

report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) and the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

The EU Delegation will be responsible for the overall monitoring of the action and the achievement of the specific objectives. Each specific commitment under the action will include specific monitoring arrangements that will be agreed with each partner for each Contribution Agreement.

Each action under the decision will include resources for baseline surveys that will be conducted at the start of each action. A final evaluation of the action will review the appropriateness of the logical framework and the monitoring arrangements of each action.

5.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, mid-term and final evaluations will be carried out for this action or its components via an implementing partner.

Evaluations will be carried out for problem solving, learning purposes, in particular with respect to digital connectivity, skills and entrepreneurship, to draw lessons learnt for new actions under MIP 2021-2027.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

5.3 Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

The 2021-2027 programming cycle will adopt a new approach to pooling, programming and deploying strategic communication and public diplomacy resources.