

4.4.5 Changes from indirect to direct management mode (and vice versa) due to exceptional circumstances

If due to exceptional circumstances, implementation in direct management under 4.4.1 can no longer be envisaged, the foreseen activities can instead be implemented in indirect management with an entrusted entity. This implementation entails the activities foreseen to achieve the general objective as well as all the specific objectives foreseen in this action.

The entrusted entity should be selected using the following criteria:

- Proven capacity and expertise in digital transformation processes, implementation of digital governance systems, experience in interoperability processes;
- Proven expertise and experience in cooperation projects in the areas of security, justice and social policy;
- Expertise and experience in digital cooperation projects in Latin American countries;
- Pillar assessed entity with proven technical, administrative and financial capacities in the Latin American countries;
- Capacity to channel funding to civil society, academia and non-profit organisations;

This entrusted entity should be selected in accordance with the Team Europe Initiative “EU-LAC Digital Alliance”, since the latter seeks to establish a political cooperation framework for digital engagement between the two continents.

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).

4.6 Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Grants: (direct management) cf. section 4.4.1	5,200,000
Totals	5,200,000

4.7 Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

The European Union and MINTEL will establish a programme Steering Committee to provide the political steer of the Action, which will meet at least once per year. It will be composed of the European Union Head of Delegation, the Minister on Telecommunications and Information Society, who will act as Chair of the Committee, and high level representatives of the direct beneficiaries, as well as other relevant institutions.

In addition, a programme Technical Committee will ensure the day-to-day running of the operation, and will meet at least three times per year. It will be composed by the European Union programme officer in charge and technical responsables of all direct beneficiaries with the responsible Directors of MINTEL and DINARP acting as co-chair