

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

NEWS SUMMARY

Brussels, 18/11/2015

The European Union announces support to boost cooperation with Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean

The European Commission has announced that it would make 10 million EUR available for five regional organisations of Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean to help improve the efficiency of aid to the region.

In announcing this technical cooperation, worth 10 million EUR, the Commission wants to improve the implementation of the regional indicative programme for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean. This indicative programme of 1.3 billion EUR, which runs until 2020, is designed to support peace, security and stability in the region and to strengthen regional economic integration and the regional management of natural resources.

This technical cooperation will support the regional organisations and their member states to fully take advantage of the aid package for the region. The available funds can be used in order to better inform the formulation of aid programmes, on the basis of thorough and comprehensive analysis. The funds will also contribute to the quality of aid; ensuring appropriate coordination with all stakeholders, including other donors in the region, and civil society. Finally, the technical cooperation measure will help deepen the policy dialogue in the priority areas of peace and security, regional economic integration and regional management of natural resources.

Background

The region covering Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) comprises 25 countries with diverse political and socio-economic backgrounds. Almost all countries of the region are members of at least two of the five Duly Mandated Regional Organisations (DMRO) i.e. (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), (East African Community) EAC, (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) IGAD, (Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and (Southern African Development Community (SADC). They are duly mandated for aid of the European Development Fund (EDF), the main instrument for EU aid for development cooperation with the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries.

For more information

Website of DG International Cooperation and Development:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/east-africa_en