

	education and research			
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s): BGUE-B2023-14.020131-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 15 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 10 000 000 This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: - the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.1 for an amount of 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 4.4.1			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The construction sector in Bangladesh is booming, given the increasing population, rapid urbanization and industrialization along with the country's growing economy. The sector is currently dominated by traditional brick manufacturing of fired clay bricks and traditional brick kilns: an industry which despite its output (35 billion bricks per year) is still mostly artisanal and informal.

The traditional brick production is one of the biggest sources of greenhouse gas emission (approx. 8.75M tonnes annually) and consumes approximately 2.2M tonnes of coal and 1.9M tonnes of firewood. It is widely responsible for land degradation and depletion of natural resources. This goes along with poor social conditions and non-observance of workers' occupational health and safety standards.

A transition towards more sustainable production faces the challenge of: a high level of informality of the sector, traditional kilns undercutting real market prices through unsustainable practices, little (or no) access to finance for brick manufacturers, very low knowledge of, and incentives for alternative – non-fired bricks, and the absence of product standards for alternative bricks.

The Action will tackle the above challenges through a holistic sector ecosystem approach which includes the introduction of clean technologies (SDG 9), less resource intensive production (SDG 12), while safeguarding social standards and decent work (SDG 8), ultimately resulting in reduced greenhouse gas emissions and environmental degradation (SDG 13).

The Action directly contributes to Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) Priority Area 2 'Green Inclusive Development', and it has as its Overall Objective to reduce carbon emissions and environmental impacts and mitigate climate change while promoting better social and health conditions for male and female workers and communities related to the brick sector in Bangladesh and to reduce inequalities amongst vulnerable groups.

This will be achieved along the lines of three outcomes: Firstly, improved energy efficiency and compliance with new/updated national standards for green bricks and blocks manufacturing. Secondly, improved market and investment conditions for climate friendly non-fired, energy efficient bricks and alternative bricks. Lastly, improved labour conditions for male and female workers, effectively integrating a gender and human rights based approach and reduced inequalities for the identified vulnerable groups.