

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 72 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

4.3 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Grants)

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

It is proposed to award grants contributing to **Outcome 3: Increased inclusive and gender-sensitive resilience and response capacity to CC enhanced by community civic engagement and awareness on green social and economic benefits and opportunities**. One key expected result from these grants is to ensure that service delivery champions in government, institutions on the one hand, and community members on the other are connected to support and reinforce each other's efforts (to improve green awareness, promote active and inclusive citizenry; or the promotion of local socio-economic development).

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Legal entities, natural persons or groupings without legal personality, local authorities, public bodies, international organisations, NGOs, economic actors such as SMEs or business associations, profit or non-profit organisations, political analyst and think tanks. Applicants should be able to demonstrate their capacity and/or willingness (in instances of capacity deficiencies) to implement a human rights-based approach and gender mainstreaming.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Direct award to the South African Local Government Association (SALGA)

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, a grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to the South African Local Government Association (SALGA).

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because SALGA is in a legal or factual monopoly situation (Article 195 (c) FR) as it is the constitutionally mandated organisation responsible for local government