

	digital skills/literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 Inequalities1 @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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): 14.020131 Total estimated cost: EUR 8 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 8 000 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	<b>Indirect management</b> with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 0			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

Sri Lanka is still recovering from the acute economic and political crisis of 2022 that interrupted economic development and impacted government effectiveness and local economic priorities. In this crisis context, biodiversity protection and waste management have been relatively neglected and underserved. While there is no lack of policies, the implementation of protection and management of its biodiversity and the upcycling of its resources within a circular economy are critical for the sustainability of the country's economic development and its resilience to climate change impacts. Furthermore, economic recovery and local development initiatives need to be planned to avoid risk to be a driver of environmental degradation and habitat loss, hence eroding the natural resources the economy depends on.

The Action focuses on enhancing the environmental sustainability of the economic recovery through better protected natural resources and biodiversity, including through sustainable and inclusive waste management, and mainstreams climate change and gender equality. While the Action will focus on the montane districts of the Central and Uva Province (Nuwara Eliya, Kandy and/or Badulla), the Action links to national level by creating gender-responsive and inclusive models and approaches in support of implementation of national policies for biodiversity conservation and waste management.

The Overall Objective is *to support environmental policies and actions for a green and inclusive sustainable economic recovery*. The Specific Objective is *to improve protection of biodiversity and the management of waste*. This will be achieved by Building capacities among stakeholders including government agencies and local authorities as duty-bearers, local communities as rights-holders, and the private sector to engage in biodiversity

1 For more information, please consult: The European Commission inequality marker - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu) and Inequality Marker – Complementary Guidelines Application of the I-Marker to SSC fiches and Action Documents | Capacity4dev (europa.eu)