

creates opportunities for EU businesses to engage with Indian stakeholders, including the civil society, on key sustainable development imperatives including nature, climate action and equity.

**(b) Type of applicants targeted**

Not-for-profit organisation / think tank. Experience in working with public authorities, promoting alignment of EU interests, policies and values in partner countries, expertise in providing advisory services, capacity building and/or technical assistance to public and private sector, knowledge of the Indian context, capacity to work in partnership with key bodies of the Indian Government relevant to the targeted sectors and to facilitate SDG-related policy dialogues.

**(c) Justification of a direct grant**

The justification for a direct award to CRB comes under the scope of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation (2018/1046), i.e. “for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers, on condition that the activities concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals”. CRB has been engaged with the development of relevant national policy and regulatory frameworks on sustainable business (e.g. National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct (NGRBC), issued by the Indian Ministry of Corporate Affairs), while it also possesses expert understanding of sustainability initiatives of EU Member States in India, and expertise in providing advisory services, capacity building, research and technical assistance to the public and private sectors.

**4.3.3 Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)**

**Indirect Management with a pillar assessed entity**

In case a part or an entire action cannot be implemented via the procurement envisaged in section 4.3.1 due to circumstances outside of the European Commission’s control, the alternative implementation modality will be indirect management with one or more entities, which will be selected by the Commission’s services using the following criteria:

- experience in working with public authorities;
- experience in promoting alignment of EU interests, policies and values in partner countries;
- expertise in providing advisory services, capacity building and/or technical assistance to public and private sector;
- knowledge of the Indian context;
- capacity to work in partnership with key bodies of the Indian Government relevant to the targeted sectors and to facilitate SDG-related policy dialogues.

The implementation by this/these entity/ies would entail implementing all or part of the indicative activities listed in section 3.2 and contributing to achieving the corresponding objectives/results 1, 2 and 3 listed in section 3.1

**4.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants**

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission’s authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).