

	digital governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	/
	digital entrepreneurship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	digital skills/literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	digital services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Connectivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	YES	NO	/
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reduction of Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2023-14.020121 Total estimated cost: EUR 10 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 10 000 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	<b>Direct management</b> through grants <b>Indirect management</b> through the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

Somalia is consistently ranked as one of the bottom five countries in terms of gender inequality and has some of the world's worst indicators for women's access to healthcare, prevalence of harmful practices, and limited economic and political participation. Traditional gender roles are strong: men traditionally hold authority and decision-making power and women are responsible for food, raising children and household chores. At the same time, women-owned businesses are increasing in almost all regions of Somalia and women are a growing force in the local economy in terms of numbers, potential employment opportunities and diversification of economic activity. However, and largely due to patriarchal structures, many of the women-led businesses are small-scale and/or informal, they suffer from pressure to adhere to traditional gender roles and lack social and institutional support. While access to finance is a challenge for all businesses in Somalia, the problem is particularly acute for women-owned businesses.

In line with the EU's Gender Action Plan III and complementing Priority Areas 2 (Inclusive and green economic growth) and 3 (Resilience building and social inclusion) of the EU's Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Somalia 2021 - 2027, this G2<sup>1</sup> Action will focus on supporting women's economic and social empowerment in

<sup>1</sup> In line with the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker, this action is marked as G-2, i.e. gender equality is the main objective of the programme and is fundamental in its design and results, The programme would not have been undertaken without this gender equality objective.