

Brussels, 26 March 2025
(OR. en)

7488/25

Interinstitutional File:
2025/0066(NLE)

RECH 124
ASIE 10

PROPOSAL

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	26 March 2025
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2025) 128 final
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India

Delegations will find attached document COM(2025) 128 final.

Encl.: COM(2025) 128 final



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 26.3.2025
COM(2025) 128 final

2025/0066 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

**on the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between
the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

• Reasons for and objectives of the proposal

The 'Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India'¹ ('the Agreement') was signed in New Delhi on 23 November 2001 and entered into force on 14 October 2002. Article 11(b) provides that 'This Agreement shall be concluded for an initial period of five years and may be renewed by mutual agreement between the Parties after evaluation during the last year of the aforementioned period'. To date the Agreement has been renewed three times: in 2009², in 2015³ and in 2020⁴ for additional periods of 5 years each time.

The current Agreement is due to expire on 17 May 2025.

The Evaluation of the EU-India Science and Technology Agreement carried out by the Commission, published on 25 February 2025⁵, clearly demonstrates that the Agreement continues to provide a crucial framework for facilitating cooperation between the EU and India in common science and technology (S&T) priority areas, resulting in mutual benefits. This is demonstrated by the three flagship joint calls focused on Water, Influenza Vaccine, and Integrated Local Energy Systems (Smart Grids) that led to 12 joint projects with a total funding of EUR 98 million under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. These projects involve 220 research entities from Europe and India, showcasing promising results and delivering innovative, sustainable, and affordable technologies.

A co-funding mechanism was established with three Indian ministries/departments (Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Earth Science), assuring funding to Indian entities successfully participating in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. Since 2020, the Indian Government has earmarked around 15 calls falling within the scope of Horizon Europe Pillar II 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness' for co-funding, receiving over 50 proposals, with 10 successful proposals co-funded in areas such as AI, polar research, environment, and health.

In November 2020, the second Implementing Arrangement between the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the European Commission was signed to facilitate the mobility of Indian researchers to European Research Council (ERC) grantee teams in the field of social science and humanities. Additionally, in August 2024 the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) decided to set up a co-funding mechanism to support Indian entities successful in the MSCA-Staff Exchange scheme. Its objective will be to incentivise the participation of Indian organisations in MSCA and to set-up partnerships for

¹ Council Decision 2002/648/EC (OJ L 213, 9.8.2002, p. 29–29, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2002/648/oj>).

² Council Decision 2009/501/EC (OJ L 171, 01.07.2009, p. 17, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2009/501/oj>).

³ Council Decision 2015/1788/EU (OJ L 260, 07.10.2015, p. 18, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2015/1788/oj>).

⁴ Council Decision 2020/789/EC (OJ L 193, 09.06.2020, p. 3, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/789/oj>).

⁵ [Evaluation of the EU-India science and technology agreement - Publications Office of the EU](#)

staff exchanges, as a stepping-stone for the identification of more ambitious and strategic R&I partnerships between EU and Indian stakeholders.

An innovation platform, the Horizon 2020 project INNOCENTER was implemented between 2021 and 2023, resulting in 100 EU companies benefiting, with 63 undergoing market validation and 13 establishing a local presence in India. The initiative supported more than 160 startups, facilitated more than 320 EU-India business matches, and helped 13 European companies successfully enter the Indian market.

The cooperation under the S&T Agreement continues to develop also under the EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC) launched in 2023. One of the three Working Groups established under the TTC focuses on the development of Green and Clean Energy Technologies. Under the scope of this Working Group 2, three coordinated calls with India on marine plastic litter, battery recycling, and waste-to-hydrogen are in preparation. The European Commission is committed to invest €30 million in these calls, with India expected to match the amount. In addition, in 2024 the EU and India joined forces to promote collaboration between start-ups on recycling of e-vehicles batteries and launched a similar initiative to promote solutions for marine plastic litter.

It is in the interest of the EU to renew the Agreement to continue engaging in scientific and technological cooperation in areas of mutual interest and leading to technological advances benefitting the EU scientific community and to increase market access to India through joint cooperation. This cooperation also addresses global challenges such as climate change, health pandemics, and sustainable development. By leveraging complementary strengths, it fosters technological advancements, drives economic growth, and enhances competitiveness. Joint cooperation benefits the European scientific and business community, increases market access to India, and supports innovation ecosystems. This collaboration contributes to the overall well-being of societies in both regions through shared research initiatives and funding opportunities.

The Agreement is instrumental to understand each other's scientific and innovation landscape and establish together priority areas of mutual interest on international cooperation in research and innovation. It offers a legal and administrative framework in which the modalities of cooperation can be discussed ensuring a sound and fair allocation of research and innovation funding in areas that are in line with the EU's interests and policies and can be adapted and adjusted to India's interests and needs.

The Agreement also offers a useful forum to assess past cooperation and determine future actions, including on topics making the cooperation effective such as through the implementation of Open access and Open Innovation principles.

At the last India – EU Joint Steering Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, meeting, established by Article 6 of the Agreement, held in Brussels on 25 September 2024, both Parties expressed their intention to renew the Agreement for another five-year period (2025-2030) in line with its Article 11(b) and following the above-mentioned evaluation carried out by the Commission. Both parties also confirmed that they would initiate their respective internal procedures to conclude the renewal before the expiry of the current Agreement in May 2025.

The substance of the renewed Agreement will be identical to that of the current Agreement, as discussed and agreed with the Indian counterparts. It will not create new rights and

obligations for the EU, but instead it will extend in time the existing framework between the Parties under the Agreement.

- **Consistency with existing policy provisions in the policy area**

This initiative is fully in line with the EU's international cooperation strategy for R&I⁶. The EU's strategy clearly states the importance of science and technology agreements as vehicles for defining and implementing multiannual roadmaps for cooperation with non-EU countries. The Agreement is also a means of implementing the EU's international cooperation strategy for R&I, which calls for more internationalisation and openness in the EU's R&I landscape. The Agreement is also in line with the aim of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC)⁷ as a high-level coordination platform allowing the EU and India to tackle strategic challenges at the nexus of trade, trusted technology and security, and to deepen their bilateral relationship.

- **Consistency with other Union policies**

The Agreement is instrumental in fulfilling the objectives of the EU Strategy on India⁸ to jointly tackling global challenges, supporting India's sustainable modernisation, opening business opportunities and increasing scientific excellence and competitiveness.⁹ It is also in line with the Roadmap to 2025 of the EU-India Strategic Partnership¹⁰.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND SUBSIDIARITY

- **Legal basis**

The EU's power to act internationally in research and technological development is based on Article 186 TFEU. The procedural legal basis for the proposal is Article 218(6) point (a)(v) of the TFEU.

- **Subsidiarity (for non-exclusive competence)**

The EU and its Member States have parallel shared competence in the area of research and technological development in accordance with Article 4(3) TFEU. Therefore EU's action cannot be replaced by an action of Member States.

⁶ Communications from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: *"Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: a strategic approach"* COM(2012) 497 and *"Global Approach to Research and Innovation: Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world"*, COM (2021) 252.

⁷ The TTC was launched in New Delhi on 25 April 2022 by the President of the European Commission and the Indian Prime Minister.

⁸ Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council - *'Elements for an EU strategy on India'* JOIN(2018) 28.

⁹ EU Strategy on India – Council conclusions 14634/18 (10 December 2018, p.3).

¹⁰ *"EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025"* endorsed by the 15th EU-India Summit of 15 July 2020.

3. RESULTS OF EX-POST EVALUATIONS, STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

- **Regulatory fitness and simplification**

This initiative is not part of the REFIT agenda.

4. BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS

The proposal does not require additional resources as set out in the Legislative Financial Statement. The human resources required will be met within the relevant heading by staff from the DG who are already assigned to the management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG or other Commission services.

In the light of the above considerations, the Commission requests that the Council:

- approves, on behalf of the Union, and with the consent of the European Parliament, the renewal of the 'Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India', for an additional period of five years (i.e. from 17.05.2025 until 16.05.2030).

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 186, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a)(v) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) By Decision 2002/648/EC¹¹, the Council approved the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India (the 'Agreement'). The Agreement was signed in New Delhi on 23 November 2001 and entered into force on 14 October 2002.
- (2) In accordance with Article 11, point (b) of the Agreement, the Agreement was concluded for a period of five years and may be renewed by mutual agreement between the Parties after evaluation during the last year of the aforementioned period.
- (3) By Decisions 2009/501/EC¹², 2015/1788/EU¹³ and 2020/789/EU¹⁴ the Council approved the renewal of the Agreement for an additional period of five years each time. The Agreement as last renewed is due to expire on 17 May 2025.
- (4) The evaluation carried out by the Commission, published on 25 February 2025¹⁵, demonstrates that the Agreement continues to provide an important framework for facilitating cooperation between the Union and the Republic of India in common Science & Technology priority areas leading to mutual benefits. It is therefore in the Union's interest to renew the Agreement for a new period of five years.

¹¹ Council Decision 2002/648/EC of 25 June 2002 concerning the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India (OJ L 213, 09.08.2002, p. 29, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_international/2002/648/oj).

¹² Council Decision 2009/501/EC of 19 January 2009 concerning the conclusion of an Agreement renewing the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India (OJ L 171, 01.07.2009, p. 17, ELI: *[please insert the ELI link]*).

¹³ Council Decision 2015/1788/EU of 1 October 2015 concerning the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India (OJ L 260, 07.10.2015, p. 18, ELI: *[please insert the ELI link]*).

¹⁴ Council Decision 2020/789/EU of 9 June 2020 concerning the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India (OJ L 193, 17.06.2020, p. 3, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/789/oj>).

¹⁵ [Evaluation of the EU-India science and technology agreement - Publications Office of the EU](#)

- (5) The decision to proceed with the renewal of the Science & Technology Agreement for a new period of five years was agreed by both sides at the meeting of the India-EU Joint Steering Committee on Science and Technology cooperation held in Brussels on 25 September 2024.
- (6) The renewal of the Agreement should be approved on behalf of the European Union.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India, for an additional period of five years, is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

LEGISLATIVE FINANCIAL AND DIGITAL STATEMENT

1.	FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE	3
1.1.	Title of the proposal/initiative	3
1.2.	Policy area(s) concerned	3
1.3.	Objective(s)	3
1.3.1.	General objective(s)	3
1.3.2.	Specific objective(s)	3
1.3.3.	Expected result(s) and impact	3
1.3.4.	Indicators of performance	3
1.4.	The proposal/initiative relates to:	4
1.5.	Grounds for the proposal/initiative	4
1.5.1.	Requirement(s) to be met in the short or long term including a detailed timeline for roll-out of the implementation of the initiative	4
1.5.2.	Added value of EU involvement (it may result from different factors, e.g. coordination gains, legal certainty, greater effectiveness or complementarities). For the purposes of this section 'added value of EU involvement' is the value resulting from EU action, that is additional to the value that would have been otherwise created by Member States alone.	4
1.5.3.	Lessons learned from similar experiences in the past	4
1.5.4.	Compatibility with the multiannual financial framework and possible synergies with other appropriate instruments	5
1.5.5.	Assessment of the different available financing options, including scope for redeployment	5
1.6.	Duration of the proposal/initiative and of its financial impact	6
1.7.	Method(s) of budget implementation planned	6
2.	MANAGEMENT MEASURES	8
2.1.	Monitoring and reporting rules	8
2.2.	Management and control system(s)	8
2.2.1.	Justification of the budget implementation method(s), the funding implementation mechanism(s), the payment modalities and the control strategy proposed	8
2.2.2.	Information concerning the risks identified and the internal control system(s) set up to mitigate them	8
2.2.3.	Estimation and justification of the cost-effectiveness of the controls (ratio between the control costs and the value of the related funds managed), and assessment of the expected levels of risk of error (at payment & at closure)	8
2.3.	Measures to prevent fraud and irregularities	9
3.	ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE	10
3.1.	Heading(s) of the multiannual financial framework and expenditure budget line(s) affected	10

3.2.	Estimated financial impact of the proposal on appropriations.....	12
3.2.1.	Summary of estimated impact on operational appropriations.....	12
3.2.1.1.	Appropriations from voted budget	12
3.2.1.2.	Appropriations from external assigned revenues	17
3.2.2.	Estimated output funded from operational appropriations.....	22
3.2.3.	Summary of estimated impact on administrative appropriations.....	24
3.2.3.1.	Appropriations from voted budget	24
3.2.3.2.	Appropriations from external assigned revenues	24
3.2.3.3.	Total appropriations	24
3.2.4.	Estimated requirements of human resources.....	25
3.2.4.1.	Financed from voted budget.....	25
3.2.4.2.	Financed from external assigned revenues	26
3.2.4.3.	Total requirements of human resources	26
3.2.5.	Overview of estimated impact on digital technology-related investments	28
3.2.6.	Compatibility with the current multiannual financial framework.....	28
3.2.7.	Third-party contributions	28
3.3.	Estimated impact on revenue	29
4.	DIGITAL DIMENSIONS	29
4.1.	Requirements of digital relevance.....	30
4.2.	Data	30
4.3.	Digital solutions	31
4.4.	Interoperability assessment	31
4.5.	Measures to support digital implementation	32

1. FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

1.1. Title of the proposal/initiative

Proposal for a Council Decision on the renewal of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India

1.2. Policy area(s) concerned

Policy strategy and coordination of, in particular, the Directorates-General RTD, AGRI, CLIMA, JRC, EAC, ENER, GROW, CNECT, MARE, MOVE and TRADE

1.3. Objective(s)

1.3.1. General objective(s)

The present initiative will allow both Parties to improve and intensify their cooperation in scientific and technological areas of common interest in line with the EU Strategy on India and the EU- India Strategic Partnership Roadmap.

1.3.2. Specific objective(s)

Specific objective

It will allow a further exchange of specific knowledge and a transfer of know-how to the benefit of the scientific communities, industry and citizens. A useful forum will continue to be offered to assess past cooperation and determine future actions, to address global challenges and to promote reciprocal access to programmes and funding.

1.3.3. Expected result(s) and impact

Specify the effects which the proposal/initiative should have on the beneficiaries/groups targeted.

This decision will allow both the Union and India to derive mutual benefit from the scientific and technical progress achieved through research cooperation in their respective specific research programmes and facilitate further increased cooperation. It will allow the Union and India to jointly tackle global challenges, and allow the Union to contribute to the sustainable modernisation of India.

1.3.4. Indicators of performance

Specify the indicators for monitoring progress and achievements.

The Commission services will regularly monitor all actions carried out under the Agreement, including an evaluation on cooperation activities. This evaluation will consist, among others, of the following elements:

(a) cooperation indicators – analysis of the number and type of participation of Indian entities in EU funded programmes (e.g. number of proposals, number of signed grant agreements, main collaboration links, main thematic; generated output) and vice-versa (whenever the data is available);

(b) performance indicators – success rate of Indian entities participating in the EU framework programmes compared to other third countries and to Member States/Associated Countries; analysis of the quality of the participation (e.g. number of best ranked universities taking part on the programme, number of patents and publications coming from collaborative projects);

(c) data collection regarding cooperation activities and links beyond the respective research funding programmes and assessment of the impact of these activities, like participation in multilateral initiatives and working groups.

1.4. The proposal/initiative relates to:

- ☐ a new action
- ☐ a new action following a pilot project / preparatory action¹⁶
- ☒ the extension of an existing action
- ☐ a merger or redirection of one or more actions towards another/a new action

1.5. Grounds for the proposal/initiative

1.5.1. Requirement(s) to be met in the short or long term including a detailed timeline for roll-out of the implementation of the initiative

This decision will allow the two Parties to continue to improve and intensify their cooperation in scientific and technological areas for mutual benefit.

1.5.2. Added value of EU involvement (it may result from different factors, e.g. coordination gains, legal certainty, greater effectiveness or complementarities). For the purposes of this section 'added value of EU involvement' is the value resulting from EU action, that is additional to the value that would have been otherwise created by Member States alone.

Reasons for action at EU level (ex-ante): Cooperation in research & innovation between India and the Union has been growing steadily in the past years. The involvement of the EU allows activities with larger scale and scope for the benefit of all Member States.

The renewal of this Agreement will allow for increased scientific knowledge leading to market access opportunities.

Expected generated EU added value (ex-post): The extension of this Agreement will allow for increased scientific knowledge, to the EU to have easier access to scientific knowledge produced in India, to engage in more cooperation activities leading to additional exchange of knowledge and technologies, and to provide easier access to the Indian market for European companies.

1.5.3. Lessons learned from similar experiences in the past

Based on the experience so far in scientific and technological cooperation, it is considered mutually beneficial to continue research cooperation with India by renewing the Agreement for a further period of 5 years.

1.5.4. Compatibility with the multiannual financial framework and possible synergies with other appropriate instruments

The extension of the Agreement with India is considered to be fully coherent and in line with the overall policy framework on International Cooperation in Research and Innovation, namely the Commission Communication of 18 May 2021 on the Global Approach to Research and Innovation, Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world (COM(2021)252 final/2).

¹⁶

As referred to in Article 58(2), point (a) or (b) of the Financial Regulation.

Synergies with other Union instruments in the area of EU-India cooperation will be sought, notably through various sectoral initiatives of the Commission, in particular those of DGs AGRI, CLIMA, JRC, EAC, ENER, GROW, CNECT, MARE, MOVE and TRADE, among others.

1.5.5. Assessment of the different available financing options, including scope for redeployment

The appropriations required for human resources and other expenditure of an administrative nature will be met by appropriations from the Programme that are already assigned to management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together, if necessary, with any additional allocation which may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints.

1.6. Duration of the proposal/initiative and of its financial impact

☒ **limited duration**

☒ in effect from 17/05/2025 to 16/05/2030

☒ financial impact from 2025 to 2030.

☐ **unlimited duration**

- Implementation with a start-up period from YYYY to YYYY,
- followed by full-scale operation.

1.7. Method(s) of budget implementation planned

☒ **Direct management** by the Commission

- ☒ by its departments, including by its staff in the Union delegations;
- ☐ by the executive agencies

☐ **Shared management** with the Member States

☐ **Indirect management** by entrusting budget implementation tasks to:

- ☐ third countries or the bodies they have designated
- ☐ international organisations and their agencies (to be specified)
- ☐ the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund
- ☐ bodies referred to in Articles 70 and 71 of the Financial Regulation
- ☐ public law bodies
- ☐ bodies governed by private law with a public service mission to the extent that they are provided with adequate financial guarantees
- ☐ bodies governed by the private law of a Member State that are entrusted with the implementation of a public-private partnership and that are provided with adequate financial guarantees
- ☐ bodies or persons entrusted with the implementation of specific actions in the common foreign and security policy pursuant to Title V of the Treaty on European Union, and identified in the relevant basic act
- ☐ •bodies established in a Member State, governed by the private law of a Member State or Union law and eligible to be entrusted, in accordance with sector-specific rules, with the implementation of Union funds or budgetary guarantees, to the extent that such bodies are controlled by public law bodies or by bodies governed by private law with a public service mission, and are provided with adequate financial guarantees in the form of joint and several liability by the controlling bodies or equivalent financial guarantees and which may be, for each action, limited to the maximum amount of the Union support.

Comments

--

2. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1. Monitoring and reporting rules

Participation of legal entities from India in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and other cooperative activities under the Agreement will be regularly followed through the regular meetings of the Joint Committee established under Art. 6 (b) of the Agreement.

2.2. Management and control system(s)

2.2.1. Justification of the budget implementation method(s), the funding implementation mechanism(s), the payment modalities and the control strategy proposed

The proposed initiative in the context of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research & Innovation will be implemented through direct management mode.

As an activity to be fully carried out by a policy officer of the Commission, direct management is the most appropriate implementation mode. In particular, the expected core tasks necessary for a proper implementation of the proposed activity, such as policy dialogue, assessment of the EU-India research and innovation cooperation landscape, identification of joint priorities and similar tasks, are principal activities of the implementing service of the Commission – the 'Global Approach & International Cooperation in R&I' Directorate of DG R&I.

Additional support tasks of organisational, logistical, administrative and advisory nature may be assigned under a future framework contract for support actions for the international cooperation in research and innovation. Such support tasks, designed to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed action, will be supervised by the Commission and will remain under its direct management.

2.2.2. Information concerning the risks identified and the internal control system(s) set up to mitigate them

Meetings and bilateral contacts take place on a regular basis allowing for the systematic sharing of information and control. No risks have been identified in the control system.

2.2.3. Estimation and justification of the cost-effectiveness of the controls (ratio between the control costs and the value of the related funds managed), and assessment of the expected levels of risk of error (at payment & at closure)

N/A

2.3. Measures to prevent fraud and irregularities

When the implementation of the Framework Programme calls for the use of external contractors or entails granting financial contribution to third parties, the Commission will carry out, where appropriate, financial audits, in particular if it has reason to doubt the realistic nature of work performed or described in the activity reports.

The Union's financial audits will be carried out either by its own staff or by accounting experts approved according to the law of the audited party. The Union will choose the latter freely, while avoiding any risks of conflicts of interest which might be indicated to it by the party subject to the audit. In addition, the Commission

will make sure, in carrying out the research activities, that the financial interests of the Union are protected by effective checks and, where irregularities are detected, by deterrent and proportionate measures and penalties.

In order to achieve this aim, rules on checks, measures and penalties, with reference to Regulations No 2988/95, No 2185/96 and No 883/2013 will be incorporated in all contracts used in the implementation of the framework programme.

In particular, the following points will have to be provided for in the contracts:

- the insertion of specific clauses in the contracts to protect the financial interests of the EU in carrying out checks and controls in relation to the work performed;
- the carrying out of administrative checks as part of anti-fraud measures, in accordance with Regulations No 2185/96 and No 883/2013;
- the application of administrative penalties for all intentional or negligent irregularities in the implementation of the contracts, in accordance with the Framework Regulation No 2988/95, including a blacklisting mechanism;
- the fact that any recovery orders in the event of irregularities and fraud must be enforceable according to Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

In addition and as a routine measure, a programme of checks on scientific and budgetary aspects of cooperation will be carried out by the staff responsible in the Directorate – General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD). An internal audit will be carried out by the Internal Audit unit of DG RTD, and local inspections will be carried out by the European Court of Auditors.

3. ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

3.1. Heading(s) of the multiannual financial framework and expenditure budget line(s) affected

Existing budget lines

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Heading 1 – Single market, Innovation and Digital – Research and Innovation – Horizon	Diff./Non-diff. ¹⁷	from EFTA countries ¹⁸	from candidate countries and potential candidates ¹⁹	From other third countries	other assigned revenue
1	01 01 01 01	Non-diff.	YES	YES	YES	YES
1	01 01 01 03	Non-diff.	YES	YES	YES	YES

New budget lines requested

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Number	Diff./Non-diff.	from EFTA countries	from candidate countries and potential candidates	from other third countries	other assigned revenue
	[XX.YY.YY.YY]	Diff./Non-diff.	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

¹⁷ Diff. = Differentiated appropriations / Non-diff. = Non-differentiated appropriations.

¹⁸ EFTA: European Free Trade Association.

¹⁹ Candidate countries and, where applicable, potential candidates from the Western Balkans.

3.2. Estimated financial impact of the proposal on appropriations

3.2.1. Summary of estimated impact on operational appropriations

- The proposal/initiative does not require the use of operational appropriations, as explained below

3.2.1.1. Appropriations from voted budget

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Heading of multiannual financial framework	1	‘Single market, Innovation and Digital – Research and Innovation – Horizon Europe’
---	----------	--

DG: RTD			Year 2025 ²⁰	Year 2026	Year 2027	Year 2028	Year 2029	Year 2030	TOTAL
○ Operational appropriations									
Number of budget line:	Commitments	1a							
	Payments	2a							
Number of budget line	Commitments	1b							
	Payments	2b							
Appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope of specific programmes ²¹									
Number of budget line: 01 01 01 01	Commitments & Payments	(3)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of budget line: 01 01 01 03	Commitments & Payments		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL appropriations	Commitments	=1a+1b+3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

²⁰ Year 2025 is the year in which implementation of the proposal/initiative starts and 2030 the year when it will end.

²¹ Technical and/or administrative assistance and expenditure in support of the implementation of EU programmes and/or actions (former ‘BA’ lines), indirect research, direct research.

for DG RTD	Payments	=2a+2b +3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
-------------------	----------	--------------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

○ TOTAL operational appropriations	Commitments	(4)							
	Payments	(5)							
○ TOTAL appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope for specific programmes		(6)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 1 of the multiannual financial framework	Commitments	=4+ 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Payments	=5+ 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DG RTD		Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	TOTAL MFF 2021- 2027
• Human resources		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
• Other administrative expenditure		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
TOTAL DG RTD	Appropriations	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

DG RTD		Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	TOTAL MFF 2021- 2027
• Human resources		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
• Other administrative expenditure		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
TOTAL DG <.....>	Appropriations	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 7 of the multiannual financial framework	(Total commitments = Total payments)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
--	--------------------------------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------

EUR million (to three decimal places)

		Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	TOTAL MFF 2021-2027
TOTAL appropriations under HEADINGS 1 to 7	Commitments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
of the multiannual financial framework	Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

3.2.2. *Estimated output funded from operational appropriations (not to be completed for decentralised agencies)*

Commitment appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

Indicate objectives and outputs ↓			Year 2024		Year 2025		Year 2026		Year 2027		Enter as many years as necessary to show the duration of the impact (see Section1.6)						TOTAL	
	OUTPUTS																	
	Type 22	Average cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	No	Cost	Total No	Total cost
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE No 1 ²³ ...																		
- Output																		
- Output																		
- Output																		

²² Outputs are products and services to be supplied (e.g. number of student exchanges financed, number of km of roads built, etc.).

²³ As described in Section 1.3.2. 'Specific objective(s)'

Subtotal for specific objective No 1																
TOTALS																

3.2.3. Summary of estimated impact on administrative appropriations

- ☒ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of appropriations of an administrative nature
- ☐ The proposal/initiative requires the use of appropriations of an administrative nature, as explained below

3.2.3.1. Appropriations from voted budget

VOTED APPROPRIATIONS	Year	Year	Year	TOTAL 2021 - 2027
	2025	2026	2027	
HEADING 7				
Human resources	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other administrative expenditure	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal HEADING 7	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Outside HEADING 7				
Human resources	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other expenditure of an administrative nature	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal outside HEADING 7	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
TOTAL	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

The appropriations required for human resources and other expenditure of an administrative nature will be met by appropriations from the DG that are already assigned to management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together, if necessary, with any additional allocation which may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints.

3.2.4. Estimated requirements of human resources

- ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of human resources
- ☒ The proposal/initiative requires the use of human resources, as explained below

3.2.4.1. Financed from voted budget

Estimate to be expressed in full-time equivalent units (FTEs)²⁴

VOTED APPROPRIATIONS	Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027
• Establishment plan posts (officials and temporary staff)			
20 01 02 01 (Headquarters and Commission's Representation Offices)	0	0	0
20 01 02 03 (EU Delegations)	0	0	0
01 01 01 01 (Indirect research)	.0	.0	0
01 01 01 11 (Direct research)	0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify)	0	0	0
• External staff (inFTEs)			

²⁴ Please specify below the table how many FTEs within the number indicated are already assigned to the management of the action and/or can be redeployed within your DG and what are your net needs.

20 02 01 (AC, END from the 'global envelope')		0	0	0
20 02 03 (AC, AL, END and JPD in the EU Delegations)		0	0	0
Admin. Support line [XX.01.YY.YY]	- at Headquarters	0	0	0
	- in EU Delegations	0	0	0
01 01 01 02 (AC, END - Indirect research)		0	0	0
01 01 01 12 (AC, END - Direct research)		0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify) - Heading 7		0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify) - Outside Heading 7		0	0	0
TOTAL		0	0	0

Considering the overall strained situation in Heading 7, in terms of both staffing and the level of appropriations, the human resources required will be met by staff from the DG who are already assigned to the management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG or other Commission services.

Description of tasks to be carried out by:

Officials and temporary staff	Preparation and management of Joint Committee Meetings foreseen under Article 6(b) of the Agreement and missions ensuring the good functioning and implementation, as well as regular review, of the Agreement. Calculations are done proportionally considering the duration of the Agreement.
External staff	

3.2.5. Overview of estimated impact on digital technology-related investments

TOTAL Digital and IT appropriations	Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	TOTAL MFF 2021 - 2027
HEADING 7				
IT expenditure (corporate)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal HEADING 7	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Outside HEADING 7				
Policy IT expenditure on operational programmes	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal outside HEADING 7	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
TOTAL	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

3.2.6. Compatibility with the current multiannual financial framework

The proposal/initiative:

- ☒ can be fully financed through redeployment within the relevant heading of the multiannual financial framework (MFF)

As mentioned above in terms of staffing, the human resources required will be met within the relevant heading by staff from the DG who are already assigned to the management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG or other Commission services.

- ☐ requires use of the unallocated margin under the relevant heading of the MFF and/or use of the special instruments as defined in the MFF Regulation
- ☐ requires a revision of the MFF

--

3.2.7. *Third-party contributions*

The proposal/initiative:

- ☒ does not provide for co-financing by third parties
- ☐ provides for the co-financing by third parties estimated below:

Appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

	Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	Total
Specify the co-financing body				
TOTAL appropriations co-financed				

3.3. Estimated impact on revenue

- ☒ The proposal/initiative has no financial impact on revenue.
- ☐ The proposal/initiative has the following financial impact:
 - ☐ on own resources
 - ☐ on other revenue
 - ☐ please indicate, if the revenue is assigned to expenditure lines

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Budget revenue line:	Appropriations available for the current financial year	Impact of the proposal/initiative ²⁵		
		Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027
Article				

For assigned revenue, specify the budget expenditure line(s) affected.

--

Other remarks (e.g. method/formula used for calculating the impact on revenue or any other information).

--

4. **DIGITAL DIMENSIONS**

--

²⁵ As regards traditional own resources (customs duties, sugar levies), the amounts indicated must be net amounts, i.e. gross amounts after deduction of 20% for collection costs.

4.1. Requirements of digital relevance

No provisions in the Council Decision regarding the renewal of the EU-India Science and Technology Agreement address data collection, processing, generation, exchange, or sharing; automation or digitalisation of processes; digital solutions; or the delivery of digital public services.

Therefore, there are no relevant digital dimensions which should be addressed in this chapter.

4.2. Data

N.A.

4.3. Digital solutions

N.A.

4.4. Interoperability assessment

N.A.

4.5. Measures to support digital implementation

N.A.