

reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

Progress monitoring will be based on the logical framework and the established indicators. In the Contribution Agreement between the EU and the implementing partner (Italian Agency for International Cooperation) baselines and targets will be revised. The Italian Agency for International Cooperation will be responsible for implementing a solid monitoring system and reporting in a timely manner.

The content of reports will be specified in the Contribution Agreement. Reports shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action's implementation.

The action will be overseen by the European Union Delegation to El Salvador through day to day programme monitoring activities, visits, and its participation in the steering committee and in the events related to planned activities.

All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account the human rights based approach and gender equality. All monitoring and reporting shall assess how the action is taking into account inequality reduction.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components **via an implementing partner**. It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the intervention is the first of its type that the EU is implementing in El Salvador alongside Italian cooperation, and that it supports on the government's priority policies. The evaluation shall assess to what extent the action is taking into account inequality reduction as well as how it impacts the most vulnerable (bottom 40% and socio-economically disadvantaged individuals). Expertise on inequality reduction will be ensured in the evaluation teams.

The evaluation reports may be shared with the partners and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination⁸. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, apply the necessary adjustments.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.

In line with the 2022 "[Communicating and Raising EU Visibility: Guidance for External Actions](#)", it will remain a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to inform the relevant audiences of the Union's support for their work by displaying the EU emblem and a short funding statement

⁸ See best [practice of evaluation dissemination](#)