



Status of Cooperation between European Union and Rwanda

I. BACKGROUND INFO ABOUT EC-RWANDA COOPERATION

The presence of the European Union in Rwanda was established in the mid-1980s and formalised in 1991 with the signature of an "accord de siege" with the Rwandan Government. The Cotonou Partnership Agreement, signed by the EU and 78 ACP (Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific) countries (plus Cuba as non-signatory) in 2000 in the capital of Benin, is the legal framework for the cooperation between the European Union and Rwanda.

This Agreement is based on a common objective of reducing poverty, consistent with the goals of achieving sustainable development and gradual integration of the ACP countries into the world economy. Financial implementation of the Cotonou Agreement is provided for by the European Development Fund (EDF), further funding is provided by the EU budget through thematic budget lines (inter alia Human Rights, Non-State Actors and Local Authorities, Environment).

The EU and the Rwandan Government jointly set the agenda of the cooperation programme in line with the national Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS). Areas for support are identified together with the Government according to their priorities and in coordination with other donors.

In Dec. 2007, EC and Rwanda signed the Country Strategy Paper and 10th EDF National Indicative Programme which formed the centre of development cooperation for 2008-2013. Out of the total budget of € 299.44 million provided under the 10th Programme, an amount of €290.0 million was earmarked for Envelope A (i.e. Programmable Aid) and € 9.44 million for unforeseen events (such as earthquake). The Programmable Aid (Envelope A) resources are channelled through three (3) thematic areas as follows:

- ✓ General Budget Support (€ 175 million),
- ✓ Rural Development (€ 40 million),
- ✓ Transport Connectivity and Regional Integration (€ 50 million); and
- ✓ €25 million earmarked for non-focal area programmes such as Trade and Justice.

Five years after, the 10th EDF envelope evolved through four addenda in a total envelop amounting €358.4M. To this NIP/CSP, the EU also increased its support through the Regional funds (€15M) and other EU Budget lines (€52.3M). The total amount allocated to Rwanda for the period 2008/2013 is therefore €€429.7M , used at 80% through general and sector budget support (preferred aid modality for Rwanda).

II. EDPRS II and 11th EDF programming process

The overall objective of EU cooperation with Rwanda is poverty reduction and the achievement of the MDGs so that Rwanda can reach middle income country status by 2020 in line with priorities and ambitions of the Government's national development strategy.

In line with the principle of concentration and division of labour, and an analysis of the EU's comparative advantage vis-à-vis other donors, EU intervenes actively in three sectors and silently in one sector:

- ✓ Energy,
- ✓ Agriculture and Food Security
- ✓ Accountable Governance.
- ✓ Social protection (silently through Budget support).

. Estimated Financial Support Envelope from 2014-2020

	Indicative allocation (% of total)	Indicative allocation (in million €)
SECTOR I: Energy	43.75	175 000 000
SECTOR II: Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security	43.75	175 000 000
SECTOR III: : Accountable Governance	7.5	30 000 000
Measures in favour of civil society	2.5	10 000 000
Support measures	2.5	10 000 000
Total	100	400 Million €