

13. Type of financing ¹	<p>Direct management through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budget Support: Sector Reform Performance Contract - Procurement <p>Indirect management with the Swedish International Development Agency.</p>
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1.2 Summary of the Action

Bolivia is home to very significant biodiversity and primary forests, but unsustainable development practices, coupled with climate change, have been eroding them. While Bolivia is the 10th most vulnerable country worldwide to climate change according to the 2021 Global Climate Risk Index (GermanWatch), national response capacities are insufficient. The environmental performance index places Bolivia at 88th out of 180 countries, well below the regional average in environmental health.

In this context, the Action aims to contribute to environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable economic development in Bolivia (overall objective). This will be achieved through three specific objectives:

1. Improved and inclusive conservation, restoration and sustainable management and use of forests and biodiversity, within and outside protected areas – including prevention of forest fires and implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation efforts;
2. Improved integrated water resources management and resilience to water-related natural disasters as a climate change adaptation measure;
3. Strengthened environmental governance, access to justice, and rights protection for men and women, and indigenous peoples, according to their differentiated needs and roles.

The mentioned objectives will be achieved through a mix of implementation modalities and implementing partners. On one hand, the Action includes a prolongation of the ongoing Sector Reform Performance Contract (SPRC, ending in 2022) in support of the national policies on River Basins and Forest and Ecosystems Management and its related technical assistance. Encouraging renewed support to national policies and institutions is based not only on the good results in previous years (over 90% of the budget support targets were achieved), but also on the proven capacity of the EUD to influence sector policy development while maintaining a crucial dialogue around some of the main EU interests (climate change, deforestation, forest fires, forest degradation in the Amazon, upholding of indigenous rights). Besides partnerships with national authorities, the Action will also give continuity to relevant work (previously funded through ENV and EIDHR budget lines) with civil society organizations (CSOs) through indirect management with a pillar-assessed entity. Activities under this component will cover community-based forestry; inclusive and participatory biodiversity conservation and sustainable management; fight against forest fires; environmental rights with a focus on indigenous people.

The Action will mainly contribute to the MIP 2021-27 – Priority Area 1 “Environment protection, climate change and inclusive economic development”, and also to Priority Area 2 “Governance and Human Rights”. It will also contribute to the Joint European Strategy 2022-25 – Strategic Objective 1 “To impulse green and sustainable development to live well in harmony with Mother Earth”, the Team Europe Initiative “Green and Resilient Development”, the Human Rights and Democracy Country Strategy for Bolivia 2021-2024 and the implementation of the Bolivia Roadmap for Engagement of Civil Society at national level. At regional level, it foresees important synergies with regional initiatives and priorities such as the Amazon Basin TEI (including actions on deforestation monitoring, forest fires combat, indigenous peoples’ governance and rights), Euroclima+, AL Invest Verde, and the environmental LAC Forum. At European level, the action will contribute to the Commission’s priorities of the European Green Deal and Promoting our European Way of Life, EU commitment to targeting at least 35% of its external assistance to climate change, the Global Gateway’s climate investment priority, the Gender Action Plan III, and the European Consensus for Development. In addition, the action will also contribute to an increased awareness and participation of Bolivian research and innovation circles in the Horizon Europe research and Innovation programmes. Moreover, building on previous and existing EU and MS activities, it will place Team Europe as the reference partner for a green transition in the country. Finally, at the global level, the Action will contribute to the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 15 (life on land) and 13 (climate action), but also SDG 1 (no

¹ Art. 27 NDICI