

	(methodology for marker and tagging under development)			
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): BGUE-B2022-14.020122-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 5 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 5 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.1.			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The European Union's cooperation strategy with Botswana, the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027, focuses on two priority areas: (1) green transition and (2) economic diversification and jobs. Under the second priority area, EU cooperation aims to facilitate Botswana diversify its economy, currently too reliant on one single sector. For that purpose, Botswana has adopted a digital transformation strategy (SmartBots). The implementation of the interventions outlined in this Action Document will help realise the GoB ambition to transform the public sector and its economy, in ways that supports diversification, economic growth and the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan (ERTP) strategic initiatives. The specific objectives of the Action are to strengthen the legal, regulatory, institutional and governance frameworks for open and people-centred digital transition; to improve the digitalisation and accessibility of the Public Service; and to strengthen digital innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems.

The activities will address six core areas of Botswana's digital ecosystem and help:

1. Strengthen the governance and intergovernmental coordination, cooperation and collaboration
2. Improve the legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for data, cybersecurity and e-commerce frameworks.
3. Improve the service provision (backoffice) and service delivery (frontoffice) ecosystem and facilitate the development and roll-out of online services in an inclusive way.
4. Strengthen the digital skills and capacities of the GoB, that digital innovation and entrepreneurship is promoted and that digital literacy is enhanced, including for women.
5. Support the improved connectivity and affordability of internet.
6. Support the economic diversification and job creation through capacity development for digital innovation and entrepreneurship in particular for women and youth.

The support to the digital transformation of Botswana is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly SDG 9 and SDG 16 as well as the Mid Term of National Development Plan 11 (2017-2023) and the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan of Botswana. Preparation of NDP12 is currently ongoing and should be completed by March 2023 to allow for implementation in April 2023.. It also contributes to advancing the objectives of the EU Gender Action Plan III and the National Policy on Gender and Development, which adopted gender mainstreaming as a core strategy for sustainable development¹.

¹ https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/BWA/INT_CEDAW_STA_BWA_34126_E.docx