



HIGH REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE UNION FOR  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND  
SECURITY POLICY

Brussels, 11.9.2019  
SWD(2019) 326 final

PART 3/5

**JOINT STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT**

**ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2018**

**EU Gender Action Plan II**

**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020**

**Annexes**

Table of contents

ANNEX 3A. PROGRESS ON GAP THEMATIC PRIORITIES.....	2
<i>EU Delegations and EU Member States in the partner countries</i> .....	2
<i>Africa</i> .....	2
<i>Americas</i> .....	25
<i>Asia</i> .....	49

## ANNEX 3a. PROGRESS ON GAP THEMATIC PRIORITIES

### EU Delegations and EU Member States in the partner countries

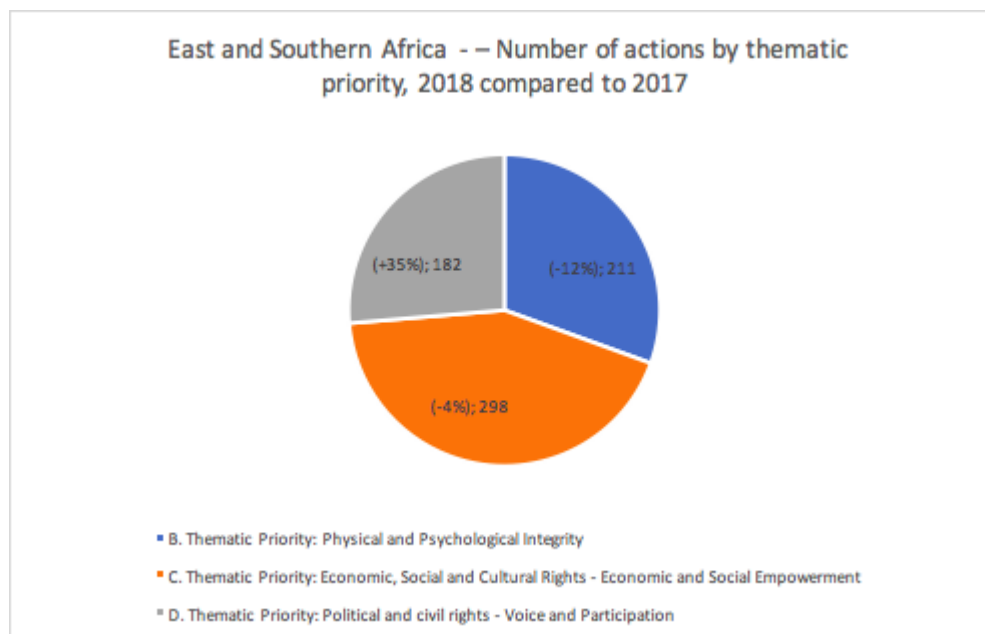
#### Africa

##### Overview of progress in 2018

###### East and Southern Africa

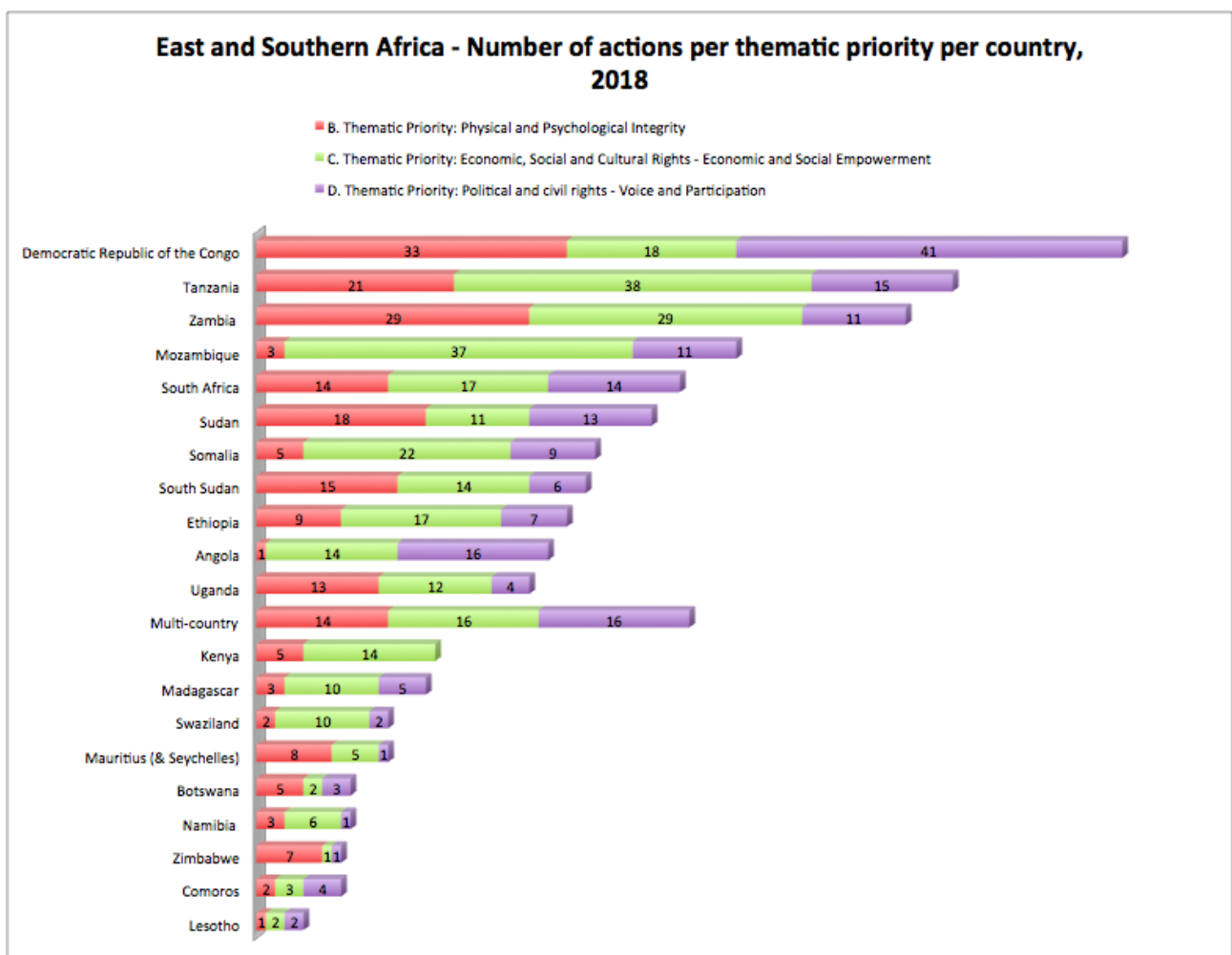
In 2018, 650 actions contributing to the GAP II's implementation were reported in East and Southern Africa – up from 611 actions in 2017. These initiatives, implemented by EU actors in 20 countries, represent 23 % of all actions globally. Thematic reports were not received from Djibouti, Eritrea and Malawi. The greatest proportion of reported actions were implemented in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (81 actions), followed by Tanzania (67), Zambia (56), Mozambique (52), South Africa (43), Uganda and Sudan (37 each), and Somalia (35). Moreover, 22 multi-country actions were undertaken. Sweden reported an additional 23 actions, encompassing Swedish support for World Bank and UN interventions. Many reported actions address more than one of the GAP II's objectives, and more than one of its thematic priorities.

Annex 3 Figure 1: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017



Overall, the majority of actions (298 actions) contributed to thematic priority C, ‘Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Economic and Social Empowerment’, down slightly from 310 actions in 2017. This was followed by 211 actions under thematic priority B, ‘Physical and Psychological Integrity’, down from 240 actions in 2017, and 182 actions on thematic priority D, ‘Political and Civil Rights – Voice and Participation’, up from 134 actions in 2017. This reflects a continuation of trends identified in 2017, when thematic priority C was the most frequently addressed GAP II priority, in contrast to 2016, when priority B was the most frequently selected. Trends in 2018 also reveal a significant increase in actions under priority D. It should be noted that many reported actions addressed more than one priority, and more than one corresponding objective.

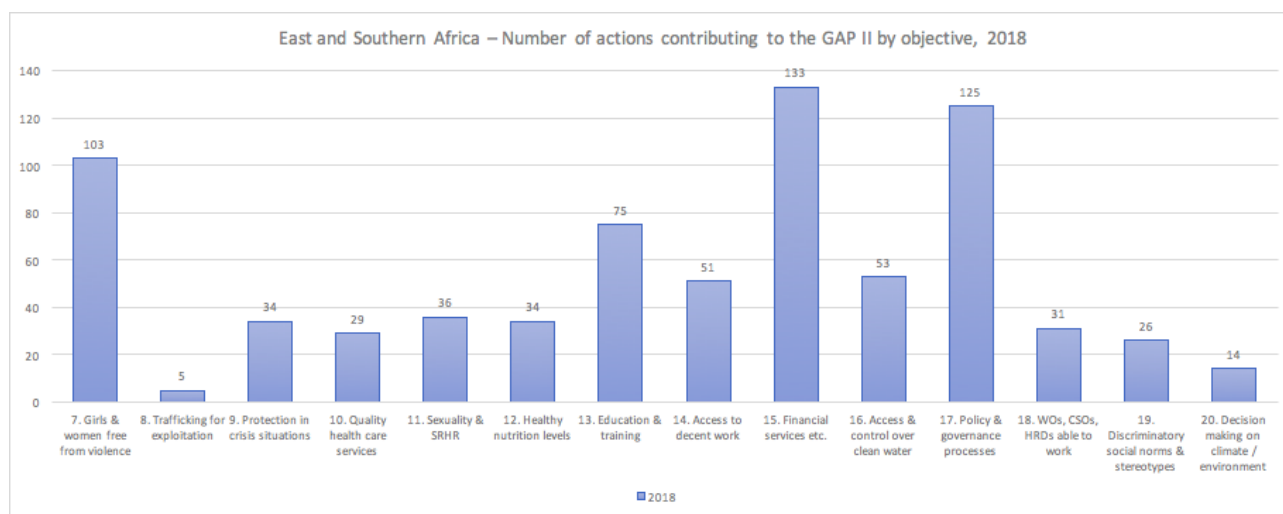
**Annex 3 Figure 2: East and Southern Africa – Number of EU Delegations’ and EU Member States’ actions by thematic priority, 2018**



Objective 15 was most commonly selected of the GAP II’s objectives in East and Southern Africa in 2018, indicating a concern with expanding ‘access to financial services and productive resources’. This was followed by objective 17 on participation in policy and governance processes,

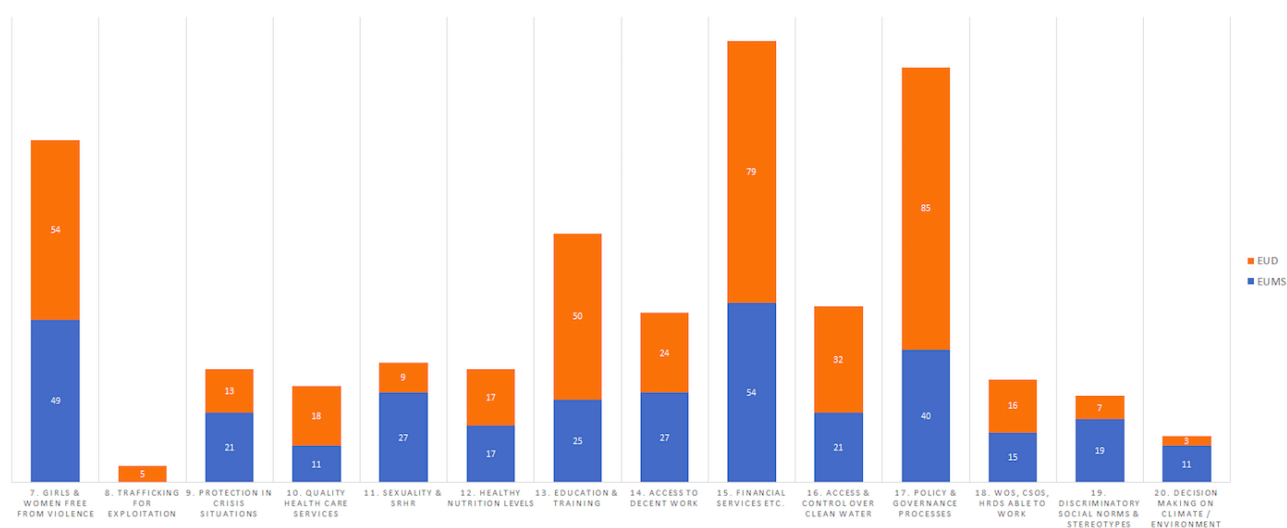
objective 7 on freedom from violence, and objective 13 on access to education and vocational education and training. Objective 14 on access to decent work, and objective 16 on access and control over clean water and energy, were each addressed by 7 % of actions. Objectives 10, 18 and 19 were each addressed by 4 % of actions, while objective 20 was targeted by 2 % of actions and objective 8 by 1 %. The women, peace and security (WPS) agenda was the focus of 203 actions in the sub-region, most notably in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (55 actions), Mozambique (26), Uganda (24), Somalia (23) and Angola (20).

**Annex 3 Figure 3: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**



There are some notable differences between the selection of objectives by EU Delegations and EU Member States in partner countries in East and Southern Africa. For example, the top three selected objectives by both sets of actors were the same in 2018, but were chosen in a different order. While EU Delegations prioritised objectives 17, 15 and 7, EU Member States gave priority to objectives 15 and 7, followed by objective 17. Member States placed a significantly greater focus on objective 11, on the ‘right of every individual to have full control over, and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health’, and on objective 19, on initiatives that challenged and changed discriminatory social norms. By contrast, EU Delegations focused far more on objective 13 on education and vocation training. Both EU Delegations and Member States implemented very few actions on objective 20 in the sub-region, on women’s equal participation in decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues.

**Annex 3 Figure 4: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions by EU Delegations and EU Member States by objective, 2018**



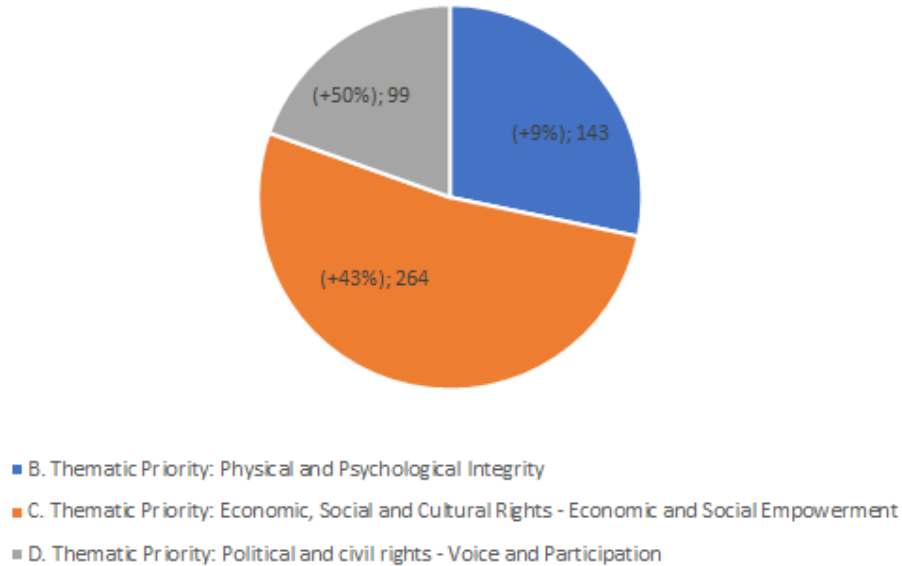
Aligning actions with GAP II indicators continued to prove challenging in 2018. As in previous years, the indicators selected were generally those which are also SDG and/or EURF indicators. This is assumed to be due to the availability of data on these issues. Alignment was most pronounced in terms of indicators linked to objective 15, which were chosen most often in the sub-region. Nevertheless, there was also significant alignment with indicators related to objectives 7 and 17, as discussed in detail below.

### Central and Western Africa

In 2018, 490 actions contributing to the GAP II's implementation were reported in Central and Western Africa – up from 450 actions in 2017. The greatest number of reported actions were implemented in Mali (70), Senegal (43), Burundi (42), Niger (41), Benin (33), Liberia (29), Mauritania (28), etc. 19 multi-country actions were undertaken.

### Annex 3 Figure 5: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017

**West and Central Africa– Number of actions by thematic priority,  
2018 compared to 2017**

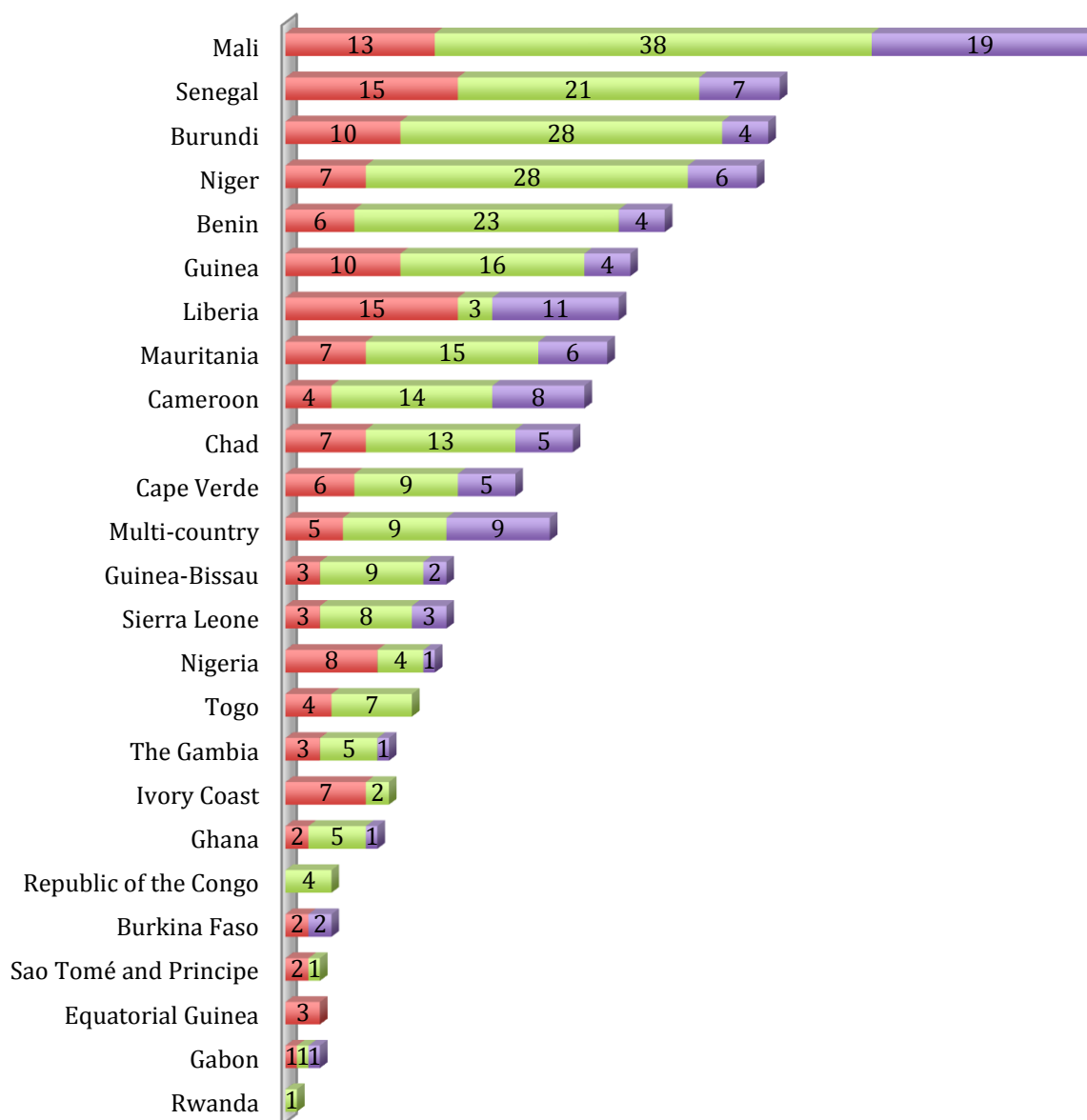


Overall, the majority of actions (264 actions) contributed to thematic priority C, “Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Economic and Social Empowerment”. This was followed by 143 actions under thematic priority B, “Physical and Psychological Integrity”, and 99 actions on thematic priority D, “Political and Civil Rights – Voice and Participation”. There has been an overall increase in number of reported actions for the three priorities, with those that contribute to the priority D having increased the most as compared to 2017. The overall trend regarding the number of reported actions per each priority continues as it was in 2017: priority C being addressed by the highest number of reported actions, then priority B, and finally priority D.

**Annex 3 Figure 6: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions by thematic priority per country, 2018**

**Central and Western Africa - Number of actions per thematic priority per country , 2018**

- B. Thematic Priority: Physical and Psychological Integrity
- C. Thematic Priority: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - Economic and Social Empowerment
- D. Thematic Priority: Political and civil rights - Voice and Participation

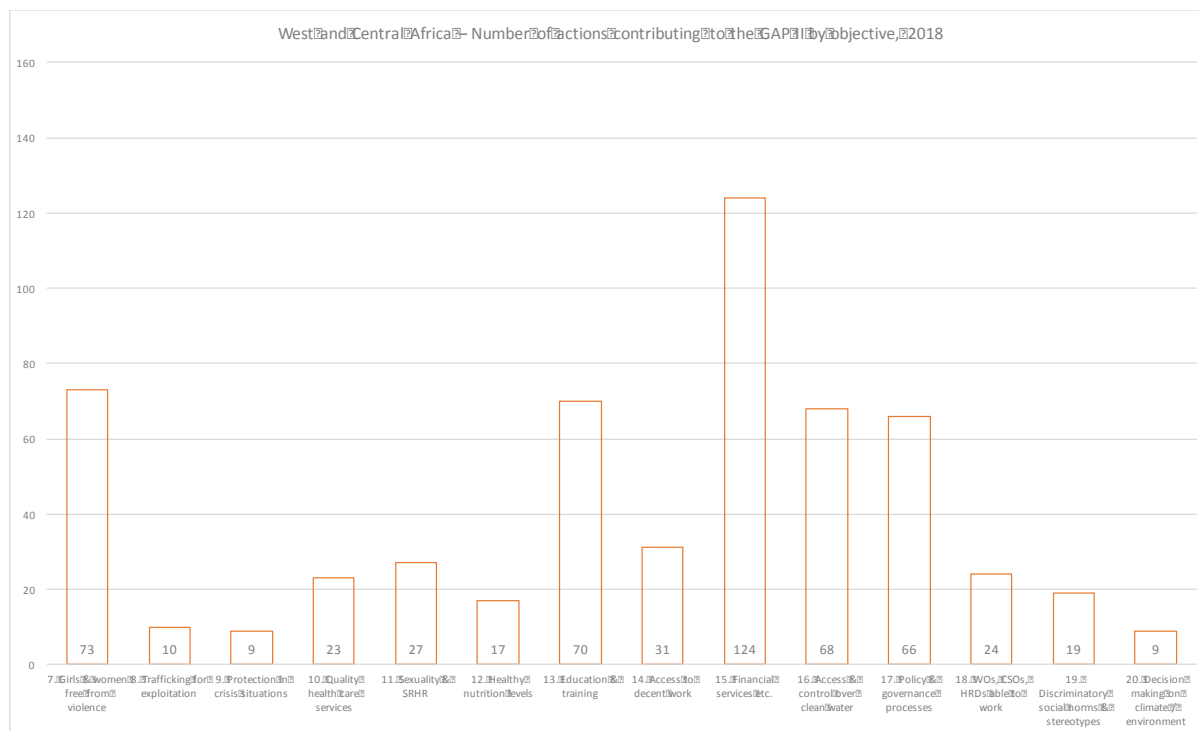


Objective 15 corresponded with the highest number of reported actions (124) in Central and Western Africa in 2018, indicating a concern with expanding “access to financial services and productive resources”. This was followed with nearly half as many reported actions by objective 7 on freedom from violence (73) and objective 13 on access to education and vocational education and training (70), objective 16 on access and control over clean water and energy (68) and objective 17 on participation in policy and governance processes (66). The lowest number of reported actions corresponded to objectives, 20 on women’s equal participation in decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues (9), objective 9 on tackling gender-based violence in conflict situations (9) and objective 8 on trafficking of girls and women for all forms of exploitation (10).

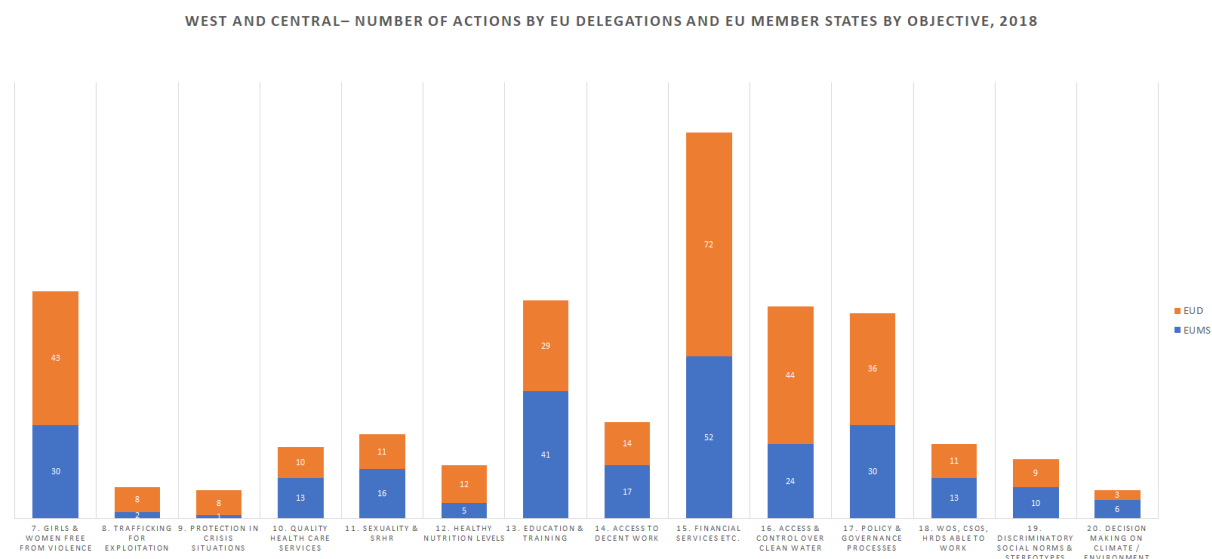


Although the number of reported activities is low for these three objectives, compared to 2017 objective 8 and 20 were addressed by many more actions in 2018. There was a drop in the number of reported activities in 2018 compared to the previous year for objective 11 on SRHR (-25 %) and 12 on healthy nutrition (-41 %).

**Annex 3 Figure 7: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 8: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partners countries vs. EU Delegations, 2018**



The top objective for EU Delegations and EU Member States is objective 15. Then, EU Delegations have reported more actions corresponding to objective 7 on elimination of violence, and 16 on access and control over clean water. The EU Member states instead reported more activities on objective 13 on education and training, and objective 7 and objective 17 on participation of women in policy and governance processes. The objectives that corresponded to the lowest number of reported actions are: 8 on trafficking for exploitation, 20 on decision making on environment and climate and 9 on protection in crisis situations for EU Delegations, and 9, 8, and 12 on healthy nutrition levels for the EU Member States.

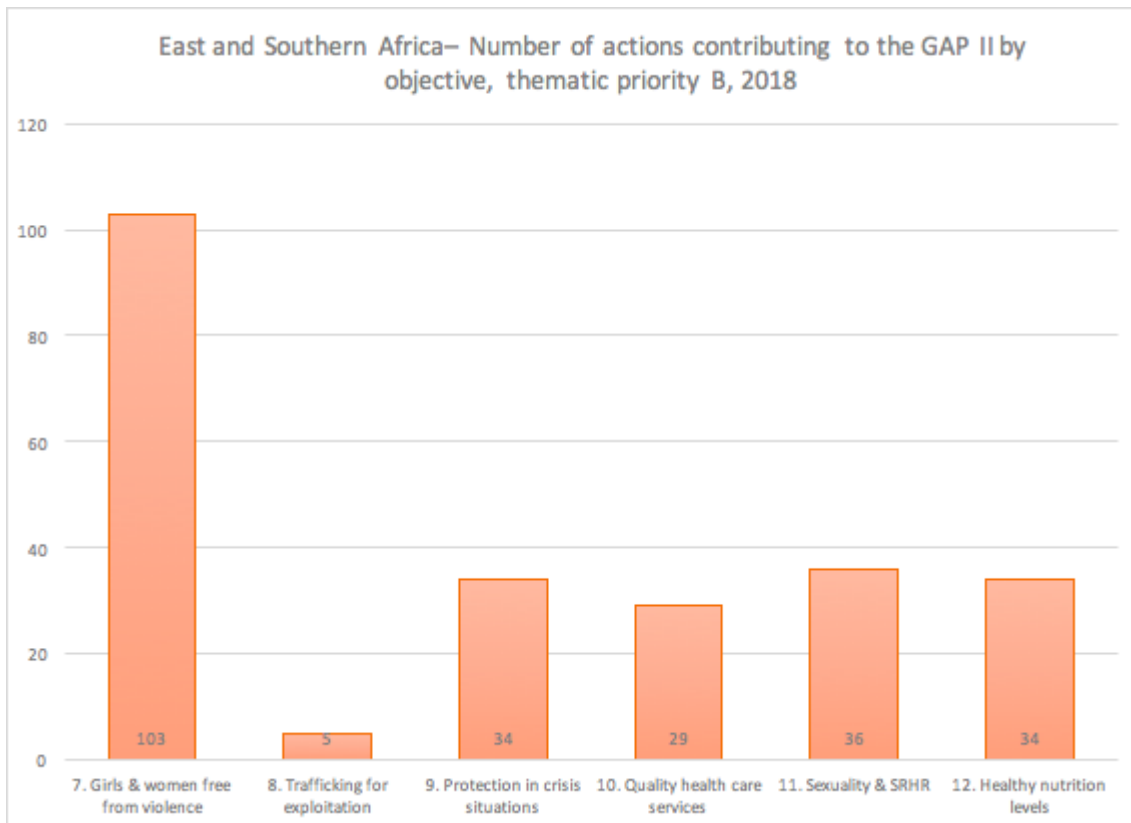
## **Thematic priority B. Physical and Psychological Integrity**

### **East and Southern Africa**

In 2018, 241 EU-supported actions contributed to thematic priority B in East and Southern Africa, making this the second most selected priority in the sub-region. Overall, the greatest focus was placed on objective 7, ‘women and girls free from all forms of violence’. Objective 11 was the second most selected, concerning individuals’ control over sexuality, sexual and reproductive health. While 36 actions addressed objective 11, this marked a considerable decline from 67 actions in 2017. Objectives 9, on the protection of women and men from sexual and gender-based violence in crisis situations, and 12 on healthy nutrition levels, were addressed by 34 actions each. This represents a considerable increase for objective 9, which was targeted by 20 actions in 2017, and a slight decrease in actions contributing to objective 12, which was tackled by 36 actions in 2017. A more marked decrease was apparent for objective 10, on access to quality health care services, which was addressed by 29 actions in 2018 compared to 37 in 2017. As in previous years, the least frequently chosen objective was objective 8, on the ‘trafficking of girls and women for all forms of exploitation’. Only five actions addressed trafficking in the sub-region in 2018, a slight increase from four in 2017.

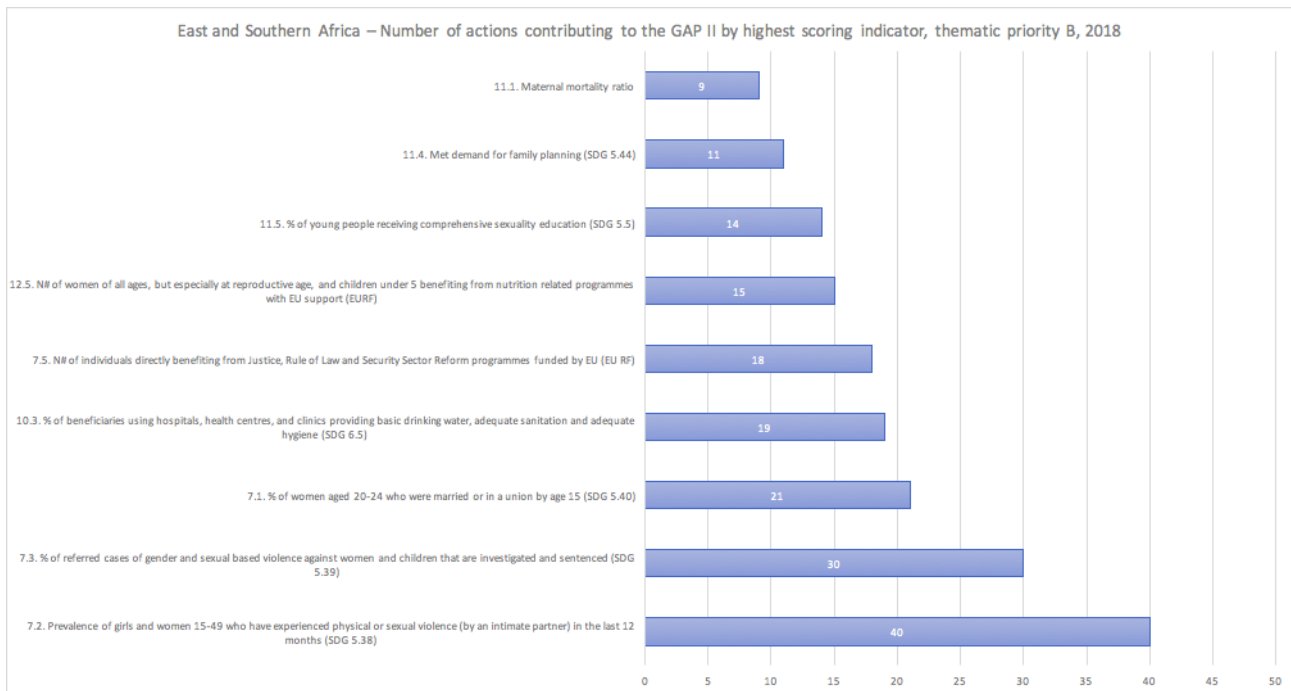
While both EU Delegations and EU Member States contributed to objective 7, Member States accorded greater priority than delegations to objectives 11 and 9. Some actions under thematic priority B also addressed objective 17.

**Annex 3 Figure 9: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority B, 2018**



The most frequently selected indicator under thematic priority B was indicator 7.2 (40 actions), on the ‘prevalence of girls and women 15-49 who have experienced physical or sexual violence (by an intimate partner) in the last 12 months’. Its scope is akin to SDG indicator 5.38. In fact, this was the indicator most commonly addressed overall in East and Southern Africa across all three thematic priorities. Indicator 7.3 was the second most frequently targeted, on the ‘percentage of referred cases of gender and sexual based violence against women and children that are investigated and sentenced’. This indicator, akin to SDG indicator 5.39, was addressed by 30 actions.

**Annex 3 Figure 10: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by indicator, thematic priority B, 2018**



Actions that contributed to objective 7 spanned a range of issues, from women’s and girls’ empowerment, to service provision, access to justice and legal services. Such actions were implemented in almost all countries in the sub-region. Target groups varied widely, including women and girl refugees, displaced persons and returnees in Somalia, men and boys in Botswana, and traditional leaders and civil society organisations in Madagascar. Several actions sought to enable women and girls to speak out, raise their voices against violence against women, and engage in advocacy. Harmful practices received attention, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), as did awareness raising through the media. For example, initiatives involved support for the Tanzania Media Women’s Association. There was a clear focus on rights in many actions, alongside support for local civil society and non-governmental organisations. A number of actions also contributed to objective 11, reflecting an acknowledgement of the cross-over between violence against women and girls, and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

A consultancy service in Mauritius supported by the EU Delegation contributed to objectives 7, 8, 11, 14 and 15 by assisted in the elaboration of the country’s Gender Equality Bill, Children’s Bill and Adoption Bill, while delivering capacity building for the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare. Objective 9, on tackling gender-based violence in conflict situations, was addressed by actions in a number of countries, particularly the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and Uganda. Entry points varied, ranging from awareness raising to promoting peace, security and justice, supporting livelihoods, and access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

Objective 10, ‘attention to preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services for women and girls’, was the target of actions in a number of countries, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and Zambia. An emphasis on community participation in public health care at district level was reported in DRC and Comoros, while support for survivors of violence was the focus in Sudan. Actions in Zambia centred on human rights, access to justice and social and economic inclusion. HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis were the focus of a health project in Eswatini.

Over 30 actions in the sub-region contributed to objective 11, promoting control and decision-making on matters related to sexuality and SRHR. Many of these initiatives also targeted objective

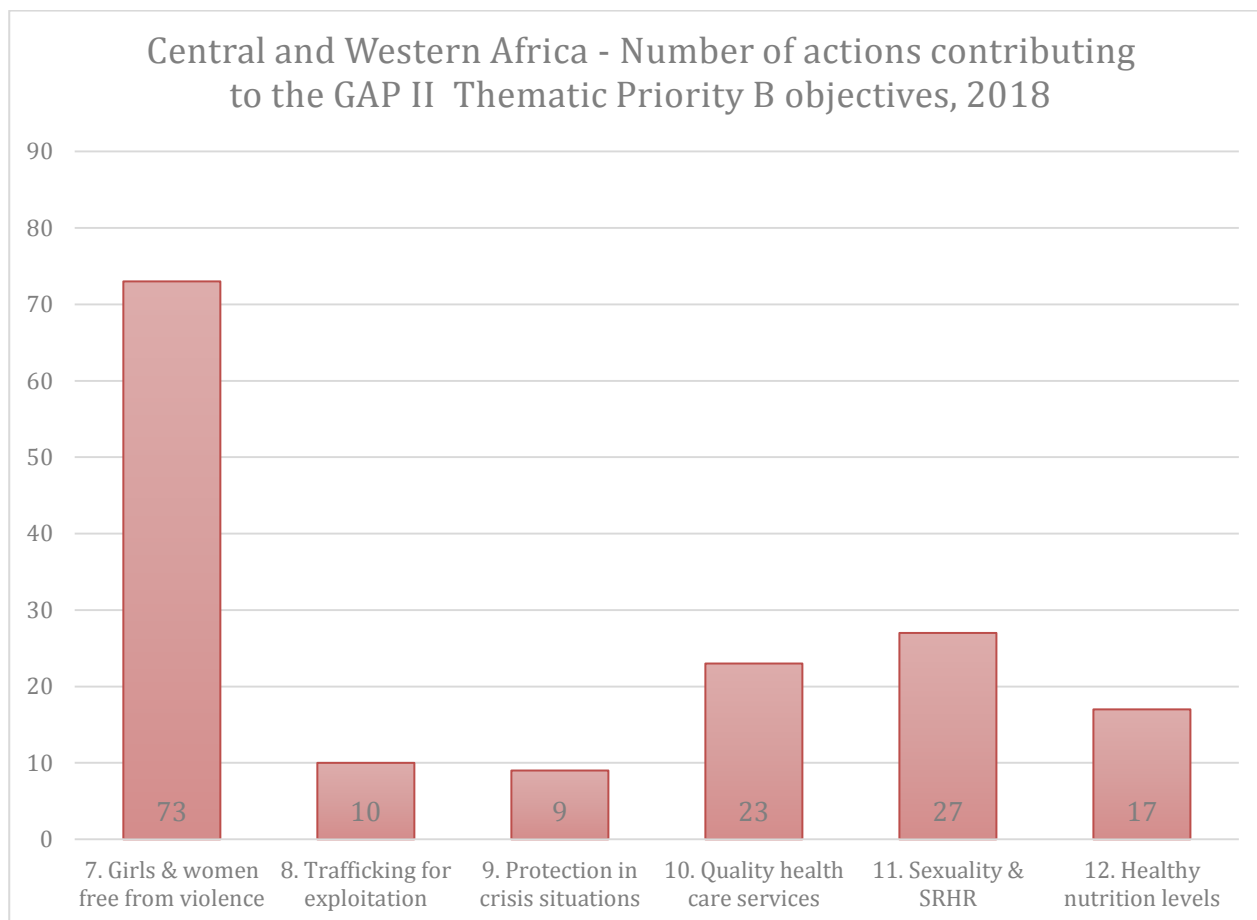
7. Here too, there was a focus on rights alongside awareness raising and service provision. Notable initiatives included an action for ‘serving the under-served’ in Uganda, and an action to ensure skilled birth attendance in Zambia. Many SRHR-related actions involved a simultaneous focus on participatory democracy, youth employment, and social and economic inclusion. An international NGO initiative in Zambia, for example, worked with young boys to raise their awareness and involvement in SRHR issues, since men and boys play an integral role in increasing access to contraceptives for women and girls.

Objective 12 on nutrition featured strongly in EU-supported actions in Zambia and South Sudan. An initiative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo linked food security with information, nutrition and the environment, while another in Mozambique sought to modernise the civil registry and statistics systems. In Kenya, priority was accorded to enhancing civil society organisations’ contribution to governance and development processes in order to improve well-being.

### Central and Western Africa

From the objectives of priority B, objective 7 was covered by the largest number of reported actions, not only that but the increase of such number compared with 2017 was more than 75 %. Another big increase as compared to 2017 was that in number of actions tackling quality health care services (objective 10) that grew by 52 %. There was no change in number of actions reported on trafficking for exploitation (objective 8). There was a decrease of numbers for the objectives 12 on healthy nutrition (-40 %) and 11 on SRHR (-52 %).

**Annex 3 Figure 11: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring objective, thematic priority B, 2018**



The most frequently selected indicator under thematic priority B was indicator 7.3 (26 actions), on the percentage of reported cases of violence against women and girls. The indicators that were used for fewer reported actions was indicator 11.2 on antenatal care service coverage and 8.2 on number of individuals benefiting from the trafficking programmes funded by EU.

It is not easy to draw conclusions on patterns between the using or referring to the objectives of the GAP II and use of the indicators that correspond to them for the actions. What is visible from the data available is that indicators from the objectives related to violence are used in the reported actions, as are indicators from the objectives where an increase in the number of the actions from 2017 to 2018. This could be a sign of a more deliberate use of the GAP II framework for the formulation of new actions, or at least as a reference for selection of objectives.

**Annex 3 Figure 12: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator; thematic priority B, 2018**



Actions that contributed to objective 7 spanned a range of issues from prevention of and protection from violence against women and children (Burundi, Liberia, Mauritania), to media campaigns, research and knowledge generation against female genital mutilations (Burkina Faso, Gambia), initiative against child marriage (Cameroon, Mali), to police interventions against violence (Mauritania), supporting the work of civil society against impunity (Mali), support to justice and giving voice to survivors (Chad, Ivory Coast), support to national strategies for women’s empowerment (Senegal), support to legal aid to women, including survivors of violence (Ivory Coast), and many more.

The activities that were reported bring along important information that can be used for future planning, as well as for documenting the successes and remaining challenges.

The project “Partnership Against Trafficking, Exploitation of Children and Violence against Girls and Women (PACTE)” of the EU Delegation in Benin shows that encouraging the celebration of Muslim marriages by imams in mosques, makes it easier to control of the age of young women entering into marriage. On the other hand, this project showed that economic reintegration of

women and girls, survivors of violence, is an activity that requires a lot of time and resources; these investments must not be underestimated.

Germany in Sierra Leone supports the project “HIV/AIDS prevention and strengthening women's rights (FGM) III + IV”. It brings into focus the importance of cooperation with local NGOs, that facilitate the dialogue within communities, on gender related issues. It has become evident that these topics can easily be discussed in the framework of a wider based community dialogues. On the other hand, traditional and religious authorities have showed readiness to participate in these open and inclusive dialogues in a constructively manner.

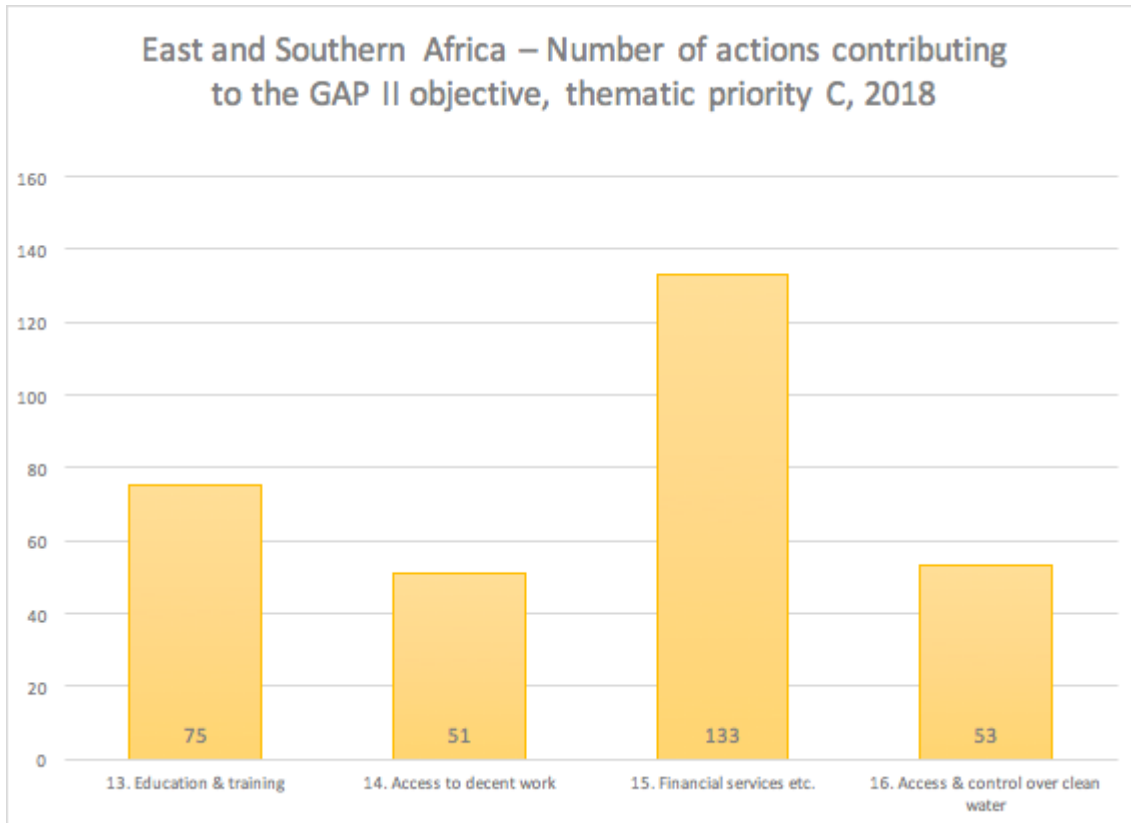
Sweden in Mali through its Support to UN Women Country Program shows that working with various actors at the same time and on different levels creates conditions for a transformative change. For the change to happen it is necessary to adopt a holistic and long-term approach This includes the involvement of men in all issues relevant for promotion of gender equality.

## **Thematic priority C. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Economic and Social Empowerment**

### **East and Southern Africa**

EU actors supported 312 actions that contributed to thematic priority C in 2018, the most frequently addressed of all the GAP II's priorities in East and Southern Africa. All four corresponding objectives were the focus of EU support. As in previous years, objective 15 received the most attention, with 133 actions geared towards increasing access to financial services and productive resources. This was followed by objective 13 (75 actions) on access to education and vocational education and training, objective 16 (53) on access to and control over clean water and energy, and objective 14 (51) on access to decent work. While actions targeting objective 14 increased in 2018, (51 in 2018, compared to 33 in 2017), the number of actions decreased for objective 15 (133 actions in 2018, down from 158 in 2017), objective 13 (75 actions in 2018, compared to 159 in 2017); and objective 16 (53 in 2018, down from 58 in 2017).

### **Annex 3 Figure 13: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority C, 2018**

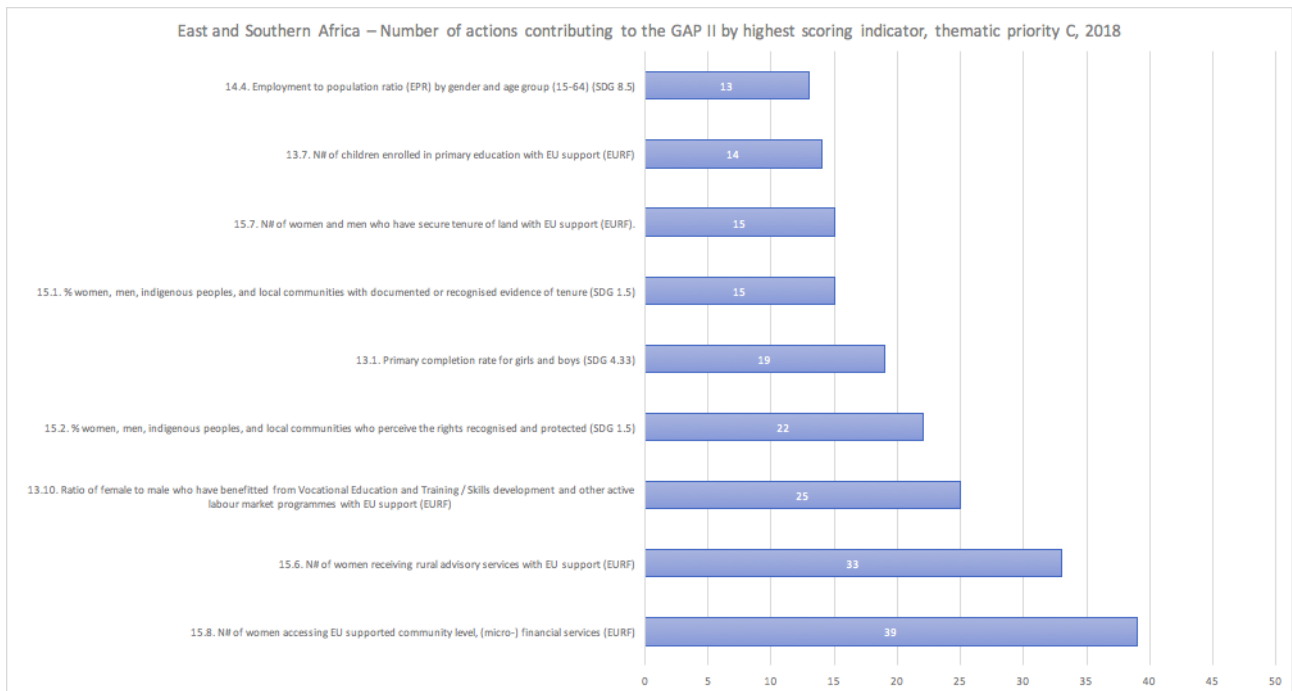


Both EU Delegations and EU Member States focused on objective 15; however, more actions by EU Delegations were reported on objective 13. Some actions under thematic priority C also addressed objectives under priority B, such as promoting healthy nutrition (objective 12), and under priority D, such as fostering participation in policy and governance processes (objective 17) and challenging and changing social norms (objective 19).

Under thematic priority C, indicator 15.8 was the most frequently selected, with 39 actions addressing the ‘number of women accessing EU supported community level, (micro-) financial services’ (EU RF). This was followed by indicator 15.6, with 33 reported actions related to the ‘number of women receiving rural advisory services with EU support’. As with indicators under priority B, those priority C indicators linked to SDG and EURF indicators were selected most often.

**Annex 3 Figure 14: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority C, 2018**





Many of the 133 actions targeting objective 15, on ‘equal access by women to financial services and productive resources, including land, trade and entrepreneurship’, were implemented in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Some were also undertaken in Botswana, Lesotho and Eswatini. Common themes included building resilience, managing drought and other climate-related risks in Comoros, Kenya, Namibia, Somalia and South Sudan. Initiatives included support for farmers’ clubs to pioneer climate-smart agriculture in Namibia, green enterprises in Zimbabwe, and green horticulture and drought management in Kenya. The protection of refugees, displaced persons and host communities was a focal issue in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan, with related actions encompassing efforts to promote women’s employment.

Land access and tenure issues were addressed in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania within a number of actions to enhance livelihoods by supporting forestry, agriculture, biodiversity, legal services, expanding the financial sector and building an enabling business environment. In Angola, the ‘Documents for All’ initiative, sought to enable women and men to obtain land rights. Building civil society capacity to engage in socio-economic development and strengthen democratic processes was pronounced in many countries. The ‘Speak up Zambia!’ initiative empowered citizens to know, claim, and secure their rights through access to justice, while supporting the media to exercise their role as society’s watchdog. This action also targeted objectives 17 and 18.

Initiatives linked to objective 13, on education and vocational training, featured prominently in the sub-region. These 75 actions by EU Delegations and Member States were generally, but not exclusively, implemented in Mozambique, Namibia, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, South Africa and Zambia. Support for education was also notable in Angola, where it also aimed to increase access to decent work (objective 14), as well as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Eswatini and Uganda. Macro-level actions included education sector reform in Namibia, an education sector support programme in Mozambique, and support for higher education in Somalia. As with other objectives, support for technical and vocational education and training was often coupled with actions on other issues. In Somalia, these included efforts to improve the situation of refugees and displaced communities, and to promote renewable energy skills and women’s

economic empowerment. They also encompassed the inclusion of children with disabilities in Zambia, the revitalisation of indigenous languages in Namibia, cross-border collaboration between Ethiopia and Sudan, strengthening civil society in South Sudan, and efforts to foster resilience in a range of countries.

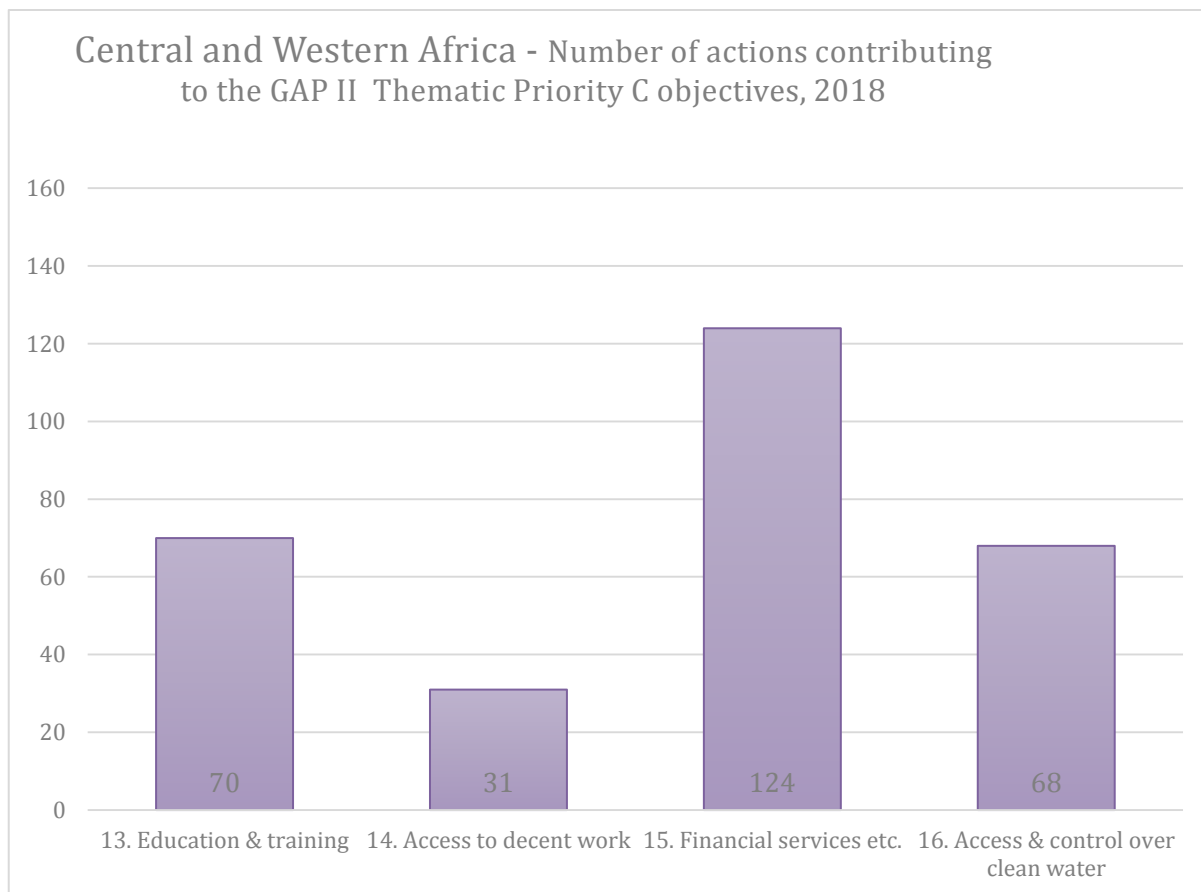
The 51 actions that addressed objective 14 on decent work included support for a network of cooperatives and job opportunities for women in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and assistance for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and a budget support contract on ‘Employment for Employability’ in South Africa. A multi-country action focused on the rights of workers with disabilities. Actions related to sustainability featured fairly prominently, for example, support for sustainable agriculture in Tanzania, waste minimisation and recycling in Eswatini, waste management in Comoros, urban mobility in Kenya, and access to energy in Mozambique. Other actions sought to improve the professionalism of journalists in Somalia’s media, promoted employment in Mozambique’s cultural sector, and offered a mentorship programme for young women in Sudan.

Of the 40 actions that focused on objective 16, ‘access to and control over clean water, energy, transport, infrastructure’, a large proportion were water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects. These were implemented in Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Sudan and Eswatini, and included support for water harvesting and small- or medium-sized earth dams. Tanzania’s WASH project was accompanied by energy efficiency initiatives and rural electrification. Budget support in Uganda budget targeted both the water and environmental sectors. In Lesotho, a focus was placed on child-friendly, gender-sensitive ecological and sustainable school sanitation systems in urban and peri-urban areas, while upgrading informal settlements received attention in South Africa.

### **Central and Western Africa**

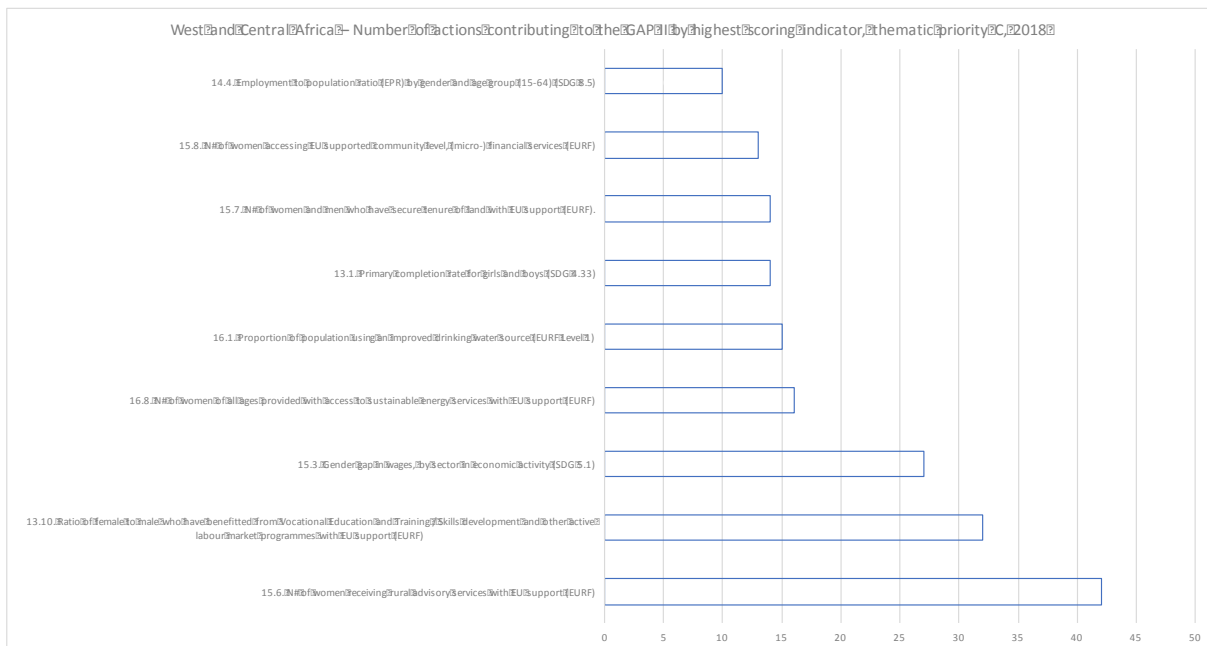
EU actors supported 293 actions that contributed to thematic priority C in 2018, the most frequently addressed of all the GAP II’s priorities in Central and Western Africa. As in previous years, objective 15 received the most attention, with 124 actions geared towards increasing access to financial services and productive resources. This was followed by objective 13 (70 actions) on access to education and vocational education and training, objective 16 (68) on access to and control over clean water and energy, and objective 14 (31) on access to decent work. Actions targeting objective 14 decreased in 2018 (39 in 2017), the number of actions increased for objective 15 (165 % increase), objective 13 (122 %); the number was virtually the same for objective 16 (68 in 2018, 70 in 2017).

### **Annex 3 Figure 15: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring objective, thematic priority C, 2018**



The most selected indicators in general corresponded to those of objective 15; indicators 15.6 on women receiving rural advisory services with EU support was used for 42 reported actions. The next one most selected was the male/female ratio of persons benefitting from vocation education and training activities.

**Annex 3 Figure 16: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority C, 2018**



The reported activities on this priority ranged from support to cooperatives (Burundi), support to community resilience (Benin, Burundi, Cameroon), youth economic empowerment for peace and social cohesion (Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Liberia, Mali, Sierra Leone), institutional capacity building for rural development and infrastructure (Burundi, Ghana, Guinea), urbanization and support to adaptation to climate change (Benin, Guinea), tourism and cultural heritage (Benin), modernization of technical and vocation training (Togo), securing land and resource rights (Cameroon), empowerment of women in social economy (Chad, Mauritania), leadership programme for women (Ghana), employment (Guinea), supporting female education (Niger, Senegal), and many more. These are only a small sample of the very wide array of actions that are contributing to further the status of women and gender equality in the region with EU support.

The EU Delegation programme in Burundi “Support to improve the resilience capacities of the populations most affected by the effects of the 2015 multifactor crisis in Burundi” shows that in a context of crisis transformative change is encouraged by empowerment of women and by giving them agency. In situations of crisis, women increase their resilience and that of their communities through participation in resilience funds (savings and credit groups).

Spain in Mauritania with the project “Promoting the empowerment of women in the social economy in Mauritania through their socio-economic strengthening” shows that robust analysis is key to strengthen technical, organisational and advocacy capacities of existing structures to respond to the needs of women. Pilot initiatives were supported for women's structures in the areas targeted by the project.

Italy in Senegal with project “PAEF PLUS - Supporting project for girls’ education and women's empowerment for inclusive local development” was an initiative that could potentially bring transformative change. The project is cultivating this with a three-pronged approach. First, by supporting women's socio-economic empowerment through the financing of income generating activities for the Association of mothers of students. Second by promoting institutional national coordination on education activities and on the revision or preparation of gender modules. Thirdly by preparing and disseminating a gender guide and by creating gender cells in targeted schools.

Belgium in Rwanda also supported partners in taking corrective actions to improve performance on gender equality. For example, a conference including all the female staff of the Rwanda Energy Group was organized to determine the baseline of needs for the development of a gender equality

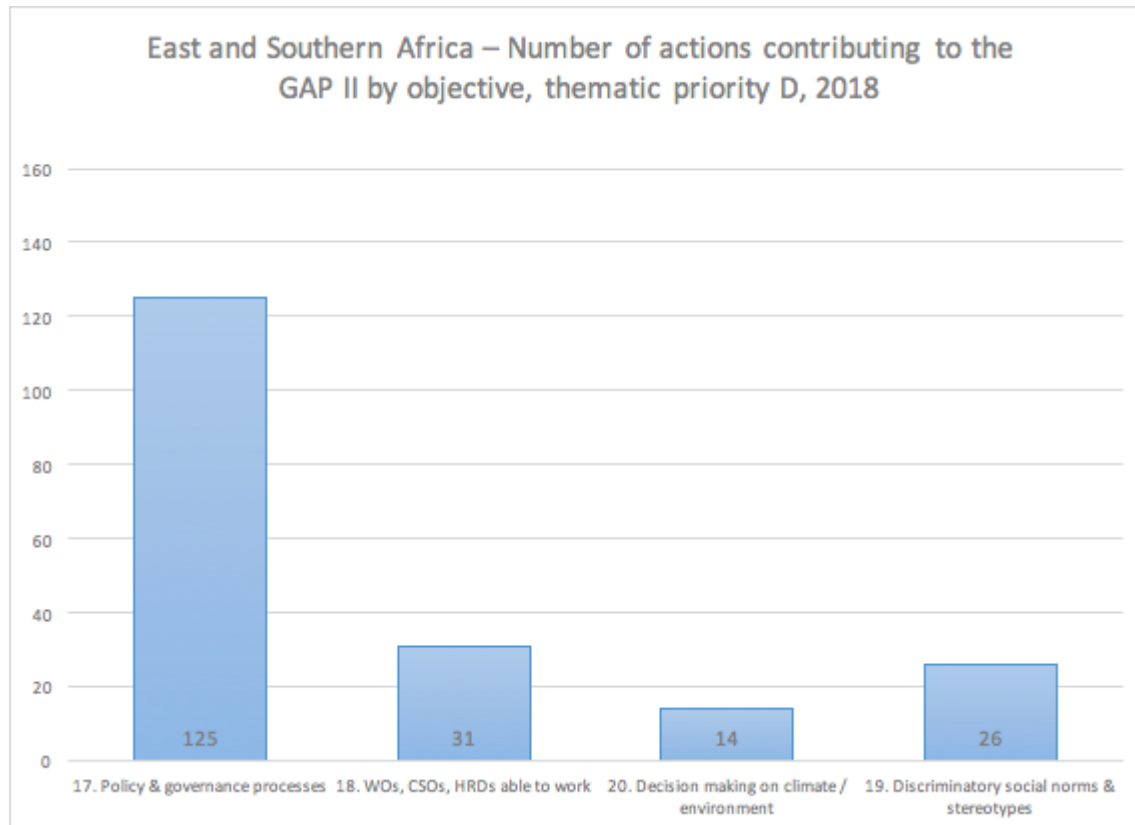
workplace policy. A video has been produced. A proposal to create a 'gender unit' within REG to coordinate gender focal points and implement the 2018-2020 action plan has been prepared. Enabel also financed a study commissioned through the Gender Monitoring Office to compile the gender profile of the Energy sector.

## Thematic priority D. Political and Civil Rights – Voice and Participation

### East and Southern Africa

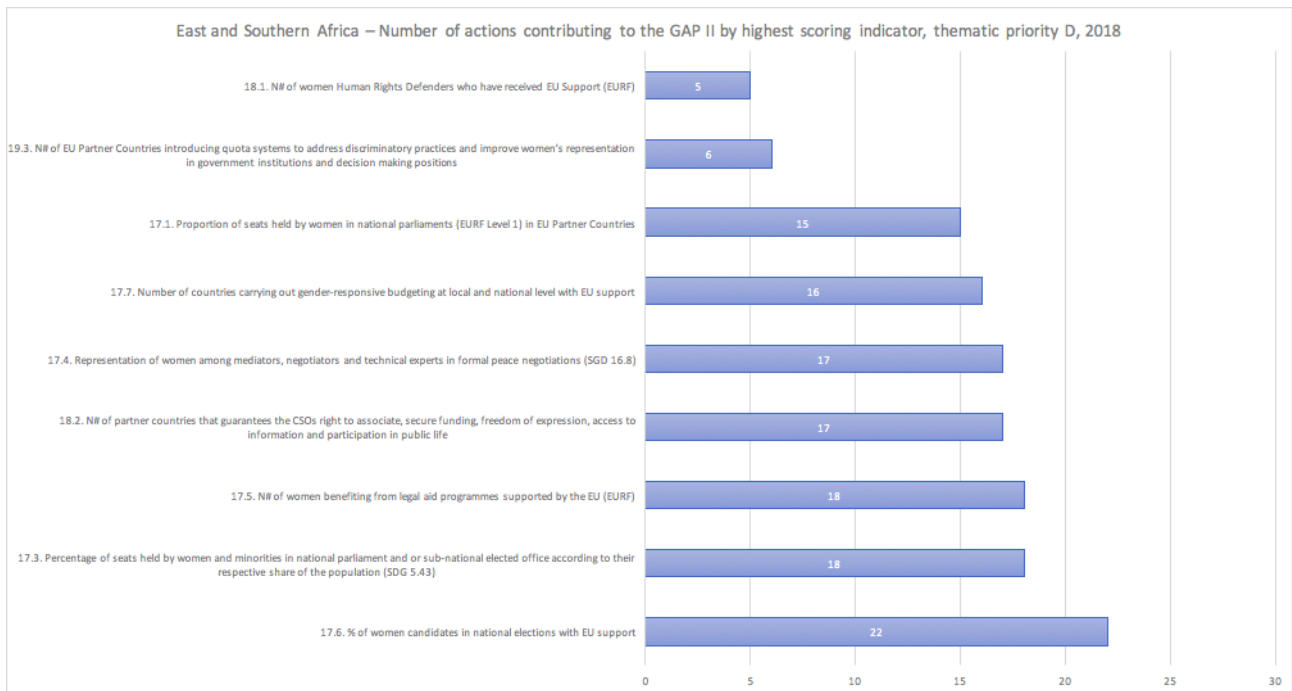
All of the objectives under thematic priority D were addressed by EU Delegations and EU Member States in 2018. However, by far the greatest number of actions centred on objective 17, seeking to improve women’s engagement in policy and governance processes.

Annex 3 Figure 17: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority D, 2018



As with other priorities, the indicators under thematic priority D that match SDG or EURF indicators were most frequently selected. Indicator 17.6 was the most selected, with 22 actions addressing the ‘percentage of women candidates in national elections with EU support’. This was followed by indicator 17.3, as 18 actions addressed the ‘percentage of seats held by women and minorities in national parliament and or sub-national elected office according to their respective share of the population’. As noted above, this mirrors SDG indicator 5.4.3.

Annex 3 Figure 18: East and Southern Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority D, 2018



Actions to enhance women's equal access to participation in policy and governance processes (objective 17) involved several approaches. Empowering women to participate, claim their rights and voice their views was the focus in Botswana, Eswatini, Tanzania and Zambia, among others. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, participation in elections was promoted, while in Madagascar an initiative sought to prevent and manage potential conflicts and violence linked to elections. Strengthening parliamentary oversight proved a key focus in Mozambique and South Africa, as was participatory peace-building in Somalia, and strengthening women's leadership in Tanzania and Sudan. Actions in Angola sought to extending civil society's consultation and participation in budget processes.

The 20 actions related to objective 18, on supporting women's organisations, civil society organisations and Human Rights Defenders, were implemented in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Many of these were also reported under other objectives, including objective 7, on freedom from all forms of violence, and objective 17.

Direct work with Human Rights Defenders was reported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, whereas broader support featured in other countries, including Uganda and Sudan. Broad support for civil society was evident in Angola, South Sudan and Tanzania. For example, an action in Angola, entitled 'Let's go together!' bolstered the participation and inclusion of civil society organisations and rights holders in policies to promote and protect children. In Tanzania, grantees of the Foundation for Civil Society were aided to re-consider their approach to gender. This involved a local analysis of the gender dimensions of conflict and how conflict affects gender relations. The aim was for learning from this process to be reflected in project adaptations, which also targeted objective 19.

Objective 20 was addressed by 20 actions that aimed to challenge and change discriminatory social norms. These ranged from cultural events to working with the media, ensuring a safe environment for women journalists, youth employment and gender training. A multi-country action in Zimbabwe and the Southern Africa region, 'Untying the Gender Knot', sought to promote gender equality within schools and communities in order to reduce HIV infections and teenage pregnancies. Across South Africa, youth-led radio initiatives at community radio stations promoted young people's civil

engagement and advocacy to build safer communities. In Sudan, a proven comprehensive, inclusive approach to changing mindsets, 'From Education to the Labour Market', scaled-up an earlier pilot to break gender stereotypes and improve economic opportunities. On-going work with Sudan's Bureau of Statistics collected disaggregated, gender-sensitive data in view of the 2020 population census.

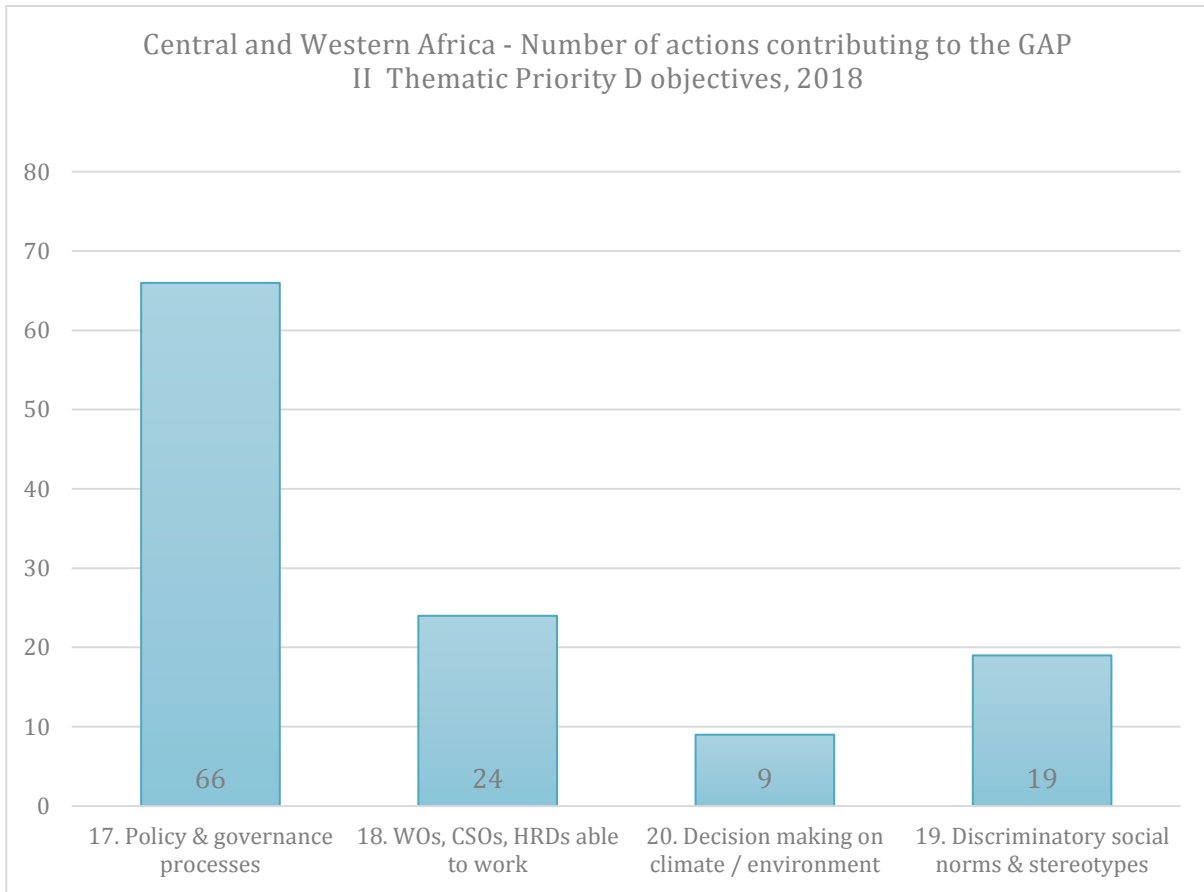
Among the six actions that contributed to objective 20, 'equal rights enjoyed by women to participate in and influence decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues', were two multi-country actions, and an action each in Angola, Ethiopia, Eswatini and Tanzania. One multi-country action strengthened the resilience of communities who are vulnerable to climate change in Southern Africa. The other supported a Friedrich Ebert Stiftung's 'Political Feminism Workline' which explored how a feminist outlook on political action can redirect reactive policy-making towards structural change.

In Tanzania, a focus was placed on enhancing youth leadership in the environmental sector through capacity building. An action in Angola worked to strengthen Civil Engagement Councils (CACs) and foster development for all by promoting active participation and inter-institutional dialogue. In Ethiopia, a gender equality and women's rights project addressed objectives 7, 14 and 20. Moreover, a community scorecard action in Eswatini aimed to empower citizens to track and demand improved services.

### **Central and Western Africa**

From the objectives of priority D, objective 17 on women's participation in policy and governance processes was covered by the largest number of reported actions (66) which was 134 % higher than last year. Another big increase was that in number of actions in support to women's organization, CSO and human rights defenders (objective 18), 24 in 2018 compared to 10 in 2017. Objective 20 was also supported by a higher number of reported actions: 9 in 2018 compared to 3 in 2017. The number of reported actions supporting elimination of discriminatory norms and stereotypes, objective 19, did not change from last year

**Annex 3 Figure 19: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring objective, thematic priority D, 2018**

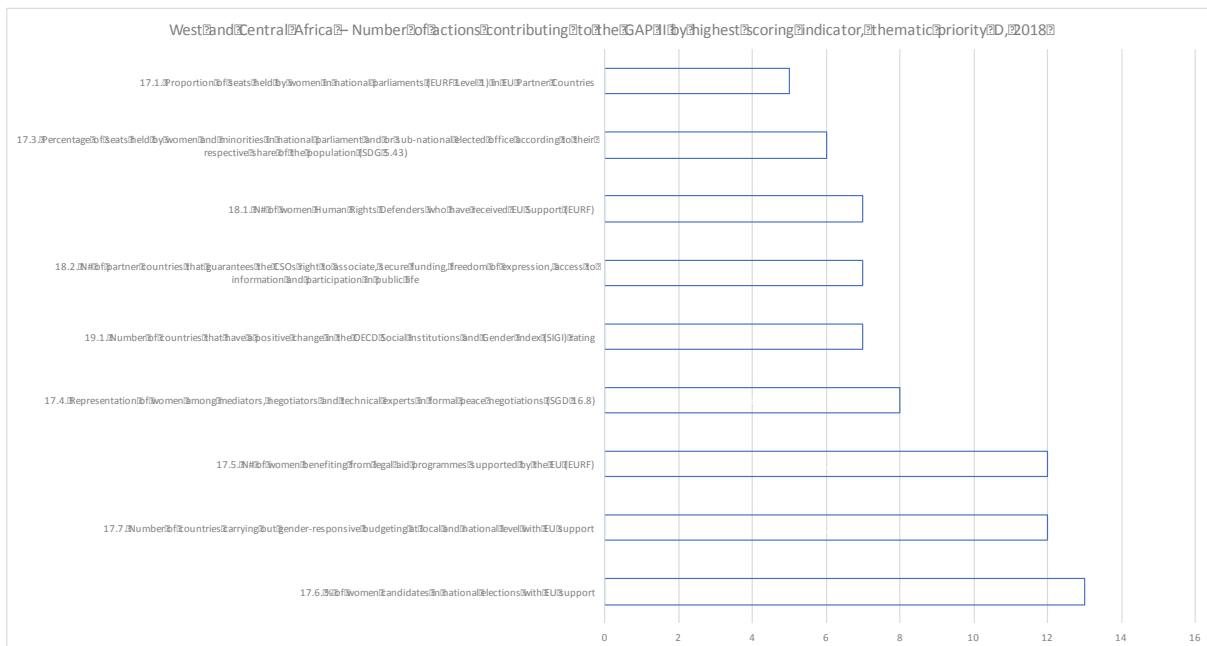


The most frequently selected indicator under thematic priority D was indicator 17.6 (13 actions) number of women candidates in national elections, closely followed by three other indicators corresponding to objective 17. With the exception of indicator 17.2 “Share of women on corporate boards of national/ multi-national corporations” all other indicators for objective 17 have been reported to be used in actions. This is a very encouraging trend.

As mentioned earlier, the trends in use of the indicators in the region for all thematic priorities, are to some extent only aligned with the trends of the objectives that are most used or corresponded by the reported activities.

**Annex 3 Figure 20: Central and Western Africa – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority D, 2018**





Actions that contributed to objective 17 spanned a range of issues of promotion and protection of human rights (Burundi), budget support for gender (Burkina Faso), institutional capacity building and strategies for gender equality (Cameroon, Senegal, Liberia), promoting more women in politics (Cameroon, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali), support to the justice sector (Benin, Cameroon), support dissemination information and public dialogue on women’s rights (Gabon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger), supporting civil society in promotion of women’s’ rights (Benin, Chad, Mali), public finance management (Cameroon, Liberia), including support to multilateral organizations in their work in the country, and many more. These are only a small sample of the very wide array of actions that are contributing to further the status of women and gender equality in the region with EU support.

EU Delegation in Gambia through its experience with “State and Resilience Building Contract (SRBC) II” highlights that a budget support indicator measuring the status of women’s rights is a good incentive to promote national engagement in gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Activities that contributed to objective 18 ranged from strengthening CSO (Benin, Burundi, Chad, Niger, Sierra Leone), to support to the rule of law (Mauritania), to improving national monitoring and evaluation system and gender mainstreaming (Senegal), human rights defenders (Liberia), encouraging advocacy with the business sector (Ghana), the local development platform programme (Capo Verde), the Spotlight Initiative, as well as core funding for UN Women and UN Trust Fund in support of peace and security (Mali).

The activities that were reported bring along important information that can be used for future planning, as well as for documenting the successes and remaining challenges. For example, the Luxembourg supported “Platform Program for Local Development and Target 20/30 at Cabo Verde” activities included the facilitation of dialogue through workshops with all relevant local actors on gender issues and mainstreaming. Projects funded through the programme included gender equality results. Importance was given to exchange of experiences between territories to

ensure that through shared learning a specific gender pillar would be included in local planning strategy.

## **Americas**

### **Overview of progress in 2018**

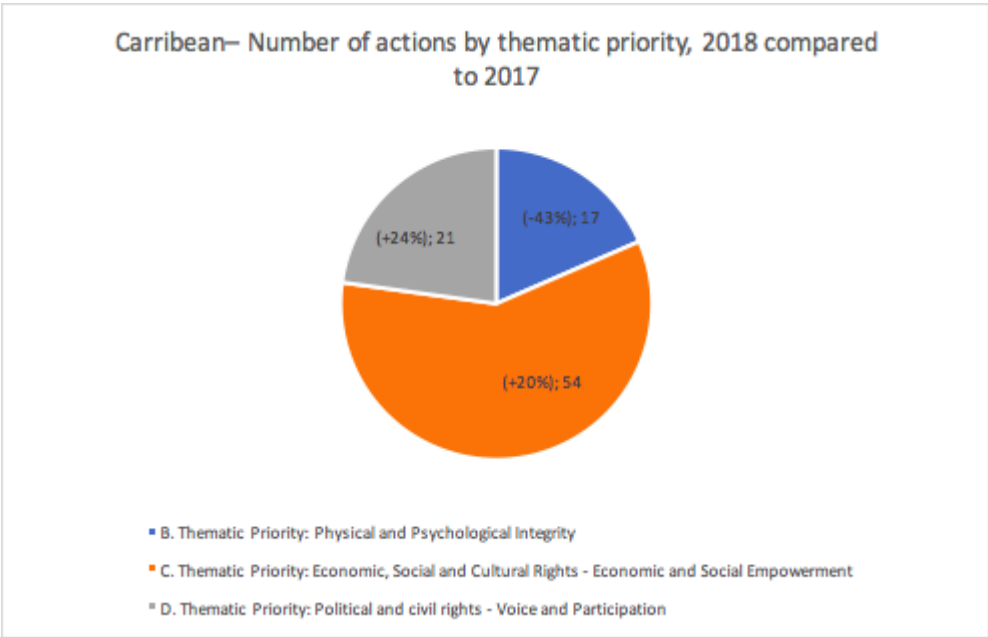
#### **Caribbean**

In the Caribbean, 92 actions contributing to the GAP II's implementation were reported in 2018. Of these, 65 % were implemented by EU Delegations, particularly in the Dominican Republic (24 actions), Haiti (19) and Barbados (17). Other delegations in the sub-region – in Cuba, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago – reported significantly fewer actions. Initiatives were also reported by EU Member States – specifically Germany, Italy, the UK, the Netherlands and Spain – in Cuba, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

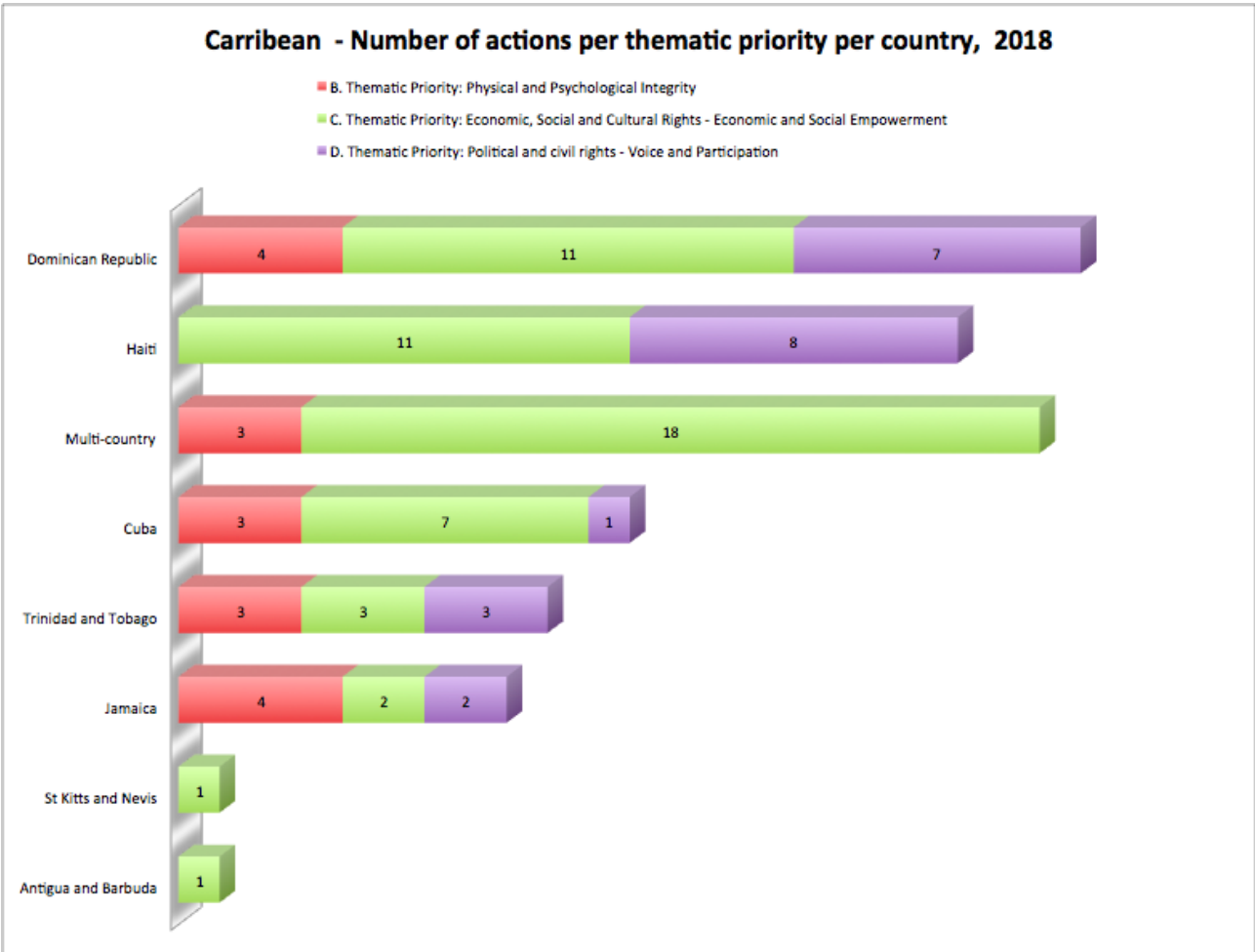
Women's socio-economic empowerment was the overriding concern for 59 % of actions, revealing an increased focus on thematic priority C compared to 2017. EU Delegations to the Dominican Republic, Barbados and Haiti implemented over 60 % of their initiatives under this priority. These largely involved measuring the number of women who accessed EU-supported, community-level, (micro-) financial services (indicator 15.8) and the number of women receiving rural advisory services with EU support (indicator 15.6). While 23 % of all reported initiatives contributed to thematic priority D, political and civil rights were the focus of 70 % of actions by EU Delegations to the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Most actions under this priority tracked the number of countries that carried out gender-responsive budgeting (indicator 17.7). Thematic priority B was the least frequently selected, with only 18 % of initiatives focused on physical and psychological integrity. The focus of this priority remains firmly on violence and women and girls (indicators 7.2 and 7.3).

Overall, there has been a decrease in actions addressing thematic priority B, and an increase of actions targeting priorities C and D.

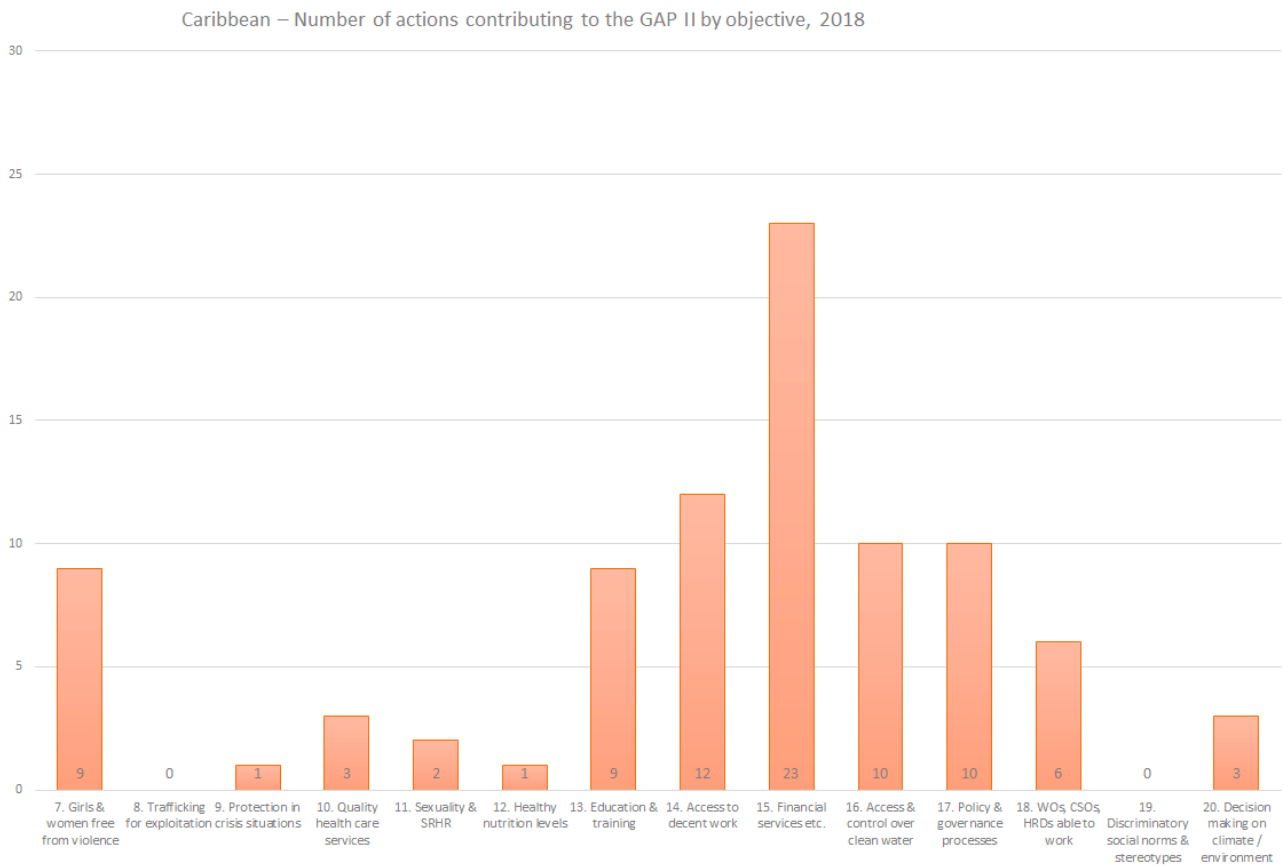
**Annex 3 Figure 21: Caribbean – Actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017**



**Annex 3 Figure 22: Caribbean – Number of EU Delegations’ and EU Member States’ actions by thematic priority, 2018**

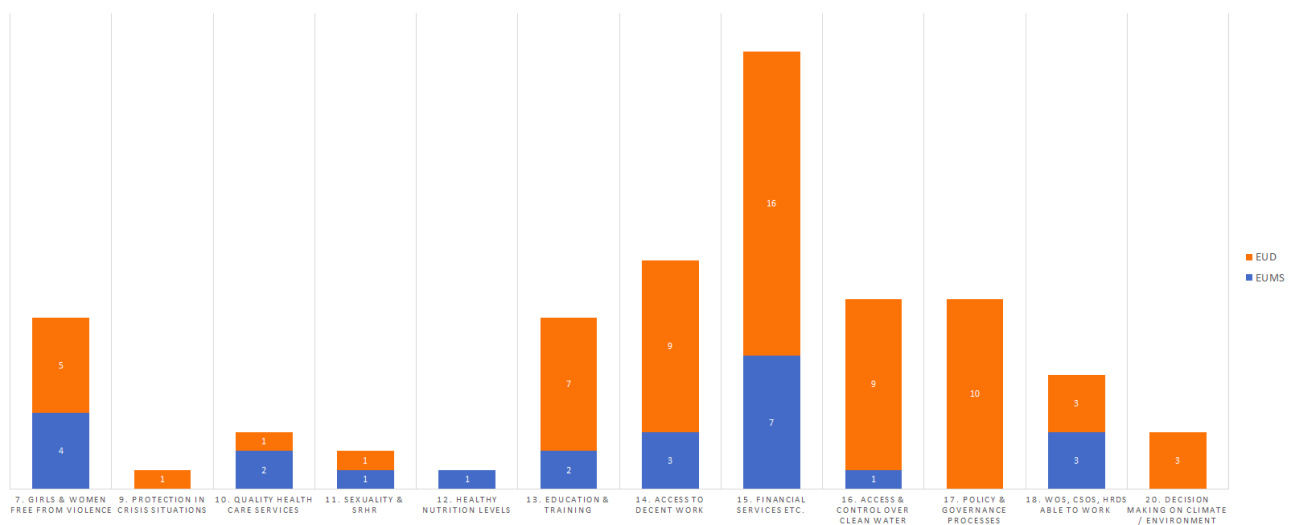


**Annex 3 Figure 23: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 24: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partner countries vs EU Delegations, 2018**

CARRIBEAN– NUMBER OF ACTIONS BY EU DELEGATIONS AND EU MEMBER STATES BY OBJECTIVE, 2018



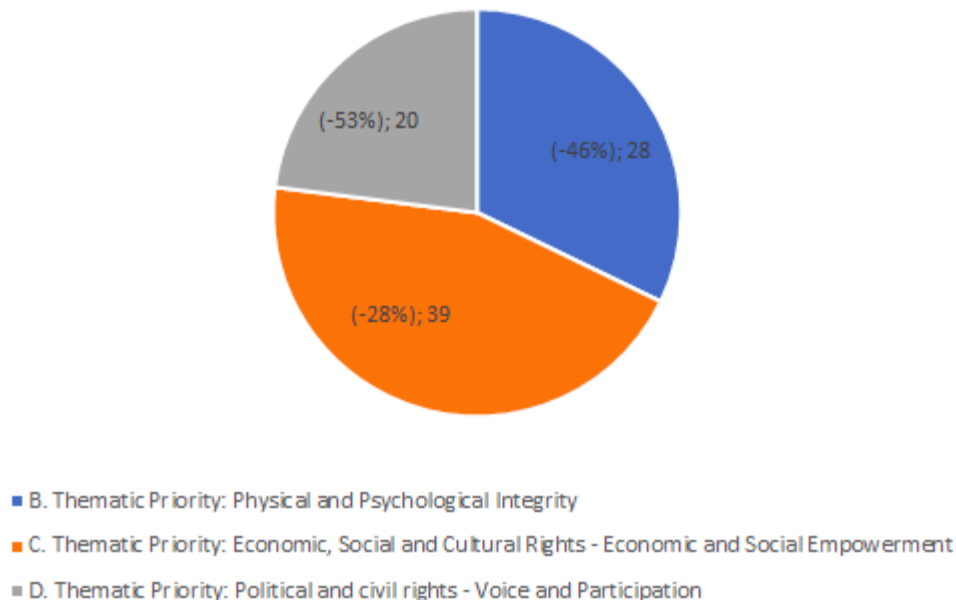
## Central America

In Central America, approximately 90 actions were reported on the GAP II's implementation in 2018. These were implemented by five EU Delegations, based in Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Honduras, and four EU Member States – Germany, Luxembourg, Spain and the UK. With over 40 fewer actions reported in 2018 than in 2017, there has been a significant decrease in initiatives. El Salvador accounted for the greatest proportion of EU actions in Central America.

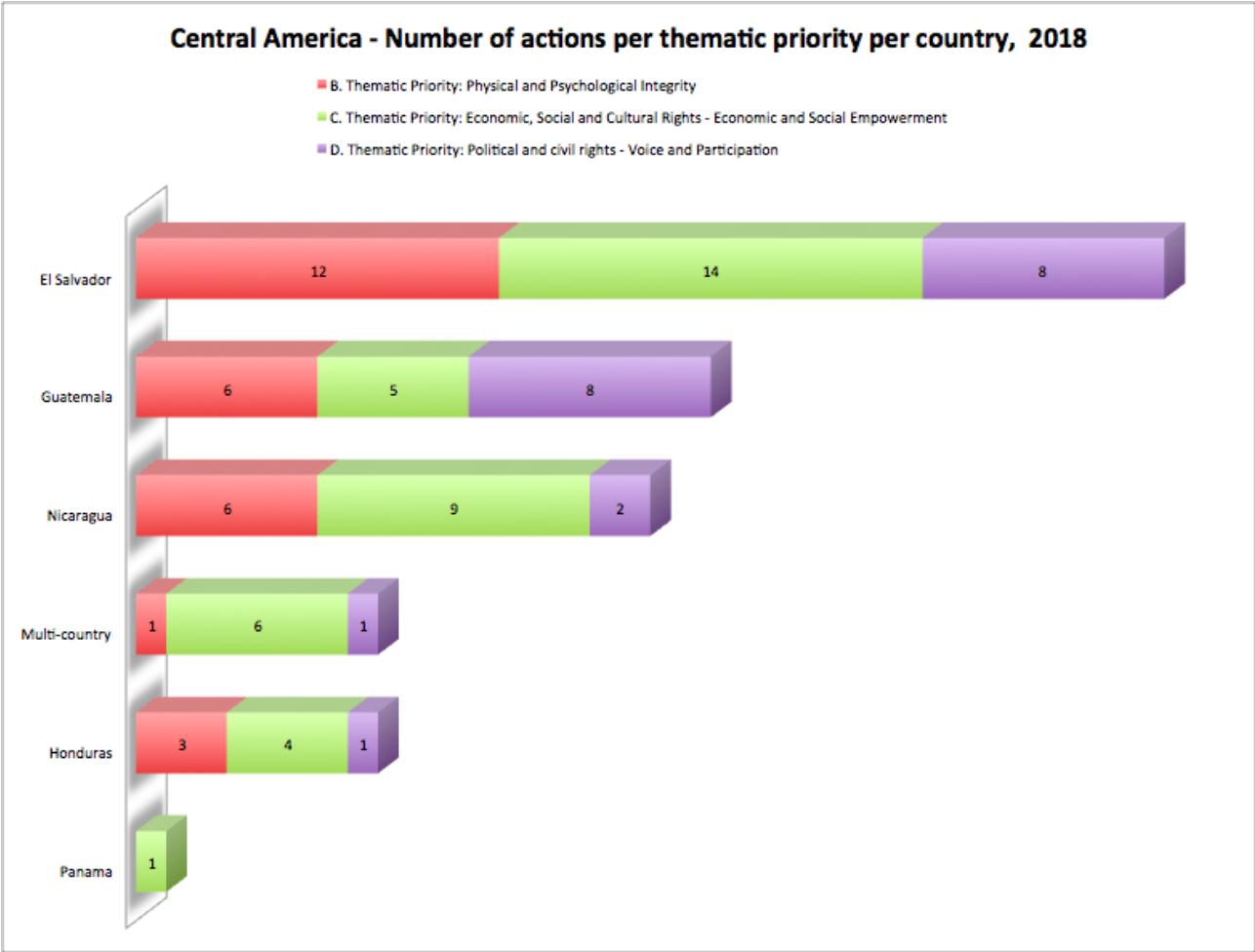
In terms of thematic priorities, trends in 2018 followed those identified during the previous year. Thematic priority C was the most selected, with 46 % of all actions focused on socio-economic empowerment, most of which were implemented in El Salvador and Nicaragua. This was followed by thematic priority B (34 %). Most actions on physical and psychological integrity took place in El Salvador, implemented by EU Member States, followed by Nicaragua, Guatemala and, to a lesser extent, Honduras. Thematic priority D was the least selected area (20 %). As in 2017, most initiatives on political and civil rights were implemented by EU Delegations (12 actions) – over half of which were by the EU Delegation to Guatemala (7) – followed by EU Member States in El Salvador (2), Nicaragua (2) and Honduras (1).

Annex 3 Figure 25: Central America – Actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017

### Central America – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017

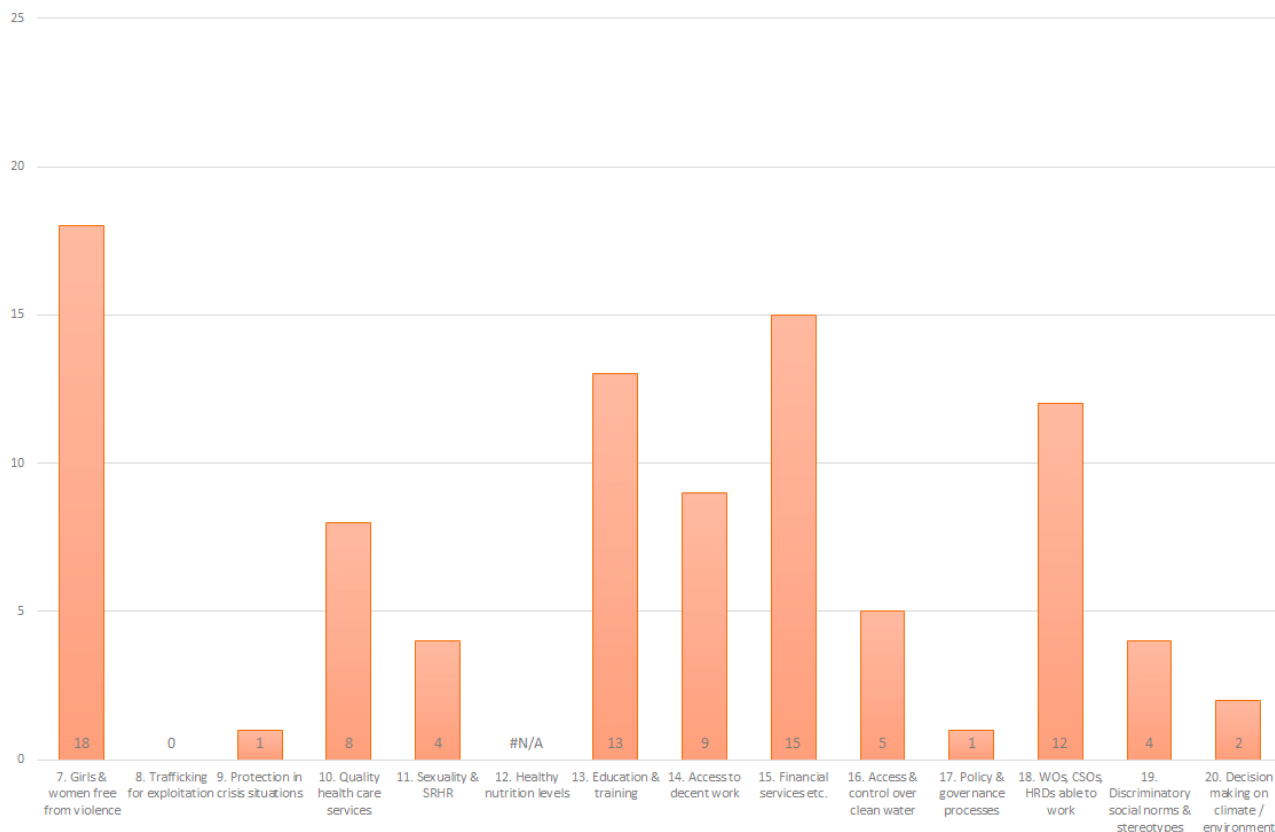


Annex 3 Figure 26: Central America – Number of EU Delegations' and EU Member States' actions by thematic priority, 2018



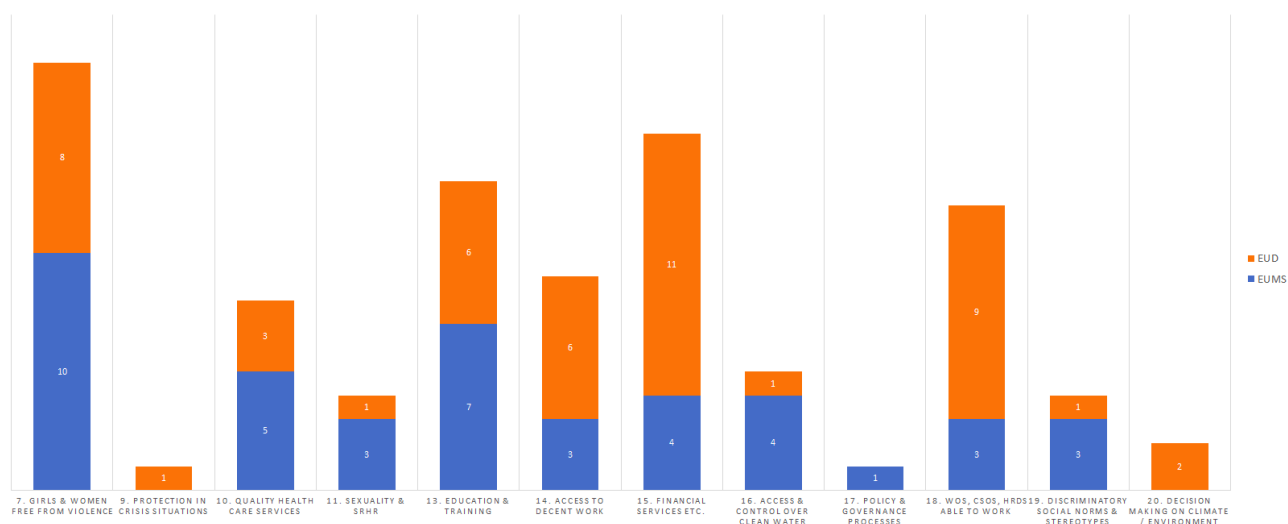
**Annex 3 Figure 27: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**

Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018



Annex 3 Figure 28: Central America– Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partner countries vs EU Delegations, 2018

CENTRAL AMERICA– NUMBER OF ACTIONS BY EU DELEGATIONS AND EU MEMBER STATES BY OBJECTIVE, 2018



## Latin America

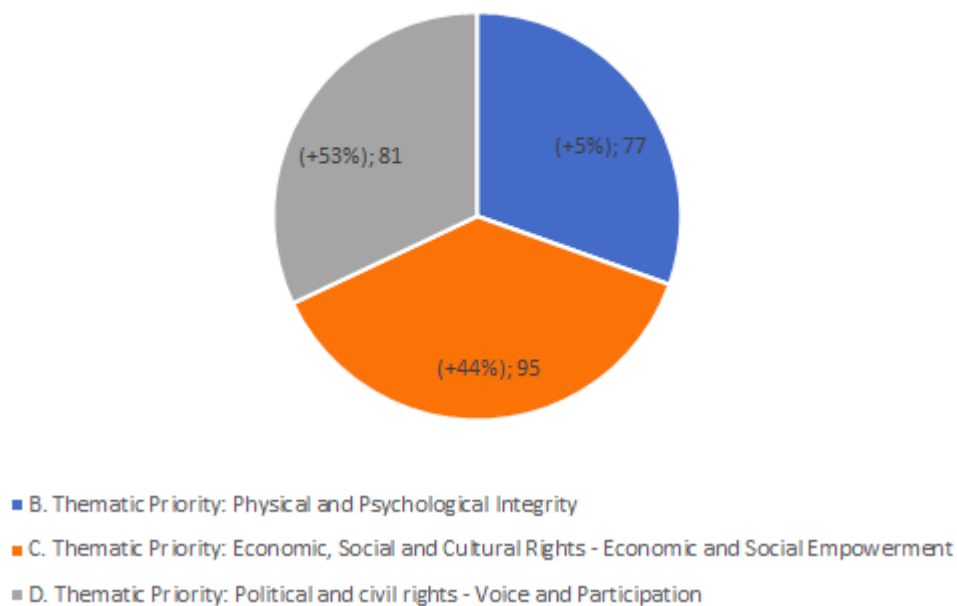
In Latin America, 253 actions contributing to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan II were reported in 2018 by nine EU Delegations and seven EU Member States – Belgium, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom (UK). These actions took place in ten Latin American countries – Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Suriname,

Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. Compared to 2017, four more Member States and two more EU Delegations reported on the GAP II's implementation, reflecting a significant increase in reported actions. While the number of actions reported by both stakeholders increased, this rise was more marked for Member States, which reported over 100 new actions (137 in 2018, compared to 23 in 2017). Colombia was the country with the highest concentration of actions implemented by EU actors. Of the 119 initiatives reported by EU Delegations, 50 were carried out in Colombia. Similarly, of the 137 actions by EU Member States, 47 were implemented by Spain in Colombia.

EU actions in Latin America largely focused on women's socio-economic empowerment. While 38 % of initiatives contributed to thematic priority C on economic, social and cultural rights, 32 % contributed to priority D on political and civil rights, and 30 % to priority B on physical and psychological integrity. This suggests a shift in priorities in the region. In 2017, thematic priority B was the most selected area for interventions, while in 2018 it was the least frequently selected.

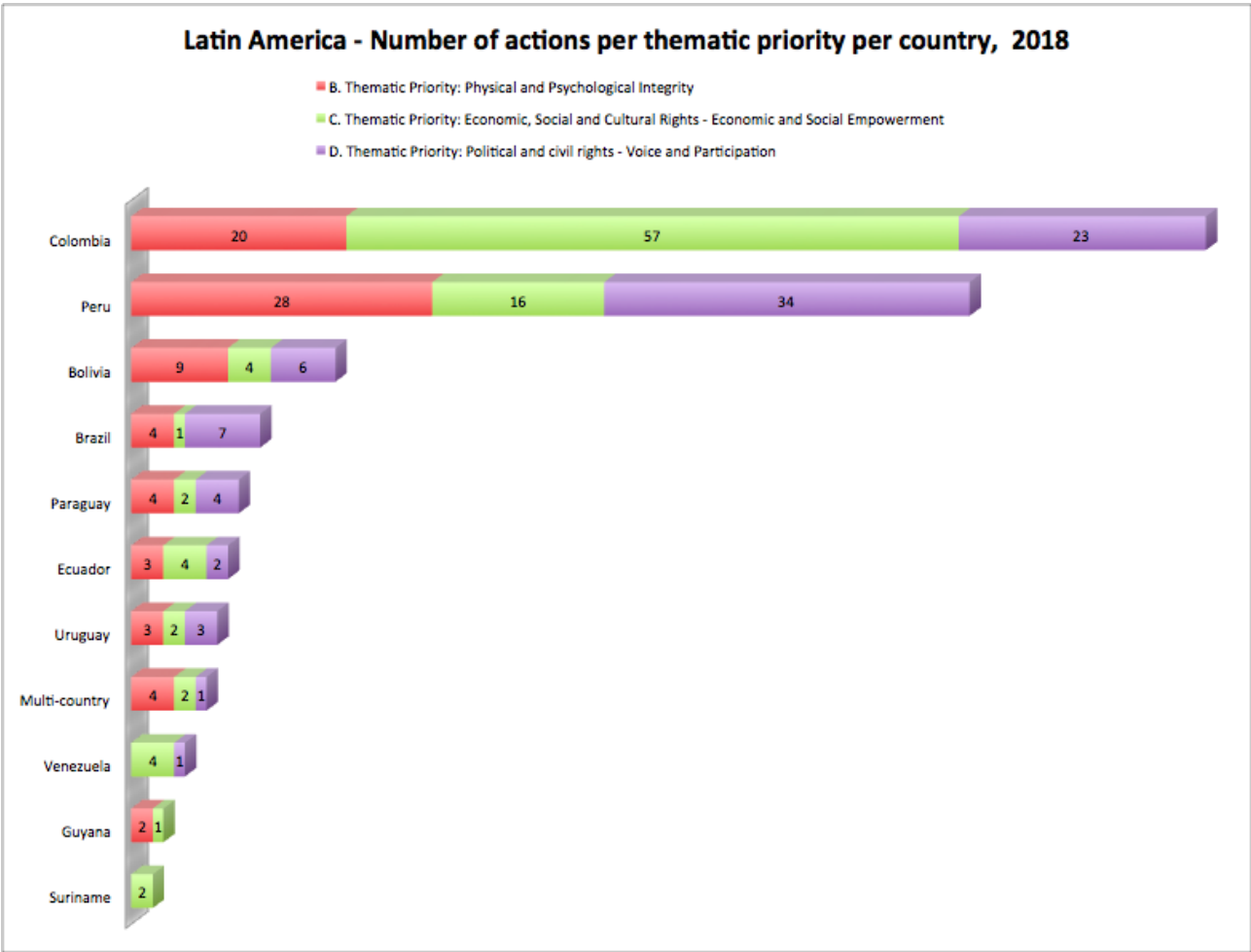
**Annex 3 Figure 29: Latin America – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017**

**Latin America – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017**



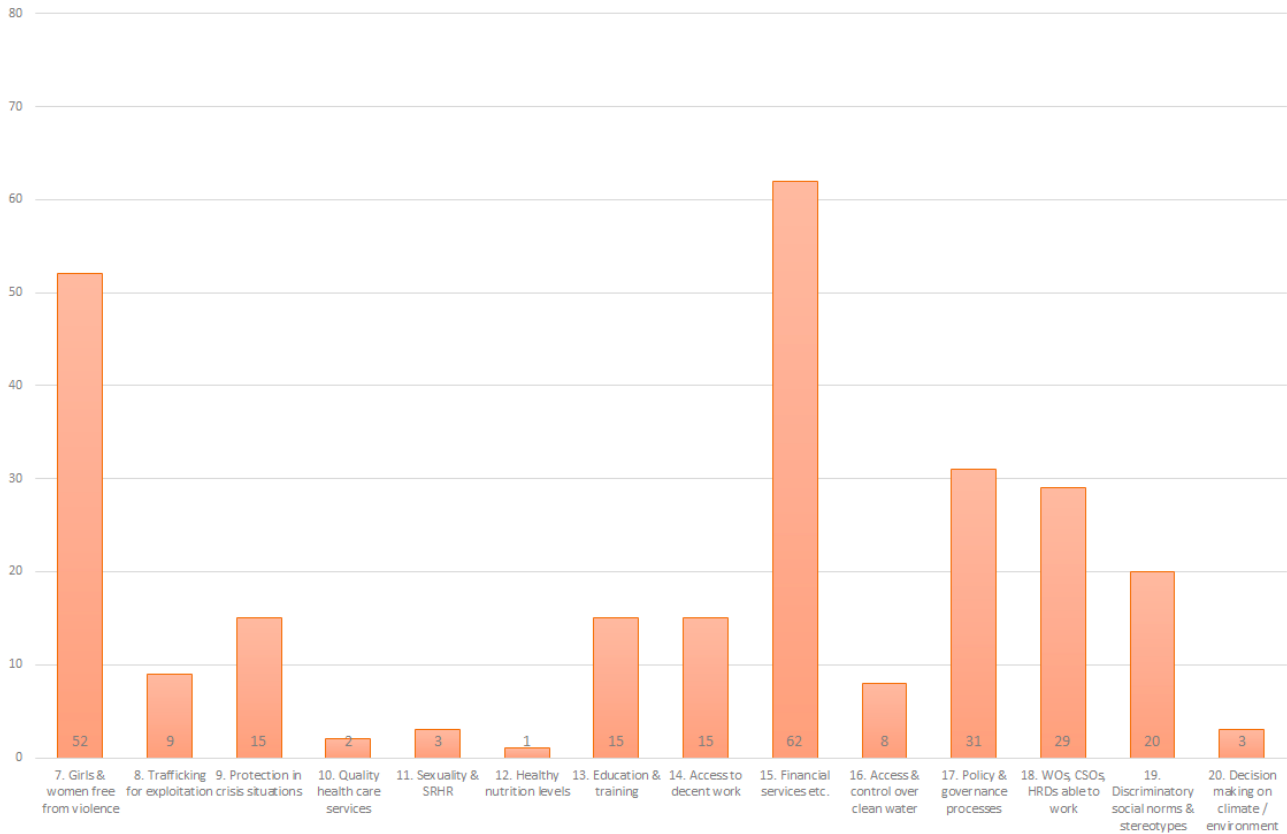
**Annex 3 Figure 30: Latin America – Number of EU Delegations' and EU Member States' actions by thematic priority, 2018**





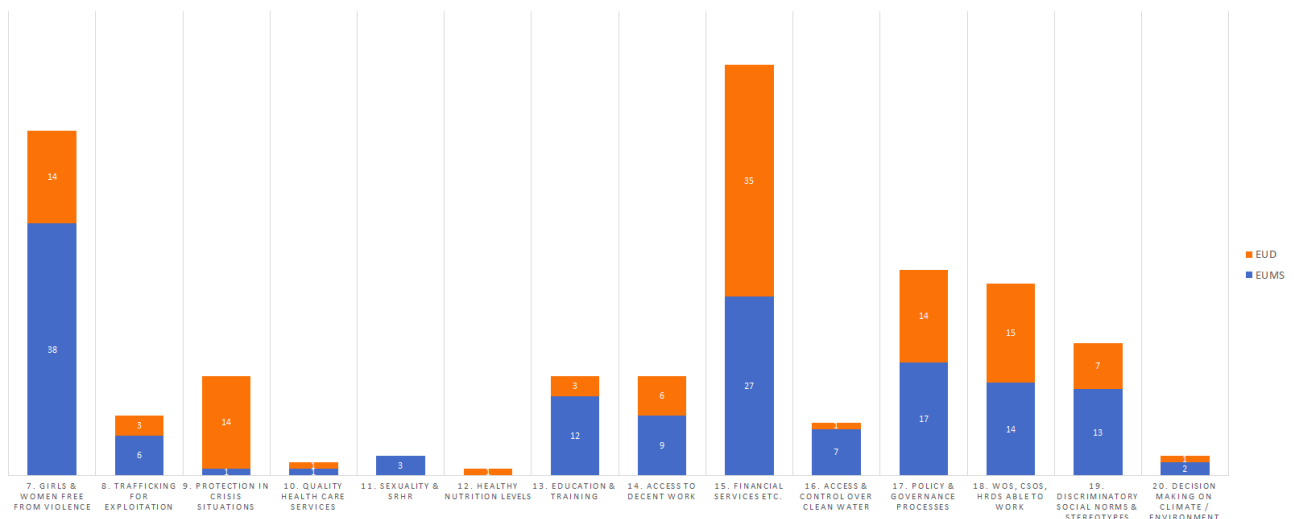
**Annex 3 Figure 31: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**

Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018



**Annex 3 Figure 32: Latin America– Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partner countries vs EU Delegations, 2018**

LATIN AMERICA– NUMBER OF ACTIONS BY EU DELEGATIONS AND EU MEMBER STATES BY OBJECTIVE, 2018



## Thematic priority B. Physical and Psychological Integrity

### Caribbean

In the Caribbean in 2018, thematic priority B was the least frequently addressed of the GAP II’s three priorities. Overall, 16 actions addressed five objectives (7, 9, 10, 11 and 12) on violence

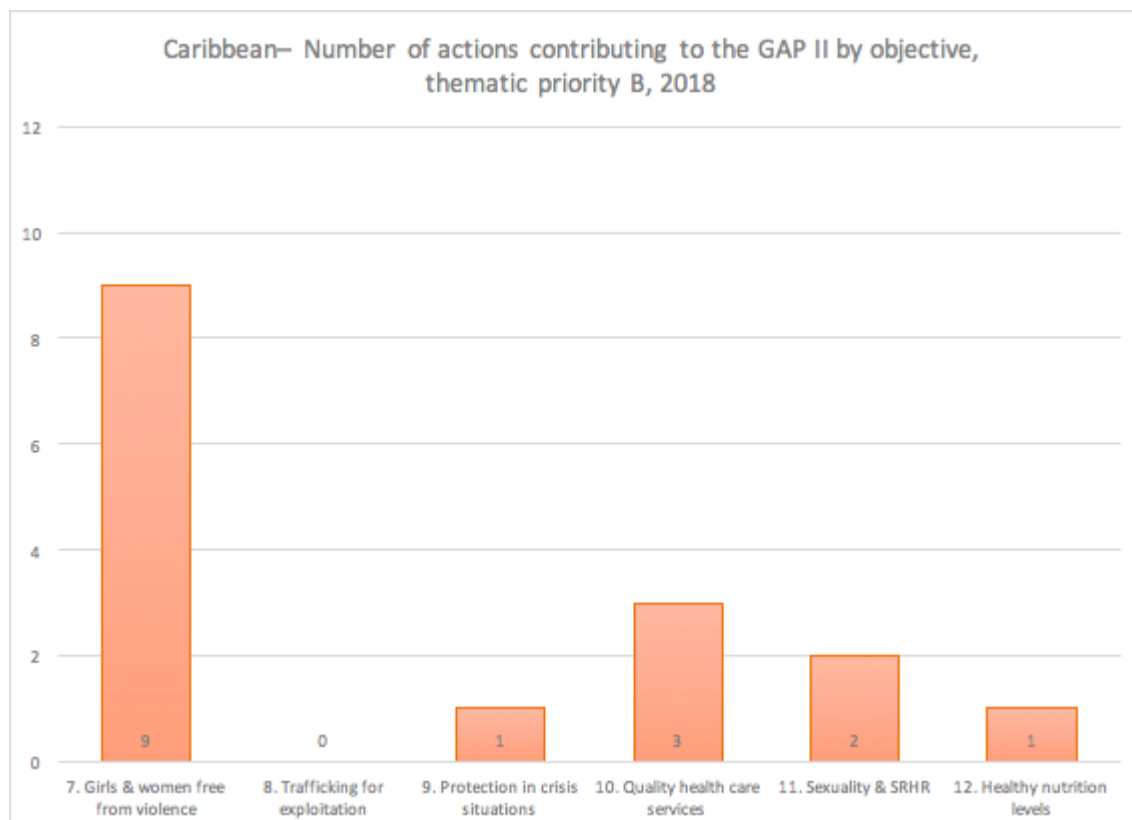
against women and girls, sexual and gender-based violence in crisis situations, access to health care services, sexual reproductive health and rights, and nutrition.

More than 50 % of these actions advanced objective 7, ‘girls and women free from all forms of violence against them both in the public and in the private sphere’. Initiatives covered issues such as justice (Jamaica), sexual reproductive health and rights and women's rights (the Dominican Republic), and asset recovery and cybercrime (multi-country). In Jamaica, actions were funded under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. In Trinidad and Tobago, actions centred on addressing gender stereotypes through the ‘Building Better Men’ programme, and an initiative on diversity management in schools. Indicator 7.3 was by far the most commonly selected, on ‘cases of gender and sexual based violence against women and children that are investigated and sentenced’. This was followed by indicator 7.2 on physical or sexual violence; however, this was only selected in a few cases. No other indicators were selected under objective 7.

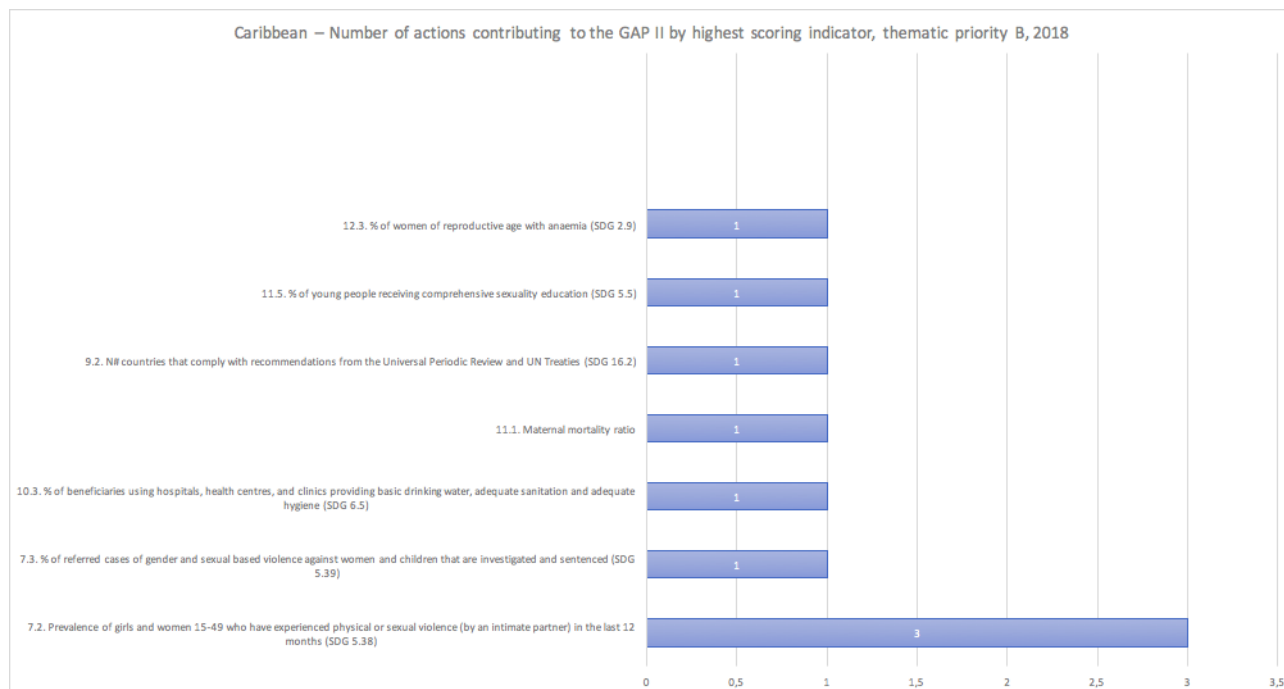
Three actions in Barbados, Cuba, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic tackled objective 10, ‘equal access to quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services for girls and women’, with a focus on sexual violence, security, justice, and the right to health without discrimination. Only in Cuba and Jamaica was a focus placed on sexuality and sexual and reproductive health (objective 11). Related actions in Jamaica simultaneously addressed child mortality. Nutrition (objective 12) was addressed in Cuba, while and protection from sexual and gender-based violence in crisis situations (objective 9) was addressed in the Dominican Republic through a programme on combating forced (child) marriage.

No actions in the Caribbean addressed objective 8 on the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation.

**Annex 3 Figure 33: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority B, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 34: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority B, 2018**



## Central America

Most actions under thematic priority B in Central America were implemented in El Salvador, followed by Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras. Almost half of these initiatives focused on combating violence against women and girls (objective 7). This is hugely significant in a region where women and girls are heavily threatened by violence – including gang violence and domestic violence – and where barriers continue to impede women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The most frequently selected indicators were indicator 7.2, on the intimate partner sexual violence experienced by girls and women, and indicator 7.3, on ‘referred cases of gender- and sexual based violence against women and children that are investigated and sentenced’. In El Salvador, indicator 7.5, on the ‘number of individuals directly benefiting from justice, rule of law and security sector reform programmes’, was selected for an initiative to support justice and security sector institutions in designing policies and programmes using a gender-sensitive approach. Germany implemented a multi-country programme to prevent youth violence in Central America. Initiatives in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua centred on combating VAWG, with a focus on rural women in Honduras, and on early pregnancies and sexual health in El Salvador. The implementation of the landmark UN-EU Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls was reported on by the EU Delegation to El Salvador.

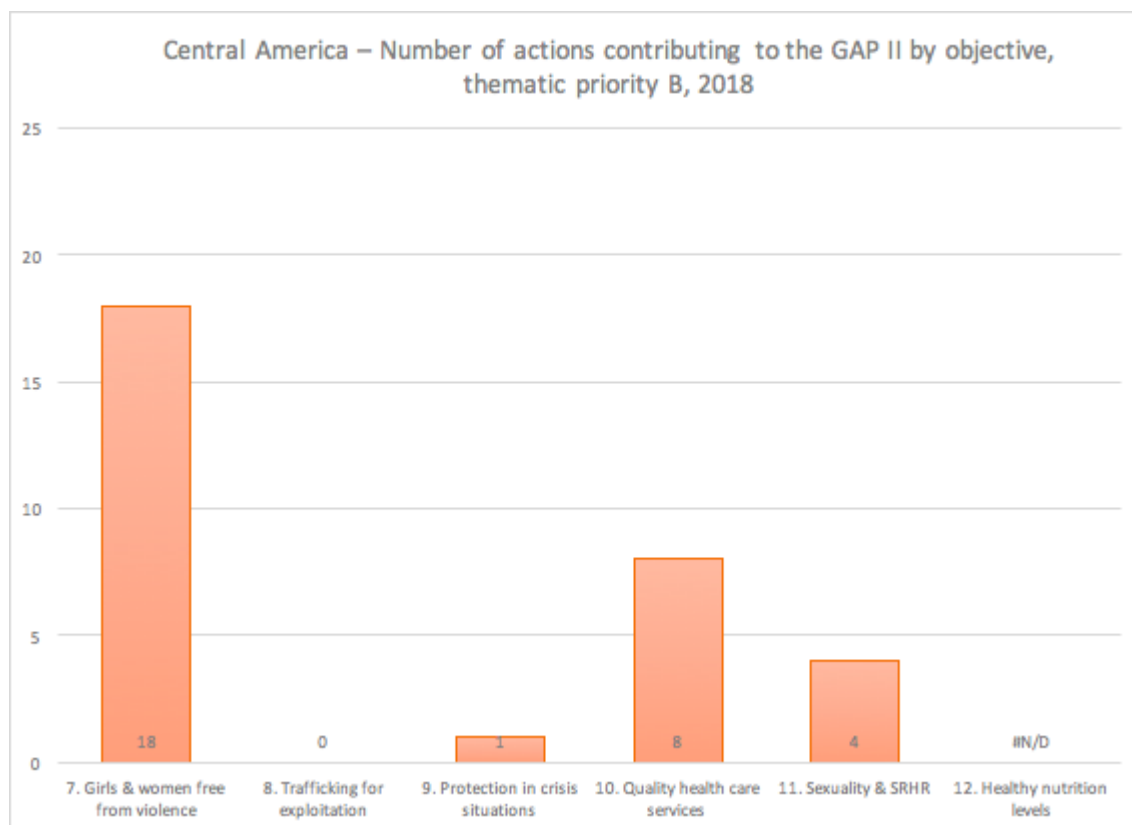
Objective 10 was the second most frequently cited objective in 2018, a marked change from limited attention in 2017 to ‘equal access to quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services’. Seven actions worked towards this objective through programmes on health in El Salvador and Nicaragua, and in a programme in El Salvador to improve housing infrastructure for persons with disabilities, while supporting nursing and sexual reproductive health and rights. In this context, indicator 10.3 was most frequently reported on, concerning ‘beneficiaries using hospitals, health centres and clinics providing basic drinking water, adequate sanitation and

adequate hygiene’. Only one initiative selected indicator 10.2, on the ‘proportion of persons with a severe mental disorder (psychosis, bipolar affective disorder, or moderate-severe depression) who are using services’. This was ‘*Apoyo al Plan El Salvador Seguro*’, a sector reform contract geared towards preventing violence in El Salvador.

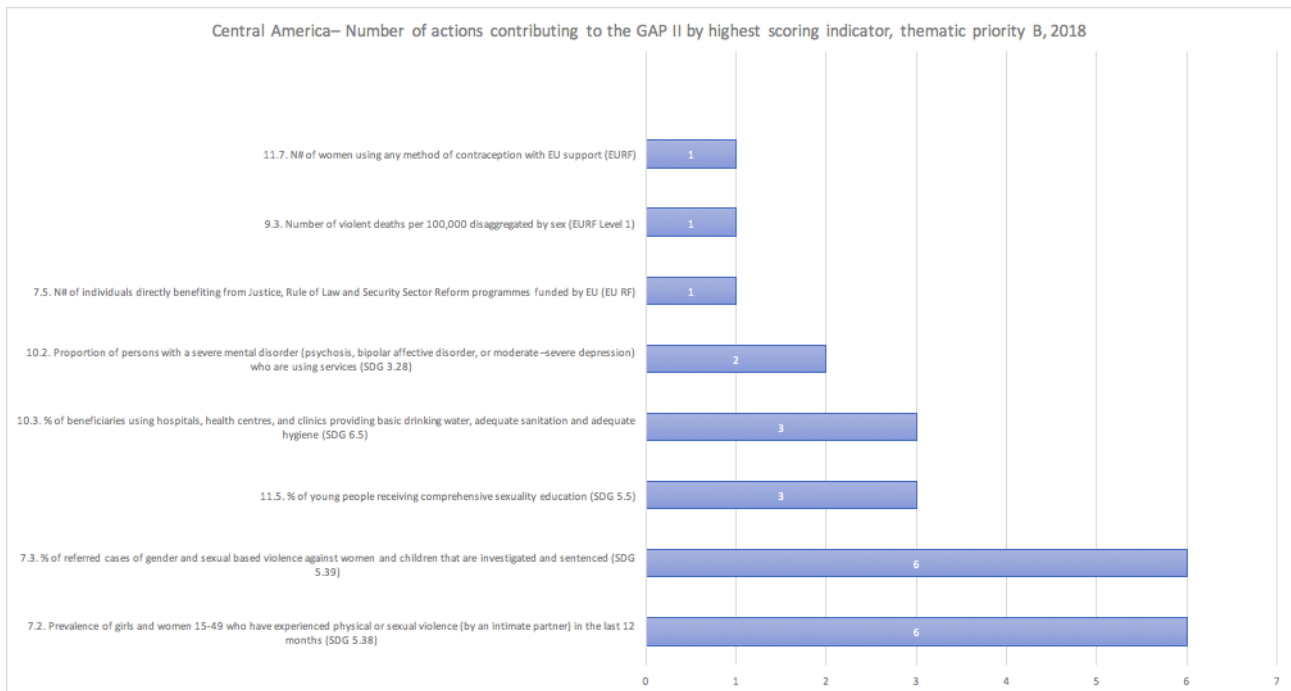
Objective 11, on ‘sexual and reproductive health and sexual education’, was addressed by four initiatives. All four were implemented in El Salvador by Spain and the EU Delegation, three of which concentrated on preventing early pregnancies. Only one initiative addressed objective 9, ‘protection for all women and men of all ages from sexual and gender based violence in crisis situations’, namely a sector reform contract in El Salvador on violence prevention.

Objective 8, on trafficking and sexual exploitation, and objective 12, on nutrition, were not addressed by any actions in Central America.

**Annex 3 Figure 35: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority B, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 36: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority B, 2018**



## Latin America

Concern about women's and girls' physical and psychological integrity remains significant in Latin America, although this is being overtaken by a focus on the GAP II's other thematic priorities. Alongside Central America, Latin America is among the world regions with the highest rates of gender-based and sexual violence against women.

For this reason, by far the most frequently selected objective under thematic priority B was objective 7, 'girls and women free from all forms of violence against them (VAWG) both in the public and in the private sphere'. This was the focus of 63 % of actions (52) under this priority. Member States predominantly addressed this objective, rather than EU Delegations. Most actions to combat VAWG were carried out in Peru. Indicators selected under this objective included indicator 7.2 on the prevalence of girls and women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner (31 % of actions), indicator 7.3 on the 'percentage of referred cases of gender and sexual based violence against women and children that are investigated and sentenced' (17 %), and indicator 7.5 on the 'number of individuals directly benefiting from justice, rule of law and security sector reform programmes funded by the EU' (8 %).

Several regional programmes to combat violence against women and girls are being funded. These include UN Women's flagship initiative on Safe Cities and Public Spaces, and a 'Triangular Project' to share practices from Peru and Spain to improve the El Salvadorian information systems and analysis of femicide. Germany is also implementing a regional programme to fight violence against women in Latin America.

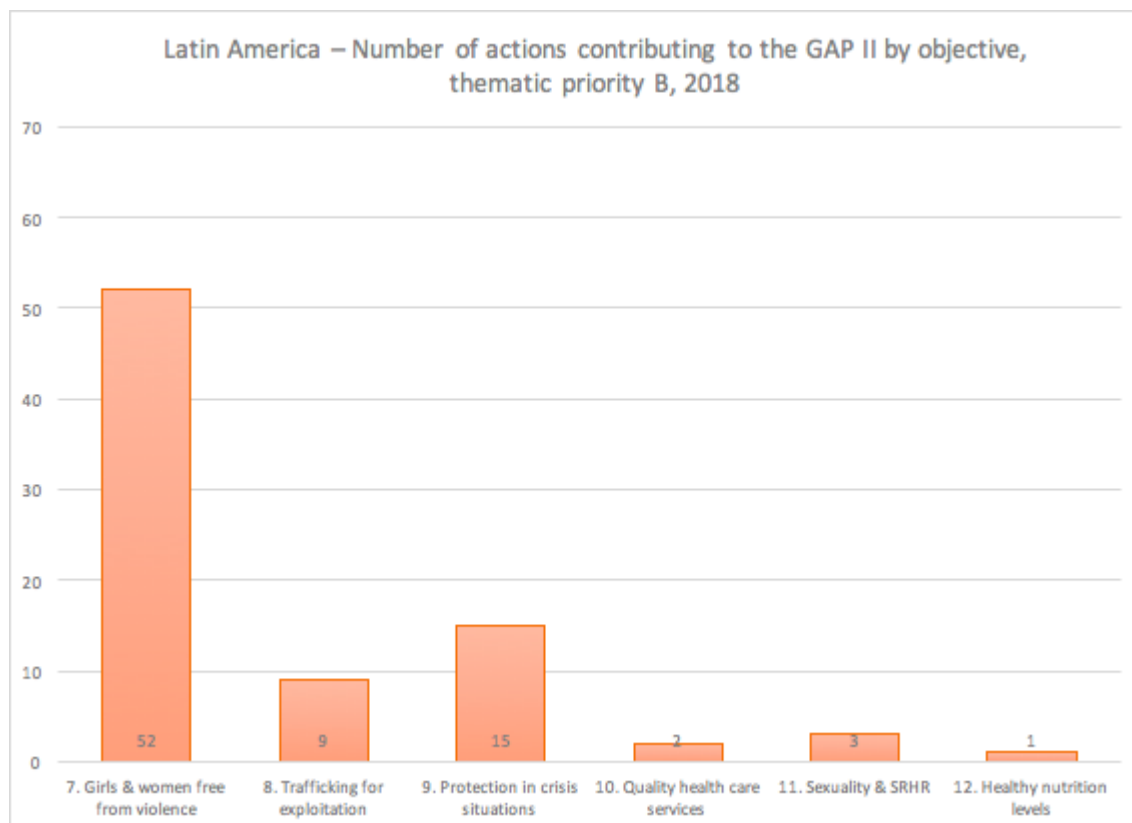
Crisis and social conflicts are frequent in the sub-region, characterised as it is by social inequalities and unrest. Therefore, objective 9 was a frequently addressed in 2018, geared towards the 'protection of all women and men of all ages from sexual and gender-based violence in crisis situations'. This was addressed by 15 actions in Uruguay, Ecuador, Guyana, Brazil and Colombia, with 11 of these initiatives implemented by EU Delegations. Actions focused on violence and femicide (Ecuador), democracy (Uruguay), and strengthening security by spreading a culture of peace, legality and human rights in post-conflict municipalities, supporting their economic stabilisation, and reintegrating and protecting boys and girls at high risk of recruitment (Colombia).

It is worth noting that the first human rights training organised by the military police of Brazil’s defence forces included a session on women’s rights.

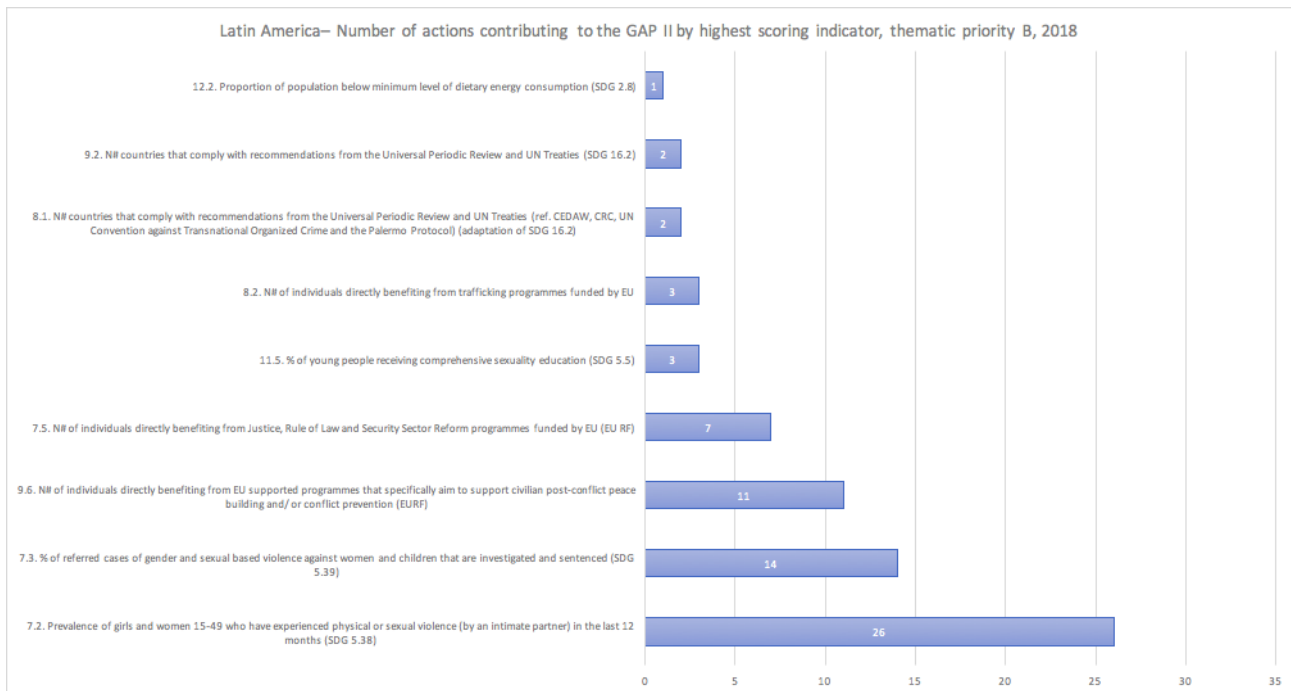
Human trafficking is prevalent Latin America, and women and girls represent the vast majority of those trafficked. This is the crux of objective 8, which was addressed by nine actions on sexual exploitation and trafficking in Paraguay, Peru and Bolivia. These focused on prevention and protection, in addition to support for public and government institutions in Peru and Paraguay. Objective 11, on sexual and reproductive health, was addressed by three programmes implemented by Spain in Peru to support violence against women (VAW) survivors and to determine the percentage of young people receiving comprehensive sexuality education (indicator 11.5).

Only two actions – in Peru and Guyana – targeted objective 10 on equal access to quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative physical and mental health care services for girls and women. Objective 12, on women’s and girl’s healthy nutrition levels, was addressed by the EU Delegation to Peru through budgetary support for social inclusion and the National Development Strategy.

**Annex 3 Figure 37: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority B, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 38: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority B, 2018**



## Thematic priority C. Economic, Social and Cultural rights – Economic and Social Empowerment

### Caribbean

In the Caribbean, the most frequently selected objective under thematic priority C was objective 15, on equal access to financial services and productive resources. In 2018, most actions in the sub-region addressed this objective, rising from five in 2016, to 19 in 2017 and 23 in 2018. The greatest number of actions reported by EU Delegations to Barbados, Haiti and the Dominican Republic focused on objective 15.

Under objective 15, indicator 15.8 was the most frequently selected, on the number of ‘women accessing EU supported community level, (micro-) financial services’. This was followed by indicators 15.6, ‘women receiving rural advisory services with EU support’, 15.4 on GNI per capita and 15.3 on the gender wage gap. Environmental issues were the focus of two multi-country actions – one on forest landscape restoration and the implementation of the Green Development Fund, and another on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. However, the extent to which a gender perspective was integrated in these initiatives was not specified.

Objective 14 was the second most selected, with 12 actions addressing access to decent work. This was followed by objective 16, on ‘equal access and control over clean water, energy, transport infrastructure, and equitable management’. Integrating a gender perspective in actions on climate change and environmental disasters is not yet common practice. Several actions focused on reconstruction after Hurricanes Irma and Maria; energy sector budget support in Barbados; and a bi-national programme in Haiti and the Dominican Republic on political dialogue concerning civil society, the environment, climate change and disaster risk reduction (DRR).

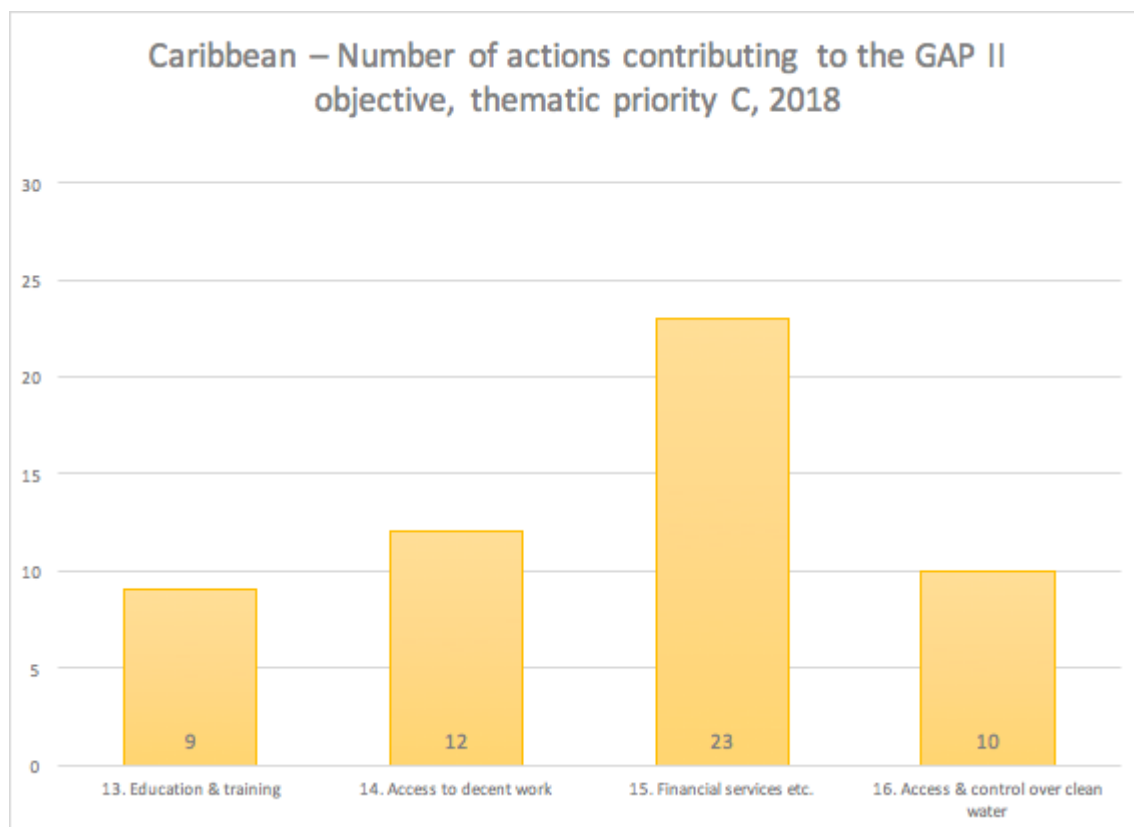
Compared to 2017, there was a change of focus in the Caribbean in 2018, as access to decent work received more attention than equitable access to, and the management of, water, energy and



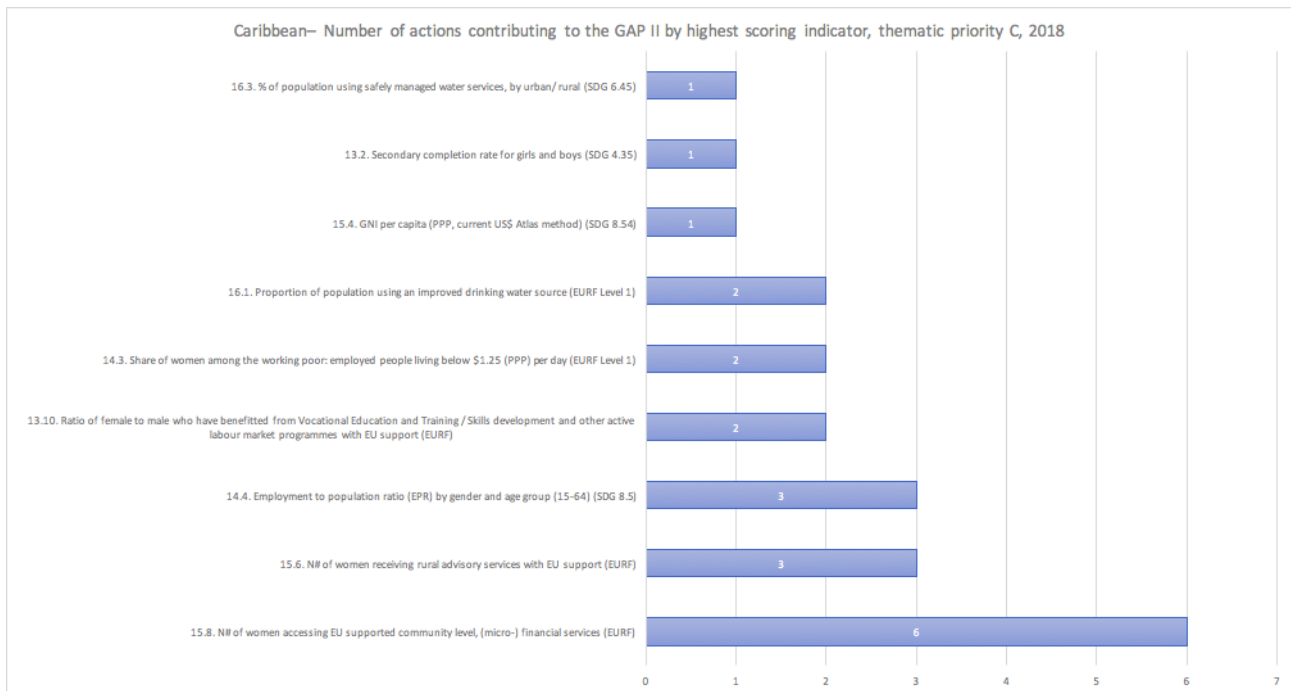
infrastructure. Reported actions reveal a strong focus on strengthening women’s access to finance, the use of micro-credit and financial inclusion to support their economic empowerment. As noted above, indicator 15.8 was most often selected, especially by the EU Delegation to Haiti. There was also a strong focus on rural development (indicator 15.6).

Other issues addressed using a gender lens included the employment to population ratio by gender and age (indicator 14.4), road management (16.7), public finance management (15.4) and vocational education, training and skills development (13.10), such as on modern cooking methods. Although Objective 13 on access to education and vocational training was not a prominent focus in the region, some actions sought to improve education systems and professional training in rural areas (Haiti), as well as technical and vocational education and training (TVET) (Dominican Republic). The EU-Anguilla 11<sup>th</sup> EDF Education and Training Sector Policy Support Programme and a multi-country programme also focused on building skills to support economic growth.

**Annex 3 Figure 39: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority C, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 40: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority C, 2018**



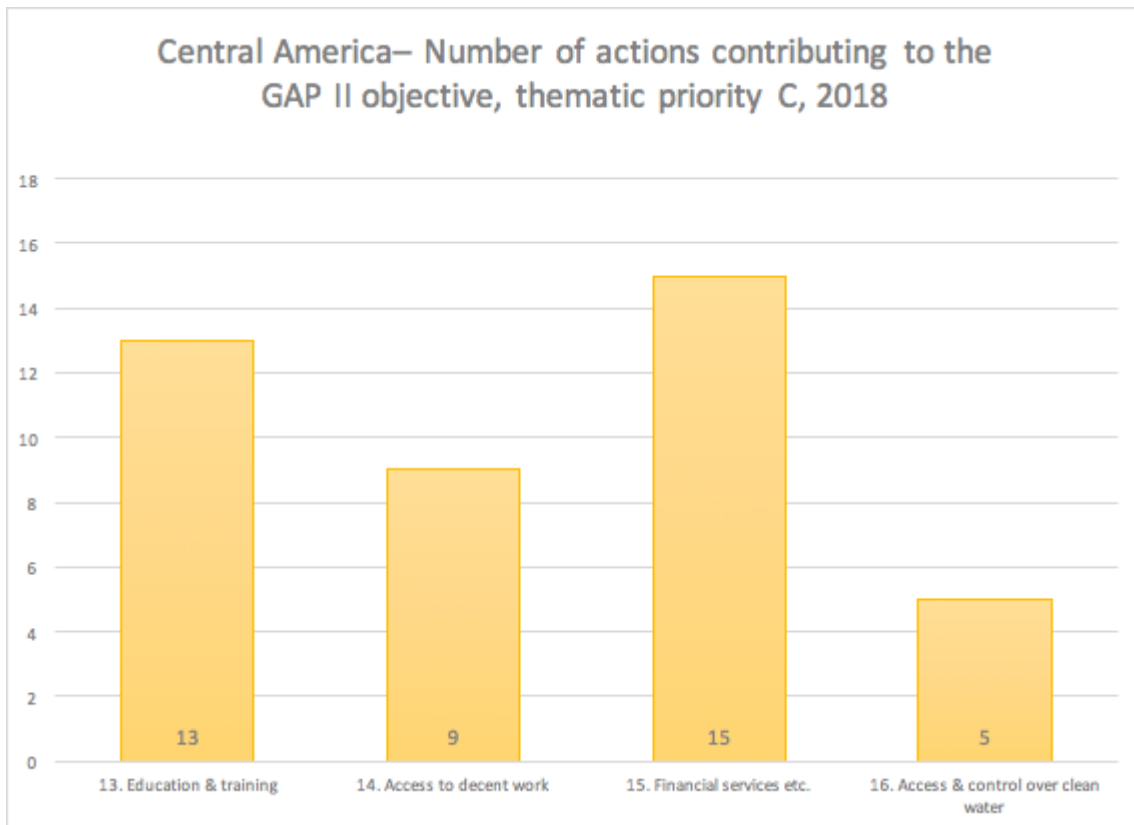
## Central America

Most actions by EU delegations and EU Member States in Central America contributed to thematic priority C. The most commonly selected objective was objective 15 (36 % of actions), on ‘equal access of women to financial services, productive resources including land, trade and entrepreneurship’. This was followed by objective 13 (31 %), on ‘equal access to all levels of quality education and vocational education and training’.

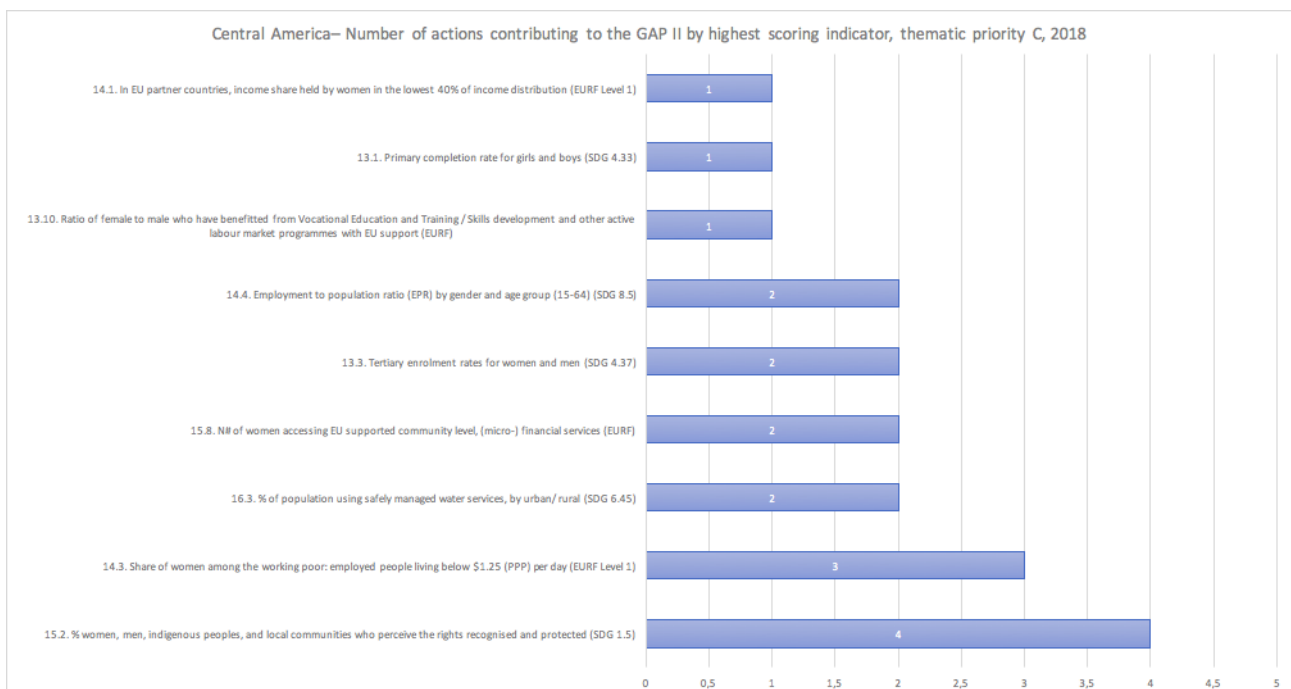
Only two of objective 15’s eight indicators were selected – indicator 15.2 on protecting the rights of women, men, indigenous peoples, and local communities, and indicator 15.8 on women’s access to (micro-) financial services. Some of the actions that addressed objective 15 focused on environmental issues, such as biodiversity, forestry and ecosystems. These included a multi-country programme on supporting the economic potential of biodiversity, access and benefit-sharing in Central America; an initiative for tropical forest protection and watershed management in the Trifinio region; and a programme on conservation and sustainable coastal ecosystem management in Nicaragua (*Fortalecimiento de condiciones y capacidades de la población para la conservación y manejo sostenible de ecosistemas costeros de la Costa caribe de Nicaragua*). In Honduras, a focus was placed on food security through a dedicated programme and sector reform contract.

Objective 14 was the third most frequently selected objective in the sub-region, on ‘access to decent work and employment’. All related indicators selected addressed women’s income share, poverty, equal employment rates and informal employment, alongside support for the implementation and ratification of fundamental labour standards prescribed by the International Labour Organization (ILO). Four actions addressed objective 16, on ‘access and control over clean water, energy, transport and infrastructure’. These targeted water management and sanitation in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The selection of indicator 16.3 reflects the EU’s commitment to supporting the availability of safely managed water services in Central America.

**Annex 3 Figure 41: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority C, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 42: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority C, 2018**



## Latin America

Many countries in Latin America are experiencing an economic slowdown, with particularly dire implications for women. EU actors in the sub-region sought to support women's economic empowerment by implementing 40 % of their actions in 2018 under thematic priority C.

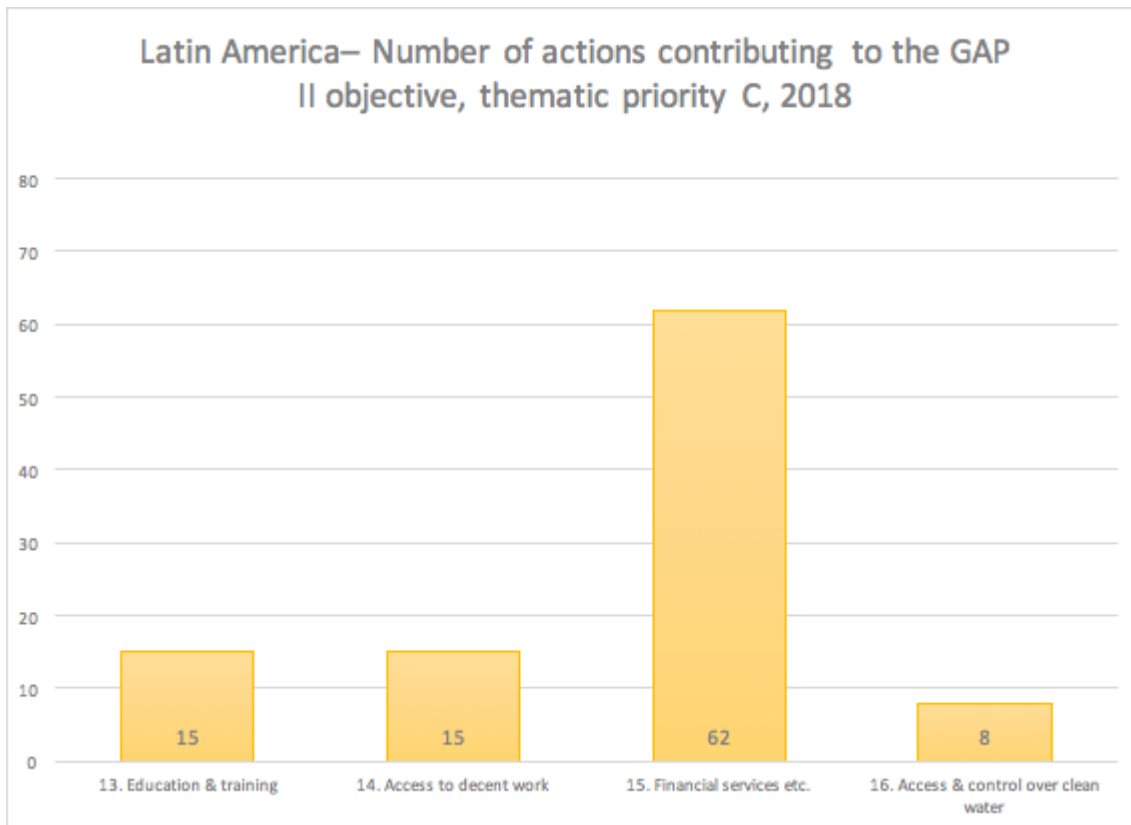
The greatest focus was on objective 15, 'equal access by women to financial services, productive resources including land, trade and entrepreneurship'. As this is considered a key strategy for

women's socio-economic empowerment in the sub-region, 63 actions centred on it. Of these, 46 were implemented in Colombia, 10 in Peru, three in Ecuador, and one each in Suriname, Venezuela, Bolivia and Paraguay. Indicator 15.6 was the most frequently selected, on the number of 'women receiving rural advisory services with EU support'. Actions under objective 15 supported civil society actors to champion inclusive socio-economic development in Ecuador and Venezuela. They also focused on economic development and value chains – such as involving more women in coffee and cocoa value chains – alongside indigenous people's rights and socio-economic participation (Colombia, Paraguay and Peru). In Colombia, most actions under objective 15 addressed the links between peace-building and economic and rural development. Specific initiatives on women's economic and social empowerment were also implemented in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

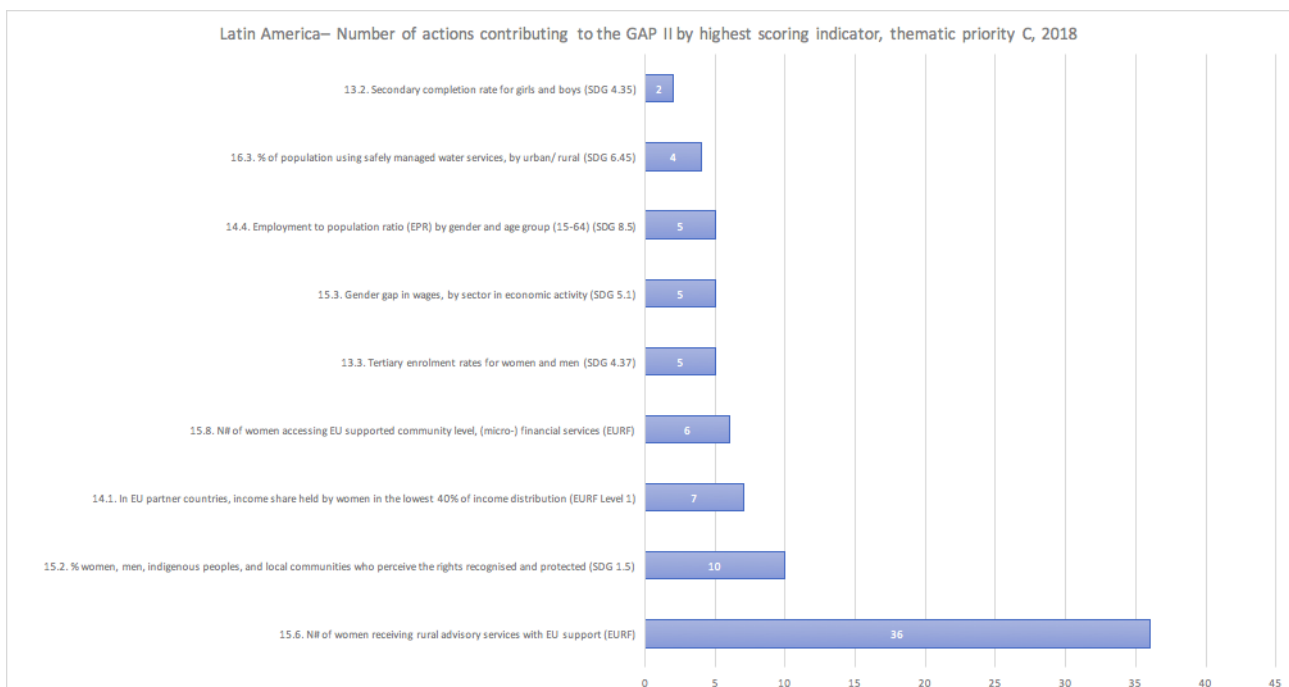
After objective 15, the objectives selected with roughly equal frequency were objective 13, on access to decent work, and objective 14 on equal access for girls to all levels of quality education, vocational education and training. Several actions sought to strengthen the quality of education; the labour market insertion and social inclusion of vulnerable youth; and women's economic empowerment through participation in labour markets and value chains, including cacao and chocolate in Venezuela, and crafts and processing camelids in Peru. The UK implemented a multi-country programme on girls' participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

While Latin America – like all world regions – faces environmental challenges that affect women and girls, there is limited evidence that these issues are being addressed from a gender perspective. In 2018, very few actions addressed water and the environment in Bolivia and Colombia. Gender mainstreaming was a feature of Paraguay's 'Sanitation and Potable Water Programme for the Chaco and the Intermediate Cities of the Eastern Region', and the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA+) in Suriname. With the exception of the GCCA+, all eight actions under objective 16 were implemented by EU Member States.

**Annex 3 Figure 43: Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority C, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 44: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority C, 2018**



## **Thematic priority D. Political and Civil Rights – Voice and Participation**

### **Caribbean**

Objective 17 was the most selected objective under thematic priority D in the Caribbean, on women’s ‘equal rights and participation in policy and governance processes’. This marks a

continuation of trends observed in previous years. This objective's selection has steadily increased since 2016, when it was addressed through four actions, rising to nine in 2017 and 10 in 2018.

Seven of the 10 actions related to objective 17 addressed indicator 17.7 on gender-responsive budgeting at the local and national levels with EU support. Both objective 17 and indicator 17.7 were most often selected by the EU Delegation to the Dominican Republic and, to a lesser extent, the EU Delegation to Haiti. Two actions targeted indicator 17.5, on women benefiting from legal aid programmes – one in Jamaica and another in the Dominican Republic.

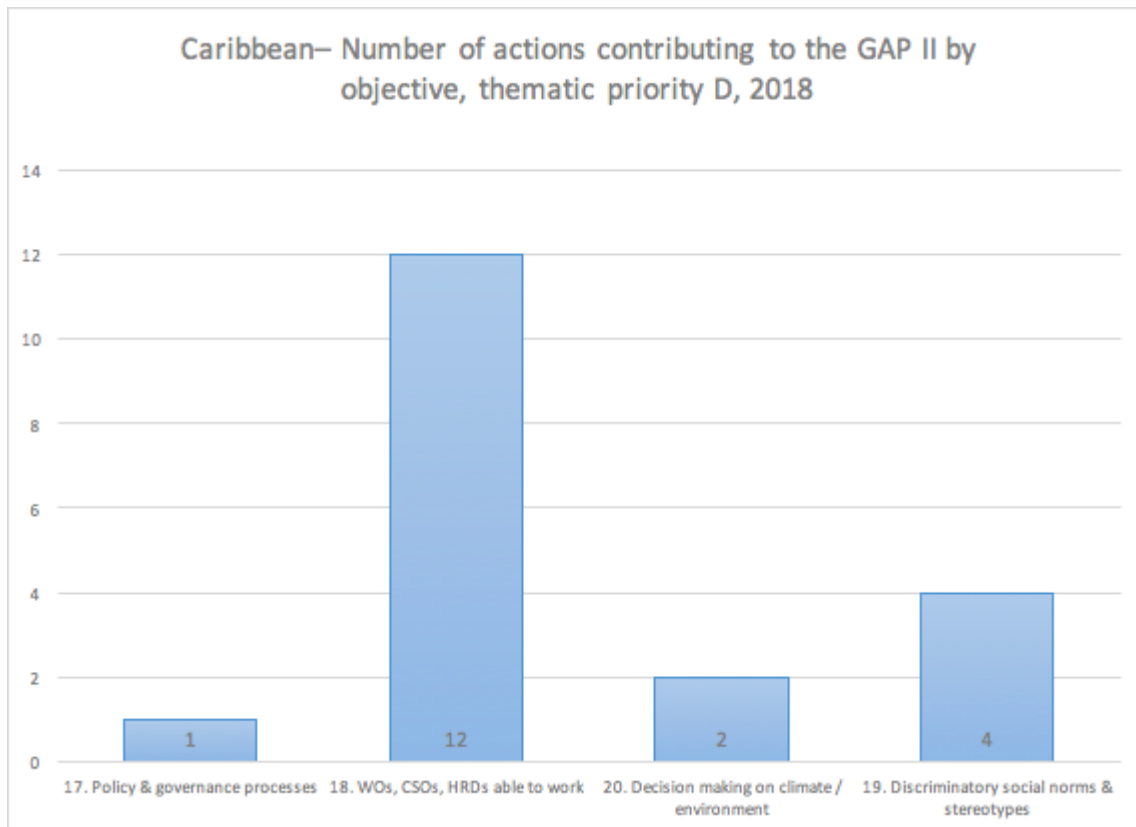
In the Dominican Republic, a range of actions specifically addressed gender. Initiatives included a focus on women's empowerment to support democratic governance, and a child rights approach in local administrations to enhance participatory municipal management. EU technical assistance to support gender mainstreaming in the implementation of the National Indicative Programme (NIP) 2014-2020 was also contracted.

Six actions addressed objective 18, on protecting women's organisations, civil society organisations and Human Rights Defenders. Two of these were implemented in Trinidad and Tobago, centred on strengthening lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) rights and combating gender-based violence. Both actions addressed indicator 18.3, on the 'number of Human Rights and Democracy Country Strategies that include gender equality objectives'.

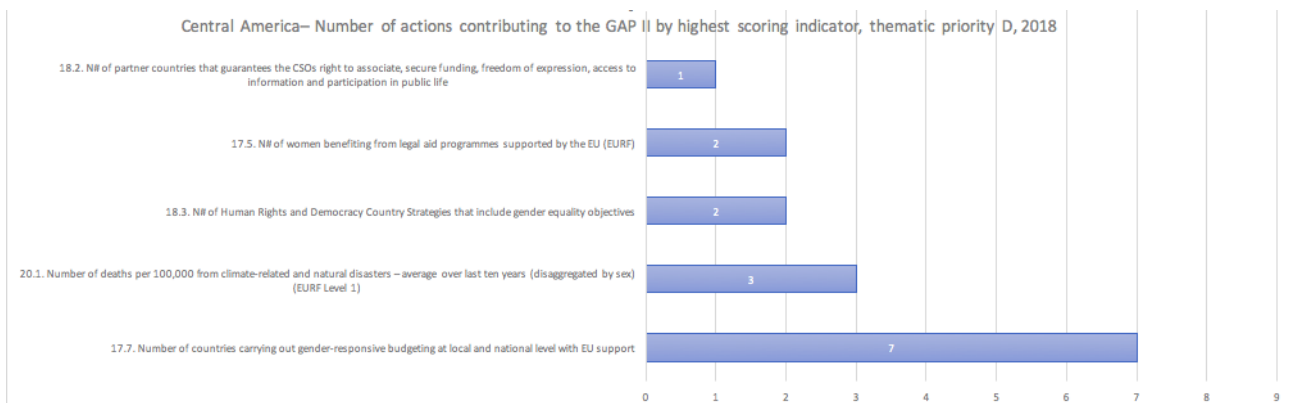
Only the EU Delegation to Haiti addressed objective 20, on 'equal rights enjoyed by women to participate in and influence decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues', through three actions. These included monitoring indicator 20.1, on the 'number of deaths per 100,000 from climate-related and natural disasters – average over last ten years'.

No actions addressed objective 19 on challenging and changing discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes.

**Annex 3 Figure 45: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority D, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 46: Caribbean – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority D, 2018**



## Central America

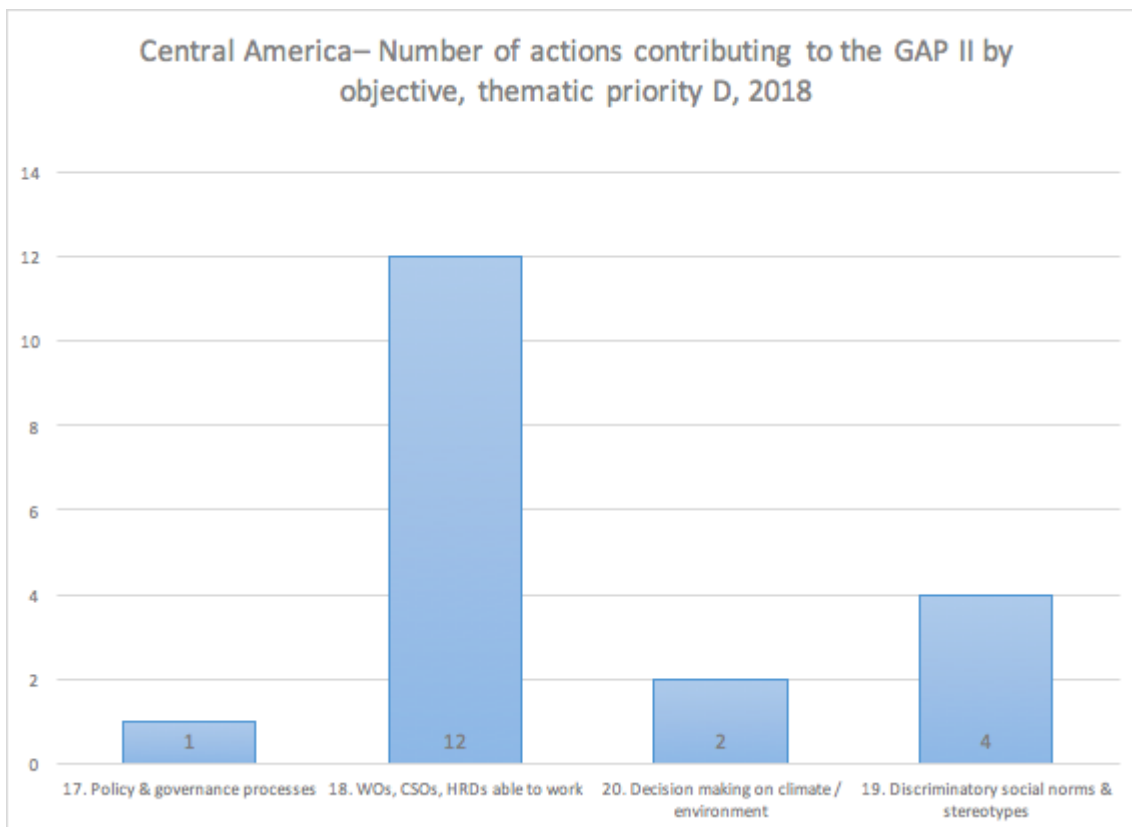
In 2018, 19 actions in Central America strove to strengthen women’s and girls’ agency, voice and participation in political, social and economic life. This is a marked decline from 39 actions on thematic priority D in 2017.

Objective 18, on supporting women’s organisations, civil society organisations and Human Rights Defenders, was the most selected objective in El Salvador, Guatemala and, to a lesser extent, Honduras. This illustrates the EU’s engagement in advancing non-state actors’ participation, while promoting political and civil rights. Actions focused on democratic governance and security (El Salvador), protecting Human Rights Defenders, including women, and civil society organisations (Guatemala), and supporting women survivors of violence and shelters for survivors (in both countries). Indicator 18.2 was most commonly selected, on guaranteeing civil society organisations’

right to associate, secure funding, freedom of expression, access to information and participation in public life.

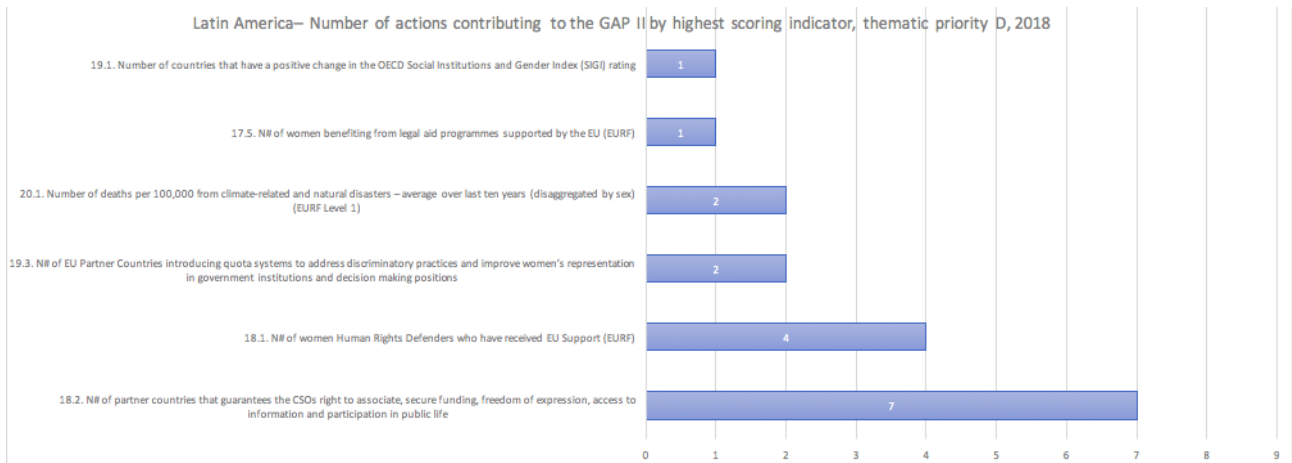
Four actions addressed challenging discriminatory social norms and stereotypes (objective 19), three of which were implemented in El Salvador. The fourth, in Nicaragua, sought to strengthen the complaint system for cases of discrimination, boost the judiciary’s capacity to address this structural cause of violence, and mainstream cross-cutting equality issues in public administration. Under this objective, EU actors generally committed to supporting positive changes on measures included in the OECD Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) (indicator 19.1) and the introduction of a quota system (19.3). Two initiatives in Guatemala addressed objective 20, ‘equal rights enjoyed by women to participate in and influence decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues’. Only one action, also in Guatemala, addressed objective 17, ‘equal rights and ability for women to participate in policy and governance processes at all levels’.

**Annex 3 Figure 47: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority D, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 48: Central America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority D, 2018**





## Latin America

Thematic priority D was the second most selected priority in Latin America in 2018, attracting far greater attention than in 2017. Three objectives (17, 18 and 19) under this priority are among the five most selected objectives in the sub-region. This reflects markedly greater EU support for Latin American women's organisations, civil society organisations and Human Rights Defenders (objective 18), and for challenging discriminatory norms and stereotypes (objective 19).

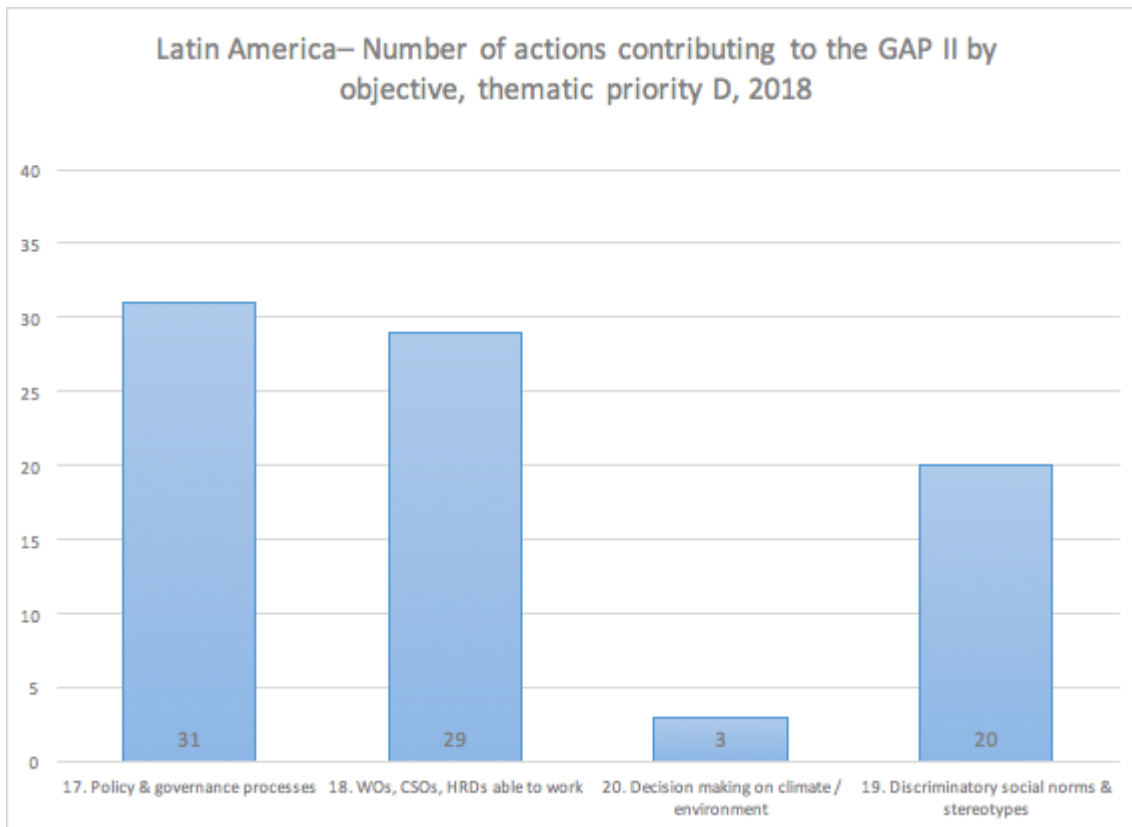
Objective 17, 'equal rights and ability for women to participate in policy and governance processes', was addressed across six countries – Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Peru. Only one action – implemented by Sweden in Peru – selected indicator 17.7, on the 'number of countries carrying out gender-responsive budgeting at local and national level with EU support'. Many reported actions were workshops, speeches and initiatives. Nonetheless, programmes implemented covered a range of issues – from local development in Uruguay, to peace and gender-sensitive public policy in Colombia, civil society projects in Brazil, women's political rights in Paraguay, and gender-sensitive fiscal justice in Bolivia.

Objective 18 was addressed almost as often as objective 17 in Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia and Venezuela. Actions focused primarily on indicator 18.2, on civil society's rights. Once again, the focus in Colombia was on human rights and peace, with support provided to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OCHA). In Brazil, several initiatives were funded by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). Support for Human Rights Defenders was especially pronounced in Ecuador, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

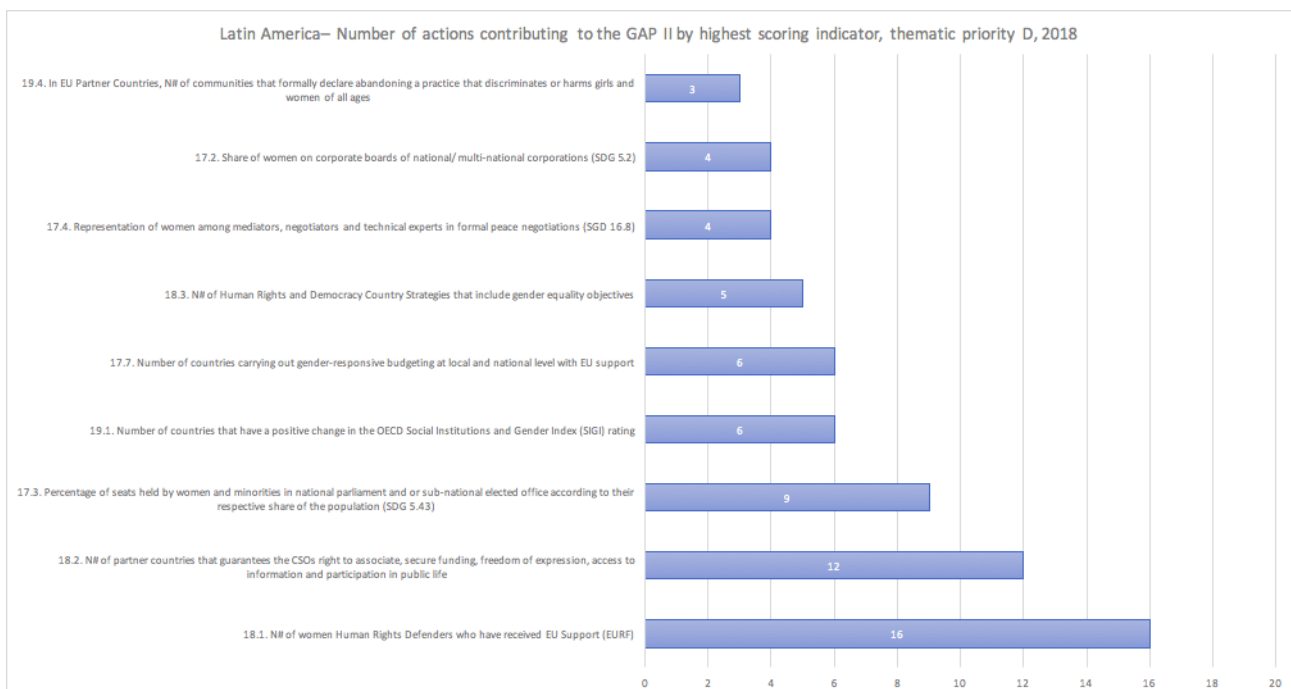
Of the 20 actions that explicitly aimed to challenge discriminatory social norms (objective 19), 15 were implemented in Peru. Many of these actions were exhibitions, forums, specific events and conventions.

Under objective 20, 'decision-making on climate/environment', the Black Women Permanent Forum was launched in Brazil. In Peru, the Human Rights and Rule of Law Franco-German Prize for 2018 was awarded to an indigenous woman leader fighting for indigenous and environmental rights. In Uruguay, women's socio-economic rights were promoted.

**Annex 3 Figure 49: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, thematic priority D, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 50: Latin America – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by highest scoring indicator, thematic priority D, 2018**



## Asia

### Overview of progress in 2018

#### Asia and the Pacific

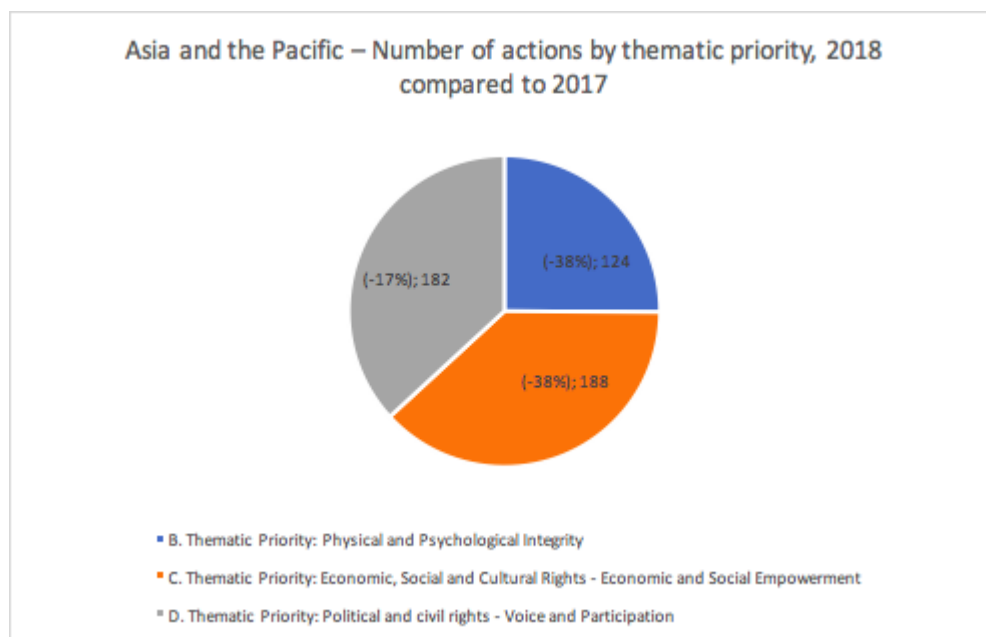
Approximately 500 actions contributing to the Gender Action Plan II's implementation were reported in Asia and the Pacific in 2018. These were reported by 10 EU Member States – Austria,

Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom – and 16 EU Delegations, three more than in 2017. The EU Delegations in questions represent 21 countries and one sub-region in Asia and the Pacific – Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, Mongolia, Fiji and the Pacific Islands, India and Bhutan, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

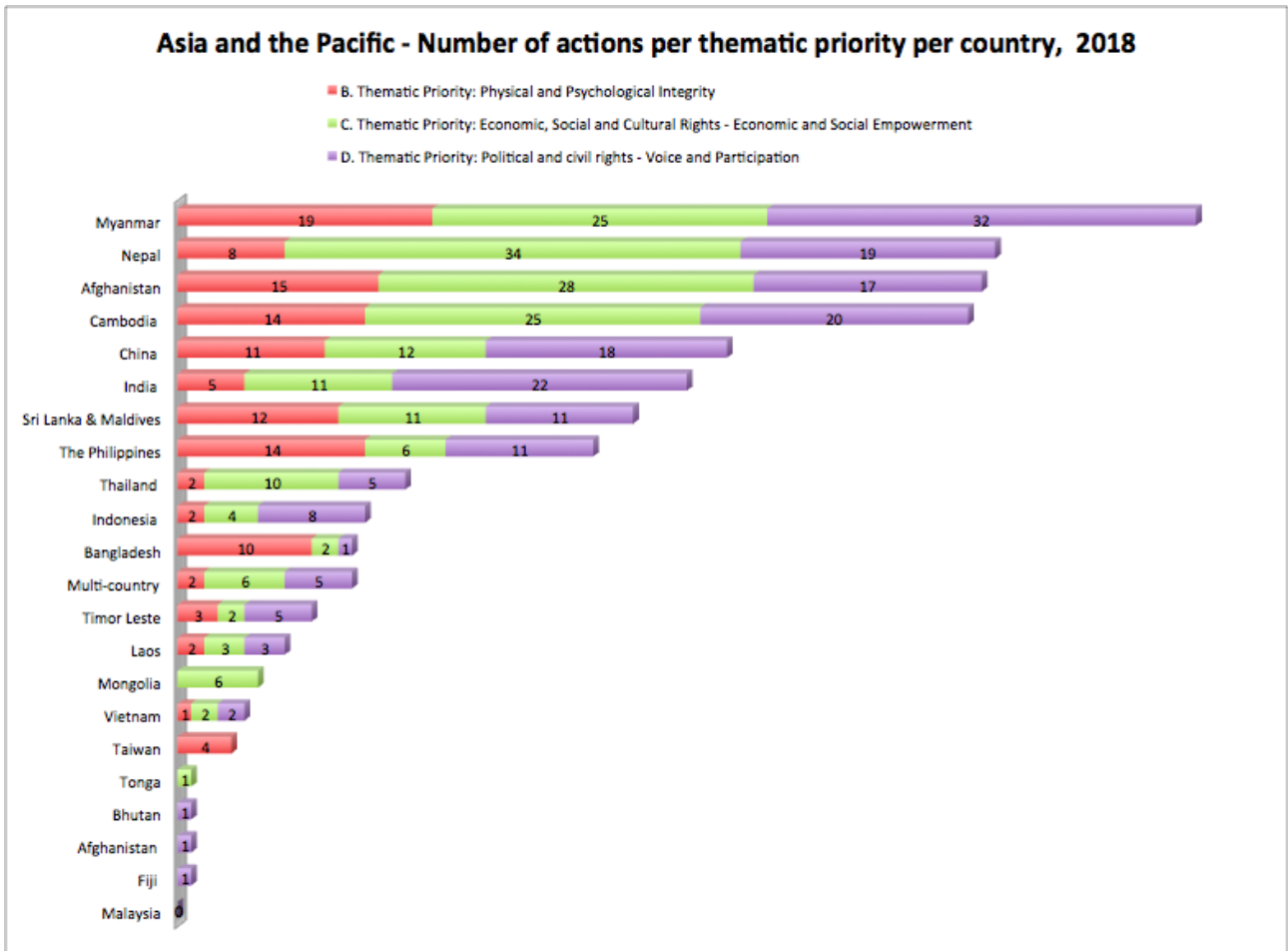
While the number of reported actions in 2018 remains high, they decreased compared with 2017. As in 2017, thematic priority C, on economic, social and cultural rights, remained the most targeted GAP II priority, accounting for 38 % of all actions. It was followed closely by thematic priority D, on political and civil rights (37 % of actions). Far fewer actions (25 %) were implemented under thematic priority B, on physical and psychological integrity. This marks a significant change in annual trends. In 2017, priority B was the second most frequently selected, while priority D was the least selected. Thus, in 2018 EU actors paid greater attention to women’s and girls’ political and civil rights in Asia and the Pacific.

Among Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan, the EU Delegation to Taiwan reported four specific actions, all of which addressed thematic priority B, with a specific focus on objective 11 on sexual and reproductive health. These actions were all rights-based and gender-sensitive, focusing on gender equality and women’s empowerment (GEWE), human rights and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTI) rights.

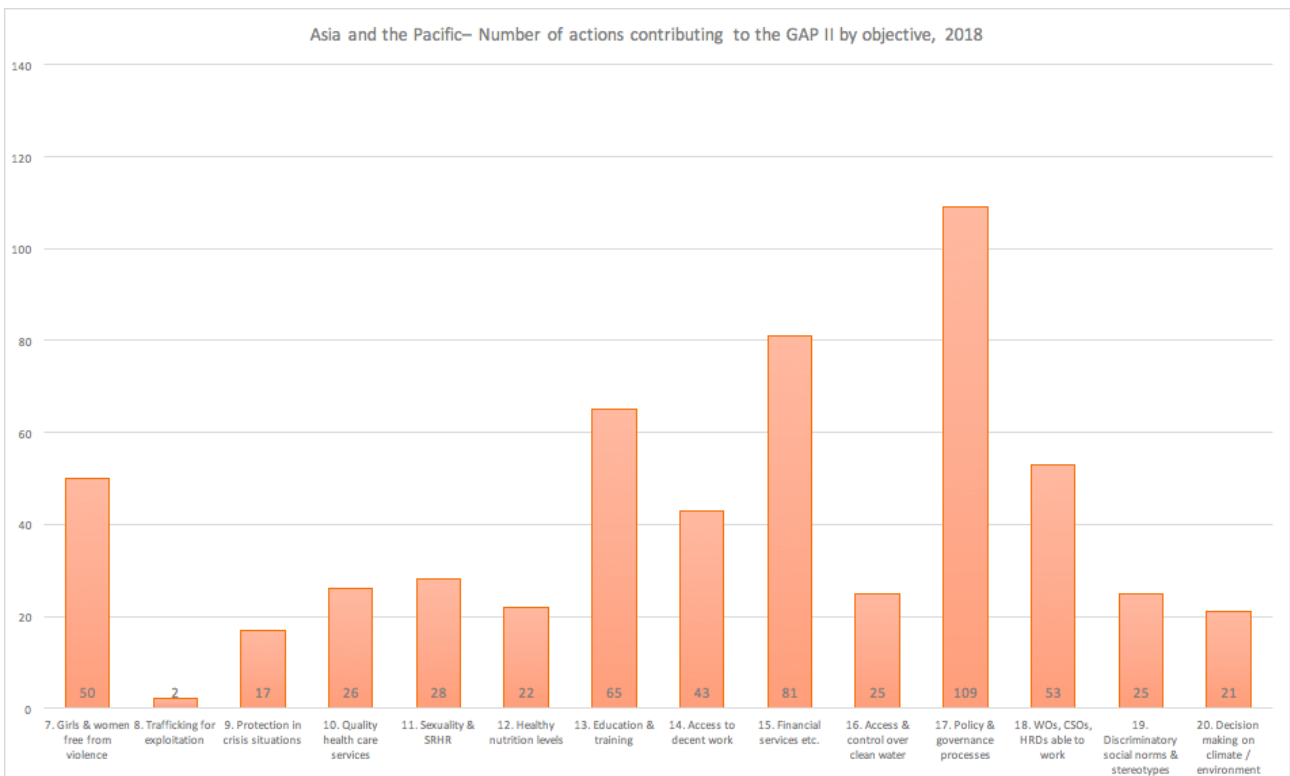
**Annex 3 Figure 51: Asia and the Pacific – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017**



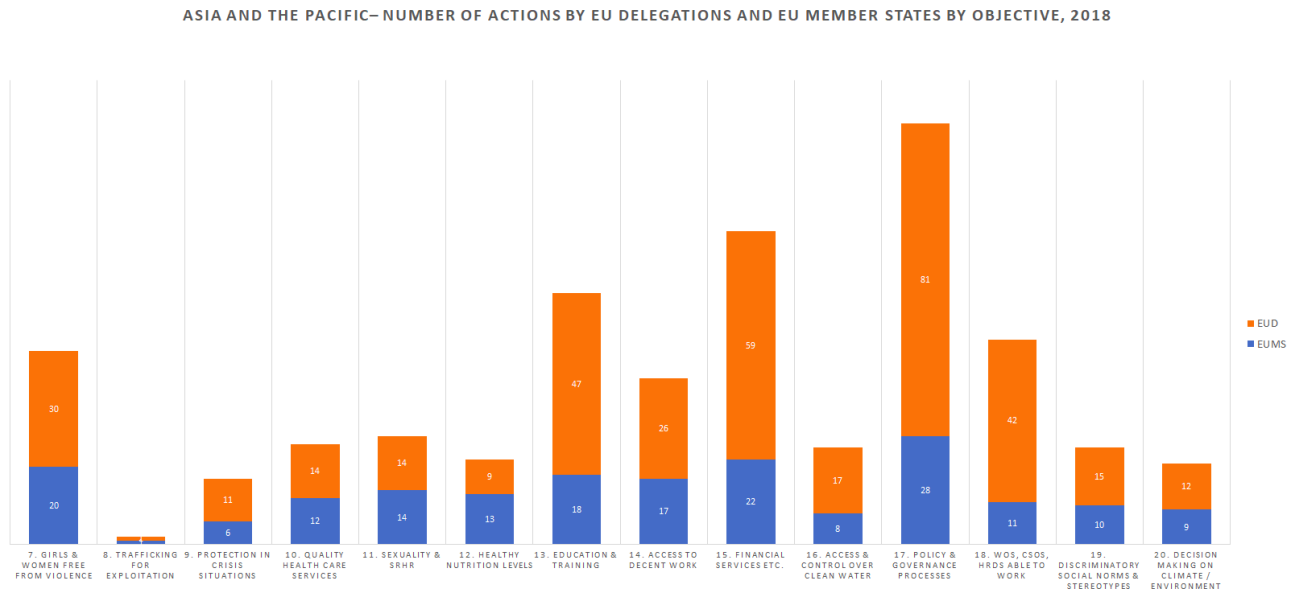
**Annex 3 Figure 52: Asia and the Pacific – Number of EU Delegations’ and EU Member States’ actions by thematic priority, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 53: Asia and the Pacific – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 54: Asia and the Pacific – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partner countries vs EU Delegations, 2018**



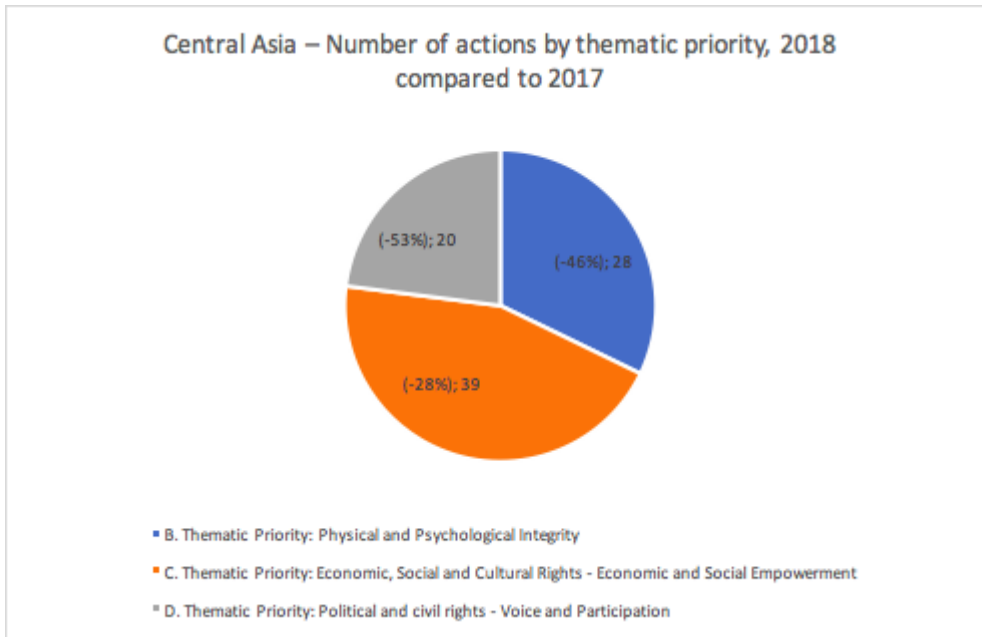
### Central Asia

In Central Asia, 51 actions were reported on the GAP II’s priorities in 2018. These were implemented by three EU delegations – to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan – and one EU Member State, namely the United Kingdom.

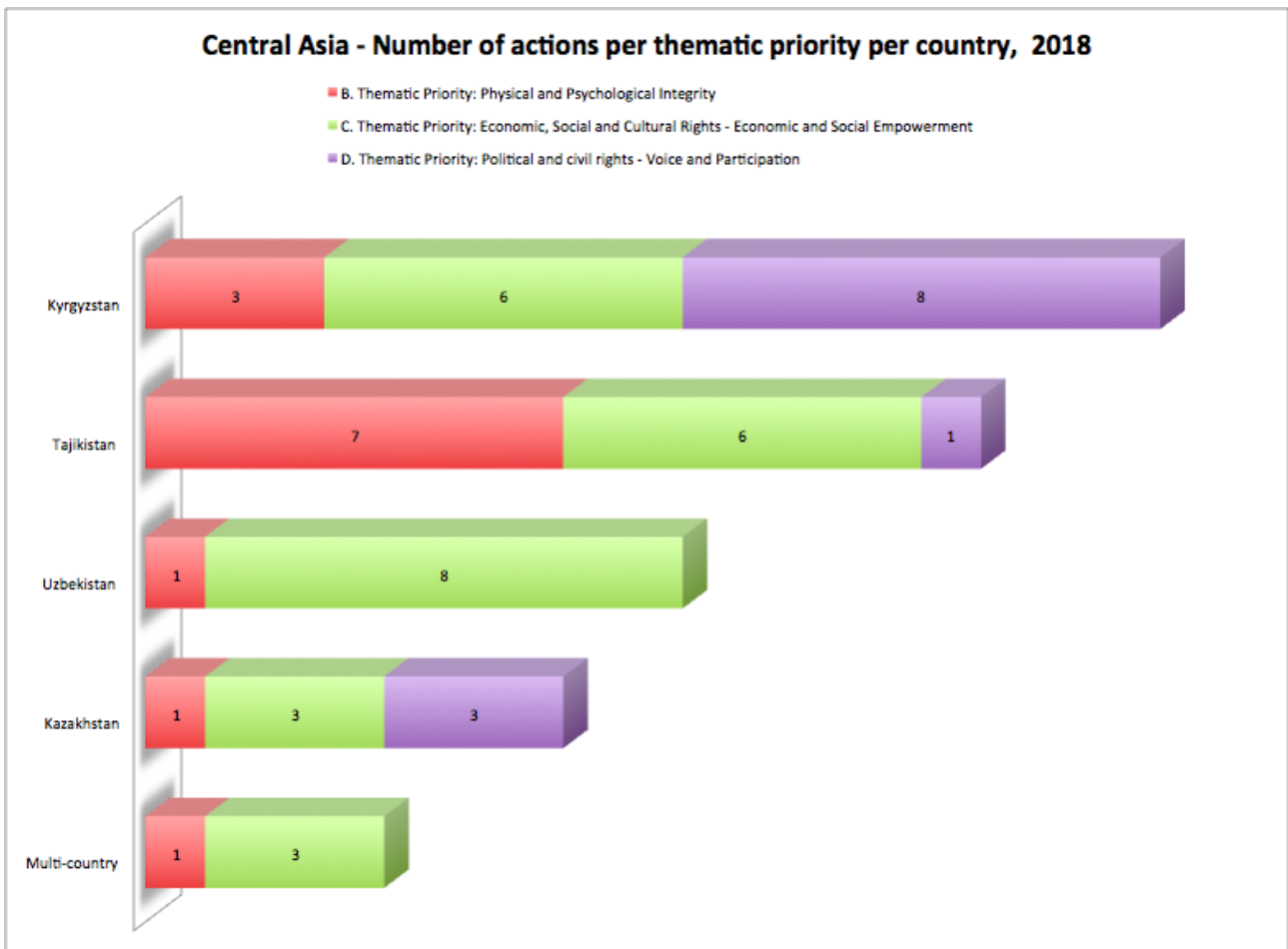
There was a marked focus on thematic priority C, which was selected by all EU Delegations and accounted for 51 % of all reported actions in the sub-region. A roughly equal focus was apparent on thematic priority B (25 % of all actions, including most actions by the EU Delegation to Uzbekistan), and thematic priority D (24 %). The EU Delegation to Kyrgyzstan carried all actions on thematic priority D, with the exception of one action implemented in Tajikistan. Comparing annual trends reveals that priority C was selected far more often in 2018 than in 2017, priority D somewhat more often, and priority B was less frequently selected.

Overall, 2018 was a year of sharp progress on the GAP II’s implementation in Central Asia compared to previous years. This is due to a significant increase in reported actions – 51 in 2018, up from 28 in 2017.

**Annex 3 Figure 55: Central Asia – Number of actions by thematic priority, 2018 compared to 2017**

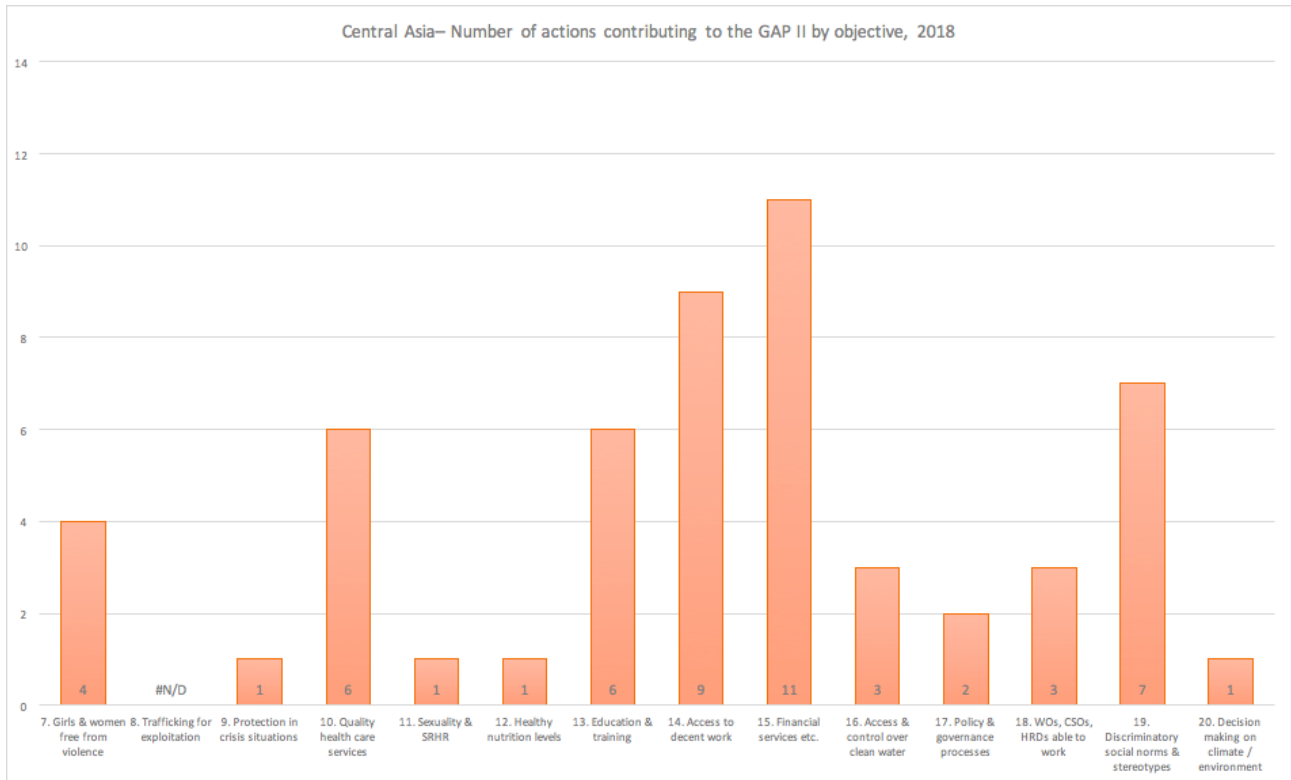


**Annex 3 Figure 56: Central Asia – Number of EU Delegations’ and EU Member States’ actions by thematic priority, 2018**



[

**Annex 3 Figure 57: Central Asia – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, 2018**



**Annex 3 Figure 58: Central Asia – Number of actions contributing to the GAP II by objective, EU Member States in partner countries vs EU Delegations, 2018**

