

	The contribution is for an amount of EUR 6 651 867 from the general budget of the European Union for 2023 and for an amount of EUR 7 548 133 from the general budget of the European Union for 2024, subject to the availability of appropriations for the respective financial years following the adoption of the relevant annual budget, or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Support Sector Reform Performance Contract Procurement

1.2. Summary of the Action

The Aruba Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for 2021-2027³ on digitalisation/e-government will be implemented through one single Action of EUR 14 200 000 with the OCT Aruba (with EUR 14 000 000 earmarked for budget support⁴ and EUR 200 000 for complementary support) over the period 2024-2027. The implementation will be carried out by the Government of Aruba, in particular the Department of Innovation (DVI), which was established in 2022 and is operational under the Ministry of General Affairs, supported by inter-departmental working groups as needed.

By identifying digitalisation/e-government as the main priority area, the Action is fully in line with the framework of cooperation established by the Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland (DOAG).⁵ It will also contribute to the Global Gateway investment priority on digital, making the EU an exclusive partner of Aruba for the deployment of its digital ecosystem. The Action is also in line with the EU's 2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade's objectives, in which sustainable development via digital interventions is a major component. Digitalisation is also contributing to the implementation of the Green Deal, notably to achieve climate-neutrality and to enhance the circular economy pathway.

The Action intends to support Aruba's digital transition by introducing digital technologies into the work processes of government, by ensuring accessible digital public services and by developing new businesses. This will be achieved by (i) the further design of the e-government system (e.g. enhancement of legal and regulatory framework, digitalisation of key services with respect to all eGovernance blocks and especially the interoperability measures⁶), (ii) secured access (e.g. robust data privacy and data sharing, cybersecurity model) and (iii) new economic opportunities (e.g. procurement model, enabling financial environment).

The complementary support will be used to reinforce the limited administrative capacity of Aruba and explore the potential of InvestEU.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context

2.1.1 General context

Aruba is one of the four constituent countries of the Kingdom of the Netherlands together with the Netherlands, Curaçao, and Sint Maarten and is located in the Caribbean region. As head of state of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, King Willem-Alexander is represented by a Governor. Aruba has its own government and parliament.

³ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/document/0e46e9d5-65f4-495f-9709-2987694834c9_en?filename=mip-2021-c2021-9164-oct-annex-5-aruba_en.pdf

⁴ Aruba opted for budget support for the 10th EDF and for project management for the 11th EDF.

⁵ [Council Decision \(EU\) 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021 on the Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Union including relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other](#) (OJ of 7.10.2021 ; L355,6).

⁶ A Connexion interoperability platform pilot project for secure data-sharing will be modelled after learning experiences from others (notably from one EU MS with strong expertise on digitalisation) and adapted where required (and possible) to Aruba's needs. This platform is referred to as "Conexion" (connection in Papiamentu).