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|--------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Connectivity @ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | digital connectivity | YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> | / |
| | energy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | transport | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | health | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| education and research | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | Migration @ (methodology for tagging under development) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Reduction of Inequalities @ (methodology for marker and tagging under development) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Covid-19 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BUDGET INFORMATION | | | | |
| 12. Amounts concerned | Budget line(s) (article, item): Budget Line: -BGUE-B2024-14.020140 Total estimated cost: EUR 5,200,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 5,200,000 | | | |
| MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION | | | | |
| 13. Type of financing | Direct management through: - Grants | | | |

1.2 Summary of the Action

Since 2019, the ‘Digital Ecuador’ strategy of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society (MINTEL) promotes a change in the country’s technological development paradigm and fosters innovation. However, a detailed analysis of Ecuador’s Digital Government context reveals some weaknesses that need to be strengthened to enable a real change in the way digital services are provided to citizens, including: 1. An obsolete technological infrastructure that does not cover in full the requirements of the public sector. 2. An incomplete legal framework underpinning the Digital strategy. 3. Scattered information available about institutional services offered by web portals. 4. The need to improve the interaction with citizens of the Government’s web portals. 5. The absence of digital channels to encourage citizen participation in most public institutions. 6. The lack of an operational framework for interoperability and data management at national and sectoral level.

The National Digital Transformation Agenda 2022-2025 aims to establish a coordinated and multi-sectoral framework, defining specific lines of action and responsibilities to address the urgent social challenges the country is facing, including in particular the security and social crises and problems that have been identified as urgent, such as: 1. Prison crisis and violent deaths (with at least 390 murders in the first half of 2022); 2. Gender-based-violence (570 femicides officially recorded in the period 2014-2022) with low criminalisation due to judicial decisions leading to other types of crimes; and 3. Chronic Childhood Undernutrition, which is one of the most serious social problems affecting the country, with 1 in 3 children under 2 years of age suffering from this condition.

The urgent need to optimise the information management model and the exchange of knowledge and data among actors that form part of the security and justice system, as well as key stakeholders from the social sector has been defined as a priority, alongside the need to reinforce competences in the