

Gender Action Plan III – 2021-2025

Country Level Implementation Plan – CLIP Philippines

1. Context for EU action gender equality and women's empowerment in the country

a) Overview of the gender equality situation in the country

The Philippines is a signatory to international human rights instruments that have shaped its legislative framework for advancing gender-responsive development. In the regional arena, the Philippines is at the forefront of promoting the ASEAN community's gender equality and women empowerment goals. The Philippines' track record in legislation and policies for gender equality and women's empowerment is well-advanced. However barriers to meaningful implementation continue to impede the advancement of gender equality. While scoring high in some indexes (e.g. 17th out of 156 countries in 2021's World Economic Forum Global gender equality index), the Philippines scores only at the 104th place in the 2020 UNDP Gender inequality index. Underlying structural issues are still prevalent and are not being addressed, like women living in poverty, in vulnerable situations or in rural areas. Hence the following issues have still to be tackled: the incidence of gender-based violence remains high; access to sexual and reproductive health is restricted; divorce and abortion are forbidden; teenage pregnancy is increasing at an alarming rate, especially in rural areas; maternal mortality is still high; disparities still exist between women and men in terms of labour force participation despite the higher functional literacy rate of women; while women and girls from the National Capital Region and other urban areas have equal access to education, many of those from rural areas, particularly in Mindanao, are lagging behind; political participation of women remains weak with a ratio of 20:80 women vis-à-vis men holding ministerial positions in the government. In addition, the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic (community quarantine) has a negative impact on women.

In August 2009, the Philippines adopted the Magna Carta of Women, considered as the national translation of the CEDAW. This comprehensive women's human rights law seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in marginalized sector. As per the Magna Carta, the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) becomes the primary policy-making and coordinating body of the women and gender equality concerns. The PCW is the overall monitoring body and oversight to ensure the implementation of the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta also identifies the measures to be undertaken by the Gender Ombud under the Commission on Human Rights (CHR). Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines have also been developed to mainstream gender perspectives in development programmes and projects among government agencies, donor organisations, and other stakeholders.

Gender and Development is a cross-cutting issue in achieving the goals set in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and the AmBisyon Natin 2040, the government's 25-year long-term vision to end poverty. The government's concern for women is embodied in the Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development 1995–2025. In 2019, the PCW also introduced the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Plan 2019 – 2025. Its goal is to ensure that, by the end of 2025, more women and girls, especially those from poor and marginalized groups, are empowered and enjoy the benefits of social, economic and human development; are in high growth areas such as Service-trade-industry and ICT; have higher incomes; their resilience in the face of natural and human-induced disasters is stronger; gender-based discrimination, violence (GBV) and gender inequality in all spheres of life are significantly reduced if not eliminated; gender and social norms support a culture that promotes gender equality, diversity, and ending violence against women. GAD is embedded in the bureaucracy as national governments have established GAD units and policies. All government agencies, offices and Local Government Units (LGUs) have to pursue the adoption of gender mainstreaming as a strategy to promote and fulfil women's human rights and eliminate gender discrimination in their systems, structures, policies, programs, processes, and procedures. They also have to establish or strengthen their GAD Focal Point System to catalyse and accelerate gender mainstreaming within their structure. Following the conduct of a gender audit, gender analysis, and/or review of sex-disaggregated data, each agency or LGU shall

also develop its GAD Plan, Programs, and Budget. The GAD budget policy requires government agencies and LGUs to utilize at least 5% of their annual budget for gender and development initiatives. Also ODA-funded projects, NGAs and LGUs and other government instrumentalities shall ensure that five to thirty percent (5-30%) of funds received from foreign governments and multilateral agencies are in support of gender-responsive programs and projects.

However, despite all these aspirations reality is different: the GAD budget allocation has not achieved the 5% target since 1995 and has been inappropriately used or interpreted by government agencies and departments. In a number of agencies, there are no effective GAD mechanisms that would ensure that gender budgeting takes place, neither are there incentives or sanctions for preparing, submitting, and properly utilizing gender budgets. The country has still to recognize that women, who comprise 50% of the population, have an equal role in steering the country toward the achievement of gender equality goals.

As per the Magna Carta, the PCW shall initiate, in coordination with concerned agencies and women's groups, the review of existing laws and policies and recommend to Congress and other appropriate bodies the repeal or amendment of discriminatory laws. While substantive gains have been achieved in the Philippine legal framework, some laws still create or reinforce unequal gender relations and biases (see Annex 1 for more details).

One of the five actions identified in the European Union Human rights and democracy country strategy (2021-2024) for the Philippines is 'Eliminating inequalities, fighting discrimination and empowering women and indigenous peoples'. The CLIP priorities and objectives are considered in that framework.

For more information on the situation of the GAPIII CLIP priority areas, see Annex 1 of the CLIP. Since most of the court cases involving women are related to trafficking and gender-based violence, access to justice will mainly be considered in the GBV chapter of the CLIP.

b) Analytical basis used to develop the CLIP

In the Philippines, a EU Gender focal persons group has been set up in 2019 followed by a EU Gender Champion early 2020. The EU GFP group and the EU Gender champion meet once a month to share experiences, information on new campaigns and projects, identify ways to address GEWE issues and agree on common actions and implement them together.

In order to have an overall perspective on the CLIP framework, the EU Gender focal person group met two clusters of key stakeholders: 1) the Philippine Commission on Women (national machinery) and UN agencies (UN Women, UNFPA, WFP); 2) prominent gender institutes (the Miriam College-Women and Gender Institute and the University of the Philippines' Center for Women and Gender Studies). Women organisations and civil society actors have also been met through events and webinars organised in 2020 and 2021 and a broad consultation of local and international civil society actors, including women related CSOs, has been organised by the EU Delegation end of 2020-early 2021. The Gender country profile 2021 is also providing ample information at the macro level (experts, policymakers, and program implementers), meso level (service providers from public and private sectors and sectoral representatives), and micro level (members of community-based organizations, civil society organizations, women-led groups, and faith-based organizations).

In addition to the Gender country profile 2021, other documents have also been consulted, like the draft EU Multiannual indicative programme for the Philippines 2021-2027, the Philippine response to the 4th GSP+ monitoring scorecard conventions on Human Rights, a Gender Analysis of European Union areas of intervention in Mindanao and Helpdesk Function (2021), the Concluding Observations of the 7th and 8th periodic reports the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (July 2016), the Philippine Magna Carta of Women, the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Plan 2019 – 2025, the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2017-2022, the 2021 World Economic Forum Global gender equality index, 2020 UNDP Gender development index and the 2020 UNDP Gender inequality index, a Gender-based violence policy and institutional mapping report (World Bank, 2020), a Gender assessment of the current Marawi situation (Miriam College-Women and Gender Institute, AECID, 2019), among others.

The new EU Multiannual indicative programme (MIP) for the Philippines 2021-2027 is also used as a basis to develop the CLIP. It focuses on two priority areas: Green, resilient economy and Peaceful and just society, good governance.

2. Selected thematic areas of engagement and objectives

a) The overall objectives of EU action for gender equality and women's empowerment

The EU (EUD and EU MS) will use its experience, funds and leverage to help alleviate gaps in gender equality in the Philippines. Different instruments will be used in that regard: gender mainstreaming in the MIP and other instruments/actions, including targeted action to promote gender equality/ending violence against women & girls; support to CSO projects and to women organisations; targeted actions/projects; political dialogue/policy dialogue with Government agencies, CSOs, academe, private sector etc; public diplomacy/visibility campaigns; the 'use' of the Gender champion as an advocate of EU objectives, also in line with the EU Human Rights and democracy country strategy 2021-2024 for the Philippines.

b) The selected "areas of engagement" on gender equality and women's empowerment

The CLIP areas of engagement will be based on the priority areas of the EU MIP 2021-2027 and on the issues identified by the EU Gender focal persons group:

- The MIP priority areas are: 1) Green, resilient economy and 2) Peaceful and just society, good governance. Gender mainstreaming and targeted actions are planned. In the intervention framework, the expected results, the indicators and targets have been identified with a gender lens, with at least sex and age disaggregated data and targets. Overall, the MIP will be particularly attentive to the needs, rights and challenges faced by people living in vulnerable situations, like women, children and youth, indigenous people, **LGBTIQ**, persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons and persons living in conflict affected areas, using a right based approach. Intersectionality of these groups will also be considered, such as women in poverty, women with disabilities, indigenous and Muslim women, women living in geographically inaccessible areas, and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women.
- The EU GFP group will work together, using a right based approach, on the following gender related issues: 1) Gender based violence, including access to justice; 2) Sexual and reproductive health and teenage pregnancy; 3) Participation of women in all spheres of society. These issues are indeed still highly problematic in the Philippines and they have severe negative consequences on women. Participation and leadership are also key in changing mindsets and cultural norms. Violence and discrimination faced by **LGBTIQ**, as a marginalised group in the Philippines, will also be addressed. These issues were highlighted in the consultations with key stakeholders. In addition they have worsened during the COVID 19 pandemic and the lockdown measures. The GFP group considers that it can use its experience and networks in these areas and believe it can make a difference in alleviating them.

Hence the EU in the Philippines will focus on the following GAP III areas of engagement:

- 1- Addressing the challenges and harnessing the opportunities offered by the green transition and the digital transformation (MIP priority 1)
- 2- Integrating the women, peace and security agenda (MIP priority 2)
- 3- Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence (and access to justice) (MIP priority 2, GFP)
- 4- Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (GFP)
- 5- Promoting equal participation and leadership (GFP and MIP)

c) For each area of engagement, the "specific thematic objectives" to pursue through dialogues and actions:

- 1- *Green transition and digital transformation:*
 - a. Increased participation of women and girls in all their diversity in decision-making processes on environment and climate change issues

- b. Women and men in all their diversity, increasingly participate in and have improved access to jobs, entrepreneurship opportunities and alternative livelihoods in the green economy and the circular economy
 - c. Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity participate fully and equally in the digital economy
- 2- *Women, peace and security:*
 - a. Structural obstacles to women's meaningful and equitable participation and to their contributions to all actions related to prevention and resolution of conflicts and in post-conflict public life are addressed.
 - b. Diplomatic and financial measures are used to promote women's leadership and the balanced representation of men and women from diverse backgrounds in all stages of peace processes.
 - c. Adequate, transparent and accessible funding is available for projects and initiatives in relation to WPS, including civil society organisations' work on WPS.
 - d. Institutional mechanisms are established to protect and safeguard women's and girls' rights in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.
- 3- *Freedom from GBV, including access to justice:*
 - a. Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, are better protected from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private
 - b. Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, who experience gender-based violence have increased access to essential services (including justice)
 - c. Women's rights organisations, social movements and other civil society organisations are influential in ending gender-based violence
- 4- *Sexual and reproductive health:* Enabled legal, political and societal environment allowing women and girls to access quality sexual and reproductive health (SRHR) care and services and protecting their sexual and reproductive rights
- 5- *Participation and leadership*
 - a. Enabling conditions created for equal participation of women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, in decision-making
 - b. Equitable social norms, attitudes and behaviours promoting equal participation and leadership fostered at community and individual levels – through civic education, media, education and culture at all levels

d) Potential for synergies, cooperation, partnerships, training and joint implementation with EU Member States and other EU actors

The following actions will be undertaken jointly by the EU GFP group: diplomacy and visibility campaigns, political and policy dialogue with the help of the EU Gender champion and the EU Head of Delegation, and punctual targeted actions.

e) In what way civil society will be included in the design, implementation and monitoring

As per the EU roadmap for engagement with civil society in the Philippines 2021-2024 ('CSO roadmap'), consultations of women organisations and organisations working on women issues have been held and will be held in the framework of the drafting and the regular update of the GAP III CLIP, together with the Government, INGOs, UN agencies, the private sector, academe etc. The EU Delegation will also set up a civil society soundboard/clusters, which will include representatives working on gender equality, for a more structured dialogue with CSOs.

3. Targeted action(s) supporting gender equality and women's empowerment

a) Thematic area(s) of the targeted action(s) and related GAP III thematic objective(s)

1- Support to the Government of the Philippines:

EU MIP priority 1 - Green, resilient economy:

- Cross-cutting gender mainstreaming to maximise the role and capacities of women and youth in the bilateral programmes with the Government, specifically in the development of market-oriented green and digital skills in TVET and education systems, and the creation of new circular jobs. Gender

mainstreaming will be implemented through gender sensitive technical assistance or gender experts as integral part of the project implementation team, gender analysis, participation of women groups in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programme, gender-equal participation in programme's implementation, collection of gender sensitive data when missing, gender and age sensitive indicators.

- Specific programmes addressing the needs of women and empowering them, in the bilateral programmes with the Government, specifically in the development of market-oriented green and digital skills, as well as strengthening women and youth representation in SMEs adopting green and climate-friendly practices in waste management, agriculture, sustainable transport and energy sectors.

EU MIP priority 2 - Peaceful and just society, good governance:

- Cross cutting gender mainstreaming through the presence of a gender expert in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programmes, gender analysis, participation of women groups in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programme, gender-equal participation in programme's implementation, collection of gender sensitive data when missing, gender and age sensitive indicators.
- Specific programmes addressing the needs, including in capacity building, of the people living in vulnerable situations, including women, and empowering them in the bilateral programmes with the Government, specifically in the strengthening of social cohesion in the BARMM for groups living in marginalized and vulnerable situations. In the justice sector, priority 2 will support capacity building of groups living in vulnerable situations to access justice services. Also focusing on fighting violence against women and girls, programmes in priority 2 will work with education authorities, schools and teachers to address gender equality and norm-change, and will support survivors.
- On-going EU Action for a Justice sector reform programme: two of the current programme's expected outputs are 1) Gender ombud functions fully mainstreamed in Commission on Human Rights' programmes, projects, activities, quality management system and performance management system; 2) Increased access to the justice system for vulnerable groups, including women.
- On-going EU programmes implemented in Mindanao: Mindanao Peace and Development Programme (MinPAD RISE), Support to Bangsamoro transition (SUBATRA), Peace and Development-BARMM (PD-BARMM) and CSO projects, Bangsamoro Agri-Entreprise programme (BAEP - about to be signed). The 'Gender Analysis of European Union areas of intervention in Mindanao and Helpdesk Function', funded by the EUD (2021), is reinforcing gender sensitiveness of these programmes, according to their needs, including participation of women in the programmes cycle, identification of women's specific needs and targeted actions, sex-disaggregated data and gender sensitive indicators and an analysis helping conducting a policy and political dialogue in the BARMM. The helpdesk will support the contractors to ensure gender sensitiveness of the programmes.

2- Specific support to national gender machinery, the Philippine Commission on Women:

A specific support to the Philippine Commission on Women will be analysed and considered through the bilateral programmes. Through the on-going EU Action for a Justice sector reform programme, the Gender ombud functions will be fully mainstreamed in the Commission on Human Rights' programmes, projects, activities, quality management system and performance management system

3- Support to women organisations and organisations working on gender equality:

- MIP priority 1 - Green, resilient economy: EU engagement with civil society, including women organisations and CSOs representing people in vulnerable situations, will encompass actions raising awareness among policymakers, businesses, media and citizens to achieve a measurable reduction of plastic production and consumption. Priority 1 will also allow the development of information services, facilitate an effective transfer of knowledge and explore synergies among key target groups, including civil society (including women organisations and CSOs representing people in vulnerable situations). Engagement with civil society will also tackle climate change and the energy transition, through awareness raising actions, policy analysis and the facilitation of a structured dialogue between CSOs

and the Government. Women organisations and CSOs representing people in vulnerable situations will be part of the dialogue.

- MIP priority 2 - Peaceful and just society, good governance: EU engagement with civil society, including women organisations and CSOs representing people in vulnerable situations, will contribute to strengthening civil society participation in decision-making, peace building processes and local governance, more specifically in the exercise of its oversight, service delivery, and advocacy functions. Priority 2 will also support capacity building of CSOs representing groups living in vulnerable situations to access justice services.
- Through specific funding programmes supporting CSO projects, like the EU CSO-LA programme, the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights and EU Member States funding schemes, women organisations and CSO projects aiming at gender equality and women empowerment will be supported. CSOs in general will also be supported in capacity building in gender mainstreaming and gender transformative approach. Specific actions will be considered in the CLIP priorities areas, like support to community and female leaders in gender sensitive transformative leadership; strengthen voters education to intensify focus on GEWE; access to mobile and digital technologies as main channels to inform on SRH and for reaching out to GBV survivors, community peace building etc
- See Table in Annex 2: EU actions in the Philippines towards GEWE

- b) Rationale for the chosen action(s) and expected results – to be completed at a later stage*
- c) Main indicators to measure results (see SWD) if possible - to be completed at a later stage*
- d) Estimated amount and/or other resources for the action(s) - to be completed at a later stage*

f) Collaboration among Member States, Team Europe initiatives and with other development partners

There are two Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) planned on the base of the MIP: one focussing on circular economy/plastics and another on green digital transformation. The TEIs will be particularly attentive to the needs, rights and challenges faced by people living in vulnerable situations, like women, children and youth, indigenous people, **LGBTIQ**, persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons and persons living in conflict affected areas, using a right based approach.

4. Engage in dialogue for gender equality and women empowerment

a) Dialogue with the Philippine Government (at national and local levels):

Much of the political dialogue will need to wait for after the elections in May 2022 since some issues might be too sensitive to be discussed in a pre-electoral period and no legislative changes will take place.

In addition, the COVID 19 pandemic induced lockdowns might reach into 2022: the current adjustments, like online meetings and webinars, will continue and will have to be used in the dialogue on GEWE with the Government.

1- The main engagement frameworks that the EUD and MS will prioritise to engage with the Philippine Government are:

- The Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP+) assessment, including on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (Sub-Committees on Good Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights, on Development Cooperation, on Trade and Investments)
- The ODA-GAD network meetings, chaired by UN Women
- EU GoJust2 programme (Justice Department and Commission on Human Rights) and its successor

- EU programmes in Mindanao and their successor programmes
- New coming EU programmes on Green, resilient economy
- Bilateral dialogues with the Philippine Commission on Women, the Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and their Children and the Inter-Agency Council on Trafficking; the Commission on Human Rights Commissioner in charge of women rights and Gender ombud; sectoral departments heads, like Department of Health; legislators and the Committee on Women and Gender equality at the House of Representatives and the Senate; Local Government Units – the most influential persons in the government who can help with the advocacy and women champions among female policy makers who can help gather all the other around the proposed advocacy will be identified

The GFP group will also explore opportunities of dialogue at ASEAN/regional level with official stakeholders, like the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women (ACWC) or the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).

2- Issues to be addressed are (indicative):

- Upon request of the Philippine Commission on Women and together with them, meet the Committee on Women and Gender equality at the House of Representatives (Chairperson Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alb) and the Senate in order to lobby for the priorities listed in the women legislative agenda, disseminate the results of PCW studies, as well as lobbying for the implementation of the Handbook on 'How to be a gender responsive legislator' issued by the PCW and House of Representatives (2nd edition, March 2021)
- To what extent programmes alleviating poverty and supporting the marginalised have been drafted taking into consideration the "Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines" and the "Handbook on the Application of the enhanced gender mainstreaming evaluation framework"
- Update on the Unity Bill on gender responsive COVID 19 response, tackling GBV, SRHR, political participation (PCW representation in IATF and meaningful participation of women in all pandemic-related policy-making and programming) access to justice, monitoring, etc
- On justice and GBV: integrate GBV and its related issues in development planning at the local and national level; ensure that services for survivors of GBV are maintained including a continuum of adequate criminal justice response and minimum essential services, including functional shelters, particularly hampered during the pandemic; in schools, prevention on GBV and effectively investigate and prosecute cases of sexual violence and harassment against girls and adequately punish perpetrators; update on the IACVAWC's VAW Data Harmonization project; update on the implementation of the Republic Act No. 11313 "Safe Spaces Act"; information and figures on trafficking of women; harmonise GBV databases among DSWD, PCW, PNP and hospitals (need unique identifiers)
- On SRHR: fully implement the RPRH Law and other health policies and plans; ensure timely and effective delivery of SRHR especially to the youth and the marginalised sectors, and during the lockdowns; ensure the full implementation of Comprehensive Sexuality Education in schools as decreed in the RPRH Law; update on the implementation of social protection programs for teenage mothers provided by the RPRH Law; update on the implementation of the component of the RPRH law mandating the Government to provide medical, legal and other services for teenage mothers who were victims of sexual abuse or violence; update on the implementation of the Government's Adolescent Health and Development component of the Philippine Population Management Program; information on how the Government is implementing the Administrative order No. 2018-003 National Policy on the Prevention of Illegal and Unsafe Abortion and Management of Post-Abortion Complications' (Department of Health)
- On participation, including in peace building framework (WPS-Mindanao): ensure diversity in the representation of women in legislative, administrative and judicial bodies, at the national, local and community levels, including Muslim women, indigenous women and women with disabilities (like in the codification and interpretation of religious norms or customs on marriage and family relations); improve enabling environment for women to vote, campaign, hold political office and speak out on behalf of their constituents, supported by a changing culture that values women's participation; ensure accessible and user-friendly navigation in digitalization of government services for marginalised groups

- With LGUs: addressing policy gaps through legislating local ordinances on GBV issues that have yet to be institutionalised through a national law; assess the functionality and effectiveness of VAWC desks and women and children protection desks at police stations; ensure women's representation in development councils and other local decision making bodies; mobilise local officials in advocating for better representation of women in politics; encourage to produce a gender analysis and sex disaggregated data
- With the justice department: improve awareness by the public and justice system actors of women's rights and laws related to GBV; establish gender-sensitive, child-friendly and accessible public assistance desks and interview rooms in prosecution offices; address sexism and inequalities in the justice sector, with harassment of women by policemen, sexist language in justice courts and gender unbalance in Court decisions

b) Dialogue with civil society:

1- The main engagement frameworks that the EUD and MS will prioritise to engage with the civil society sector are:

- As per the CSO roadmap 2021-2024, consultations of women organisations and organisations working on women issues will be held in the framework of the regular update of the CLIP, together with the Government, INGOs, UN agencies, the private sector, academe etc.
- As per the CSO roadmap 2021-2024, regular consultation of a soundboard/clusters of CSOs and networks, including youth, women, grassroot organisations, South East Asia focused organisations, per sector (MIP priorities and HR/gender/governance/people living in vulnerable situations) will be held on civil society environment/advocacy, ground work, strategy and improved EU collaboration/support
- Meetings of the EU Human rights group and Human rights and democracy country strategy consultation
- Bilateral meetings with CSOs including grass root organisations and networks, women organisations, LGBTIQ organisations, academe, private sector, the catholic education association of the Philippines and faith based organisations, trade unions, INGOs, the Church, etc, as well as UN agencies (UN Women, UNFPA on sexual and reproductive health, UNICEF) - experts will be identified to join the EU advocacy
- Meetings with CSOs supported by EUD or EU MS funds
- Meetings with ASEAN/regional level organisations, like ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)

2- Issues to be addressed are (indicative):

- With the private sector: creation of sustainable organizational structures and policies for a safe work environment, respect for diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and the implementation of skills and competency-based pay structures
 - With CSOs: updates on the CLIP priority issues; ways to strengthening and expanding the network of men opposed to violence against women, and men involved in reproductive health and shared parenting responsibilities; ways to best consider the concerns and needs of women and their intersectional identities; ways to increase participation of women, including marginalised groups and LGBTIQ, into the decision making process at national and local levels; ways to encourage women leaders to run for office and to strengthen democratic spaces for leadership, advocacy and mentorship; adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights; measures for teenage mothers and GBV survivors; strengthening women's participation in the HIV/AIDS advocacy; reduction of plastic production and consumption; access to justice services; peace building processes; digitalisation and media consumption; culture as a venue for transforming prevailing harmful norms, etc
- A meeting with a few CSOs will be organised by end of 2021 on the CLIP priorities to find a common ground on issues to focus on and fine tune EU interventions and support.

5. Outreach and other communication / public diplomacy activities

- Partnership with LGUs, local organisations, CSOs, academe, in the organisation of outreach activities, like awareness raising on GBV, on men's involvement and participation in family planning, on promoting help-seeking behaviour for women victim of violence primarily through messages that address 'victim blaming', on teenage pregnancy, etc
- Partnership with the PCW for the 18 days campaign to end VAW in November-December and specific support at local level, in specific sectors
- Participation in ASEAN based activities – in a later stage
- Other public diplomacy activities in partnership with gender champions at Government and civil society levels: to be determined with them during consultation and meetings
- The main findings of the gender country analysis will be communicated through media and EUD and EU MS social platforms
- The results and impact of GAP III's implementation (CLIP) will be shared through outreach activities

6. Technical Facility and/or financial resources allocated to support GAP III implementation

- The Support measures 2017-2019 in favour of Asia and Central Asia (2019) are funding the 'Gender Analysis of European Union areas of intervention in Mindanao and Helpdesk Function' to fully ensure gender sensitiveness in the start-up phase of the EU programmes implemented in Mindanao
- The Support measures 2020 in favour of Asia and Central Asia are funding the Gender country profile for the Philippines 2021
- A specific allocation will be earmarked for the recruitment of gender experts in the design, implementation and monitoring of the programmes of EU MIP's two priorities
- Specific funding schemes provided by EU Member States for public diplomacy events related to gender equality and women empowerment

Annex 2 of the CLIP (EU interventions on GEWE in the Philippines) will be updated twice a year (in January and June). The CLIP will be discussed and eventually updated in January every year when the new EU Gender champion is appointed in order to gain from her or his inputs and be consistent with the country evolving reality for women. The EU Gender Champion will have the opportunity to identify topics and interventions to push forward within the CLIP priorities, in agreement with the EU Head of Delegation.

Annex 1: Context for EU action gender equality and women's empowerment in the country: focus on CLIP priority areas

Annex 2: EU (EUD and EU MS) interventions on GEWE in the Philippines – 2021

Date: **20 AUG 2021**

Signature by Head of Delegation:



