

EuropeAid

EU provides € 5 million for poverty reduction in Zambia

The European Commission today adopted the 2009 Annual Action Programme for Zambia making available € 5 million from the European Development Fund (EDF) in support to the implementation of the country's Fifth National Development Plan 2006-2010. The objective of this new programme is to support the Government of Zambia's overall objective of poverty reduction, by providing a facility to be used for funding feasibility and other studies as they become necessary.

The elections held on October 30th 2008 underlined the strength of Zambia's democratic system. Good economic performance – over 5% growth per year for the past seven years – has helped reduce poverty in recent years. However, 64% of the population remains poor, while the bulk of the poverty reduction has been concentrated in urban areas. The challenge of achieving broad-based growth in Zambia still has to be met, especially in light of the global economic and financial crisis that has hit Zambia. The EDF programme will contribute to the implementation of the Zambian National Development Plan, with a Technical Cooperation Facility of € 5 million.

The project aims at supporting capacity building in the public sector in order to assist the government in managing external resources, monitoring programme / project implementation and, enhance capacity to determine their impact. The Technical Cooperation Facility funded by the will provide much needed technical assistance through short-term consultancies, to assist in identifying, preparing, evaluating, monitoring and auditing projects under the EU Programme of development co-operation. In addition, seminars and conferences of more general interest will be funded through this facility.

For more information please contact:

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