

	digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	/
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	education and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	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) (article, item): BGUE-B-2023-14.020130-C1-INTPA Total estimated cost: EUR 19 880 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 19 880 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing¹	Direct management through Procurement Indirect management with a Member State Organisation to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.2			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The proposed Action aims to promote a green transition in the cotton value chain of Tajikistan by supporting both certified sustainable production in cotton-based farm systems and the processing into high-quality cotton for new export markets and creating opportunities for domestic private sector development in the sector. The Action will specifically support the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) and the EU organic cotton production standard with the aim of bringing together several fundamental aspects for the development of the country.

The Action will increase competitiveness of the cotton value chain by developing inclusive value chains for cotton through upscaling of safer, efficient and climate-smart cultivation techniques in cotton-based farm systems, by exploiting market niches for sustainably sourced certified cotton and alternative crops, and by strengthening cotton-producing membership organisations and their cooperation with local and international buyers.

The Action will underpin capacity-development and gender-sensitive approaches by supporting political, safety, security and economic governance and developing human capital with the aim of bringing more equity between men and women and unleash the huge potential for economic contribution of women to society. Technical Assistance will be provided to the beneficiary ministries and relevant agencies to improve policy development as well as support sectoral coordination and exchange between ministries and different levels of administration.

The Action will systematically promote sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, by adopting specific measures concerning plant protection, soil, water and biodiversity management within a landscape approach. The Action will promote digital tools for advisory services, land management, or marketing. Specific measures will include integrated /biological pest management, the rational use of fertiliser, efficient irrigation techniques, erosion control, and other measures. The Action will thus make a direct contribution to climate change adaption. Based on a climate risk assessment, the Action will support participatory climate-sensitive land use planning on local, regional and national level that addresses both productivity and income and food security aspects. This is crucial for long-term resource conservation, adaptation to climate change and for improving productivity and livelihoods of farming communities. Crop rotation and diversification will reduce dependencies on the cotton crop, completing farm income and facilitating access to affordable food crops.

¹ Art. 27 NDICI