

| BUDGET INFORMATION | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 12. Amounts concerned | Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020122 Total estimated cost: EUR 5 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: EUR 5 000 000 |
| MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION | |
| 13. Implementation modality | Direct management through grants. Indirect management through a contribution agreement. The entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2 |

1.2 Summary of the Action

This project, as the first and only G2 action under the 2021-2027 South Africa MIP, aims to address gender-based violence (GBV) in and around schools across four key provinces in South Africa, building on previous successful initiatives conducted by NGOs, UN Agencies and Member States while aligning with broader actions under the Annual Action Plan 2025 (AAP2025). Specifically, the action would build on the work carried out under previous EU funded actions focusing on addressing the lack of accountability for GBV, more closely concentrating on young people in local communities and the education sector.

The primary objective is to promote gender equality by reducing inequalities and fostering an environment that empowers women and girls with the necessary skills and opportunities to actively participate in key sectors of the EU-South Africa partnership. This includes strategic value chains such as critical raw materials (CRM) and green hydrogen. Central to this effort is the education system, which plays a critical role in preparing women and girls for emerging jobs in these sectors. The project will focus geographically on the North-South corridor, which includes the provinces of KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo. This will ensure a coherent 360° approach with other EU-SA initiatives which primarily focus on creation of enabling environments for a just energy transition in the country, minimising environmental and social impact while promoting access to benefits for youth, women and disadvantaged communities. It is therefore essential to ensure that a community-based and human rights-based approach is pursued to tackle the root-causes of GBV to compliment the effective implementation of such EU-SA initiatives as the issues differ so substantially between grassroots communities in these regions.

Through a two-pillar approach of capacity-building, school community-led campaigns, and private sector outreach, the project will promote education on gender equality and respect for pupils, teachers, and parents, creating safer school environments and challenging harmful gender norms. By fostering safer school environments and challenging harmful gender norms, this initiative seeks to contribute to the gradual transformation of social attitudes, thereby reducing violence and discrimination in both schools and the wider community

1.3 Zone benefitting from the Action

The Action shall be carried out in South Africa, which is included in the list of ODA recipients.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 Context

South Africa continues to grapple with entrenched gender inequalities and pervasive gender-based violence (GBV), which remain critical obstacles to achieving sustainable socio-economic development. Despite progressive legislative frameworks, the implementation of policies addressing GBV remains inconsistent, particularly in regions with high levels of poverty and inequality. Provinces such as KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo experience elevated rates of GBV, exacerbated by socio-economic disparities between urban and rural areas.