

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the Republic of Rwanda.

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 of the Budget Support Component

N/A

4.4 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 measures¹⁹.

4.4.1. Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

This action may be implemented in indirect management with entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: (i) Proven track record in implementing TVET projects, preferably in Africa or similar contexts; (ii) Knowledge of Rwanda's socio-economic, cultural, and political landscape and familiarity with Rwanda's educational system, particularly the TVET sub-sector and (iii) Experience in developing strategies to ensure gender equality and inclusion of marginalized groups in programmes.

The implementation by this (ese) entity (ies) entails the setting up of various centres of vocational excellence (CoVEs) specialized in different value chains in the agriculture sector, with gender approaches consideration. Each of the CoVEs to be setup will respond to the two main objectives of the action which are: a) Women and youth access to quality skills' acquisition and formal certification through future CoVEs is improved; and b) Mechanisms to support insertion and employment opportunities for youth and women in the agriculture labour market are enhanced.

4.4.2. Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

In case implementation through indirect management with an entity to be selected cannot take place, due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the Commission keeps the right to implement the action under the direct management modality through grants.

In the case of grants, which would cover the whole budgetary envelope, the applicants would be public entities with a corresponding mandate to be able to implement and oversee investments and training in the field of TVET.

¹⁹ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.