

4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is envisaged to sign a Financing Agreement between the EU and Paraguay.

4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 48 months from the date of entry into force of the Financing Agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

4.3 Implementation modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures¹⁹.

4.3.1 Direct Management (Grants)

4.3.1.1 Direct Management (Grants) - Specific Objective 2

Grants: (direct management)

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The objective of the grant is to involve the representative Paraguayan agroindustrial producers associations in the implementation of Specific Objective 2 ("To implement and strengthen socio-environmental traceability systems to support traceable and sustainable agricultural, forestry and agro-industrial exports") to increase the impact and sustainability of the proposed activities. Activities to be covered: 2.1.2, 2.1.4 and 2.1.5.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

The target organisation for this activity will be a recognised agroindustrial production association (guild) or foundation, established in Paraguay, with territorial coverage in most of the country, recognised by the private sector as a legitimate representative in the national roundtables and by the government as a legitimate representative of the sector's interests. The applicant will have specific experience in socio-environmental traceability programs and systems in Paraguay and in collaborations with competent institutions in the development and implementation of these systems.

(c) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to a lead applicant and co-beneficiaries in accordance with Article 195 of the Financial Regulation, case f: 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".

¹⁹ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.