

The EU support over a million smallholder farmer families in Zimbabwe

Today, the European Commission approved a project which will benefit over one million Zimbabwean smallholder farmers, for a total amount of EUR 7 million.

"This support will enable small holder farm families to reduce their dependency on food aid and free inputs and move towards food security and income generation from farming. It will improve small holder farmers' crop and livestock production and market access. Farmers will be able to get different types of inputs and services that best serve their needs. The support fits within the larger context of direct support to the population of Zimbabwe", said Ambassador Aldo Dell'Araccia, Head of the EU Delegation to Zimbabwe.

More specifically, the project will aim at improving input supply, farming techniques and market linkages. The project will be managed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on behalf of the European Commission while the actual project implementation will be carried out by Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), private sector organisations and in coordination with Government institutions. Some of the activities will be implemented through the networks of the three main Farmers Unions in Zimbabwe.

In Zimbabwe, as per [Council Decision of 16 February 2010](#), the European Commission provides direct aid to the population, through its support for agriculture and food security, social sectors, including health and education as well as to the implementation of the Global Political Agreement of the Government of National Unity.

The project is part of the EU 2010 Short Term Strategy and of the EU road map in the context of the political dialogue between Zimbabwe and the European Union.

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