

EU supports Water supply and sanitation, Basic Education and governance in Namibia

Today, the European Commission adopted the Annual Action Programme (AAP) 2010 in favour of the Republic of Namibia worth a total of EUR 61.65 million.

"The objective of this year's AAP is to support Namibia's strategic approach to poverty reduction embedded in its Vision 2030 and its National Development Plan 3. Special focus of the programme is on the two sectors of concentration of the EU aid, Rural development and Education, with a €42.15 million program supporting Basic Education within the sector wide reform of the Government and a €18 million program supporting efforts to improve access to safe water and sanitation in the country. It also includes a programme in the area of governance, to support the accountability of the Parliament.", said Elizabeth Pape, Head of the EU Delegation in Namibia.

The objective of the **Education Sector Policy Support Program** (€42.15 million) is to assist the Government of the Republic of Namibia in reaching the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty) and MDG 2 (Achieve universal primary education) and meeting the challenge of ensuring equality of educational opportunities. It will contribute to reducing access and quality school inequities and inefficiencies at pre-primary and primary levels through needs-based planning and monitoring.

The overall objective of the **Support to Namibian Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Programme (NAWASA)** is to support development objectives as defined by the Government of the Republic of Namibia in its Vision 2030. The purpose of this programme is to improve access to potable water and to appropriate means of sanitation for the Namibian population. This will assist the Government of the Republic of Namibia in achieving the MDG particularly for the rural population where more than 20% do not have access to potable water and more than 86% of rural households lack access to appropriate sanitation facilities.

Under Governance (non focal sector of the Country Strategy Paper), the AAP, through its Parliamentary Support Programme, will strengthen the performance and the accountability of the Parliament by fostering its engagement on Namibia's development agenda. It will enhance the capacity within the Parliament and its relevant Standing Committees to provide executive oversight and to interact with citizens on the implementation of the poverty reduction programmes.

Background

This € 61.65 million allocation is provided through 10th European Development Fund (EDF). Namibia received €103 million under the 10th EDF for the period 2008-2013 to support the efforts of the Government of Namibia to reduce poverty by focusing on rural development (€ 45.2 million), human resources development (€ 42.15 million) and support to governance, capacity building and non-state actors (€ 15.65 million). The AAP 2010 follows the 2009 AAP, which totalled € 1.5 million and included programmes aiming at improving the country's economic governance.

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