

	energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/
	transport	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research			
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
<b>12. Amounts concerned</b>	Budget line: 14.020130 Total estimated cost: EUR 11 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 11 000 000			
<b>MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
<b>13. Type of financing</b>	<b>Direct management</b> Grants Procurement <b>Indirect management</b> with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.3.			

## 1.2 Summary of the Action

As Kazakhstan's foremost investment and trading partner, the EU is the most relevant standard setter and an important partner in the country's reform processes. In addition to its role as a key energy supplier, Kazakhstan is of interest to the EU to develop the market for European products and services in the country, while increasing cooperation on climate action and low carbon development in line with the Paris Agreement. At the same time, the EU has an interest in supporting the country's continued development as a secular democratic state respecting human rights and the rule of law and supporting a rules-based global order.

The government has formulated objectives that are generally aligned with those of the EU, reflecting common challenges (e.g. environment and water management, climate change, migration, countering transnational organised crime, trafficking, including in human beings, violent extremism and terrorism, promoting intra-regional trade and connectivity) to ensure stability and security in Central Asia. Having achieved a relatively high level of human capital development and poverty reduction, Kazakhstan is well placed to be a leading force in promoting intra-regional integration and share experiences and good practices with its neighbours. Kazakhstan has also maintained a steady women's labour-force participation rate, nevertheless, the gap between male and female labour force participation and wages is not narrowing.

The proposed action will follow the priorities set by the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for 2021-2027, by supporting the **implementation of the EPCA and strengthen EU-Kazakhstan relations**, and will include:

- Support for capacity development and institution building, including through technical assistance and exchange of public expertise, e.g. through twinning-like arrangements.
- Support to facilitate Team Europe coordination at country level.
- Support for policy dialogues: events, conferences, studies, fellowships, exchange platforms to support sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with governments and other stakeholders.
- Financing strategic communication and public diplomacy activities to promote EU cooperation priorities in Kazakhstan.

The Cooperation Facility will focus on **two priority areas: Sustainable Economic Growth and Rule of Law**.