

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not 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 3.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

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

NA

4.4 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures⁶.

4.4.1 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

The whole action may be implemented in indirect management with a pillar - assessed entity, which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria: i) strong understanding of the Zambian context; ii) specialised experience and capacities in the proposed areas of intervention; iii) positive experience in implementing EU projects; iv) understanding and alignment with EU priorities; v) efficient service delivery. The implementation by these entities entail contributing to achieving Outcomes 1 and 2 of the action.

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

If due to exceptional circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the activities foreseen under indirect management with an entrusted entity cannot be implemented, the management mode can be changed to direct management mode, through grants for the implementation of Outcome 1 and / or Outcome 2.

The type of applicants targeted will be civil society organisations. The recipient organisation will be selected using the following criteria: i) strong understanding of the Zambian context; ii) specialised experience and capacities in the proposed areas of intervention; iii) positive experience in implementing EU projects; iv) understanding and alignment with EU priorities; v) efficient service delivery.

⁶ 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.