Angola and the EU

Political relations

Political framework

Angola’s partnership with the EU is based on the ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement which aims to reduce poverty by developing the Angolan economy and gradually integrating it into the global economy.

The Joint Way Forward promotes more active political cooperation, especially Angola’s active involvement in the different regional and multilateral fora, and prioritises key areas of common interest from the 2007 Joint Africa-EU Strategy (security, governance, human rights, economic growth, energy, transport, environment, science and technology, training and education).

So far, 4 ministerial meetings have taken place, the latest on the

11th of March 2019, in Luanda.

Political & policy dialogues

Main framework - articles 8 to 13, Cotonou Agreement.

Other conventions/political commitments

- Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) and subsequent instruments
- EU-Africa Strategic Partnership
- Country Strategy Paper (CSP)

Angolan strategic documents

- National Plans and complementary documents approved by the Angolan government.

Channels for dialogue & cooperation
The EU is an important partner for Angola:

- the largest exporter to Angola (mainly due to Portugal)
- Angola’s 3rd-largest trading partner

Under the **Everything But Arms** initiative, Angola receives **free access to EU markets** for all non-military products.

Angola was not involved in the Economic Partnership Agreement concluded in 2014 with 6 other SADC countries, as it has not signed the SADC Trade Protocol.

**Development cooperation**

**Bilateral aid**

The EU-Angola bilateral cooperation strategy is intended to help the country develop - combatting poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals - by strengthening institutions and training staff.

The EU is currently Angola’s largest aid donor, under the **EDF**:

- **2008-13 - €214m** mainly for governance and human/social/rural development. Other sectors: non-state bodies, water and sanitation, private sector, regional integration, biodiversity management.
- **2014-20 - €210m** for:
  - vocational training & higher education
  - sustainable agriculture
  - water & sanitation.

**Regional aid**

As a member of **SADC**, Angola will receive funding under a **Regional Indicative Programme** for:

- peace, security & regional stability
- regional economic integration
- regional natural resources management.

Specific funding is also provided for regional infrastructure (preferably as part of joint financing for projects), and other regional activities such as migration, wildlife, river and aquifer management, sustainable fisheries (including inland) and maritime security.

**As a member of the PALOP-TL group** (Portuguese speaking African countries and Timor Leste), Angola receives dedicated funding:

- **2008-13** – €33m for governance, of which €7m under *Angola’s NIP*
- **2014-20** – €30m for governance & employment.

## Civil society

EU aid – **€16.6m in 2008-13** – through:

- **2012-15 Programme to Support Non-State Actors (PAANE)**
- 2 annual thematic programmes:
  - Non-State Actors & Local Authorities in Development (NSA-LAs)
  - European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

**Objectives**

- boost active participation in non-state bodies
- help these bodies fight poverty and promote governance
- help them to participate in dialogue with local and national authorities
- improve coordination and networking among them
- support action by them to promote a democratic, developed and inclusive society.

## Education, training, employment

**Main goal** – to combat poverty.

**Priorities**

- basic (especially primary) education and teacher training
- work-related training
- higher education, especially in the regions.

The EU has given **€20m** to *PAEP - Project in Support of Primary Education*, to help Angolan government efforts to achieve *universal primary education*.

**Higher education**

The EU will spend **€11m** from the EDF to:

- support Angola’s National Institute for Evaluation, Accreditation and Recognition of Higher Education Studies
- boost Angola’s participation in regional programmes.
**Vocational education & training**

The EU will spend €22m from the EDF on the RETFOP - *Reviving the TVET system in Angola*, to help assist the Angolan Ministries of Education and Public Administration, Labour and Social Security reduce youth unemployment by:

- making the available training and qualifications more demanding and relevant
- boosting employment guidance services and labour market information systems
- promoting self-employment.

**Global & regional programmes**

The EU also supports education in Angola through programmes like:

- Erasmus +
- PALOP
- Pan-African Programme
- Intra-Africa academic mobility scheme.

**Social protection**

In Angola, the EU is helping the government – in particular the Angolan Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration – to revise and implement its social assistance policy.

This support is given through the *APROSOC – Support to social protection in Angola* project, which addresses both existing sector constraints and strengthens long-term institutional capacity and sustainability.

**Culture**

The EU promotes the culture sector in Angola because it can improve economic growth, social inclusion, freedom of expression, identity-building and participation in civil society and politics.

EU support is mainly channelled through the EUNIC Angola network (national cultural institutes from various EU countries).

Other EU programmes funding culture projects in Angola

- Investing in people
- ACP Culture +
- Creative Europe.

**Other fields of cooperation**

- An EU electoral expert mission assessed the Angolan elections on 31 August 2012 (at the request of the government).
- ECHO provided humanitarian support in the form of food in 2013 (*most of Angola is prone to weather-induced food insecurity*).
- Angola may also receive funds from programmes such as:
  - Horizon 2020 (research and innovation)
  - Erasmus+ (training, education, culture, youth and sport).
  One Angolan student has benefitted from Erasmus+. 
Discussions are ongoing for a cooperation **research agreement** with the JRC on **weather surveillance/nutrition**.

**Documents**

EU-Angola Joint Way Forward

**See also**

The Cotonou Agreement
Everything But Arms (EBA) - Who benefits?
www.eeas.europa.eu

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