

- Proven experience in implementing EU-funded projects and programmes in Africa.
- In-house operational capacity to implement the foreseen activities in the area of trade and investment facilitation; including extensive in-house technical expertise and capacity to provide capacity building for public institutions and private entities.
- Existing connections and relationships with the stakeholders identified in Section 2.2; i.e. national public institutions and agencies including business support organizations (BSOs) as well as business and sector associations (private sector - Uganda) and MSME.
- Ability to implement the selected activities transparently and in absence of conflict of interest.

The implementation by this entity entails the implementation of the following outputs and the corresponding indicative activities: Output 1 – Strengthened policy framework and public and private stakeholders' capacities for enhanced trade competitiveness; Output 2 – Improved investment framework and opportunities; Output 3 – Enhanced trade facilitation framework and tools; Output 4 – Strengthened quality compliance and standards in selected value chains; Output 5 – Strengthened e-commerce ecosystem and stakeholders.

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

In case the preferred modalities cannot be implemented due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control:

- For the implementation of the outputs 1 to 5, and the corresponding indicative activities, as described in section 4.4.2, the Commission would revert to direct management (procurement).

For the implementation of the output 6, and the corresponding indicative activities, as described in section 4.4.1, the Commission would revert to indirect management with an entrusted entity to be selected using the following criteria:

- Specific expertise and proven experience in implementing trade and investment promotion actions.
- Proven experience in implementing EU-funded projects and programmes in Africa.
- Operational capacity to implement the foreseen activities under output 6.
- Ability to implement the selected activities transparently and in absence of conflict of interest.

4.5. 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 subject to the following provisions.

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).