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| | energy transport health education and research | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Migration @ ¹ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Reduction of Inequalities ² @ | <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): 14.020130 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 Overall Objective of this action is to strengthen the protection of human rights, to enhance the combat against gender-based violence, and to contribute to the empowerment of youth organisations in the Kyrgyz Republic. For this reason, the action has three sub-components aiming at having an impact on human rights, gender-based violence and youth empowerment respectively. The action supports the broad aims of the EU Road Map for Engagement with Civil Society (2021-2027) in the Kyrgyz Republic, the EU Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in External Relations 2020–2025 (GAP-III), the Youth Action Plan (YAP) for EU External Action 2022-2027 as well as the Global Gateway geopolitical priorities. The action will follow on from the work done in the Spotlight Initiative bilateral programme for the Kyrgyz Republic 2020-2023 fighting violence against women and girls. Synergies and coordination will be ensured with the the Global Gateway regional Team Europe Initiatives on Digital Connectivity in Central Asia and the Team Europe Initiative on Water, Energy and Climate Change. The Action is complementary to the Water Sector Reform Contract as it supports Youth, Women and Civil Society to protect their rights and to ensure a more participatory engagement on policies and reforms affecting their role in life.

Kyrgyzstan faces a range of human rights issues, including torture, inadequate detention conditions, fair trial concerns, discrimination, and increasing restrictions on civic space. The National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) against torture (the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture of the Kyrgyz Republic - NCPT) and the Ombudsperson Institute (Akyikatchy) of the Kyrgyz Republic, have key roles in protecting human rights in Kyrgyzstan. While widely considered an effective NPM, the NCPT still experiences certain shortcomings in its institutional capacity and resources, including human and financial, to advocate for the implementation of its recommendations and perform some of its intended tasks, as foreseen by the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture (OPCAT). The Ombudsperson Institute faces capacity, budgetary and resource-related constraints, along with institutional weaknesses also resulting from gaps in the legal framework that is not fully compliant with the Paris Principles. Targeted support for both institutions, focusing in particular on their

¹ Guidance note available in [ARES](#).

² For more information, please consult: The European Commission inequality marker - Publications Office of the EU ([europa.eu](#)) and Inequality Marker – Complementary Guidelines Application of the I-Marker to SSC fiches and Action Documents | Capacity4dev ([europa.eu](#))