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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 29.11.2018**

**Annual Action Programme 2018 for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture under the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges for the period 2018-2020 to be financed from the general budget of the Union**

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### **Annual Action Programme 2018 for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture under the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges for the period 2018-2020 to be financed from the general budget of the Union**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Food and Nutrition Security Action area, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2018 and 2019. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>2</sup>.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for the Thematic Programme “Global Public Goods and Challenges” for the period 2018-2020 on behalf of the European Union. This sets out under point 4.4, the following three priorities for food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture i) strengthening and promoting governance and capacity of actors at the global, continental, regional and national levels, for all relevant stakeholders, ii) generating and exchanging knowledge and fostering innovation, and iii) supporting the poor and food and nutrition insecure to effectively respond to crises and strengthen resilience.
- (4) The overall objective pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2018 to be financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument is to improve food security for the poorest and most vulnerable, to help eradicate poverty and hunger for current and future generations, and to better address under-nutrition thereby reducing child mortality. This objective will be pursued in line with the EU policy commitments taken in 2010 on addressing food security challenges, in 2011 on sustainable agriculture and food security, in 2012 on resilience and in 2013 on nutrition, in line with which it will focus on enhancing the incomes of smallholder farmers, the resilience of vulnerable communities and on helping partner countries reducing the

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). 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, the OJ prevails.

number of stunted children by 7 million by 2025. The AAP 2018 addresses the three priorities of the MIP and proposes six actions supporting these priorities.

- (5) The action entitled “Promoting Responsible Governance of Investments in Land” aims at unlocking the potential of investments in land to contribute to increased agricultural productivity and sustainable development. Responsible governance based on the principles of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) could help in ensuring that such investments are contributing to public development objectives, are concluded and implemented in full transparency, involving local stakeholders in preparation and decision taking so that negative repercussions at local levels are avoided. With this approach the action will contribute to an enabling business environment promoting aspects of relevance to pillar 3 of the European Investment Plan (EIP). The action will have a focus on Africa.
- (6) The action entitled “Nutrition for Development (N4D)” aims at enhancing maternal and child nutrition in line with the commitments and strategic priorities of the Commission and SDGs, specifically SDG 2.2: to end all forms of malnutrition by 2030. Aligned with the three core strategic priorities identified in the Action Plan for Nutrition, the specific objectives of N4D are: (i) enhanced governance and accountability for nutrition at global, regional and national levels; (ii) sustained improvement in capacities that enable scaling up of effective, equitable and sustainable policy responses at global, regional and national levels; and (iii) uptake of improved knowledge and evidence informs nutrition policy development and implementation. This will be achieved through i) coordinated mechanisms to enhance governance and accountability; ii) provision of high quality, flexible technical support for the development of stakeholders’ capacities; and iii) improved knowledge and evidence based analysis to support policy development.
- (7) The action entitled “Development-Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) - Climate-relevant actions at country level” falls mainly under the pillar 1 of the DeSIRA initiative, which is about the use, access and generation of scientific knowledge for innovation to transform agriculture in the context of climate change. Specific activities will be performed in about 25 countries, mainly in Africa (with strong focus on Sahel/Western Africa) and in Central/Latin America; resulting from a call for expression of interests. The priority areas include both geographic and thematic focus: Sahel region; Livestock; Agroforestry and forest agriculture; Water management in rice farming systems in fragile and coastal States in Africa; Institutional and human capacities in National Agriculture Research Systems on climate and agriculture.
- (8) The action entitled "DeSIRA- Towards climate-relevant Agricultural and Knowledge Innovations Systems" falls under the pillar 2 of the DeSIRA initiative, with a focus on strengthening the global and the African regional and sub-regional architectures and governance frameworks of the agricultural research and innovation. It will include two components, namely (i) support to the Global Forum on Agriculture Research (GFAR) and the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP), as well as (ii) support to African research and extension organisations.
- (9) The action entitled "Pro-Resilience Action" (PRO-ACT 2018) aims at building resilience to food crisis. The PRO-Act methodology has been applied for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row to prioritise areas most affected by food crises. Collaboration with the main food security partners that started in 2016 was further expanded to include more global

stakeholders and has led to the “Global Network against Food Crises”. One of the key achievements of the Global Network is to provide an annual “Global Report on Food Crises”, which is the first joint analysis and the global reference point for the international community. The 2018 Global Report published in March 2018 indicates that nearly 124 million people were in a food crisis or emergency situation. Flowing from the analysis in the 2018 Report, actions will be supported in Cameroon, Republic of Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sudan and Syria. Through a specific programme with the FAO (called “Global Network against Food Crises – partnership programme”), decided within the 2017 PRO-ACT decision, other countries requiring a response are covered, namely Cuba, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Myanmar, Palestine, Sahel, Somalia, South Sudan, Venezuela and Yemen. All these responses intervene in complementarity with humanitarian and long-term development responses.

- (10) The action entitled “Support Measures 2018” covers the expenditures of activities related to the preparation, follow up, monitoring, evaluation and audit activities related to the implementation of the Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture (FSSA) strategic area of the Global Goods and Challenges thematic programme and to the achievement of its objectives. The overall objective is to contribute to the achievement of FSSA’s objective and specific results by providing support to EU delegations and Commission services as well as beneficiary countries to design and deliver evidence-based, high quality value for money programmes and to engage in effective policy and political dialogue.
- (11) The Commission should acknowledge and accept contribution[s] from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement. Where such contribution[s] are not denominated in euro, a reasonable estimate of conversion should be made.
- (12) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (13) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (14) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (15) To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (16) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (17) The actions provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Development Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 19.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

## *Article 1*

### *The programme*

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual programme for the implementation of the Annual Action Programme 2018 for the Food and Nutrition Security Action Area under the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges for the period 2018-2020, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex 1: Promoting Responsible Governance of Investments in Land
- Annex 2: Nutrition for Development (N4D)
- Annex 3: DeSIRA - Climate-relevant actions at country level
- Annex 4: DeSIRA: Towards climate-relevant Agricultural and Knowledge Innovations Systems'
- Annex 5: Pro-Resilience Action - PRO-ACT 2018
- Annex 6: Support Measures 2018

## *Article 2*

### *Union contribution*

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme for 2018 and 2019 is set at EUR 233,500,000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line[s] of the general budget of the Union:

budget line 21 02 07 04: EUR 183,500,000 for 2018

Budget line 21 02 07 04: EUR 50,000,000 for 2019

The amount referred to in the first paragraph includes contributions from other donors to the general budget of the Union as external assigned revenue as provided for in actions 'DeSIRA - Climate-relevant actions at country level and DeSIRA: Towards climate-relevant Agricultural and Knowledge Innovations Systems'.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2019 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

## *Article 3*

### *Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in Annexes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

## *Article 4*

### *Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated

changes<sup>3</sup> to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

*Article 5*  
*Grants/Procurement*

Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes 2, 3 selected in accordance with point 5.4.1.2 of the Annex 2 and 5.3.1 of the Annex 3 .

Done at Brussels, 29.11.2018

*For the Commission*  
*Neven Mimica*  
*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>3</sup> These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.