

	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Reduction of Inequalities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line: BGUE-B2024-14.020140 –Cooperation with Latin America Total estimated cost: EUR 10 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 10 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Indirect management with the entrusted entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2 Direct management grants – section 4.4.1 are also included in section 4 of the AD as implementation modalities.			

1.2 Summary of the Action

Within the flexibility of a MIP designed for a fragile context and in direct response to a significant and evolving phenomenon, an Action is proposed to address the consequences of Nicaraguan mixed migration movements towards Costa Rica. The situation in Nicaragua has led thousands of nationals to seek refuge or better economic opportunities abroad, mainly in Costa Rica and in the United States. This Action proposes support the government of Costa Rica and key stakeholders e.g Directorate General for Migration and Immigration (DGME), Costa Rican Social Security Fund, Ministry of Labor, Local authorities, Civil Society, community Organisations, among others in its efforts to manage the recent surge of Nicaraguan migrants and asylum seekers in a transparent and responsible way, in complementarity with efforts of key partners in the region, including Spain, Luxemburg, and the USA among others. The Action also proposes to support the socioeconomic integration of the Nicaraguans migrants enhancing social cohesion in the host communities.

Since Nicaragua's political and economic crisis began, exacerbated by natural disasters like hurricanes ETA and IOTA (2020) and the El Niño phenomenon, thousands of Nicaraguans have fled to Costa Rica for international protection and better living conditions. From 2018 to 2023, over 314,000 Nicaraguans sought asylum in Costa Rica, with 171,169 pending applications by December 2023 (estimates vary). The first five months of 2023 saw 17,637 new refugee applications, while the US reported 139,000 border encounters with Nicaraguans in the 2023 fiscal year. In 2021, Nicaragua was according to some estimates the second-largest source of new asylum applications globally.

Costa Rica, the fourth-largest recipient of new asylum applications in 2021 and 2022, has struggled to support the influx, with Nicaraguans comprising 88% of 2023's refugee status requests. Over 200,000 asylum seekers now represent more than 4% of Costa Rica's population, a high regional proportion similar to Colombia. In December 2022, Costa Rica introduced significant changes to the asylum process, including stricter work restrictions for applicants, impacting their ability to meet basic needs.