result oriented monitoring (ROM) reports on several TCF and NAO support programmes implemented in different countries and regions, have highlighted an inadequate use of the logical framework as a project management tool. The main areas of improvement are the identification of SMART² indicators and the periodic review of the logical framework to assure that the intervention logic is still relevant and effective.

3.2. Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

At present, through funding from the European Union (EU), the Government is implementing the following key development programmes:

- The Agricultural Development and Modernisation Project (ADMP) under the Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM) programme;
- The 10th EDF A-Envelope – Modernisation of the Health Sector in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines;
- The 10th EDF B-Envelope – Congo Valley Road Rehabilitation and Bridge Reconstruction project;
- 11th EDF A-Envelope – Road Management and Rural Road Improvement Programme through a Contribution Agreement with the Caribbean Development Bank;
- 11th EDF B-Envelope – Post 2013 Trough Infrastructure Rehabilitation Programme through a Contribution Agreement with the World Bank.

By enhancing the capacity of the NAO and providing technical support as needed (through the TCF), this Action will support the implementation of these programmes. This Action therefore also complements the activities of other donors/agencies that are aiding in the rebuilding efforts and assisting in the infrastructure projects. .

3.3. Cross-cutting issues

Cross-cutting issues were identified as poverty reduction, climate change, good governance, gender, environment, and health. All proposed intervention areas will provide support to the attainment of the goals and objectives of the National Economic and Social Development Plan, and will be implemented in response to continued challenges and direct effects on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which are aggravated by the impact of climate change. The activities contribute to sustainable development, by making meaningful contributions to capacity building at various levels in the private and public sector, which assists the government in meeting its social development and poverty reduction goals.

² Specific to the objective it is supposed to be, Measurable, Available at an acceptable cost, Relevant to the information needs of managers and Time-bound.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1. Objectives

The overall objective of the programme is to ensure the efficient and effective utilisation of EU development assistance in support of the implementation of the government's development strategies and policies by strengthening public sector capacity and promoting good governance.

The specific objectives of the intervention will be:

1. To improve the technical capacity of relevant ministries to design and implement development programmes and projects (TCF);
2. To strengthen the NAO's Support Unit to ensure the efficient and effective management of the partnership programme between the EU and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

4.2. Expected results and main activities

The project will focus on achieving the following expected results:

Specific Objective 1: Technical Cooperation Facility

Expected Result 1: *Improved technical capacity of relevant ministries to design and implement development programmes and projects (TCF)*

This will be achieved through the provision of policy advice and expertise of technical consultants that will assess the existing capacities, policy framework and support with other donors

The main activities would include:

- Complementary Technical Assistance for the focal sector and line ministries;
- Capacity development and expert advice: workshops, seminars, etc. on the main issues regarding development cooperation, EU policies and strategies, planning, monitoring and evaluation, effective management and implementation and effective partner coordination;
- Studies and workshops to support implementation of public reforms.

Specific objective 2: Support to NAO

Expected Result 2 – *Support to NAO to effectively implement/manage actions under 11th EDF and planning and programming for future EDF*

This will be achieved through the provision of technical expertise to facilitate capacity building activities for stakeholders in areas identified, so as to enable them to more effectively manage ongoing programmes/projects and explore and develop new programmes areas for future EDF.

The main activities would include:

- Technical expertise to design and facilitate capacity development activities;
- Support for monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects under the 11th EDF;
- Feasibility studies, studies, legal support;
- Support for identification of programmes and projects under future EDF;
- Trainings in project cycle management and EU procedures;
- Audits and evaluations of projects that do not have funds earmarked for such activities.

Expected Result 3 – *Strategic communication on EU development policy priorities*

This result will be achieved by improving the communication on the EU's policies programmes and contribution to the country's development. The Communication and Visibility Strategy will encompass all the relevant activities to ensure a stronger, more coherent promotion of the EU and its cooperation.

The main activities would include:

- Conduct communications audit and develop a comprehensive communication strategy and implementation plan;
- Visibility events around key issues of EU policies directed to major stakeholders;
- Targeted communication around key issues including media and opinion leaders.

4.3. Intervention logic

The TCF and the support to NAO aim to provide a rapid response tool to mobilise resources, whether expertise, logistical support or other further NIP objectives:

- The development of proper communication and visibility tools;
- Cross cutting themes such as gender, environment, climate change;
- Institutional strengthening in sectors relevant to the main areas of intervention;
- Involvement in the regional integration processes (CARIFORUM);
- Other relevant and complementary areas of development with the National Indicative Programme (NIP) 2014-2020, the Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme (CRIP) 2014-2020 and the National Development Strategy;
- Capacity built in the NAO office and in other line ministries with a part to play in the NIP and the Caribbean;
- Value added to EU policy instruments such as the NIP, the RIP and also the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Economic and Social Development Plan.

A preliminary log frame matrix is provided in Annex 1.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1. Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 17 of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

5.2. Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out, is forty-eight (48) months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute non-substantial amendment in the sense of Article 9(4) of Regulation (EU) No 322/2015.

5.3. Implementation modalities

5.3.1. Procurement (direct management)

Subject in generic terms, if possible	Type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative number of contracts	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Audits and evaluations of projects that do not have funds earmarked for such activities	Services	2	Third trimester of 2020

5.3.2. INDIRECT MANAGEMENT WITH THE PARTNER COUNTRY AS THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

This action will be implemented in indirect management with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (in particular the organisation of the National Authorising Officer) in accordance with Article 58(1)(c)(i) of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 2015/323 according to the following modalities:

The partner country will act as the contracting authority for the procurement and grant procedures. The Commission will control ex ante all the procurement procedures except in cases where programme estimates are applied, under which the Commission applies ex ante control for procurement contracts above EUR 100,000 (or lower, based on a risk assessment) and may apply ex post control for procurement contracts up to that threshold. The Commission will control ex ante the grant procedures for all grant contracts.

Payments are executed by the Commission except in cases where programmes estimates are applied, under which payments are executed by the partner country for ordinary operating costs, direct labour and contracts below EUR 300,000 for procurement and up to EUR 100,000 for grants.

The financial contribution covers the ordinary operating costs incurred under the programme estimates.

In accordance with Article 190(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 262(3) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 36 of the Regulation (EU) 2015/323 and Article 19c(1) of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, the partner country shall apply procurement rules of Chapter 3 of Title IV of Part Two of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. These rules, as well as rules on grant procedures in accordance with Article 193 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 2015/323, will be laid down in the financing agreement concluded with the partner country.

5.4. 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 in accordance with Article 22(1)(b) of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

5.5. Indicative budget

	EU contribution (EUR)	Indicative Government of SVG contribution (EUR)
1. Result 1: <i>Technical Cooperation Facility – Improved technical capacity of relevant ministries to design and implement development programmes and projects (TCF) (Indirect Management)</i>	290,000	0
2. Result 2:		
a) <i>Support to NAO – to effectively implement/manage actions under 11th EDF (Indirect Management)</i>	555,000	0
b) <i>Audits and evaluations of projects that do not have funds earmarked for such activities (Direct Management)</i>	30,000	
3. Result 3: <i>Support to the NAO – Strategic communication on EU development policy priorities (Indirect Management)</i>	25,000	0
Totals	900,000	0

5.6. Organizational setup and responsibilities

The Contracting Authority for the project shall be the beneficiary – the National Authorising Officer.

The overall responsibility for the implementation of the programme lies with the National Authorising Officer, who may request the Commission to implement technical assistance contracts on his/her behalf under Article 19(c) 4 of Annex IV to the Revised Cotonou Agreement (Decision No.3 of the ACP –EC Council of Ministers to adopt amendments to Annex IV to the revised Cotonou Agreement). Activities could be implemented through framework contracts for amounts under EUR 300 000, through service contracts or through Programme Estimates.

5.7. Performance 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 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).

5.8. Evaluation

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

In case an evaluation is not foreseen, 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.

5.9. 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.

5.10. 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 and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.5 above.

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 Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

Communication and visibility activities will be implemented by the National Authorising Officer during each year of the implementation period. The overall budget allocation is €25 000.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY)

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
			(2015)	(incl. reference year – 2017-2020)		
Overall objective: Impact	To ensure the efficient and effective utilisation of EU development assistance in support of the implementation of the government's development strategies and policies by strengthening public sector capacity and promoting good governance.	Achievement of an economic growth target of 4%	Economic growth rate of 0.3%	Economic growth rate of 4% by 2020	Economic and Social review National Accounts ECCB reports IMF World Economic Outlook	
Specific objectives: outcomes	1. To improve the technical capacities of the relevant line ministries to design and implement development programmes and projects;	Rate of implementation of EU-grant funded projects which are part of the National Economic and Social Development Plan (2013-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % Implementation: NESDP – 55% at December 2015 11th EDF NIP – 0% at July 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % Implementation: NESDP – 65% at July 2017 11th EDF NIP – 80% at July 2020 	Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) annual reports Progress reports	Macroeconomic stability

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
			(2015)	(incl. reference year – 2017-2020)		
	2.To strengthen the NAO's Support Unit to ensure the efficient and effective management of the partnership programme between the EU and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The percentage commitment and disbursement of the EU flow, that is EDF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>11th EDF Road Rehabilitation Programme</i> – 0% committed; 0% disbursed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>11th EDF Road Rehabilitation Programme</i> – 100% committed by 2017; 100% disbursed by 2020. 		

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
			(2015)	(incl. reference year – 2017-2020)		
Outputs	NAO					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human resource capacity of the NAO's office enhanced. 	<p>At least 5 TA contracts in place by December 2017</p> <p>Training for at least 10 persons by 2019 (2 long term; 8 short term)</p>	<p>Zero TA contracts in place</p> <p>1 person in long term training</p>	<p>5 contracts in place by December 2017</p> <p>At least 4 persons received training by December 2018</p>	<p>Contracts; implementation reports</p> <p>Copies of certificates; expenditure reports</p>	<p>There are no significant changes in the policies, programmes and organization of the GoSVG related to and impacting on the work of the NAO's Office;</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring system which allows management for results strengthened. 	<p>A fully computerised networked accounting and a partially developed management information system in place by December 2018</p>	<p>A manual system in place</p>	<p>A fully computerised networked accounting and a partially developed management information system in place by December 2018</p>		<p>The continuity of development cooperation with the EU</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines sensitised on the various dimensions of the EU partnership 	<p>A visibility plan in place by December 2018</p>	<p>No visibility plan in place</p>	<p>A draft visibility plan by December 2017</p>		<p>Low staff turnover rate</p>

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines	Targets	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
			(2015)	(incl. reference year – 2017-2020)		
	TCF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical capacity of the relevant line ministries in the design and implementation of development programmes and projects 	<p>At least 6 TA contracts in place by 2018</p> <p>Training (long and short term) for at least 15 persons by 2019</p>	<p>No TA contracts in place</p> <p>No training in place</p>	<p>4 TA contracts in place by December 2017</p> <p>Training for at least 8 persons by 2018</p>	<p>Contracts; implementation reports</p> <p>Copies of certificates; expenditure reports</p>	