European Union provides €15 million to Namibia as part of first Annual Action Programme under the 11th European Development Fund

The European Union has adopted the Annual Action Programme 2015 for the Republic of Namibia under 11th European Development Fund (EDF), amounting to €15 million. EU support will be used for three activities: vocational education and training, a support programme to the National Authorising Officer, and a technical cooperation facility. These support programmes have been identified and formulated in line with Namibia's own development priorities as laid down in the 4th National Development Plan and with the Joint EU Response Strategy for Namibia.

Concretely, the three programmes cover the following:

Support to vocational education and training (€9 million): The programme will contribute to increasing access to and improving the quality and relevance of vocational education and training (VET) in Namibia. The Namibia Training Authority will be the main beneficiary and implementing partner. The programme is set to establish a training hub, comprising a cluster of existing vocational training centres and a sustainable VET information and awareness raising campaign. The project is complementary to the "Promotion of Vocational Education and Training project (PROVET)" financed by Germany and implemented by Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit.

Support programme for the National Authorising Officer/National Planning Commission (NAO/NPC) (€4.5 million) addresses the key capacity constraints confronting the NAO/NPC. The NAO has a key role in EU cooperation under the EDF, as the partner country's nominated person for co-signing and implementing programmes. The NPC is in charge of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and of all official development assistance to Namibia. The programme will aim at strengthening the capacity of its officers to undertake the tasks associated with programmes implementation. Moreover, the EU will assist the NPC in its overall responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation of its multiannual national development plans.

Technical Cooperation Facility (€1.5 million): The specific objective is to provide technical assistance for studies, analyses and other activities, including the organisation and facilitation of conferences, seminars, workshops and trainings. With these the EU funding will support the preparation and implementation of the actions financed under the 11th EDF and possibly reviews of the Joint EU Response Strategy and the EDF National Indicative Programme for Namibia for 2014-2020.

Background

In March 2013, in line with the objective to enhance the effectiveness and impact of European development cooperation, the EU partners present in Namibia agreed on a Joint EU Response Strategy for Namibia, which EU and Member States adhere to when preparing bilateral programmes.

The EDF is the main instrument for EU aid for development cooperation with the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries (ACP) and is funded with contributions from the EU Member States. National Indicative Programmes (NIPs) represent an important step in the programming of EU aid under the
EDF. Preparations are done in close cooperation with the partner countries so as to ensure that NIPs support national priorities where the EU has a value added.

The NIP for Namibia was signed between the EU and the government of Namibia in May 2015. It foresees two focal sectors: agriculture and education and skills. The NIP also foresees an allocation for support to civil society and other support measures.

Programmes and projects to implement the NIP are identified and formulated and then summarised and presented for adoption once per year in an Annual Action Programme.

For more information

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