

SUMMARY

Annual Action Programme 2017 Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

1. Identification

EDF allocation	EUR 444 000 000
Total cost	<p>EUR 444 000 000 of EU contribution</p> <p>United Kingdom: USD 2 760 804 145 + GBP 1 000 000 000</p> <p>Gates Foundation: USD 2 000 000 000</p> <p>Norway: USD 1 122 214 933 + NOK 1 700 000 000</p> <p>Sweden: USD 155 779 562 + SKK 2 500 000 000</p> <p>United States: USD 4 955 000 000</p> <p>Australia: USD 363 852 698 + AUD 200 000 000</p> <p>Denmark: USD 122 131 776 + DKK 495 000 000</p> <p>Canada: USD 499 833 077 + CAD 650 000 000</p> <p>Belgium: USD 39 544 682 + EUR 38 000 000</p> <p>Germany: USD 712 304 478 + EUR 700 000 000</p> <p>Switzerland: USD 26 440 774 + CHF 60 000 000</p> <p>Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF): USD 22 000 000</p> <p>Ireland: USD 17 537 641 + EUR 30 000 000</p> <p>Italy: USD 502 101 934 + EUR 150 000 000</p> <p>France: USD 596 797 441 + EUR 1 600 000 000</p> <p>Finland: USD 5 332 441</p> <p>Korea: USD 5 000 000</p> <p>Japan: USD 803 916 481</p> <p>Dubai Cares: USD 1 000 000</p> <p>Luxembourg: USD 334 050 + EUR 7 500 000</p> <p>Netherlands: USD 296 000 000 + EUR 185 000 000</p> <p>Russia: USD 60 000 000</p> <p>European Union: EUR 425 000 000¹</p> <p>GRAND TOTAL: EUR 21 700 756 691</p>
Basic act	Council Regulation (EU) 2015/322 of 2 March 2015 on the implementation of the 11 th European Development Fund

¹ This amount relates to Annex 1 and Annex 2 of the AAP: In order to correctly reflect the share of the EU contributions compared to the contributions of the other donors, the total cost includes the total EU pledges for the period 2015-2020 (= EUR 375 000 000 for Annex 1 and EUR 200 000 000 for Annex 2) and not only the EUR 150 000 000 (= EUR 100 000 000 for Annex 1 and EUR 50 000 000 for Annex 2) that will be committed through this decision.

2. Regional background

Since the adoption of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) intra-ACP Strategy in 2008, progress has been made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, poverty – in its different dimensions – persists in many parts of the world and the global economic and financial crises since 2008 have severely affected African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

Extreme poverty remains the biggest challenge in most ACP countries. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the world's poorest region despite the absolute number of people living in extreme poverty having fallen for the first time in recent years. Similarly, insufficient progress has been made in the eradication of poverty in the Pacific and the Caribbean, although hunger has been significantly reduced in the latter. Poverty remains the central element of the Agenda 2030, which strengthens efforts to incorporate dimensions of inclusiveness and sustainability.

Access to and low quality of education remains a key issue for harnessing the full potential of ACP countries. In sub-Saharan Africa, the enrolment rates of children of primary school age have significantly risen. Yet, more than half of all children out of school live in sub-Saharan Africa. In the Caribbean and Pacific, most countries are well positioned to achieve universal primary education. However, only 70% of children who attend primary school master basic literacy and numeracy skills in these regions. Besides, health issues still jeopardise ACP countries' efforts in other domains. Approximately 80% of maternal deaths could be avoided if women had access to essential maternity and basic health-care services. However, maternal mortality remains the most off-track health MDG in ACP countries, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean. Similarly, the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis has not been reversed and continues to affect most ACP countries.

ACP countries face some structural challenges. Many are landlocked or small islands suffering from high transport costs and small and undiversified economies. Natural disasters and climate change accentuate their fragility. A large group of ACP countries remains dependent on commodity exports to traditional trading partners. Although exports are growing and export markets have become more diversified, a very narrow export base makes these countries vulnerable to external economic shocks. In addition, the majority of ACP countries lack indigenous fossil fuel energy resources and spend a large share of their export revenue on energy imports. Agriculture is the economic base for most of the population in ACP countries but, due to low productivity and heavy dependence on rain-fed agriculture, food insecurity and malnutrition are prevalent in rural areas, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

Environmental protection is critical to sustainable economic growth and a key factor in the transition to inclusive green economy. However, environmental degradation and climate change continue to seriously threaten the achievement of sustainable development and the very survival of many ACP countries. Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States are particularly vulnerable to biodiversity loss, land and eco-systems degradation, pressure on natural resources, unplanned urbanisation, and climate change.

The Annual Action Programme 2017 seeks to intensify inclusive and outcome-oriented development actions within and between ACP regions. More precisely, it will aim to address — in a coherent, integrated and balanced manner — the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development and will be structured around three sectors that will ensure access to basic needs, contribute to a sustainable environment and promote the private

sector as an engine of economic growth. It will also provide support to the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), as foreseen in Annex Ic of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

The Cotonou agreement foresees the development of regional cooperation between ACP States and neighbouring outermost regions. These territories are located in the Caribbean, in the Indian Ocean and in West Africa. Synergies should therefore be encouraged between Intra-ACP programmes and ERDF cooperation programmes (INTERREG programmes).

3. Summary of the Action Programme

1) Background:

The Cotonou Agreement (Annex IV, Article 12) defines intra-ACP cooperation as a supra-regional cooperation addressing the shared challenges facing ACP States through operations that transcend the concept of geographic location and benefit many or all ACP States. Based on this definition, the 11th EDF intra-ACP Strategy will focus on those interventions that will benefit the most from the intra-ACP approach, in complementarity with and subsidiarity to other instruments.

As at today, 57 million children worldwide are still out of primary school – of which more than half in sub-Saharan Africa. The gap in funding for education globally is growing and a renewed commitment, momentum, and more predictable external funding is required to bridge the gap. The Global Partnership for Education (GPE), a multilateral partnership of developing and donor countries, multilateral agencies, civil society organizations, private sector and private foundations, has become a key vehicle in this endeavour.

The European Union therefore pledged, on 26 June 2014, to more than double its contribution to the GPE Fund, to EUR 375 million – over the next 7 years, up to 2020.

By providing seed funding to the partnership's four-year replenishment period (2015-2018), which aims to raise a total of USD 3.5 billion in donor commitments, the European Union will re-affirm the pivotal role it plays in the field of support to education.

ACP States are amongst the most vulnerable to the negative consequences of climate change. This poses one of the most serious threats to the achievement of sustainable development. Improving resilience, by tackling climate change, environmental degradation and disaster risks is a key priority of intra-ACP cooperation.

The role of the private sector in contributing to the SDGs has also been acknowledged by both the ACP and the EU. The Nairobi Declaration settles strategic priorities for the Intra ACP actions in relation to private sector development, from which programmes are being defined. Supporting a conducive investment climate for sustainable businesses and decent job creation to flourish is an important element, as well as facilitating access to finance for SMEs, or supporting the structured dialogue with the private sector.

2) Cooperation/Neighbourhood related policy of beneficiary country

N/A

3) Coherence with the programming documents:

All programmes foreseen under the Annual Action Programme 2017 Part 3 will directly contribute to 2 focal sectors out of 5 of the Indicative Programme 2014-2020:

Indicative Programme focal sector	Amount (in EUR)
1. Human and social development	435 000 000
2. Institutional and support expenditure	9 000 000
TOTAL	444 000 000

Individual links by programme to focal sectors are detailed below.

Annual Action Programme 2017 Part 1 and Part 2 contributed to 2 other focal sectors. In total, Annual Action Programme 2017 (considering Parts 1, 2 and 3) sum up the following contributions as regards focal sectors of the Indicative Programme 2014-2020:

Indicative Programme focal sector	Amount (in EUR)
1. Human and social development	435 000 000
2. Climate change	13 000 000
3. Support to private sector development and investment	255 700 000
4. Institutional and support expenditure	9 000 000
TOTAL	712 700 000

4) Identified actions (summary of action fiches) and expected results:

A. Human and social development

Annex 1: EDF contribution to the Global Partnership for Education 2017

The **overall objective** of the action is to mobilise global and national efforts to achieve quality education and learning for all, through inclusive partnership, a focus on effective education systems, and financing for basic education.

The GPE supports the achievement of **three high-level goals**. The first two goals are equity and inclusion, and quality teaching and learning. The third goal is building stronger educational systems with the capacity to deliver equitable, quality educational services:

- increased equity, gender equality, and inclusion for all in a full cycle of quality education, targeting the poorest and most marginalised;
- improved and more equitable student learning outcomes through quality teaching and learning;
- efficient and effective educational systems delivering equitable, quality educational services for all.

At the heart of GPE strategy 2016-2020 is the partnership's aspiration to lock together improved sector planning, a partnership-based approach to government-led sector dialogue

and monitoring, and the financing needed to improve education systems and outcome. This is reflected in five strategic objectives, three country-level and two global:

- strengthen sector planning and policy implementation;
- support mutual accountability through efficient, effective and inclusive sector policy dialogue and monitoring;
- GPE grants, which efficiently and effectively support the implementation of sector plans focused on improved equity, efficiency and learning;
- more and better financing/
- building a stronger partnership.

Indicative Programme Objective: *1.3 Contribute to improved access and quality of basic education in ACP countries*

Annex 2: EDF contribution to GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, in ACP, Least Developed Countries

The **overall objective** of this action is to contribute to reducing child mortality, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, by subsidising the introduction of pneumococcal vaccines in the low-income ACP Countries eligible for Gavi support.

The **specific objective** is to fund procurement and delivery of pneumococcal vaccines in low-income ACP countries on the basis of country applications duly approved of by the Gavi Board.

The action is the continuation of the Commission support to Gavi in the fight against infectious diseases.

The **expected results** are:

1. Pneumococcal vaccines (including Syringes and safety boxes) will be provided to Ministry of Health, in accordance with each country proposal
2. National immunisation rates and vaccine coverage by the pneumococcal vaccines are improved and/or sustained.

Indicative Programme Objective: *1.1 Control of communicable diseases*

Annex 3: EDF contribution to the Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)

The objective of this action is to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (3) by reducing the number of cases of ill-health, death and disability due to HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in a way that strengthens the overall ability of recipient countries to provide the necessary health services in a sustainable manner.

The expected result is to improve access to effective prevention and treatment for all populations infected or affected by the three diseases in ACP countries, in particular to increase the:

- number of people living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy;
- number of new tuberculosis cases identified and treated;
- number of insecticide-treated bednets distributed to malaria-affected populations

Indicative Programme Objective: 1.1 Control of communicable diseases

B. Institutional support

Annex 4: Annual contributions to the administration budgets 2018-2019-2020 of the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)

This programme contributes primarily to the achievement of SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger) and 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

The **overall objective** is to contribute to rural prosperity, healthy diets and resilient food systems in the ACP countries (long-term objective); and to contribute to the development of inclusive and sustainable value chains and markets that are nutrition sensitive, climate/risk resilient and benefit small farmers, women and youth (medium-term objective).

The **expected results** are:

- Multi-stakeholder participation in value chain development and Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) policy processes and practices.
- Access to information, knowledge and skills for engaging in value chain development and ARD policy processes and practices.
- Enhanced capacity of ACP organisations and networks in Information and communications technologies (ICTs) and Knowledge Management (KM) to effectively engage in and promote value chain development and ARD policies and practices.

Indicative Programme Objective: 5.3 Enhance agriculture and rural development policy processes and value chain development for food security, prosperity and sound natural resources management in ACP regions and countries

6) Past EU assistance and lessons learnt.

Under the 9th and 10th EDF, Intra-ACP cooperation has mobilised substantial funding to address common ACP challenges (under the 10th EDF alone, EUR 2 700 000 were allocated to intra-ACP cooperation, increased to EUR 2 895 000 following the Mid-Term Review). Intra-ACP cooperation has demonstrated a very high level of financial efficiency, with close to 100% commitment of the 10th EDF by the end of 2013 and good levels of disbursements.

Over the years, intra-ACP cooperation has moved from an ad-hoc to a more strategic approach. Under the 10th EDF, drawing on past experience of intra-ACP cooperation, ACP States and the European Commission agreed to adopt a multi-annual strategy. This new approach has enabled the adoption of a more rationalised and focused strategy than under the 9th EDF, although still covering an important number of sectors. This rationalisation effort was pursued in the wake of the mid-term review (2011). Subsequently, a 2013 external evaluation of intra-ACP cooperation advocated for a strengthened focus on a limited number of sectors such as climate change, education and private sector.

Beyond financial efficiency, intra-ACP cooperation has often proven a very effective development instrument leading to significant results, in particular, when it has focused on initiatives where its critical financial mass made a difference and when it has fostered cooperation between ACP countries.

Current priorities of the 11th EDF Intra ACP strategy –which was approved in November 2015- are aligned with the new international and EU policy context. In particular, the Intra ACP Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) is aligned with the policy priorities of sustainable growth and jobs, renewable energy/climate change, and the migration/mobility/security development nexuses.

4. Communication and visibility

The guidelines in force with regards to visibility will be applicable to all the beneficiaries of EDF funds. See individual action documents for further information.

5. Cost and financing

	EUR
Annex 1: EDF contribution to the Global Partnership for Education 2017	100 000 000
Annex 2: EDF contribution to GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, in ACP, Least Developed Countries	50 000 000
Annex 3: EDF contribution to the Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)	285 000 000
Annex 4: Annual contributions to the administration budgets 2018-2019-2020 of the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)	9 000 000
Total EU contribution to the measure	444 000 000

The Committee is invited to give its opinion on the attached Annual Action Programme 2017 - Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation.

EN



This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX 1

of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2017 - Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

Action document for EDF contribution to the Global Partnership for Education 2017

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	EDF contribution to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) 2017 CRIS number: ACP/FED/038-845 financed under the 11 th European Development Fund (EDF)	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries	
3. Programming document	Intra-ACP Cooperation – 11 th European Development Fund – Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme 2014-2020	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Basic education	DEV. Aid: YES ¹
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 1 591 756 691 Total amount of EDF contribution: EUR 100 000 000 (2,8% of the A envelope) This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: United Kingdom: USD 260 804 145 Norway: USD 202 214 933 Sweden: USD 155 779 562 United States: USD 155 000 000 Australia: USD 107 852 698 Denmark: USD 122 131 776 Canada: USD 90 833 077 Belgium: USD 39 544 682 Germany: USD 39 304 478 Switzerland: USD 26 440 774 Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF): USD 22 000 000	

¹ Official Development Aid is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

	Ireland: USD 17 537 641 Italy: USD 11 101 934 France: USD 9 797 441 Finland: USD 5 332 264 Korea: USD 5 000 000 Japan: USD 3 916 481 Dubai Cares: USD 1 000 000 Luxembourg: USD 334 050 European Union: USD 409 266 873 ² (≃ EUR 375 000 000, including the EUR 100 000 000 of this action) Total: USD 1 685 192 809 (= EUR 1 591 756 691)			
6. Aid modality and implementation modality	Project modality Indirect management with the World Bank			
7 a) DAC code(s)	112 – Basic Education – 100%			
b) Main Delivery Channel	World Bank - 44001			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. GPGC thematic flagship	N/A			

² The calculation of the total estimated cost of the action is based on the replenishment pledges for the period 2015-2018 as of 31/10/2016. In order to correctly reflect the share of the EU contribution compared to the contribution of the other donors, the total estimated cost includes the total EU pledge (= EUR 375 000 000) and not only the EUR 100 000 000 that will be committed through this decision.

10. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG 4: Quality education Secondary SDG's: 5 (Gender equality), 8 (Decent work & economic growth) and 10 (Reduced inequalities)
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SUMMARY

In the last decade, African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries have made significant progress in the education sector. However, many Sub-Saharan African countries are far from achieving universal primary education and, at the same time, quality of education stays elusive in all three ACP regions.

The majority of children that are not learning basic skills of literacy and numeracy presently reside in ACP countries. The lack of access to education and learning opportunities negatively impacts on individual livelihoods as well as on the sustainable development of ACP countries. Since its inception in 2002 the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has increasingly become a key player in international education and development due to its capacity to mobilise donors' resources and leverage domestic funding. Also, it has been able to ensure increased ownership and harmonisation of donor funding and its alignment with the education policies of recipient countries.

The general objective of this EU contribution to the GPE is, in line with SDG 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by focusing on basic education. As recognised in the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030 – Towards Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education for All, the GPE will serve as a co-convenor of the 2030 education agenda. It will support the activities developed under the leadership and coordination of UNESCO, including national, regional, and global-level processes to track progress in achieving the education SDG targets.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Over recent decades, the remarkable progress in human development at global level has also been reflected in ACP countries, although with noticeable inter-regional and intra-regional differences.

The ACP Group of States comprises some of the poorest countries in the world. With 14% of the world population, it generates 2,2% of world domestic product and around 3.4% of world trade. 39 of the world's 48 least-developed countries (LDCs) are ACP countries, most of them in Africa. Africa's average gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate has dropped to 3% in 2015 and it is projected to have decelerated further in 2016, to the lowest level in years, and below population growth. Similarly, growth rates of the Caribbean and the Pacific regions indicate that these regions are lagging behind the rest of the world. Insufficient poverty reduction, persisting unemployment and increased income inequalities have remained major challenges across the ACP countries.

Worldwide, in 2014, some 263 million children were not in school (130,3 million girls and 132,7 million boys) - including 61 million children of primary school age, 60 million adolescents of

lower secondary school age and 142 million youth of upper secondary school age. In 2000, 54% of the 375 million out-of-school children, adolescents and youth were female. By 2014, there was virtually no difference in the global rates: 19% of girls of primary and secondary age were out of school, compared to 18% of boys. This shows that remarkable progress has been made in terms of gender parity but these global averages mask considerable differences at regional and country levels. Major challenges remain to be addressed in the area of improving learning outcomes and tackling barriers of more marginalised groups.

Limited access to and low quality of education remain key issues for harnessing the full potential of ACP countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, even though their enrolment rates of primary school age children have risen significantly in the last decade. In the Caribbean and Pacific, most countries are well positioned to achieve universal primary education but only 70% of children who attend primary school in those regions master basic literacy and numeracy skills.

In the light of the current social situation in ACP countries, it is necessary to devise flexible, innovative and inclusive approaches to tackle poverty and its root causes, lack of quality education being one of them. Only a skilled and educated population can muster the necessary energy to lift a country out of poverty and put it on track for sustainable and inclusive development.

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The GPE was created in 2002 to deliver on global education commitments made at the Dakar World Education Forum and the Millennium Summit. Following the adoption of the 2030 agenda, the GPE made a firm commitment to play an important role in achieving the SDG vision for education. It did this by adopting SDG 4 as its vision statement in its new Strategic Plan 2016-2020: 'Inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all'.

Under GPE 2020, the partnership's strategic plan for 2016-2020, the financing continues to focus on basic education, defined as pre-primary, primary, lower secondary education and second-chance learning opportunities. It also focuses on ensuring a good transition between these different levels of the national education system. When equitable learning outcomes are well advanced at basic education levels, GPE may provide additional investments in early childhood care or upper secondary education to cover the full cycle of school education.

Over the years, the GPE has evolved from its origins as a modest, gap-filling venture to become an independently governed, multi-stakeholder partnership. The GPE is now the 4th largest donor to basic education in the world, disbursing more than USD 470 million in 2015 alone to support the implementation of partner countries' national education plans.

The EU has been supporting the GPE since 2005. Continuing to fund this partnership fits well within the EU policy framework. An EU contribution to the GPE is in line with the **European Consensus on Development** that promotes a more comprehensive approach to human development. For education, this approach means more support for inclusive and equitable quality education for all and life-long learning (SDG 4), with a strong focus on promoting gender equality (SDG 5).

Multi-stakeholder partnerships, like the GPE, operating at all levels and involving civil society and the private sector are a key element in the recent **EU global strategy** to deliver global public goods and address common challenges. Echoing the SDGs, this strategy expresses the EU's will

to adopt a joined-up approach to its education policies and nurture societal resilience. It seeks to do this by deepening work on education and youth to foster pluralism, coexistence and respect.

A similar reasoning is found back in the **Intra-ACP Cooperation Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme 2014-2020**, which recognises the importance of addressing education, a key common challenge for the ACP States, at the intra-ACP level and, in particular, contribute to improved access to and quality of primary education in ACP countries. The Strategy considers that this contribution is best channelled through an existing global partnership, like the GPE, which has demonstrated its impact and which promotes ownership and coherence with national development strategies.

The joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council on a **renewed partnership with the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific** stresses i.a. the importance to empower women, youth and vulnerable groups, by promoting equal access to quality education and vocational training, representation in political and economic decision-making processes for women and girls, and an enabling environment for youth to fulfil their potential, enjoy their human rights and engage as responsible actors. It also stresses that actions towards poverty eradication should be focused on the poorest and most vulnerable countries including LDCs and fragile and conflict-affected countries, where difficulties are expected to persist compounded by demographic factors, and where a stronger focus on human development remains essential.

On the achievement of SDG 5 on gender equality, the first goal of the GPE's 2016-2020 strategic plan is: "Increased equity, gender equality, and inclusion for all in a full cycle of quality education, targeting the poorest and most marginalised, including by gender, disability, ethnicity, and conflict or fragility". The GPE's strategic plan also has achieving gender equality as one of its eight principles. To deliver on the GPE's commitment to gender equality, the GPE Board of Directors approved the gender equality policy and strategy 2016-2020 in June 2016. For more details, see Section 3.3.

Consequently, the proposed action also helps to implement the new joint staff working document: "**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020**" that commits to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and gender based violence. It prioritises an increase in the number of girls and women receiving quality education and vocational education and training. The action will help to achieve of the following priorities of the staff working document:

- **Thematic priority: Physical and psychological integrity**
 - Objective 7: Girls and women free from all forms of violence against them both in the public and in the private sphere;
- **Thematic priority: Economic, social and cultural rights - economic and social empowerment**
 - Objective 13: Equal access for girls and women to all levels of quality education and vocational education and training free from discrimination.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The GPE encompasses all major donors to education — about 30 bilateral, regional and international agencies and development banks. A total of 65 developing countries have joined the

GPE to date, and a number of major international organisations, civil society organisations, foundations and private sectors are involved in the partnership.

Donors provide financial and technical assistance to national governments in GPE developing countries. They play a pivotal role in coordinating local partners and elaborating and monitoring education strategies and programmes. They benefit from the coordinating nature of the partnership.

International organisations (multilateral agencies) are key actors in the implementation of education programmes, the supervision of grant agreements and the disbursement of funds.

Civil society organizations (CSO)' collaborate with the GPE, and this is essential to keep education a high priority on the development agenda. They help shape education policies, monitor programmes and hold governments accountable for their duty to fulfil the right to education. CSO's can be small or large, national or international and include women's organisations, parents' associations, children's and youth organisations, and teachers' unions. The GPE works with CSO networks such as the Global Campaign for Education and Education International, which help facilitate collaboration among organisations and strengthen national and global linkages.

The private sector and foundations provide strategic, technical and financial support to make the GPE more effective and explore innovative opportunities to achieve better results. GPE 2020 recognises the role that the business community and philanthropy can play in fulfilling its mandate, going beyond philanthropy to leverage assets, capabilities, and innovation to accelerate progress on common education goals.

The immediate beneficiaries of GPE support include **governments and ministries of education** which are either in the partnership already or which will join it in the years ahead. Ultimate or indirect beneficiaries will include the children and youth, teachers, school managers and communities. There will be a particular focus on the most vulnerable and marginalised populations³, who should benefit from increased and improved national and external support to national education sector strategies.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

SDG 4 commits countries to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all". Within this context, equal access to education and quality education remain the two major challenges.

Despite good progress towards MDG 2 on universal primary education by 2015 the goal was not achieved. According to the 2015 Global education monitoring report, the primary school net enrolment ratio was 84% in 1999 and is estimated to have reached 93% in 2015. The reality is that there are still large disparities between regions and countries, with Sub-Saharan Africa

³ The GPE results framework has a particular indicator (16c) 'Proportion of education sector plans with a strategy to respond to marginalised groups that meet quality standards (including gender, disability and other context-relevant dimensions)'. With this indicator, it will be possible to follow-up the extent to which marginalised groups are being targeted. The quality assurance review process for the endorsement of education sector plans also ensures that this area of concern is sufficiently addressed.

lagging behind (net enrolment in primary education of 78%). Moreover, those out of school are the most difficult segment of the population to reach.

Countries that are not able to reach the marginalised cannot attain universal primary education. Improvements are needed to reach the poorest populations, ethnic and linguistic minorities, rural girls, working children, nomadic communities, children affected by HIV and AIDS, slum dwellers, children with disabilities and children living in complex crisis situations and emergencies.

Gender remains a critical point in this context. Girls are the most affected by gender discrimination in education with multiple barriers to their education. Girls tend to drop out more in rural and remote communities in underserved areas. Adolescent girls often face significant barriers in making the transition from primary to secondary education. School infrastructure is not always ready for girls and may lack separate toilet facilities and safe places to manage menstruation. In many countries, when girls reach puberty they are required to take on new roles that focus on marriage, motherhood, and employment instead of education. Gender-based violence in and around schools has negative impacts not only on girls' participation and achievements, but also on their physical health and psychological well-being. Families often favour investing in boys' education over girls' education. The poorest and most marginalised girls, including those living in conflict and crisis situations, face particular challenges. However, boys are also affected by gender imbalance. There is regional variation in boys' participation and achievement in education: for example, in the Caribbean region, boys are more likely than girls to drop out of secondary school.

The other challenge is the quality of education. Around 250 million children are not learning the basic skills of literacy and numeracy, even though half of them have spent at least 4 years in school. The quality gap in education in Sub-Saharan Africa is confirmed by a recent assessment of student abilities in mathematics and reading by the CONFEMEN⁴ programme for the analysis of education systems (PASEC) in 10 countries in French-speaking West Africa. Over 70% of early primary pupils have not achieved the 'sufficient' level in language, and over 50% in mathematics. At the end of the primary cycle, close to 60% of pupils are below this level in both subjects. Underlying these stark findings are again significant issues of inequity and marginalisation.

Despite these challenges, the gap in funding for education globally is growing. A renewed commitment, momentum, and more predictable external funding are required to bridge the gap. The share of official development assistance (ODA) for education has fallen from 13% to 10% since 2002. Also, education ODA has been insufficiently targeted to countries which need it most. Only 24% of all education ODA was disbursed to low-income countries in 2014. The International Commission for Financing Global Education⁵ estimates that lower middle-income countries will be required to more than double their domestic spending on education from the current USD 1.2 trillion per year to USD 3 trillion (from USD 27 billion to USD 102 billion for

⁴ Conférence des ministres de l'Éducation des États et gouvernements de la Francophonie

⁵ The International Commission for Financing Global Education (Education Commission) was set up to reinvigorate the case for investing in education and to chart a pathway for increased investment in order to develop the potential of all of the world's young people. The Commission was convened by the Prime Minister of Norway, the Presidents of Malawi, Indonesia, and Chile, and the Director-General of UNESCO, following the 2015 Oslo Summit on Education for Development.

low-income countries) by 2030, to meet the educational needs at pre-primary, primary, secondary and post-secondary education levels by 2030. To achieve this, the Education Commission recommends action, not just to increase international financing of education but, more importantly, increase and improve the domestic resources going to education.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The GPE's governance structure includes the GPE Board of Directors as the prime decision-making body and five Committees supporting the Board's work: the Coordinating Committee, the Grants and Performance Committee, the Strategy and Impact Committee, the Governance and Ethics Committee and the Finance and Risk Committee. The Finance and Risk Committee oversees the risk management of the partnership, i.e. the development and implementation of a risk management framework and/or other risk management and mitigation measures and policies. It also deals with measures on fraud, corruption and other misuse of GPE resources.

The GPE has put in place a comprehensive risk policy⁶ and risk management framework⁷ which sets out the wider risk management system required to ensure that the GPE delivers on the objectives in its strategic plan. It guides the GPE's Board and Secretariat in strategic and operational decision-making and facilitates a systemic approach to risk management.

The GPE seeks to operate in a moderate overall risk appetite (the level of risk the GPE is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives). But it is recognised that differences in context can affect this risk appetite and the prioritisation that is given to risks. The GPE has, for example, a very low risk appetite for risks related to fraud and misuse of funds. However, at the same time, it has a moderate to high risk appetite to work in fragile and conflict-affected states. This can create tensions. There may be more risks associated with implementation in fragile environments, but the GPE will try to balance these competing risks with appropriate mitigating measures and have a tailored approach to risk management. It will take into account both the risk appetite and the specifics of each context.

As stated, working in fragile and conflict-affected states brings along particular risks. To mitigate these risks the GPE has put in place an operational framework for effective support in fragile and conflict-affected states⁸. This framework is in line with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) principles for good international engagement in fragile states and situations. The main mechanisms put in place in this context consist in: helping countries develop education sector plans that better enable them to face emergencies and helping them develop transitional education sector plans. The GPE's operational framework also allows for an accelerated financing mechanism and restructuring of existing GPE grants to meet emergency needs.

Assumptions have been analysed both at global and country level. At global level a main assumption is that the donor contributions to the GPE are sustained or will increase in the future. It is also assumed that all partners commit to the GPE partnership model and participate in monitoring and reporting on areas of mutual accountability. At country level, it is assumed that the governments will create effective mechanisms for policy dialogue and monitoring that

⁶ <http://www.globalpartnership.org/content/risk-management-policy>

⁷ <http://www.globalpartnership.org/content/risk-management-report-and-operational-risk-framework-december-2016-6>

⁸ <http://www.globalpartnership.org/content/gpe-operational-framework-effective-support-fragile-and-conflict-affected-states>

include civil society, teacher's organisations, and the private sector. Efforts should be made by the governments to increase domestic financing for education. In addition, good coordination between GPE partners at the country level will mean more effective implementation of the GPE grant whose purpose is to support key inputs that help to achieve the equity and learning goals in education sector plans.

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

The GPE Fund is a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) managed by the World Bank as trustee, which pools the funds at global level. Since the very beginning, the EU together with the EU Member States have been the main donors of the GPE Fund. Currently, the EU collectively provides about 63% of financing to the GPE Fund.

Since 2003, the GPE has allocated USD 4.6 billion to education in 232 grants. This has had a double effect. On the one hand, the GPE reports, among other results, that 64 million more children were in primary school and 24 million more in lower secondary school in 2014 (compared to 2002) in GPE partner countries. Furthermore, developing countries' participation in the GPE has helped to mobilise domestic financing, which has increased by 11% on average as a share of GDP after a country has joined the partnership.

Today, as mentioned above, the GPE is the 4th largest donor to basic education in the world. It is increasingly recognised for its role in bringing financing to countries most in need. According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Global monitoring report of 2015, 81% of GPE disbursements between 2010 and 2012 were to low-income countries, compared to 42% among OECD/DAC⁹ members. Furthermore, the share of GPE grants to fragile and conflict-affected states has more than doubled since 2008, reaching 50% of all approved grants in 2015.

In 2014, the GPE introduced a new funding model to reinforce the partnership's focus on results. The new funding model requires governments to invest in monitoring and data and to maintain a high level of domestic financing for education. It also introduces a results-based tranche of funding that rewards tangible achievements in three key dimensions: equity, efficiency, and learning.

The independent interim evaluation of the GPE covering the period 2010-2014¹⁰ explored how the organisational change since 2010 has improved the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the partnership. Overall, the evaluation found that the GPE Board and Secretariat have made serious efforts to address the recommendations of the previous evaluation (2010) and other areas for improvements identified since then. These changes have strengthened the partnership both operationally and strategically. However, it was underlined that there continues to be a disconnect between the GPE's ambitious mission and its narrow financing base; this has implications for the partnership's future direction. The strategic plan for 2016-2020 seeks to

⁹ The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC)

¹⁰ <http://www.globalpartnership.org/independent-evaluation-2010-2014>

address this challenge. It will guide the GPE's activities and set out key priorities for the next years.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

The EU is a major global player in education and training, allocating an estimated EUR 5.3 billion to education and training at all levels (2014-2020). The bulk of this support (about EUR 3.3 billion) is channelled through bilateral cooperation, where approximately 44 countries have chosen this sector as a focal sector for the period 2014-2020. But it also includes global initiatives such as the GPE.

In June 2014, the EU pledged to allocate EUR 375 million to the GPE up to 2020. An allocation of EUR 200 million (the EUR 100 million in this Action Document is the second tranche of this amount) from the 11th EDF intra-ACP envelope and EUR 175 million from the global public goods and challenges programme (GPGC).

Complementary to the contribution to the GPE, under the GPGC there is a strong emphasis on support to better education opportunities in situations of fragility, including conflict affected and crisis areas. The EU adopted a financing decision (EUR 21 million) in 2016 with the specific aim to develop evidence-based models and deliver safe quality basic education for children in fragile and protracted crisis environments. The idea here was also to build societal and institutional resilience to make these actions sustainable over time.

Additionally, support is provided to the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) fund launched at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. The fund brings together key players to form a powerful global alliance on behalf of children and young people whose education and learning are disrupted because of emergencies and protracted crises. Currently, the ECW initiative is hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), but it is likely that the GPE will take over this role in due time increasing the synergies between the two initiatives even more.

The GPE plays an important role as a forum for aid effectiveness. It does this particularly through its approach to ownership, harmonisation, alignment, management for results and mutual accountability.

At country level, the GPE promotes good coordination through the local education group (LEG). As the GPE does not have country presence, it relies on partners present in the country. Active involvement in the LEGs by EU Delegations is particularly important in 22 countries where both the EU and the GPE have education programmes. The GPE is founded on the principle of collective support for a single country-led process towards the development, endorsement and implementation of an education sector plan. The government is in the lead within the LEG and has the responsibility for implementing its policies and plans, with the support of civil society organisations (CSOs) and the local donor group (LDG). This support includes monitoring and promoting progress towards increased aid effectiveness, active participation in joint reviews as well as mobilising financial support.

At global level, donor coordination is ensured through the Board, through coordination within the different donor constituencies and through the participation of the donors in the five Board Committees. See Section 5.6 for more details on the exact organisational set-up.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

The GPE guidelines for education sector plan preparation and appraisal require that the national plans include strategies to address HIV/AIDS, gender equality, equal access for all vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities, and other cross-cutting issues relevant to education. Environmental issues are usually covered by national sector strategies, and environmental impact assessments are included in the appraisal and endorsement process, where appropriate.

Increasing gender equality is one of the eight guiding principles of GPE 2020. Achieving increased equity, gender equality, and inclusion is one of three key strategic goals under this plan.

The GPE gender equality policy and strategy 2016-2020, approved by the GPE Board in June 2016, reflects a shift from a narrower focus on girls' education to gender equality more broadly. It includes areas where boys are disadvantaged, as well as gender issues concerning teachers, administrators and systems. Specifically, gender equality is supported in the following ways:

- gender-responsive education sector plans
- provision of grants to partner countries for implementation of education sector plans that promote gender equality
- policy dialogue on gender equality
- tackling school-related gender based violence

The GPE also continues to explore opportunities for more cross-sectoral collaboration, especially with the health sector, on greater equity and inclusion, recognising that education is essential for the success of all the SDGs; and that, in particular, the education of girls and women promotes strong health outcomes, while school-based health initiatives support stronger learning outcomes. A total of 22 ongoing GPE grants currently support health and nutrition programmes.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results and main activities

This programme is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 4, but also promotes progress towards SDGs 5, 8 and 10. This does not imply a commitment by the countries benefiting from this programme.

This EU contribution to the GPE Fund will support the achievement of the goals and objectives of the GPE, which are in line with the EU policies on education in development cooperation.

The action's overall objective is to mobilise global and national efforts to achieve quality education and learning for all, through inclusive partnership, a focus on effective education systems, and financing for basic education.

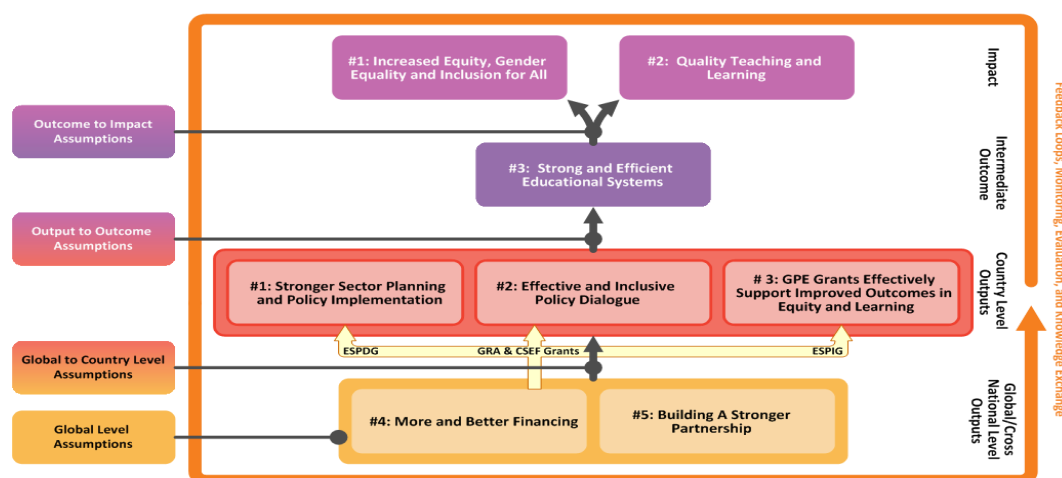
The GPE supports the achievement of three high-level goals. The first two goals are equity and inclusion, and quality teaching and learning. The third goal is building stronger educational systems with the capacity to deliver equitable, quality educational services:

- increased equity, gender equality, and inclusion for all in a full cycle of quality education, targeting the poorest and most marginalised;
- improved and more equitable student learning outcomes through quality teaching and learning'
- efficient and effective educational systems delivering equitable, quality educational services for all.

At the heart of the GPE strategy 2016-2020 is the partnership's aspiration to lock together improved sector planning, a partnership-based approach to government-led sector dialogue and monitoring, and the financing needed to improve education systems and outcome. This is reflected in five strategic objectives, three country-level and two global (see more details under the intervention logic):

- strengthen sector planning and policy implementation;
- support mutual accountability through efficient, effective and inclusive sector policy dialogue and monitoring;
- GPE grants, which efficiently and effectively support the implementation of sector plans focused on improved equity, efficiency and learning;
- more and better financing;
- building a stronger partnership.

4.2 Intervention logic



The GPE theory of change above visualises how the GPE will deliver value to all its partners. It shows (from the bottom of the diagram) that inputs will be generated from the global-level to support a stronger country-level operational model. In turn, three country-level outputs support its intermediate outcome (stronger and more efficient systems) and, in turn, the achievement of impact in the areas of equity and learning.

The theory of change establishes a pathway through which the partnership will achieve its goals, describing the outcomes and impacts expected from the partnership over the coming years. It describes the chain of the GPE's input and output at global and country levels. Each of these inputs and outputs is aligned to a strategic objective within the GPE strategy (see point 4.1).

The level of ambition of the GPE 2020 strategy and its theory of change called for the design of an ambitious financing and funding framework (FFF). This is a framework that includes a broader mix of funding mechanisms to help enable a more differentiated approach to GPE funding. It also provides opportunities to mobilise additional financing from a wider range of sources. This new framework was adopted at the GPE Board in February 2017.

In this scheme, the unrestricted pooled GPE Fund remains at the core with the vast bulk of the funding for the following country grants (inputs) each feeding into the three country-level outputs:

- **The education sector plan development grant (ESPDG)** helps a country to carry out strategic, consultative and analytical work and develop or revise its sector plan.
- **The programme development grant (PDG)** funds the design of an education programme that will help the country implement its national sector strategy.
- **The education sector plan implementation grant (ESPIG)** funds the actual implementation of the sector plan, including school construction and rehabilitation, textbooks, teacher training and school meals. Only countries with the greatest education needs are eligible to receive an education sector programme implementation grant. Concretely this means 30 low-income countries, 18 small island and landlocked developing states and 19 vulnerable lower middle-income countries.

The GPE will reinforce its efforts in donor coordination. In countries wishing to build an "education sector investment case" to bring investors together to secure commitments, the GPE will do more to make this process easier. In addition to more coordinated financing, the GPE will increase the focus on co-financing, more actively promoting use of grants to leverage financing from other sources like multilateral development banks (MDBs), development partners and private investment. For this purpose, a dedicated leverage fund was established to be tested in a limited number of countries. This leverage fund is a first step toward aligning GPE's operations with the MDB investment mechanism championed by the Education Commission.

In the above diagram the surrounding feedback loop illustrates the strengthened approach to monitoring, evaluation and knowledge sharing adopted by the GPE 2020 strategy, to ensure mutual accountability and learning that supports improvements across the partnership. This is partially reflected in the two new innovative funding mechanisms to support global public goods that have been created under the FFF:

- **The 'knowledge & innovation exchange' mechanism**, which replaces the previous global and regional activities programme, aims to develop and scale solutions, especially when improving quality of education/learning, measuring learning, improving equity and gender equality, and producing and using data at country level for informed policy-making, system management and monitoring.
- **The 'advocacy and social accountability' mechanism**, which had as predecessor the Civil Society Education Fund, aims to support capacity building of civil society in their advocacy and accountability roles, including understanding and use data to improve accountability at community, district and national levels. The mechanism would support the use of social accountability tools, such as the development of citizen-led data and alternative research on education policy issues.

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 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 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) 2015/322.

5.3 Implementation modalities

Both in indirect and direct management, 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 affecting the respective countries of operation.

5.3.1 Indirect management with an international organisation

This action may be implemented in indirect management with the World Bank in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. This implementation entails the contribution to the GPE to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. This implementation is justified because the World Bank is the trustee of the GPE Fund, as the GPE does not have a legal entity itself.

In the context of the GPE grants mentioned above or any other activity approved by the GPE Board, the entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: Manage and enforce the contracts concluded (making payments, accepting or rejecting deliverables, enforcing the contract, carrying out checks and controls, recovering funds unduly paid) and run the procurement and grant award procedures preceding the conclusion of such contracts, including the award and rejection decisions.

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 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified (in EUR)
Indirect management with the World Bank	100 000 000	1 491 756 691
Totals	100 000 000	1 491 756 691

The EUR 100 million is the second tranche of the intra-ACP contribution of EUR 200 million. In tandem, the first tranche of the GPGC contribution (EUR 175 million in total) has been paid and the second one is under preparation. The third-party contribution mentioned is only indicative and still subject to change.

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The GPE operates both at the country and global level. At the global level, the governance mechanisms include the Board of Directors, the five Board Committees and the GPE Secretariat.

The Board sets the policies and strategies, reviews the objectives of the partnership and makes the decisions on grant allocation from the GPE Fund. The membership of GPE Board is based on a constituency model: the Board has 19 members/seats: 6 for donors, 6 for partner countries, 3 for multilaterals, 3 for civil society and 1 for the private sector.

The Board meets face-to-face twice a year and meetings throughout the year may be held by other means (audio and videoconferences).

Currently, the Commission is the Board member representing donor constituency 5 (European Commission, France, Germany, Italy and Spain) and Germany is the alternate Board member. The Commission also represents donor constituency 5 in the Finance and Risk Committee chaired by France and in the Strategy and Impact Committee by Italy.

The role of the Finance and Risk Committee has been explained above (see point 2). The Grants and Performance Committee makes recommendation to the Board on decisions on the grant proposals and tracks progress on the portfolio of grants awarded from GPE resources. The Strategy and Impact Committee oversees the development of GPE strategies and policies to ensure that they promote best practices, including innovation in the education sector. The Governance and Ethics Committee oversees the global governance arrangements and ethical standards. The Coordinating Committee acts as a forum for routinely engaging the partnership on the medium-term outlook and emerging opportunities which may arise between Board meetings. This includes, as required, facilitating the organisation and flow of the arising workload for the other committees; making time-sensitive decisions between face-to-face meetings of the Board when requested; and acting as a 'sounding board' for the Chief Executive Office (CEO) of the Secretariat.

At the country level, the EU, through the EU Delegations, is generally represented within the LEG, in countries where education is a focal sector (see point 3.2 for further detail).

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The GPE adopted a common results framework mid-2016 to monitor achievements and ensure mutual accountability along the chain from global and country level outputs to outcomes and impacts for children. Twelve core indicators have been identified for reporting on progress in implementing the GPE 2016-2020 strategic plan and the realisation of its vision and ambitious goals. In addition, a total of 37 indicators, fully aligned to each of the strategic goals and objectives, will be routinely monitored in an annual GPE results report.

The annual sector review is the in-country monitoring mechanism conducted jointly with all key partners of the LEG. Monitoring and annual reviews should focus on the indicators identified in the results framework.

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of the action will be a continuous process and part of the grant agent's¹¹ responsibilities. To this aim, the grant agent 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 GPE results framework. 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 GPE Secretariat will prepare regular reports to the GPE partners on recipient countries' performance and the lessons learnt from the GPE, based on information drawn from annual country-level sector reviews. The GPE Secretariat will also send all partners an annual report on the activities financed by the GPE trust funds (annual GPE results report). In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (article 35 (1), such reports will also be shared with the ACP Secretariat in order to ensure that the ACP Committee of Ambassadors is kept informed of the developments.

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).

¹¹ Any bilateral or multilateral agency represented in one of the constituencies of the Board of Directors (see point 5.6) can act as a Grant Agent at country level. As one of the members of the LEG, the Grant Agent is responsible for supervising/managing the implementation of the activities financed by a GPE grant. In the context of expanding the eligibility of possible Grant Agents, mainly for fragile countries without functional governments, funding through trusted, credible and established non state organizations (assessed by the GPE Secretariat and approved by the Board) has also become possible since 2014.

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, evaluations will not be carried out for this action or its components. However, 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 evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. 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.

It will be possible to form an opinion on progress with the GPE and GPE trust fund (and the results) by referring to the following:

- the annual GPE results reports (reporting against the results framework) and portfolio reviews presented to the Board (prepared by the GPE Secretariat, on the basis of reports by the grant agents)
- the results of the annual sector reviews of the recipient countries, and
- the information provided by UNESCO (including the Global education monitoring report).

If required within the Board, donors may call for in-depth assessments of the GPE trust fund activities.

At the June 2016 Board meeting a monitoring and evaluation strategy was approved together with the results framework. Under this strategy, monitoring and evaluation have three main purposes: to strengthen accountability for the GPE's work; to stimulate learning and improved performance across the partnership; and to facilitate organisational decision-making by the Board, Secretariat and national stakeholders. Monitoring and evaluation are central pillars in the GPE's approach to results-based management.

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.

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

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.

APPENDIX - Indicative Logframe matrix (for project modality)

The GPE tracks its progress on the basis of the results framework that can be found here: <http://www.globalpartnership.org/content/gpe-results-framework-2016-2020>

The results framework contains 37 indicators, including 12 core indicators, which will help the partnership monitor its progress against the goals and objectives of the GPE 2020 strategic plan. For each indicator, the framework defines baselines, milestones and targets for 2020. As the GPE further defines its mandate and the scope and scale of its work, additional indicators can be added to the results framework as requested by the GPE Board.

The following indicators of the EU results framework and GPE results framework are aligned:

- primary education completion rate, disaggregated by sex
- lower secondary education completion rate, disaggregated by sex

The following indicators of the relevant programming document (Intra-ACP Cooperation Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme 2014-2020) are reflected in the GPE results framework:

- Rate of completion of primary education increased, disaggregated by sex
- Gender parity in primary education completion obtained, disaggregated by sex

EN



This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX 2

of the Commission Decision on the on the Annual Action Programme 2017 - Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

Action Document for Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, in ACP Least Developed countries

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012), applicable to the EDF in accordance with Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323 in the following section concerning grants awarded directly without a call for proposals: 5.3.1.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, in ACP Least Developed Countries CRIS number: ACP/FED/038-652 financed under the 11 th European Development Fund (EDF)
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries
3. Programming document	Intra-ACP Cooperation – 11 th European Development Fund – Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme 2014-2020
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Human Development DEV. Aid: YES ¹ Thematic area: health

¹ Official Development Aid is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

5. Amounts concerned	<p>Total estimated cost: EUR 8 400 000 000</p> <p>Total amount of EDF contribution: EUR 50 000 000.</p> <p>This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by all major public and private donors of development aid. Indicatively the amounts disbursed and the list of donors is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UK for an amount of USD 2.5 billion - Gates Foundation for an amount of USD 1.5 billion - Norway for an amount of USD 920 million - USA for an amount of USD 800 million - Germany for an amount of USD 673 million - France for an amount of USD 587 million - Italy for an amount of USD 491 million - Canada for an amount of USD 409 million - Netherlands for an amount of USD 296 million - Australia for an amount of USD 256 million <p>- European Union for an amount of USD 236 million²</p>			
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	<p>Project Modality</p> <p>Grant – direct award</p>			
7. DAC code(s)	DAC code – 12250 / Sector : Infectious Disease Control			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
	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"/>

² In order to correctly reflect the share of the EU contribution compared to the contribution of the other donors, the total estimated cost includes the total EU pledge for the period 2016-2020 (= EUR 200 000 000) and not only the EUR 50 000 000 that will be committed through this decision.

9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	No
10. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages Secondary SDG : 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

SUMMARY

This action aims at subsidising the introduction of pneumococcal vaccines in the low-income ACP countries eligible for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, support.

The objective is to contribute to the SDG 3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all”, through the procurement and delivery of pneumococcal vaccines on the basis of country applications duly approved by the Gavi Board.

This action is the continuation of the European Union (EU) support to Gavi in the fight against infectious diseases³, and is the operationalisation of the pledge made by the Commission in 2015 during the replenishment conference in Germany of EUR 200 million for the period 2016-2020.

The EU will have contributed close to EUR 330 million to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, between 2001 and 2020, including the support of EUR 50 million through this action, specifically targeted to ACP countries.

The Commission, through its seat in the Gavi Board, will continue to advocate for effective country ownership and donor coordination, and monitor programmatic, fiduciary, and risk management to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of Gavi operations.

This programme is in line with the Commission policy framework described in the 2010 Communication on Global Health, and is complementary to the Commission involvement in health system strengthening through other instruments.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Diseases caused by the *Streptococcus pneumoniae* bacterium (*S. pneumoniae* or pneumococcus) continue to be a **major public health problem**. Serious diseases frequently caused by pneumococci include pneumonia, meningitis and febrile bacteraemia; in addition, otitis media, sinusitis and bronchitis are more common but less serious manifestations of

³ DCI-SANTE/2012/287-316 and DCI-HUM/2014/342-776

infection. Moreover, HIV infection increases the risk of pneumococcal disease by 20 to 40 times and antibiotic resistance makes treatment more difficult and more expensive.

Pneumonia is the single largest infectious cause of death in children worldwide. The World Health Organisation (WHO)⁴ estimates that pneumonia killed around 920 000 children under the age of 5 in 2015, accounting for 16% of all deaths of children under five years old. Pneumonia affects children and families everywhere, but is most prevalent in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Children can be protected from pneumonia, it can be prevented with simple interventions, and treated with low-cost, low-tech medication and care. **Pneumococcal diseases are the major cause of child mortality that can be prevented by a vaccine.**

Recognising the heavy burden of pneumococcal disease occurring in young children and the safety and efficacy of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) in children under 5, WHO considers that it should be a priority to include this vaccine in national immunisation programmes, particularly in countries where mortality among children aged under 5 years is above 50/1000 live births or where more than 50 000 children die annually.

Immunisation protects individuals not only against contracting an illness *per se*, but also against the long-term effects of that illness on their physical, emotional and cognitive development. Healthy children can attend school more regularly and to learn more efficiently when in class. Workers from healthy communities, particularly women, need to take less time off to care for sick relatives. Immunisation is a key tool for improving survival and strengthening economies. As such, immunisation contributes to several SDGs (poverty reduction by improving economic growth, primary schooling by improving educational outcomes and better health).

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The Communication on the EU role in global health (2010)⁵ calls for EU support to focus on strengthening health systems and to promote this approach through the governance of global initiatives such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The corresponding Council conclusions⁶ support this approach, value the contribution of initiatives such as the Global Fund to global health, and ask for stronger EU involvement to ensure that the Fund aligns better with aid effectiveness principles.

In addition, the conclusions of the second meeting of ACP Ministers of Health held in Brussels in February 2015 acknowledge the need to continue the fight against communicable diseases, including through immunisation.

The action also contributes to implementation of the joint staff working document: "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020"⁷ and its objective 10: *Equal access to quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services for girls and women*,

⁴ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs331/en/>

⁵ COM(2010) 128 final

⁶ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/114352.pdf

⁷ <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/10/26-fac-conclusions-gender-development>

more specifically contributing to the indicator 10.5 N# of 1-year olds immunised with EU support (EURF).

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

- ACP countries

Since the creation of Gavi, ACP countries have received almost 80% of the total of resources pledged to the organisation.

The target population will be **infants** in the Least Developed ACP Countries supported by Gavi.

- **National governments** lie at the heart of national immunisation services and play a crucial role in formulating and implementing Expanded Programmes on Immunisation (EPI). The Ministries of Health (MoH) and of Finance (MoF) (the operational and financial plans in the application have to be endorsed by the MoF) decide whether or not to apply for Gavi support and what types of support would be appropriate for their country.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

Out of over 90 serotypes, only a small minority cause most diseases. In 2010, Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines (PCV 10 and PCV 13), which target either 10 or 13 of the most prevalent serotypes, obtained WHO pre-qualification. They have the potential to prevent more than 70% of childhood pneumococcal disease in Africa. Currently available PCVs are safe and efficacious, and WHO recommends the inclusion of PCVs in childhood immunization programmes worldwide.

In many countries, the routine use of pneumococcal conjugate vaccines has dramatically reduced the incidence of serious diseases due to the organism with virtual disappearance of disease due to serotypes of the organism in the vaccines used.

By the end of 2015, 54 countries had rolled out the vaccine. To date, Gavi's support has helped countries immunise over 76 million children against pneumococcal disease. By the end of 2015, only 15 eligible countries had yet to apply for this type of support. More than 50 Gavi-supported countries have introduced pneumococcal vaccines into their routine programmes, of which 40 are ACP-countries.

However, as much as roll-out of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine has proved efficient to reduce under-five mortality in Gavi-eligible countries, one challenge is to reach the remote and more vulnerable population in countries. Gavi's approval of the vaccines roll-out implies that national health structures are considered robust enough to effectively manage this roll-out; however complementary activities are necessary to further strengthen the health system in order both to reach the more difficult to access population and to sustain the gains achieved.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Availability of vaccine is not sustained, and price is too volatile	L	The Advanced Market Commitment pursued by Gavi gives manufacturers an incentive to invest in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - finalising the development of pneumococcal vaccines that protect against more serotypes. - increasing their capacity to produce these vaccines in enough quantities to meet demand.
Lack of ownership and set-up of parallel structures in countries	L	Joint donor coordination Alignment to national systems advocated by the Commission at the Board
Assumptions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political continuity exists in countries involved - Paris Declaration and Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation agenda endorsed and supported by the governments involved and by other partners at country level 		

The following assumptions have been made for effective implementation:

- Gavi is able to secure and verify data from countries and good cooperation between governments and their Inter-agency Coordinating Committees (ICCs) allows proper implementation and monitoring of the immunisation activities, including the procurement and the delivery of the vaccines undertaken by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Supply Division on Gavi's behalf;
- the governments are able to secure the sources of funding envisaged in their financial plans for implementation of the immunisation programmes;
- the national socio-economic, political and cultural climates do not impede in-country implementation of the immunisation activities.

Risks are the consequences of assumptions that do not hold true during the implementation of the project. Most programmes of this nature will pose risks of varying nature. However it is possible to minimise the overall impact of the risk through proper management and mitigation, and the number of potential beneficiary countries will make it possible to ensure that overall this risk will not affect the purpose of this action to be implemented by Gavi.

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

The Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) carried out an institutional assessment of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, covering the period from 2014 to mid-2016. The assessment considered organisational systems, practices and behaviours, as well as the results that Gavi achieves. The overall conclusion of the 2016 MOPAN assessment is that Gavi meets the requirements of an effective multilateral organisation and is fit for purpose. Areas where performance could be strengthened and improved include clarification of Gavi's role and function at the country level; a clearer results framework for health system strengthening interventions.

Gavi launched a prospective evaluation to collect real-time data on immunisation programmes, vaccine-related issues and the contribution of Gavi support in four countries (Bangladesh, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia), covering the period 2013-2016 with the aim to understand and quantify the barriers to and drivers of immunisation programme improvement.

An evaluation on Pneumococcal Pilot Advanced Market Commitment (AMC) process and design, carried out in 2012, found that, while there are some areas for improvement, the design process and design elements of this Pilot have contributed, at least in part, to increasing the supply and uptake of PCV.

This action will take into account the relevant recommendations of the abovementioned evaluations as well as the results of the previous actions.

The EU, together with the members of its constituency, continuously advocates within the Gavi Board for a complementarity of the immunisation programme and broader health system strengthening activities.

Support to Gavi from the EDF Intra-ACP is made in addition to a contribution from the EU budget Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI). The Commission has pledged to contribute overall EUR 200 million in the period 2016-2020.

Global initiatives cannot operate in a vacuum. They depend on strong health systems to sustain the gains achieved. Effective health systems improve compliance of medical treatments and prevent resistance, provide adequate surveillance and response systems. That is why there is no 'either' – 'or'. Only when we are successful in helping to establish effective health systems, can the impact of important vertical initiatives like Gavi be optimal. The Commission therefore works with its EU delegations managing bilateral health programmes and with EU Member States to help coordinate the various health programmes for maximum impact.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

The *Agenda for Change*⁸ provides that "*the EU should take action to develop and strengthen health systems, reduce inequalities in access to health services, promote policy coherence and increase protection against global health threats so as to improve health outcomes for all*".

⁸ COM (2011) 137 final, 13.10.2011

In this framework, the European Commission's objective is to support developing countries to design and implement *"national policies, strategies and programmes to make faster progress towards achieving the health MDGs"*. This approach is to be *"pursued consistently by the EU through bilateral channels and participation in global initiatives and international fora"*⁹.

In the field of health, the European Commission remains committed to a health systems strengthening approach, as stated in the 2010 EU Communication on Global Health and the Agenda for Change.

The contribution to Gavi is thus complementary to the support provided by the European Commission to health system strengthening at national, regional and global levels. This includes support to other global initiatives such as Global Fund or United Nations Fund for Population UNFPA) Supplies, but also specific actions such as partnership with WHO to progress to Universal Health Coverage, or specific work on the strengthening of pharmaceutical policies. Implementation of sectoral budget support at country level is another instrument contributing to the reinforcement of health systems.

The nature and scope of the programmes financed by Gavi are deliberated and endorsed by **Gavi Board¹⁰**, in which the European Commission currently has a seat, in a constituency shared with France, Germany, Ireland and Luxembourg.

Gavi is supported by a large number of EU Member States (the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, France, Italy, Spain, Ireland, Denmark, Germany and Luxembourg) and other key donors (Canada, Australia, Norway, USA, South Africa, Brazil and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation).

Presently, and in parallel to this action, the Gavi makes available the Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines (PCV) to eligible countries under the Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Terms and Conditions. In this pilot innovative funding mechanism, donors commit funds to guarantee the price of vaccines once they have been developed. Presently, a total of US\$ 1.5 billion has been committed by Italy, the UK, Canada, the Russian Federation, Norway, and the Gates Foundation. Currently, only PCV 10 and PVC 13 are AMC eligible.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

Gender

Evidence shows that gender is an important factor influencing demand, access and use of health services including immunisation services in Gavi-eligible countries. These factors relate to the sex of **caretakers** of children rather than to the sex of children themselves. In order to increase immunisation coverage, gender-related barriers for caretakers of children

⁹ COM(2010)128 final, 30.03.2010.

¹⁰ Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Board is made up of four renewable and 14 rotating members. The renewable members are: UNICEF, the WHO, the Gates Foundation and the World Bank. As of today, the rotating seats are distributed as follows: five for developing country governments (constituencies currently chaired by Moldova, Uganda, Senegal, Afghanistan, Bangladesh), five for donor country governments (constituencies currently chaired by European Commission, Italy, Sweden, the UK and Australia) and one each for research and health institutes (constituency currently chaired by Aga Khan University), the vaccine industry in industrialised countries (constituency currently chaired by Crucell), the vaccine industry in developing countries (constituency currently chaired by Biological E) and civil society groups (constituency currently chaired by Future Generations International).

must be addressed. For example: Work patterns of mothers who are employed can limit their ability to seek vaccination for their children. In such circumstances, immunisation services that accommodate women's working schedules can lead to higher rates of immunisation. Involvement of both parents in decisions related to immunisation has been shown to increase the likelihood of a child getting vaccinated. Outreach and social mobilisation of both women and men could lead to higher rates of immunisation. Cultural barriers may prevent female caregivers from seeking immunisation services from male health workers. In these settings, initiatives to increase the number of female service providers can help improve access to immunisation.

Gavi is committed to supporting countries to overcome gender-related barriers to accessing immunisation services and ensuring that all girls and boys, women and men, get equal access to appropriate immunisation and related health services that respond to their different health needs. First approved by the Gavi Board in 2008, the Gavi Gender Policy aims to increase access to immunisation through gender sensitive and, where relevant, gender transformative programmes in order to sustainably increase immunisation coverage. The Gender Policy was revised in 2013 taking into account new evidence which shows that gender-related barriers prevent both boys and girls from receiving vaccination. Gavi has proposed the following strategic directions to pursue the goals of the revised Gender Policy: a) ensuring gender sensitive funding and programmatic approaches; b) generating, supporting, reporting, and analysing new evidence and data; c) advocating for gender equality as a means to improve immunisations coverage; and d) increasing accountability for gender-related results. Annual Reports are submitted to the Gavi Board on the progress.

Good governance

The technical and management capacity of Ministries of Health will be enhanced by the leading role they play in planning, implementing and monitoring the immunisation programmes. Moreover, the project will further contribute to providing all children with immunisation against the major infectious diseases.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

This programme is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages", but also promotes progress towards SDG 17 "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development".. This does not imply a commitment by the countries benefiting from this programme.

The **overall objective** is to contribute to reducing child mortality, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, by subsidising the introduction of pneumococcal vaccines in the low-income ACP Countries eligible for Gavi support.

The **specific objective** is to fund procurement and delivery of pneumococcal vaccines in low-income ACP Countries on the basis of country applications duly approved of by the Gavi Board.

This action is the continuation of the Commission support to Gavi in the fight against infectious diseases¹¹.

The **expected results** are:

1. Pneumococcal vaccines (including syringes and safety boxes) will be provided to Ministry of Health, in accordance with each country proposal.
2. National immunisation rates and vaccine coverage by the pneumococcal vaccines are improved and/or sustained.

4.2 Main activities

The **activities to be carried out** are:

- Procurement of vaccines (including syringes and safety boxes) by UNICEF Supply Division on behalf of Gavi;
- Shipment of vaccines to beneficiary countries according to the shipment plan;
- Delivery of vaccines to Ministries of Health for distribution at district level.

Vaccines are incorporated into routine immunisation programmes by the Ministries of Health. The Ministry of Health captures data on children reached in Annual Progress reports which are submitted to Gavi.

UNICEF is one partner of the Gavi, and is thus considered a partner for this specific action.

Three major **objectively verifiable indicators** will be used to assess the degree of achievement of the expected results and successful implementation of activities:

- Number of doses of pneumococcal vaccines provided to Ministries of Health;
- Number of infants immunized with pneumococcal vaccines;
- Pneumo Vaccine coverage.

Vaccines will be procured for the low-income ACP countries whose applications for support have been approved by Gavi. The number of doses to be procured will be based on the estimated size of the birth cohort in approved applications.

Vaccines will be shipped and delivered to the MoH in the concerned countries according to the shipment plan of UNICEF Supply Division.

Vaccines will be stored and then distributed nation-wide by the MoH in the respective countries. Immunisation will take place as part of countries' routine immunisation programme.

Countries will report back to Gavi on numbers of children immunised in the Annual Progress Report (APR), which is due the following year.

For new introductions, countries are provided a Vaccine Introduction Grant¹² by Gavi.

¹¹ DCI-SANTE/2012/287-316 and DCI-HUM/2014/342-776

4.3 Intervention logic

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is a public-private partnership in the field of immunisation. The Alliance aligns public and private resources in a global effort to create greater access to the benefits of immunisation by bringing together the main actors in immunisation including developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine industry in both industrial and developing countries, research and technical agencies, civil society organisations, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other private philanthropists.

Gavi's two funding streams, innovative finance and direct contributions account for 25% and 75% respectively of the Vaccine Alliance's overall funding portfolio. Donors contributions/pledges for the period 2016 – 2020 amounts to USD 9.2 billion.

Gavi draws on the skills of a variety of partners, combining the technical expertise of the development community with the business know-how of the private sector

Gavi vaccine support to countries aligns to the **Paris and Accra Declarations principles** of ownership, alignment, harmonisation, managing for results and mutual accountability as follows:

- supports national priorities, integrated delivery, budget processes and decision making. The provision of pneumococcal vaccine follows **coordination at country** level between the government, donors and organisations such as WHO and UNICEF and responds to **demand from the Ministries of Health and Finance** in accordance with their **national programmes and budget cycles**;
- immunisation activities are undertaken by the Ministry of Health **using country systems**;
- the **government is responsible and accountable** for achieving the targets and continuation of the support is linked to results. Moreover, an enhanced assessment of countries' performance is undertaken annually;
- recipient countries can use their own procurement procedures, through the provision of Gavi's self-procurement policy, as long as countries can assure that international expectations of assured quality are met, e.g. through the procurement of WHO prequalified product.

The European Commission, through its presence in the Board, contributes to define the strategic directions taken by Gavi.

¹² The aim of Gavi's vaccine introduction grant is to facilitate the timely and effective implementation of critical activities in the national vaccine introduction plan in advance of a new vaccine introduction. The grant is mostly used by countries to support a share of the cost of pre-introduction activities such as health worker training, information, education and communication (IEC) and social mobilisation, expansion or rehabilitation of some cold chain equipment and additional vehicles, or technical assistance. All grants are subject to fiduciary oversight measures as per Gavi's Transparency and Accountability policy.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the ACP Group of States, 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 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 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) 2015/322.

5.3 Implementation modalities

Both in indirect and direct management, 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 affecting the respective countries of operation.

5.3.1 **Grant: direct award** "*Contribution to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in ACP Least Developed Countries*" (**direct management**)

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The overall objective is to contribute to reducing child mortality, in line with SDG 3, by subsidising the introduction of pneumococcal vaccines in the low-income ACP Countries eligible for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, support.

The **actions eligible** under this grant will be the procurement and delivery of pneumococcal vaccines in low-income ACP Countries on the basis of country applications duly approved of by the Gavi Board.

Gavi is a Swiss Foundation with international institution status in Switzerland.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because the actions to be implemented have specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competences, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative power.

- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a global Health Initiative in the immunisation field which works as a Public-Private Partnership. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance aligns public and private resources in a global effort to create greater access to the benefits of immunisation by bringing together the main actors in immunisation including developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine

industry in both industrial and developing countries, research and technical agencies, civil society organisations, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other private philanthropists. This unique forum therefore holds a specific status in the development arena with an unparalleled and catalytic role in the achievement of reducing the mortality of children under 5;

- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is the sole organisation with knowledge and competence in the immunisation field, which acts at the same time as fundraiser of funding for procurement of new vaccines, shaping the vaccine market, working with countries to strengthen their immunisation systems, and bringing together the various stakeholders needed to successfully implement and sustain programmes.

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are the financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 100%.

For this action, **full financing** is considered in view of the Commission Regulation 966/2012 which provides in its article 192 that financing in full may be authorised in the case it is essential for the action to be carried out. For this action, in order to clearly target the EU contribution, the grant contract will only cover this contribution. It will include a specific budget breakdown that will define the exact quantities of vaccines to be procured and delivered, whose total value will be equal to that of the grant contract.

(e) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

4th trimester of 2017

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.

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 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in EUR
5.3.1 Direct Grant with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance	50 million	8.4 billion

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

Gavi is governed by an international Board consisting of twenty eight members, including government representatives from donor and recipient countries and representatives of private sector businesses and philanthropic foundations. The Commission holds one of these board seats. The Board is eventually responsible for giving strategic direction and policy-making to the Secretariat. The Board is advised by a number of committees set up to address specific areas of strategy development, fiduciary oversight, and audit.

Gavi's Secretariat is responsible for day-to-day operations, including mobilising resources from the public and private sectors, managing portfolios, providing financial, legal and administrative support, and reporting on Gavi's activities to the Board and the public.

Governments convene their national **Inter-agency Coordinating Committees (ICC)** to permit partners to participate in planning and monitoring the immunisation programmes. Governments prepare a comprehensive multi-year plan, receive the vaccines, distribute them to districts and regions, monitor the number of children vaccinated, keep accurate records of immunisation rates and prepare Annual Progress Reports (APRs) for review, notably by the ICC. In every target country, an ICC is established, made up of senior representatives of the partner agencies and organisations (both governmental and non-governmental) involved in developing or providing immunisation services. The composition of the ICC is variable in terms of representation and activity as is their role in oversight of the immunisation related activities at the country level. ICCs may focus exclusively on immunisation or on a broader set of child or mother-and-child health services. Most meet at least four times a year and are chaired by senior Ministry of Health officials. Amongst others, the national ICCs' responsibilities include:

- reviewing, signing and submitting applications for support to the Gavi Secretariat;
- participating in preparing, signing and submitting the country's APR, together with the required supporting documents, to the Gavi Secretariat;
- reviewing and submitting data quality audit reports to the Gavi Secretariat;
- monitoring implementation of immunisation programmes and tracking disease surveillance data; and
- providing a record of their deliberations in the minutes of each of their meetings.

The Gavi Secretariat determines the number of doses needed, based on country applications, UNICEF/WHO data and previous experience. It liaises with the UNICEF Supply Division for the negotiation with the suppliers, and the procurement of vaccines. It keeps track, along with the countries concerned, of any additional needs, pre-screens the annual country progress report ahead of its assessment and reports on any special issue or problem to the Gavi Board.

While Gavi finances vaccines purchase, it has no direct role in procurement. Vaccines are procured and delivered to countries by **UNICEF Supply Division (SD)**. UNICEF SD is a major procurer of vaccines for low-income countries, purchasing vaccines on their behalf using funds from aid agencies, countries themselves, Gavi and other organisations. The collaboration between Gavi and UNICEF was legally formalised on May 19th, 2006 in a "Memorandum of Understanding" on the operational aspects of UNICEF's role as a procurement agency for Gavi.

UNICEF SD negotiates with suppliers, purchases and ships the vaccines to the MoH and it is a critical supporting partner in country as member of the ICC on application development, implementation and monitoring.

On its website¹³, UNICEF SD publishes planned and actual shipments and confirmed arrivals of new and underused vaccines funded by Gavi, including pneumococcal (number of doses and dates of arrival are stated).

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. 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, a final evaluation is not foreseen for this action or its components.

However, 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 evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

¹³ [Http://www.unicef.org/supply/index_Gavi.html](http://www.unicef.org/supply/index_Gavi.html)

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.

The EU's visibility, pivotal leadership, and fund mobilisation and monitoring role in Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is strengthened through active participation in the Board, in the Board's Strategy Committee and in the ICC of individual countries.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY) ¹⁴

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 without an amendment to the financing decision. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for listing the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) when it is relevant and for reporting purpose on the achievement of results as measured by indicators.

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	Reduce child mortality from pneumonia related disease burden in target countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of least developed ACP countries that have introduced pneumococcal vaccines - Rate of child mortality and pneumonia- related disease burden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2016 for current strategy - 2001 for Long Term impact 	To be defined with Gavi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governments / MoH - WHO-UNICEF Inter-agency Coordinating Committee (ICC) 	
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	Funding the immunisation of children under age 5 with pneumococcal vaccines for target LDC ACP countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of children under 5 immunised in least developed ACP target countries, disaggregated by sex? - Immunisation coverage in target countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2016 for current strategy - 2001 for Long Term impact 	To be defined with Gavi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official country estimates - WHO-UNICEF Joint Reporting Form - WHO-UNICEF best estimate 	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement of pneumococcal vaccine by UNICEF Supply Division on behalf of Gavi - Shipment of pneumococcal vaccines to target countries according to the shipment plan - Delivery of vaccines to Ministry of Health for distribution at district level - Capture of data on children reached and report back, including Annual Progress Report or equivalent 	Number of pneumococcal vaccines received by MoH for distribution at district level		To be defined with Gavi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF Supply Division reports - Annual Progress Report - Gavi Data Quality Audit - MoH, UNICEF 	

¹⁴ Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '**'.

EN



This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX 3

of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2017 - Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

Action Document Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Control of communicable diseases: Contribution to The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) CRIS number: ACP/FED/040-167 financed under the 11 th European Development Fund (EDF)	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries	
3. Programming document	Intra-ACP Cooperation – 11 th European Development Fund – Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme 2014-2020	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Human Development Thematic area: Health	DEV. Aid: YES ¹
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 11 700 000 000 Total amount of EDF contribution: EUR 285 000 000 This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by all major public and private donors of development aid. Indicatively the amounts disbursed and the list of donors will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- USA for an amount of USD 4 000 000 000- France for an amount of EUR 1 600 000 000- UK for an amount of GBP 1 000 000 000- Germany for an amount of EUR 700 000 000- Japan for an amount of USD 800 000 000- Canada for an amount of CAD 650 000 000	

¹ Official Development Aid is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sweden for an amount of SKK 2 500 000 000 - Norway for an amount of NOK 1 700 000 000 - Netherlands for an amount of EUR 185 000 000 - Denmark for an amount of DKK 495 000 000 - Italy for an amount of EUR 150 000 000 - Ireland for an amount of EUR 30 000 000 - Belgium for an amount of EUR 38 000 000 - Luxembourg for an amount of EUR 7 500 000 - Switzerland for an amount of CHF 60 000 000 - Australia for an amount of AUD 200 000 000 - Russia for an amount of USD 60 000 000 - Gates Foundation for an amount of USD 500 000 000 			
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	Project Modality Indirect Management with The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)			
7. DAC code(s)	DAC code – 12250 / Sector : Infectious Disease Control			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<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"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagship	No			
10. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG: 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages Secondary SDG: 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development			

SUMMARY

This action addresses SDG target 3.3 to end by 2030 the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases. This action is the continuation of the EU support to the Global Fund in the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria (GFATM), and is the operationalisation of the pledge made by the Commissioner in September 2016 during the replenishment conference in Montreal of EUR 475 million for 2017-2019 (EUR 285 million EDF, EUR 185 million Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), EUR 5 million NEAR).

The European Union contributed more than EUR 1.6 billion to the Global Fund between 2001 and 2016, with an additional support from EDF of EUR 285 million through this action, mainly benefitting ACP countries.

The Global Fund has achieved significant impact to date on the three diseases (HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria), such as a reduction by more than 40% in the number of deaths related to these three diseases from 2002 to 2015.

By the end of 2016 the Global Fund partnership has supported countries in saving more than 22 million lives.

The goals remain to save lives and to prevent new infections, provide anti-retroviral treatment (ART), Directly Observed Treatment (DOTS) and distribute insecticide treated nets (LLINs).

Over the period 2012 – 2016, the targets were to save 10 million lives and to prevent 140 to 180 million new infections, through the provision of ART to 7.3 million people, of DOTS to 21 million people and the distribution of 390 million of insecticide treated nets (LLINs). These targets will be met, and even surpassed.

The strategy 2017-2022 has now been approved by the Board, with the following four objectives:

- Maximise impact against HIV, TB and malaria
- Build Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health
- Promote and Protect Human Rights and Gender Equality
- Mobilise Increased Resources

The Commission, through its seat in the Board, will continue to advocate for effective country ownership and donor coordination, and monitor programmatic, fiduciary, and risk management to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of Global Fund operations.

This programme is in line with the European Commission policy framework described in the 2010 Communication on Global Health, and is complementary to the Commission involvement in health system strengthening through other instruments.

It also contributes to implementation of the Joint Staff Working Document on Gender Equality and Women's empowerment: transforming the lives of girls and women through EU external relations 2016-2020² and its objective 10: *Equal access to quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services for girls and women*, more specifically contributing to the results indicator 10.1 "% of people in malaria-endemic areas sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets" (SDG 3.11) and results indicator 10.4

² <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/10/26-fac-conclusions-gender-development>

"Number of people with advance HIV infection receiving antiretroviral drugs with EU support" (EURF).

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

During the 2000s, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria together killed approximately 6 million people a year. The devastation to countries and communities led to the creation, in 2002, of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB) and Malaria.

Little more than a decade later, significant impact has been achieved on the three diseases. As of 2012, the number of deaths related to these three diseases had decreased by 40%.

However, there still is a long way to eliminate these three diseases as public health threats, and increased collaboration with countries and partners is needed in order to sustain and accelerate existing gains.

ACP countries are still among the most affected by the 3 diseases. Sub-Saharan Africa remains most severely affected with the AIDS epidemics, accounting for nearly 71% of the people living with HIV worldwide, followed by the Caribbean region. About 95% of Tuberculosis deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries and it is among the top five causes of death among women aged 15 to 44. An estimated 90% of all malaria deaths occur in the African Region, and in children aged under 5 years, who account for 78% of all deaths.

The Global Fund is a public-private partnership and a global Trust Fund designed to make available and leverage additional financial resources to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The EU policy on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis was first spelled out in a Communication adopted in October 2004³. In April 2005, the Commission adopted a European programme for action to confront HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis through external action 2007-2011, which proposes a series of actions at both country and global levels⁴. The Council conclusions adopted on 19 November 2009 reiterated the EU commitment to combating the diseases.

The Communication on the EU role in global health (2010)⁵ calls for EU support to focus on strengthening health systems and to promote this approach through the governance of global initiatives such as the Global Fund. The corresponding Council conclusions⁶ support this approach, value the contribution of initiatives such as the Global Fund to global health, and ask for stronger EU involvement to ensure that the Fund aligns better with aid effectiveness principles.

³ COM(2004) 726 final

⁴ COM(2005) 179 final

⁵ COM(2010) 128 final

⁶ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/114352.pdf

In addition, the conclusions of the second meeting of ACP Ministers of Health held in Brussels in February 2015 acknowledge the need to continue the fight against communicable diseases, including AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

- ACP countries

Since the creation of the Global Fund, ACP countries have received almost 80% of the total of resources pledged for the three diseases, including through regional grants.

- Ministries of Health

The Minister of Health usually chairs the Country Coordinating Mechanism (see 5.6 “Organisational set-up and responsibilities”), and as such has the final say in the proposals that are submitted to the Global Fund by the countries. In some countries, Ministries of Health are the Principal Recipients of the grants, once approved by the GF secretariat.

- Civil Society

Civil Society Organisations are represented in the Board of the Global Fund.

At country level, they prove to be highly effective as programme implementers, serving not only as Principal Recipients but also as sub-recipients. In particular, civil society organisations have a key role to play in reaching out to those key affected populations not usually reached by government services. They are increasingly supporting interventions that guarantee the sustainability of the response, empower key populations and promote social and structural changes in the fight against AIDS, at the same time helping to reduce stigma and discrimination.

- Target population

All the population living in ACP countries, specifically the ones infected or affected by the three diseases, including children under-5 and pregnant women.

Key populations include any group which, because of stigma or discrimination, cannot access health care. In many cases it is these very same populations – women and girls, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, migrant workers, prisoners, and others – who are disproportionately affected by AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

Disease grants

For the three diseases, both prevention and treatment are essential components to focus on.

Thus, the decline in number of new HIV infections is not only the result of increased prevention; it also correlates with an increase in the number of people accessing HIV treatment.

For its part, tuberculosis diagnosis can be difficult, particularly in cases of multidrug-resistant forms of the disease. As regards treatment, standard tuberculosis involves six months of daily medication, which can be very hard on patients, particularly those who live in poverty and cannot afford the time away from earning a living, whereas multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) requires up to two years of treatment at a cost up to 200 times more expensive than standard treatment.

Finally, an effective response to malaria is a multipronged effort, involving education, prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

The response to these three diseases will only be successful if it ensures that the key populations mentioned above are reached and served. This in turn involves some continued efforts in overcoming the barrier of stigma and discrimination, which leaves people too fearful to seek out treatment.

Health Systems Strengthening

To maximise the impact of global initiatives such as the Global Fund, strong health systems should be in place to sustain the gains achieved. In this regard, the Global Fund's investments in health systems strengthening are synergistic with its core investments in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria programmes.

In addition to disease grants which provide preventive, diagnostic, treatment, care and support services, grants related to health systems strengthening should help:

- strengthening priority health system components that are relevant for delivery of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria programmes;
- fostering synergies by promoting integrated approaches to planning, programming and service delivery;
- building health systems' capacity to scale up essential health services, particularly in hard-to-reach areas and those targeting key affected and underserved populations; and
- addressing gender inequalities and human rights issues through relevant legal, policy and regulatory frameworks.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
With the Global Fund funding model and allocation to high impact countries, risks of mismanagement and misuse of funds	L	A three-line risk-management strategy has been developed Improved internal and fiduciary controls are in place.
Lack of ownership and set-up of parallel structures in countries	L	Joint donor coordination Alignment to national systems advocated by the Commission constituency at the Board
Assumptions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political continuity exists in countries involved - Paris Declaration and Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation agenda endorsed and supported by the governments involved and by other partners at country level 		

The Global Fund seeks to minimise transaction costs while maintaining adequate safeguards to ensure that funds are used effectively and achieve results. It provides resources for three year programmes. This is subject to arrangements in place for local fiduciary procedures, procurement and monitoring. As the Global Fund is focusing on least developed countries, safeguards need to be in place for minimising risks while allowing significant funds to be effectively channelled to those in need.

The Global Fund will continue to focus on incorporating coordination functions into existing country systems where they work. The Global Fund still needs to better align improved internal control (Office of the Inspector General, Local Fund Agent) with national structures and processes, following the aid effectiveness agenda (use of national audit, use of countries' internal control systems, Technical Assistance managed by each country and based on the countries' own capacity analysis). The Commission is overseeing fiduciary control and risk management through its representation on the Board of Directors.

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

Support to the Global Fund from the EDF Intra-ACP is made in addition to a contribution from the EU budget (Development Cooperation Instrument). The Commission has pledged to contribute overall to EUR 475 million in the period 2017-2019.

Health aid provided through global health initiatives like the Global Fund has shown to be particularly effective with interventions that can be easily integrated into existing delivery mechanisms like access to modern treatment or prevention, such as bed nets. For example, access to antiretroviral (ARV) therapy in countries supported by Global Fund increased from 3.3% in 2005 to 21% in 2010 and 45% coverage in 2015. 11.2 million people were on treatment for Tuberculosis, and more than 713 million mosquito nets were distributed as of mid-2016 to protect children and mothers against malaria. One of the added value of global initiatives like the Global Fund is that they offer pooled procurement mechanisms for essential health commodities that do not only help directly in improving access to modern medical treatment for the world's poor (which are initially expensive when they are still on patent protection) but can also shape markets so that prices can come down and access to such treatments can be sustained by partner countries in the long term.

Global initiatives cannot operate in a vacuum. They depend on strong health systems to sustain the gains achieved. Effective health systems improve compliance of medical treatments and prevent resistance, provide adequate surveillance and response systems, and allow the implementation of concepts such as 'treatment as prevention', all of which are important mechanisms for controlling HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. That is why there is no 'either' – 'or'. Only when we are successful in helping to establish effective health systems, can the impact of important vertical initiatives like the Global Fund be optimal.

In March 2017, the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) gave the Global Fund top ratings for its organisational architecture, operating model and financial transparency and accountability, and said the Global Fund is delivering substantive results.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

In the field of health, the Commission remains committed to a health systems strengthening approach, as stated in the 2010 EU Communication on Global Health and the Agenda for Change.

The contribution to the Global Fund is thus complementary to the support provided by the Commission to health system strengthening at national, regional and global levels. This includes support to other global initiatives such as GAVI or the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security, but also specific actions such as partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) to progress to Universal Health Coverage, or specific work on the strengthening of pharmaceutical policies. Implementation of sectoral budget support at country level is another instrument contributing to the reinforcement of health systems.

Between 2001 and 2016, the Commission disbursed more than EUR 1,6 billion in payments to the Global Fund, and the European Union collectively has been the biggest contributor to the Global fund with about half of all contributions received.

The Global Fund has signed the Paris and Accra Declarations on Aid Effectiveness. It harmonises donor contributions to a common, untied fund at international level, and reflects many of the Paris principles in its founding documents. The Global Fund, along with other global initiatives, tracks indicators related to the Paris principles and learns lessons from putting the principles into practice. The current funding model of the Global Fund, rolled out in 2014, addresses EU commitments on aid-effectiveness much better than in the past.

The Commission is represented on the Global Fund Board. In addition, it sits in both the Ethics and Governance Committee (EGC) and the Audit and Finance Committee (AFC). EU Member States are represented on the Board through constituencies formed with their partners. All views expressed by the Commission on the Board are closely coordinated with constituency members (Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Spain); the Commission organises regular consultations with all EU donors to the Global Fund in advance of Board meetings or other important events which has been instrumental in the reforming the Global Fund more towards aid effectiveness principles.

From a wider perspective, the Global Fund complements the on-going and often substantial investment by partner governments, bilateral and multilateral donors and development banks. In sub-Saharan Africa, the Global Fund may contribute a large proportion of the total in-country investment, particularly for malaria and tuberculosis.

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

Social norms and behaviour and the persistence of gender inequalities have a major impact on the spread of these diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, which need to be addressed by the Global Fund through specific measures.

Women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV, TB and malaria, HIV being the leading cause of death of women of reproductive age in low- and middle-income countries. In the hardest hit countries, girls account for more than 80% of all new HIV infections among adolescents. Globally, young women aged 15-24 are most vulnerable to HIV, with infection rates twice as high as those in young men. Sexual and gender-based violence

increases a woman's vulnerability to HIV, and can result in additional physical, mental, sexual, reproductive and other health problems.

The Global Fund has been steadily increasing its investments in programmes for women and girls, and as of 2015, the cumulative investment amounted to approximately US\$18 billion, or almost 60% of total spending. This investment has led to a doubling of the number of women accessing – and staying on – ARV therapy, from 21% of those in need to 53% in 2015. One example of the investment in women is helping countries scale up antenatal services, particularly for women who are HIV-positive. To date more than 3.6 million women have received treatment to prevent the transmission of HIV to their babies.

Other investments focus on education, which can be a powerful tool in preventing HIV among adolescent girls. A study in Botswana showed that an extra year of secondary education can reduce a girl's risk of becoming infected by as much as 8%.

The GF funding model supports programmes designed to reach women and girls with critical services. In particular, the GF encouraged countries to link HIV services with other reproductive health services, including those for newborns, their mothers, and adolescents.

Innovative approaches to more comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights and family planning programmes are being encouraged within the context of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

Additional criteria for grant eligibility, monitoring and evaluation are being developed to measure gender awareness, and additional guidelines on indicators to address gender equality and sexual and reproductive health will be included in the Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit.

Key target populations of the Funds grants also include other groups which, because of stigma or discrimination, cannot access health care. In many cases it is men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, migrant workers, prisoners, and others – who are disproportionately affected by AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

In line with the Global Fund Strategy 2017-2022, the Global Fund is focusing on human rights and will base funding decisions on compliance with minimum standards.

The new Key Performance Indicators include human rights indicators, with set targets for the period 2017-2022.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

This programme is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages", but also promotes progress towards SDG 17 "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development". This does not imply a commitment by the countries benefiting from this programme.

The objective of this action is to contribute to achieving the SDG 3 by reducing the number of cases of ill-health, death and disability due to HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in a way

that strengthens the overall ability of recipient countries to provide the necessary health services in a sustainable manner.

The expected result is to improve access to effective prevention and treatment for all populations infected or affected by the three diseases in ACP countries, in particular to increase the:

- number of people living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy;
- number of new tuberculosis cases identified and treated;
- number of insecticide-treated bednets distributed to malaria-affected populations.

4.2 Main activities

The Global Fund is a Trust Fund. It provides resources to enable beneficiary countries and their development partners to scale up national responses to the three diseases, supporting programmes that reflect national ownership and respect country-led formulation and implementation processes.

Activities that may be supported by the Fund include:

- increased access to and improved quality of health services;
- provision of critical health products including drugs (bed nets, condoms, antiretrovirals, anti-tuberculosis and antimalarial drugs, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, laboratory supplies and materials, and diagnostic kits);
- training of personnel and community health workers;
- behaviour change and outreach;
- community-based programmes including care for the sick and orphans.

4.3 Intervention logic

The results achieved by the Global Fund since its creation cannot be understated. The financial power of this global initiative, through the pooled funding of the contributions, contributes to increase cost-efficiency in the provision of critical health products to fight the three diseases.

The Country Coordination Mechanisms allow inclusive dialogue with all stakeholders in the grant development at country level. As regards implementation, the coming strategy cycle 2017-2022 seeks active support for grant implementation success through more active grant management and better engagement with partners.

In this regard, the interactions between EU Delegations and the Commission services are very constructive, with continuous dialogue on the links between grant development and global strategy, and with country-specific issues flagged for discussion at Board level when necessary.

The Commission, through its presence in the Board, contributes to define the strategic directions taken by the Global Fund, which is absolutely essential given the importance of the Global Fund in the global health landscape.

From the Global Fund perspective, the logic of intervention involves:

- maximising impact, through strategic investment in areas with high potential for impact and strong value for money, and fund based on countries' national strategies;
- providing greater sustainability, with funding determined by country envelopes that comprise a fixed and a variable amount. The country envelope is to be determined by need (disease burden, ability to pay) and other important variables (willingness to pay, other external financing, past performance, etc.);
- differentiating needs of the particular countries.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the ACP Group of States, 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 and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 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) 2015/322.

5.3 Implementation modalities

Both in indirect and direct management, 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 affecting the respective countries of operation.

5.3.1 Indirect management with an international organisation

This action may be implemented in indirect management with The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 323/2015. This implementation entails the supervision of grants managed by Principal Recipients. This implementation is justified because of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)'s specific international mandate and its proven technical capacity to identify and implement high impact interventions in the area of the communicable diseases (AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria).

The Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria has been assimilated by the EU to an International Organisation.⁷

The entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: undertaking the analysis, selection and concluding contracts of grants with Principal Recipients and making payments resulting from those contracts. The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) will use the pooled resources of all donors for the funding of these contracts.

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.

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 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in EUR
Indirect management with The Global Fund	285 million	11.7 billion

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The Global Fund is governed by an international Board consisting of twenty voting members and four non-voting members. The Commission holds one of these board seats. Voting members include government representatives from donor and recipient countries and representatives of affected communities, private sector businesses, philanthropic foundations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Representatives of The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) also participate as ex-officio (non-voting) members, as does the World Bank, which serves as the Fund's trustee. The Board is advised by a number of committees set up to address specific areas of strategy development, fiduciary oversight, and audit.

The Fund's Secretariat is responsible for day-to-day operations, including mobilising resources from the public and private sectors, managing grants, providing financial, legal and administrative support, and reporting on the Fund's activities to the Board and the public.

⁷ Commission Decision C(2014) 9598 of 17.12.2014

All decisions on specific areas of strategy development, fiduciary oversight, and audit are approved by the Board of the Global Fund, based on advice from the specific committees.

To support the Fund in financing effective programmes, the Board relies on an independent panel of international experts on health and development. The Technical Review Panel (TRP) reviews eligible grant proposals on grounds of technical merit (soundness of approach, feasibility and potential for sustainability). Based on this review, the TRP recommends programmes for funding to the Board.

The Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) is an advisory body providing independent assessment and advice to the Board on issues that, in its view, require the Board's attention. The TERG advises the Secretariat on evaluation approaches and practices, independence, reporting procedures and other technical and managerial aspects of monitoring and evaluation at all levels.

Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) are country-level partnerships tasked to develop and submit concept notes to the Fund based on existing strategies and priority needs agreed at national level. After the approval of grants, they oversee progress during implementation. CCMs have often been set up and run as separate entities. They now need to be better integrated into existing development partner groups where they exist. The CCMs include representatives from both the public and private sectors, including governments, multilateral or bilateral agencies, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, private businesses and people living with the diseases.

EU Delegations are, in a number of cases, members of CCMs, playing a very active role in certain countries, in collaboration with the Member States. For each grant, the CCM nominates one or more public, private, or civil society organisation as the Principal Recipient, which is responsible for grant implementation, in particular on the financial and programmatic components, and on the reporting on progress and results obtained.

The Fund does not have a country-level presence beyond its offices in Geneva, Switzerland. Instead, it hires Local Fund Agents (LFAs) to oversee, verify and report on grant performance. LFAs are selected through a competitive bidding process. The Fund normally has one LFA in each country where it has approved a grant. This gives it access to local knowledge that may be relevant to grant performance.

The Global Fund has a risk mitigation strategy based on a 3-line defence, escalation mechanism. The first line is at country level, with CCM and LFA. The second is with the Risk Department at the Secretariat, and eventually the third line is the Office of the Inspector General.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) operates as an independent unit of the Fund, reporting directly to the Board. The overall and primary purpose of the OIG is to provide the Fund with independent and objective oversight to ensure the integrity and effectiveness of its programmes and operations, including compliance with policies and procedures. The OIG assists the Fund in protecting assets and preventing and detecting fraud, waste, abuse, malfeasance or mismanagement. The OIG has two specific responsibilities: investigation of potential fraud, abuse, misappropriation, corruption and mismanagement of funds; and audit and inspection of activities and transactions to assess the effectiveness of internal controls and to identify areas that will enable the Fund to achieve better results.

The Fund's accounts are audited annually by independent auditors.

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. 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, a final evaluation is not foreseen for this action or its components.

However, 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 evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The individual grants are evaluated as part of the grant agreements between principal recipients and the Fund. The Fund also commissions independent evaluations of the grants, and it is evaluated itself at five-year intervals.

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.

The EU's visibility, pivotal leadership, and fund mobilisation and monitoring role in the Global Fund is strengthened through active participation in the Board, in the Board's Strategy Committee and in the Country Coordination Mechanisms of individual countries.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY) ⁸

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 without an amendment to the financing decision. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for listing the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) when it is relevant and for reporting purpose on the achievement of results as measured by indicators.

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	To make a sustainable and significant contribution in the fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in countries in need	- Lives saved - New infections prevented*	- 2017 for current strategy - 2001 for Long Term impact	- 29 million lives saved - Percentage reduction in new infections/cases (average rates across the three diseases) of 38% (2015 – 2022)	NHS	
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	Invest more strategically in highest-impact countries	- Number of people in need and receiving ART** - Number of people in need and receiving DOTS treatment** - Number of people sleeping under LLINs** Disaggregated by sex and quintile of income??	- 2017 for current strategy - 2001 for Long Term impact	- 23 million people alive on ARTs - nb of cases with drug-resistant TB (RR-TB and/or MDR-TB) that began second-line treatment: 920,000 (2017-2022) - 1,350 million LLINs distributed to at risk population	NHS	
Outputs		Number of ART, DOTS and LLINs provided** disaggregated by sex and quintile of income??	- 2017 for current strategy - 2001 for Long Term impact.		Principal Recipient, grants reports	

⁸ Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '**'.



EN

This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX 4

of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2017 - Part 3 in favour of intra-ACP cooperation to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

Action Document for “Annual contributions to the administration budgets 2018-2019-2020 of the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)”

Information for Potential Grant Applicants

Work Programme for Grants

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2012/966 applicable to the EDF in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323 in the following sections concerning grants awarded directly without a call for proposals: 5.3.1 Grant: direct award – (direct management)

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Annual contributions to the administration budgets 2018-2019-2020 for the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)			
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	All -ACP The action shall be carried out at the following locations: Wageningen (NL) and Brussels (BE)			
3. Programming document	Intra-ACP Cooperation – 11 th European Development Fund Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme, 2014 – 2020			
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Agricultural sector policy, planning and programmes	DEV. Aid: YES		
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 9 000 000 Total amount of EDF contribution: EUR 9 000 000. CTA financial year 2018: EUR 3 000 000 from 11 th EDF CTA financial year 2019: EUR 3 000 000 from 11 th EDF CTA financial year 2020: EUR 3 000 000 from 11 th EDF			
6. Aid modality and implementation modality	Project Modality Direct management – operating grants – direct award to Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)			
7 DAC code(s)	31110 Sector - Agricultural policy and administrative management			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

	development/good governance			
	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"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			
10. SDGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main SDG: "Zero hunger, food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture" (Goal 2) Secondary SDGs "End poverty in all its forms everywhere" (SDG 1) and "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" (SDG 5). 			

SUMMARY

The proposed annual contribution concerns the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)'s administration budget for 2018, 2019 and 2020 to be financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

The functioning of the CTA is arising from the Cotonou Agreement because CTA is a body which has an objective forming part of, and supporting a EU policy (see Article 19a(3) of Annex IV to the Cotonou Agreement and Article 37 of the 11th EDF Financial Regulation).

Indeed the overall, long-term CTA objective is to 'Contribute to rural prosperity, healthy diets and resilient food systems in the ACP countries'. The medium-term objective is to 'Contribute to the development of inclusive and sustainable value chains and markets that are nutrition sensitive, climate/risk resilient and benefit small farmers, women and youth'. The specific objectives, which address the concerns of CTA's direct beneficiaries, are: (i) improved agri-business and value chain practices, (ii) enabling agricultural policy environment, and (iii) informed, well-connected and capacitated agri-food sector actors.

The continuity of the functioning of the CTA must be ensured.

1. CONTEXT

1.1. Regional context

Agriculture is the major source of income and employment for over 70% of the world's poor in rural areas, occupying more than one-third of the world's land area and using more than two-thirds of global water withdrawals. Globally, competition for natural resources is increasing with the growth of population, rapid urbanisation and increasing demand for food, and climate change is altering the patterns of rainfall and temperature that influence agricultural production. ACP countries are also subject to high population growth, natural resource degradation, droughts and floods, which put increasing pressure on agricultural production and the ability of countries to feed their population.

Many actors – governments, development partners, entrepreneurs and investors – are putting increased attention on agriculture as an engine for economic growth and job creation in ACP countries. This would entail transforming agriculture into a sustainable business that can create value for smallholder producers, provide jobs for women and youth, and produce nutritious and healthy food for people.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include several targets related to food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture. One of the 17 SDGs calls on the world to 'End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture'.

For agriculture to underpin the social transformation and economic growth of ACP countries and meet the aspirations of their people, organisations such as CTA must intensify efforts and strengthen collaboration with ACP partners, the business community and international organisations. Collaboration must focus on modernising agriculture in the ACP region, ensuring that its farmers become competitive and are able to supply evolving national, regional and international markets, that its agribusiness is a force towards sustainable, inclusive growth, and that governments enable and encourage the development of modern, efficient and healthy agricultural value chains. The image of smallholder farming as a low-paying, tedious, low-status occupation must be transformed into one that depicts farming and its associated services as modern, productive, environmentally sustainable and profitable.

1.1.1 *The Policy Framework in ACP and the EU*

The EU and governments in ACP countries have reiterated their commitment to placing agriculture at the forefront of their development agenda. This is evidenced, for example, by the following recent high-level initiatives and declarations:

- the new policy framework for the 11th EDF (2014–2020), in which agriculture is one of the top three sectors for most ACP countries;¹
- *EU Agenda for Change* (2011) that commits to "helping reduce developing countries exposure to global shocks such as climate change, ecosystem and resource degradation, [...] by concentrating investment in sustainable agriculture and energy"²;
- the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, adopted by the African Union in 2014;

¹ EU, 2013. Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs at the meeting with ACP NAOs and RAOs, Brussels 17 April 2013.

² European Commission, 2011. « Increasing the Impact of EU development policy : An Agenda for Change

- the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, a
- the EU Communication on *A Stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries* (2014);
- the EU Communication on *Enhancing Maternal and Child Nutrition in External Assistance: an EU Policy Framework* (2013), which contains strong support for smallholder agriculture;
- *EU Approach to Resilience: Learning from Food Security Crises* (2012) which focuses on "addressing the underlying causes of crises, notably through support for prevention and preparedness activities";
- the Joint ACP-EU Cooperation Framework for Private Sector Development support in ACP Countries (2014).
- the 11th Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), launched in March 2015, which consolidates progress made over the past 10 years of CAADP implementation;

Despite these positive developments, the ACP agricultural and food system continues to be in a vulnerable situation. Much effort is still needed to assist ACP countries to meet the food and nutritional needs of their populations through increased agricultural productivity, the promotion of efficient and nutrition-sensitive agricultural value chains and greater attention to climate-change adaptation and mitigation. CTA's Strategic Plan for 2016-2020, through its focus on value-chain development, enabling policies and knowledge management and promoting the use of ICTs to support smallholder agriculture and capacity building, places the Centre in a prime position to support ACP countries in transforming their agricultural sector.

With regard to the management of environmental risks and promotion of sustainability, CTA's work on agriculture and fisheries takes place in a context of growing vulnerabilities, not only for the small-island ACP countries, but also in all other countries where a growing population and more extreme weather conditions combined are putting increasing pressure on natural resources.

Building agricultural resilience to climate change is a key theme in CTA as well as enhancing the availability of finance for farmers to adopt such practices, by providing tools for multi-stakeholder engagement incorporating traditional knowledge with modern scientific interventions, and by exchanges between the ACP countries on successful risk-mitigation experiences. Several of CTA's activities also aim to help the spread of techniques that can help communities to prevent the conflicts that may result from climate change, e.g. on land use or coastal fisheries. In its outreach to decision-makers, including in governments, CTA has highlighted – and will continue to do so – the need to mainstream environmental considerations in agricultural and fisheries programmes and policies; this is, for example, one of the recurrent themes of the Brussels Development Briefings.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

CTA's main stakeholders, with respect to fulfilling the Centre's mandate, are made up of three interrelated and partially overlapping groups: indirect (or ultimate) beneficiaries, direct beneficiaries and partners. In addition, CTA also considers its supervisory authorities and the general public as its stakeholders, in terms of the Centre's governance, accountability and overall appreciation as a provider of international public goods.

Indirect/ ultimate beneficiaries

CTA is mandated to assist 79 ACP countries through the Cotonou Agreement, a collaborative framework between these countries and the 28 EU Member States. Of the total ACP population of

over 800 million people, about 550 million live in rural areas. The vast majority of rural inhabitants as well as an increasing (albeit very small) number of urban dwellers in ACP countries depend on agricultural activities for their livelihood; these are potentially CTA's indirect/ultimate beneficiaries. The 2016-2020 strategic plan (SP) further narrows down the scope of CTA's indirect beneficiaries to smallholder farmers, with particular emphasis on women and youth. ACP consumers are also expected to benefit indirectly from CTA's interventions through healthy and nutritious diets.

Direct beneficiaries

CTA, being a relatively small organisation with a broad geographical coverage and massive number of ultimate beneficiaries, has to find a 'smart' way of using its resources efficiently and effectively, while ensuring that its interventions remain relevant and are likely to have the desired impact. This reflection has led CTA to concentrate on producing outputs that are relevant to the following groups of ACP organisations or networks that are considered to be the Centre's direct beneficiaries: (i) governmental and inter-governmental policy organisations and networks (at national, regional and continental level); (ii) regional farmers' associations and commodity groupings, and extension and rural advisory services; (iii) research, extension and tertiary education institutions and networks; and (iv) private-sector organisations and institutions involved in ARD issues (including agribusiness companies and multimedia publishing houses).

Partners

CTA's major mode of project implementation is through different kinds of partnerships with a range of institutions, including a cross-section of its direct beneficiaries as well as a host of international development agencies. CTA's partnership strategy has identified four categories of partners – strategic, programmatic, project and friends/social capital. While engagement with project partners may be limited to short-term collaboration on a specific CTA activity or project, engagement with programmatic partners is expected to be much broader, evolving towards greater systemic collaboration in a defined area, because this improves the opportunities to have impact. Engagement with strategic partners is driven by a shared vision, with CTA and the partner organisations both expressly recognising the value of long-term collaboration in a number of areas. Joint thinking is at the root of the both programmatic and strategic partnerships.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/ problem analysis

The priority areas proposed for this 3-year action document, are drawn essentially from CTA's 2016-2020 SP and its regional business plans (RBPs). The SP identifies three interrelated strategic goals (SGs); respectively: (i) profitable smallholder value chains (SG 1), (ii) conducive agricultural policies (SG 2), and (iii) enhanced capacity for knowledge management (SG 3). The SP also identifies four thematic priorities, as follows: (i) supporting climate-smart agriculture, (ii) agribusiness development (iii) making agriculture nutrition sensitive, and iv) leveraging the data revolution.

This CTA programme's activities take into account the critical role of trade and investment as catalysts for economic and regional integration and agents for growth, jobs and poverty reduction. They are in support of regional EPA implementation efforts in the ACP signatory countries with visibility components considered accordingly.

While many of the issues confronting agriculture are similar across regions, and will continue to be the focus of the Centre's ACP projects, there are also significant differences between regions. To address these differences, CTA is organising much of its work programme in its new SP through three-year revolving Regional Business Plans for each of the six ACP regions. This focuses the Centre's operations on region-specific priorities and will help deliver targeted outcomes that conform to the above-referred initiatives and declarations; are consistent with

CTA's regional flagships and global projects; help better identify target clients and opportunities for making an impact; enable a more leveraged use of CTA resources; and provide a medium for interaction with partners, including possible funding agencies.

2. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Political and social upheavals, epidemics or natural disasters in ACP countries that may disrupt programme implementation and the flow of CTA's services	M	Such disruptions tend to be temporary and often limited to few countries at any given time. CTA has the possibility of reallocating its resources to non-affected ACP countries.
Loss of political will to provide continued support to various regional groupings, institutions and networks.	L	In the short-term this is less likely to occur. Also, the current trends seem to favour more investment in agricultural and rural development institutions (e.g. regional farmers organisations).
Inappropriate use of funds by programme/project implementation partners and service providers	L	As a pre-condition to access the Centre's technical and financial resources, all service providers and partner organisations are registered in a database. As of 2015, partners are also required to sign declarations of integrity in addition to meeting rigorous general conditions that form part of all of CTA's contracts. CTA also takes steps to mitigate risks when working with partners and service providers by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that project implementation is done with reputable ACP, EU and international organisations to obtain the outputs and outcomes required; • Conducting appropriate financial checks; • Ensuring that partners make the requisite project staff and other resources available in a timely manner to carry out the project activities.
Assumptions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU will continue to fund CTA's interventions. • Opportunities exist to participate in policy processes and VCD • IT infrastructure and ICT tools will become more accessible to direct beneficiaries in ACP countries 		

3. LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

As a learning organisation, CTA strives to draw lessons both from its successes and shortcomings. During the past five years, more than at any time in its past, CTA has invested in Centre-commissioned evaluations and impact studies of its major activities and programmes. As well as helping to identify specific achievements, these reviews have also provided important lessons, many of which have been used to improve operations and in the development of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan.

The external evaluation in 2015, commissioned by the European Commission and ACP Secretariat, concluded that CTA's 2011-2015 Strategic Plan has been "highly relevant to the Cotonou Agreement [...], key EC policies [...] and ACP Regional and Continental (Africa) policies". The evaluation report also noted that "almost half (49%) of CTA partner respondents believe that CTA services and work has led to improved skills/knowledge/awareness among farmers, over 40% consider CTA has brought improved use of ICTs and improved organisation/collaboration with other smallholders/farmers. Almost one-third of CTA partners consider that CTA's services have improved access to markets and just under one-quarter (24%) believe that CTA's services have improved income, employment or livelihoods."

The report also made wide-ranging recommendations that CTA has taken into account formulating its 2016-2020 strategy and this 4-year programme, including:

- strengthening reporting, results measurement, and communication flow and exchange with the European Commission to boost the added value of CTA's work for the Commission and ACP Group of States;
- continuing to develop the Partnership Strategy with a view to optimising the potential impact of activities and programmes;
- reviewing CTA's current approach to tracking impact with a view to identifying scope for improved capture of long-term impacts;
- increased focus on scaling successful CTA activities and projects to deliver significantly increased impact.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

With regard to **complementarity**, CTA continues to be engaged in a series of collaborative projects with numerous EU-funded programmes and projects (e.g. CAAST-NET Plus, PAEPARD Plus 4-Year Extension, PACE-Net Plus, COLEACP, Intra-ACP policy programmes, etc.) and with other organisations (AU/NEPAD, UNECA, IFAD, FAO, CGIAR etc.). The Centre also works closely with and ensures its interventions complement various continental and regional programmes and organisations such as CAADP, NPCA/NEPAD Rural Futures, FARA, CORAF/WECARD, AUC, ECOWAS, COMESA, SADC, IICA, CARDI, CARICOM, SPC, SPREP, ASARECA, IOC and CDEMA.

Donor coordination - CTA currently develops its annual programmes within the framework of the ACP-EU Cotonou Agreement, revised in 2010, and contributes to the objectives set out in the Cotonou Agreement (Annex III, Article 3, paragraph 1 of the Agreement) and various cooperation strategies (Part 3, Titles I & II), which are all governed by international aid-effectiveness and donor-coordination standards.

CTA takes into account various agricultural development initiatives and large programmes including the following EU-funded facilities: (i) COLEACP (ii) Agricultural Commodity Trade project of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and (iii) Agribusiness Development

Programme of the CARICOM Secretariat. CTA also pays attention to programmes initiated by: (i) ACP Regional Economic Communities who have set up specialised agencies that deal specifically with agricultural trade (e.g. COMESA's ACTESA), (ii) bilateral donors (e.g. USAID, DFID, GIZ, AFD and DGIS), and (iii) private foundations (e.g. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation).

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

CTA's commitment towards integrating gender and youth into its programmes and projects is reaffirmed in the SP 2016-2020 and spelt out in more detail in separate strategies on gender and youth.

CTA's Gender Strategy aims to highlight the importance of women as a marker of the inclusiveness of value chains and to demonstrate how the inclusion of women increases the benefits derived from such value chains. Participation in policy processes is also crucial. In fact, CTA regards the full empowerment of women as absolutely essential to enable gender equality in engagement. CTA is mainstreaming gender in all its operations, both internally and in its work with partners, to offer women the assistance, training and access needed.

Many elements in CTA's Youth Strategy echo the Gender Strategy, promoting engagement in value chains and policy processes. One area of difference is the importance of supporting young professionals in agricultural sciences and innovation. These people will set the direction for agriculture and rural development (ARD) and will help to educate future generations of smallholder producers. Their importance is as multipliers and role models, in addition to their direct contributions.

ICTs, which are now well integrated into CTA's projects and programmes, have a special role to play with regard to youth, because they can act as a two-way conduit. In one direction, ICTs offer channels through which to contact youth, supply them with information and enthuse them about opportunities in agriculture and the non-farm rural economy. In the other, youth is well placed and motivated to innovate through ICTs to deliver the services agriculture needs. Young people in urban areas also have opportunities in smaller urban agriculture businesses, food processing and other parts of the value chain.

Sustainability is at the basis of the promotion of the value chains. The action will encourage approaches and techniques that are environment-friendly and focus on long-term sustainable management of natural resources in ACP countries (land use planning, management of soil, water and agro-biodiversity, etc.).

Ensuring sufficient production of food for a growing population is a crucial challenge. It should be achieved in harmony with climate objectives, and trade-offs are to be minimised. The action promotes climate change adaptation and encourages farmers to adopt climate smart agricultural practices that increase agricultural productivity and help farmers to adapt to changing climatic variations.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1. Objectives / Expected results

This programme is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 2 "Zero hunger, food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture", but also promotes progress towards the following Goal(s): "End poverty in all its forms everywhere" (Goal 1) and "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" (Goal 5).

Overall objective/ Impact

The overall objective is to support the proper functioning of the CTA in line with the Cotonou Agreement.

Specific objectives/ Outcomes

The specific objective is to ensure that the CTA has the financial resources to implement its annual work programs.

Expected results/ Outputs

The expected result is the successful support to the functioning of the CTA.

4.2. Main activities

CTA will implement this action through a transparent, accountable and cost-efficient financial management of its headquarters.

4.3 Intervention logic

CTA's programme intervention logic is depicted with all the required accuracy in the draft budget submitted on a yearly basis. It takes into account the recommendations if any of the previous financial reports and their related audit reports duly approved by the CTA board.

This approach has the potential of both strengthening the ACP partner (a desirable developmental outcome in its own right) and resulting in greater impact at the level of smallholder farmers and other beneficiaries on the ground (i.e. youth and consumers), on the assumption that there is a positive correlation between an organisation's capabilities and its performance or impact.

Institutional support is a key component of the intra-ACP strategy. In accordance with the Cotonou Agreement, intra-ACP strategy shall include support to joint institutions and bodies created under the agreement.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the beneficiary, referred to in the Article 17 of Annex IV to the Cotonou 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 and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 48 months from adoption by the Commission of this Action Document.

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) 2015/322.

5.3. Implementation modalities

Both in indirect and direct management, 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 affecting the respective countries of operation.

5.3.1 Grant: direct award – Operating grant (direct management)

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

Three operating grants for a total amount of EUR 9 000 000 (3 x EUR 3 000 000) will cover the operating expenditures of the annual budgets 2018-2019-2020 that may not be considered directly linked to the action. This is to comply with the Cotonou Agreement that requests the Commission to cover the full costing of the centre including staff expenditure, building, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure up to maximum the total amount of this grant, in direct management in accordance with article 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of article 37 of (EU) Regulation n° 323/2015 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the 11th European Development Fund which allow for full funding if it is essential for the action to be carried out.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the authorising officer by delegation, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified on the basis of Article 190 1 (d) RAP (*"to bodies identified by a basic act within the meaning of Article 54 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant or to bodies designated by the member States, under their responsibility, where those Member States are identified by a basic act as beneficiaries of a grant"*) as defined in Annex III, art. 3 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000.

(c) Eligibility conditions

Not applicable.

(d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(e) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 100%.

The maximum possible rate of co-financing may be up to 100% in accordance with Article 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2014/323 if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the responsible authorising officer in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(f) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

Q4 of each of the 3 years in order to comply with the Cotonou Agreement requesting budget to be covered on a continuous basis.

(g) Exception to the non-retroactivity of costs: it is understood that these operating grants are covering the entire financial year starting each 1 January to terminate each 31 December.

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.

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 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget

Module	Amount in EUR	Indicative Third party contribution
5.3.1. Grant: direct award – operating grant Direct management with the CTA 3 annual grant contracts of EUR 3 000 000, implemented from respectively 1 January till 31 December of 2018/19/20	9 000 000	N.A.
TOTAL	9 000 000	N.A.

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

All corresponding contracts will be signed by the Commission.

The CTA Corporate Services Department (CSD) is in charge of administrative affairs, human resources, internal IT-related activities and supervises financial and accounting services.

The financial controller monitors all financial related matters and reports directly to the Executive Board which is responsible for the strategic direction and monitoring of the Centre's operations. The Executive Board meets 3 times a year and is composed of 6 members with observers from the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the Secretariat of the ACP Group of States. The Director, appointed by the ACP Committee of Ambassadors and with a mandate of five years, is ultimately responsible for the management of the Centre and also reports to the Executive Board.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

CTA conducts various internal control at regular intervals. The results and recommendations of such exercises are discussed with the Executive Board.

In addition, CTA has periodic meetings with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) and ACP's Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development to report on the progress being made in the implementation of its actions.

For the Centre as a whole, budget commitment and expenditure are examined on a monthly basis by the senior management group, with corrective action being taken when required.

5.8 Evaluation

As requested by the Cotonou Agreement (Annex III, Article 4) "periodic evaluation of the activities undertaken by the CTA shall be carried out".

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least two months in advance of the dates foreseen 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 premises.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. 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.

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.

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

In respect of financial audits, in accordance with Article 26 of Decision N° 3/2006 on the Financial Regulation of CTA, a firm of auditors of international standing has been appointed to audit the books and cash of the Centre, to verify that the inventories and balance-sheets have been drawn up in a regular and proper manner in accordance with International Accounting Standards. Statutory audits are conducted every year and expenditure verification reports are drawn up for previous years. The Centre allocates the appropriate budget to cover the verification of expenditure and statutory audits.

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.

APPENDIX : LIST OF ACRONYMS

AAA	Advancing African Agriculture
ACP	Africa, Caribbean and Pacific
ACP-EU JPA	ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
AFAAS	African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AFRACA	African Rural and Agricultural Credit Association
AGRA	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
ANAFE	African Network for Agriculture, Agroforestry and Natural Resources Education
ARD	Agriculture and Rural Development
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AUC/DREA	Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission
AWEPA	Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa
AYF	African Youth Foundation
BMZ	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme
CAAST-NET	Coordination and Advancement of Sub-Saharan Africa-EU Science and Technology Cooperation
CaFANN	Caribbean Farmers' Association and NGO Network
CAFY	Caribbean Agricultural Forum for Youth
CANROP	Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers
CARAPN	Caribbean Regional Agricultural Policy Network
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CCARDESA	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
CCFAS	Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
CCST/ NIHERST	Certified Control Systems Technician
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CMA-AOC	Conférence des Ministres de l'Agriculture de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
COLEACP	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CORAF/WECARD	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development

APPENDIX : LIST OF ACRONYMS

CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CRS	Climate resilient solutions
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU
DFID	Department for International Development
DGIS	Directoraat-Generaal Internationale Samenwerking
EAFF	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation
EAGC	Eastern Africa Grain Council
EC	European Commission
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EPAs	Regional Economic Partnership Agreements
EU	European Union
FANPRAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ICKM	Information, Communication and Knowledge Management
ICTs	Information and Communications Technologies
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IICA	Intern-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IIRR	International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IPACC	Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee
LME	Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NAOs	National Authorising Officers
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency
PACENet	Pacific Plan for Regional Integration and Cooperation
PAEPARD	Platform for African European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development
PAFO	Pan African Farmers' Organisation
PEE	Promoting enabling environments
PIFON	Pacific Island Farmers Organisation Network
PMI	Policies, Markets and ICTs

APPENDIX : LIST OF ACRONYMS

PROPAC	Plateforme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale
R&T	Roots and tubers
RAOs	Regional Authorising Officers
RFOs	Regional Farmers Organisations
ROPFA	Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organisation of West Africa
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SACAU	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPC/LRD	Land Resource Division of Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
VCD	Value Chain Development
WB	World Bank
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
YPARD	Young Professional for Agricultural Development