

BUDGET INFORMATION	
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line (article, item): BGUE-B2021-14.020120-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 10 000 00 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 10 000 000
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Grants - Procurement Indirect management with the World Health Organisation (WHO)

1.2. Summary of the Action

<p>The proposed action intends to ensure increased and better access to quality Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) in Guinea Bissau.</p> <p>The intervention aims at consolidating the process, started in 2013 with the PIMI I¹ programme (2013-2016), implemented in some regions, and subsequently extended to the whole country with PIMI II (2017-2021). This third phase (PIMI III) intends to take advantage of the relatively stable political scenario where the Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP) is showing renewed commitment and engagement in fighting corruption and improving the sound management of the health sector, with the support of the Ministry of Finance (MINFIN).</p> <p>In particular, the action seeks to: i) consolidate the achievements of the previous programmes, PIMI I and II, which contributed to a reduction in maternal and infant mortality through better access to quality RMNCH in Guinea Bissau, ii) promote the gradual transfer of responsibility to MINSAP, iii) lay the foundations for a Universal Health Coverage (UHC), to ensure increased coverage of good-quality essential health services without experiencing financial hardship.</p> <p>The action will contribute to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, underpinned by at least 4 targets (3.1: maternal mortality, 3.2: neonatal mortality, 3.7: sexual and reproductive health care, and 3.8: UHC). It contributes also to SDG 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger) and 5 (Gender equality).</p>
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2. RATIONALE

2.1 Context

<p>Despite a democratic and constitutional framework, Guinea-Bissau's history has been marked by recurrent political and institutional instability, which have hampered the impact of internal and external investments towards sustainable socio-economic growth and inclusive human development.</p> <p>Notwithstanding its undeniable wealth and potential in terms of vibrant youth and natural resources, Guinea-Bissau still faces significant challenges to create employment and generate better revenues for its population. The country suffers from high levels of poverty, inequality, a strong climate vulnerability, ethno-religious and resources related tensions. Guinea-Bissau also faces serious governance challenges with weak government institutions, lack of domestic resource mobilisation and provision of public services in large parts of the territory.</p> <p>The recent report from UNICEF on Children's Climate Risk Index, ranking countries based on how vulnerable children are to environmental stresses and extreme weather events, finds children in Guinea-Bissau among the most at risk.</p> <p>Covid-19 had a significant impact on the economy of Guinea-Bissau, which went from a growth of 4.5% in 2019 to a negative one of -2.4% in 2020. It has disrupted economic activity and led to a deterioration in the country's public finances as a result of the lower external demand for cashew nuts and of the impact of the domestic lockdown measures on consumption and investment. Guinea-Bissau's risk of external debt distress has deteriorated, with debt indicators having significantly worsened on the back of higher fiscal deficits, increased borrowing for investment</p>

¹ Programme intégré pour la réduction de la mortalité maternelle et infantile.