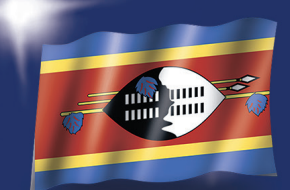




SEPTEMBER
2020

EUROPEAN UNION – ESWATINI PARTNERSHIP



EU'S SUPPORT TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE IN THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI



EUROPEAN UNION - ESWATINI PARTNERSHIP



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MESSAGE FROM THE EU AMBASSADOR



The European Union has been at the forefront of efforts to address the health crisis in Eswatini due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic constitutes an unprecedented challenge with very severe socio-economic consequences that especially affect developing countries.

With a total financial support of EUR 75.29 million (SZL 1.46 billion), we are

committed to do what is necessary to help Eswatini overcome this challenge in a spirit of solidarity.

This brochure showcases the many ways in which the EU Delegation supports Eswatini to tackle the challenges due to the ongoing health crisis.

It aims to provide the reader with an overview of the measures taken to address the issues such as food insecurity and malnutrition, to fight against gender-based violence and to put the country on the path towards economic recovery.

The report details a vast range of projects that aim to directly mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 and also projects that are addressing the needs of the country in a broader perspective but are indirectly contributing to tackling the issues due to the pandemic.

Besides the measures detailed in this special report, as the EU Ambassador to Eswatini, I am also leading a political dialogue with the Government of Eswatini at different levels, encouraging and advising on how to take preventive measures as the strategy to contain the spread of the COVID-19.

To this regard, we have organised meetings both with the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister as well as the other members of the Government.

I am also pleased to mention that the Global Fund, where the European Union and its Member States has long been the biggest contributor, has also allocated a budget of EUR 3.04 million (SZL 58.41 million) to help Eswatini fight the pandemic.

The European Union remains committed to supporting the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to work with its many partners and the Government of Eswatini to ensure a timely recovery in the country.

Esmeralda Hernandez Aragonés
EU Ambassador to the Kingdom of Eswatini



EUROPEAN UNION - ESWATINI PARTNERSHIP



OVERVIEW - EU ASSISTANCE TO ESWATINI AGAINST THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

EUR 75.29 MILLION (SZL 1.46 billion) + Global Fund EU contribution

Impact Mitigation

Food security & Agriculture development
EUR 51.1 million

Fight against gender-based violence
EUR 2 million

Humanitarian food Assistance to Communities in Eswatini Affected by the Food Security Crisis
EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6million)

Crisis response to vulnerable populations in shock-affected areas
EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6million)

High Value Crop & Horticulture Project
EUR 16.6million (SZL 318.69million) (inclusive of Eswatini Revolving Fund in Support of Increasing Agricultural Production)
EUR 58,000 (SZL 1.2million)

11th EDF Humanitarian actions in favour of Southern Africa and Indian Ocean
EUR 2.4million (SZL 46.6million)

Water harvesting, small and medium earth dams project
EUR 14.5million (SZL 278.37million)

Livestock value chain development program
EUR 9.15million (SZL 181.42million)

Support to Agriculture value chains via sustainable and inclusive energy investments
EUR 7.45million (SZL 143million)

Global fund contribution to the Kingdom of Eswatini (EU is the largest contributor)
EUR 3.04million (SZL 58.41million)

Me too, Break the Silence on Violence Against Women and Children
EUR 350,253 (SZL 6.7million)

Supporting Women Empowerment & Equality in Eswatini
EUR 249,931 (SZL 4.8million)

Preventing vulnerability by empowering communities to better care for at-risk youth
EUR 467,000 (SZL 8.97million)

Women and Youth Drivers of Change
EUR 471,750 (SZL 9million)

Women's rights: making inroads towards gender equality, participation and equal representation in Eswatini
EUR 465,000 (SZL 8.92million)

Economic recovery EUR 22.19 million

Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate
EUR 5million (SZL 100million)

Programme in Support to the Implementation of the EU-SADC European Partnership Agreement
EUR 6million (SZL 120million)

Regional Integration support Mechanism (RISM) – COMESA
EUR 1.19million (SZL 22.77million)

EIB credit line to FINCORP
EUR 10million (SZL 191.98million)

DIRECT IMPACT MITIGATION



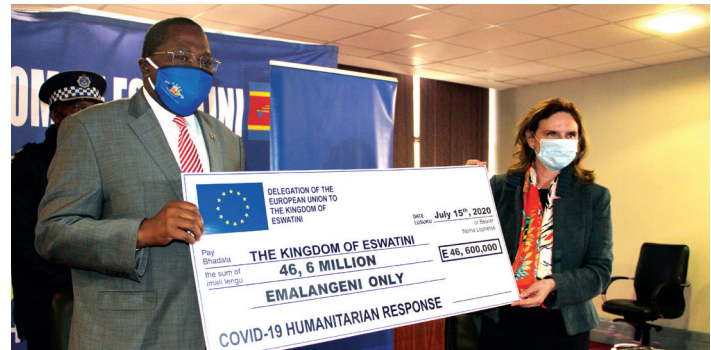
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COVID-19 Impact Mitigation

The EU Delegation to Eswatini through various projects and initiatives has partnered with government institutions and civil society organizations to support the fight against food insecurity and malnutrition, to protect the vulnerable population such as women, children and disabled people and to support the economic growth and the fight against unemployment.

Below are some of the different actions (co-) funded by the EU which are contributing to tackling the short, medium and long term effects of the COVID-19 crisis.



Food Security & Agricultural support

Humanitarian Food Assistance to Communities in Eswatini Affected by the Food Security Crisis

Eswatini is facing a severe food security crisis that is affecting over 25% of its total population. Shiselweni is one of the most affected regions in the country with 25% of its population having reached crisis (IPC3) and emergency (IPC4) food insecurity levels. This number may increase significantly in the next months as more of its poorest households fall into crisis levels. Food insecurity in this region compounds already high poverty levels, poor nutritional indicators in children, and the still widespread impact of the HIV/Aids epidemic in the country. Communities currently in IPC3+ levels (47,776 persons) are in need of urgent humanitarian food assistance.

In response to this, the EU provides funding to the Finnish Red Cross, who in partnership with the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society, proposed an immediate humanitarian food assistance operation covering 2200 of the most affected households in Shiselweni for the

period of January to May 2020; helping them survive the height of the agricultural lean season. The operation will build on recent experiences, and trial tested approaches, in delivering cash-based assistance to communities affected by food insecurity in Shiselweni. Further, the action will augment efforts in setting up an approach that stresses the importance of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) in Red Cross humanitarian operations.

The action will be complemented by wider efforts from the Red Cross Red/Red Crescent Movement to respond at scale to the Southern Africa food security crisis. The amount committed by the EU to this project is of EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6 million). The EU funding is delivered through the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

Crisis response to vulnerable populations in shock-affected areas in Eswatini

In response to the increase in food insecurity expected with the peak lean season the EU allocated funding to the World Food Programme in Eswatini which will be scaling up the provision of cash based transfers to food insecure populations affected by shocks, including children and women. The support is to cover additional population identified as priority 1 in the national response plan covering locations that are not included in ongoing response programmes.

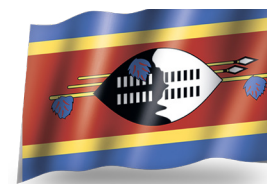
This action is expected to reach overall 79,000 beneficiaries in the Lubombo and Hhohho Regions. The scale up action is to prevent rising rates of acute malnutrition for children under 5, and the increased use of negative coping mechanisms that would compromise recovery capacity.

World Food Programme will support the continuation of an unconditional cash-based transfer (CBT) response targeting the most vulnerable. CBT contributes to beneficiary protection, avoiding transit and transportation to and from general distribution sites, increasing dignity and independence, particularly for women by allowing them to make their own decisions about their dietary intake in line with their preferences. CBT is redeemed through mobile phone cash transfers that are commonly used in Eswatini.

The amount committed by the EU to this project is of EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6 million). The EU funding is delivered through the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).



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Eswatini Revolving Fund in Support of Increasing Agricultural Production

With economies like those of the Kingdom of Eswatini largely dependent on agriculture, the livelihood effects of the pandemic will most likely descend into a food security issue. Fighting this pandemic and avoiding shocks in food supply chains will require appropriate agriculture policies to be put in place. It is for this reason that the EU Delegation in Eswatini is to commit EUR 58,000 (approx. SZL 1.2 million) towards the support of the Eswatini Revolving Fund in Support of Increasing Agricultural Production to counter the effects of COVID-19.

The fund will be managed by the National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard). It will focus on ensuring that 400 hectares of land is kept under use for the production of about 2 500 Metric Tons of vegetable produce over six months (May – October 2020).

Eswatini must safeguard the uninterrupted flow of both production and trade allowing farmers to produce agricultural products to reach local, regional and international markets.

Hence, the EU will support the Government to maintain domestic and international food supply chains functional. The emergency support will in future be supported by the global EUR 3.25 billion (approx. SZL 64.4 bn) the EU has availed for the African continent, as announced by the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. The above-mentioned emergency food security intervention is in line with our long-term commitment and support to the Kingdom of Eswatini. It is financed from the ongoing 11th EDF allocation to Eswatini and complements our already ongoing programmes in the agricultural sector (the main sector of our 2014-2020 National Indicative Programme) such as:

- High Value Crop and Horticulture Project
- Water Harvesting, Small and Medium Dams Project
- Livestock value chain development programme
- Support to Agriculture value chains via sustainable and inclusive energy investments

Humanitarian Food Assistance to Communities in Eswatini Affected by the Food Security Crisis

COVID-19 now has a foothold in most countries of the Southern African region where millions of people cannot easily access clean water, food, healthcare and shelter. Health systems are generally weak, unable to deal with large outbreaks, and inaccessible to many parts of the population. COVID-19 has also triggered an economic slowdown in several countries which were already facing economic challenges and is likely to compound already significant humanitarian needs in the region.

In Eswatini, 232,000 people are food insecure, including 185,000 in acute crisis (IPC 3) and 47,000 people in Emergency (IPC 4) level of food insecurity as per projection during the first months of 2020. For this reason, the European Union has allocated a total of EUR 30 million from the 11th EDF for the Southern African region, from which Eswatini will benefit with a budget of EUR 2.4 million (SZL 46.6 million). In light of the humanitarian aid nature of the actions to be financed under this decision, it is appropriate that actions are implemented by the organisations and agencies eligible to receive EU humanitarian financing under Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid.

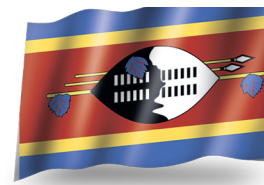
The strategic objectives of the EU humanitarian response are to provide:

- Humanitarian Food Assistance and emergency nutrition assistance to people affected by the severe food insecurity crisis.
- COVID-19 preparedness and response.

The focus will be on humanitarian food assistance, nutrition, COVID-19 preparation and response including the following sectors: health, water, sanitation and hygiene, logistics. Targeted actions will focus on areas most affected by high food insecurity, including areas COVID-19 have significantly impacted.



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The High Value Crop and Horticulture Project



The main objective of the project EUR 16.60 million (SZL 318.69 million) is to increase the contribution of the agricultural sector to poverty reduction in Eswatini by creating pro-poor growth, securing livelihoods of small holder farmers by providing them with marketing opportunities and locally produced diversified food on the market. The approach taken promotes involvement of Finance and Development Institutions for increased access to finance, land aggregation and development for smallholder farmers who are moving from subsistence farming into becoming legally registered companies producing at a commercial level.

One key component of the project is community mobilization, leading to the preparation of Chiefdom Development Plans (CDPs) which become the roadmap the chiefdom follows in the allocation of available resources, and harnessing these for inclusive development led by the community. The CDPs are developed in selected communities spread across the 4 regions of the country (Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, and Shiselweni).

The project aims to increase the contribution of the agricultural sector to poverty reduction in Eswatini by creating pro-poor growth, securing livelihoods of small holder farmers by providing them with marketing opportunities and locally produced diversified food on the market.

Achievements to date include the procurement and handover of two trucks (8-tonne and 4-tonne) to NAM-Board for ease of logistics, establishment of the Agriculture Marketing and Information System (AMIS), provision of cold stores for Mahlanya, Manzini and Mbabane markets as well as market finding missions to EU, Middle East, SADC and Indian Ocean marketing regions. To increase local production of horticulture produce, seven Community Development Plans have been prepared, with 18 Farmer Companies formed, constituting of 628 members. Furthermore, 785 Ha has been developed (bush clearing and land preparation as well as irrigation system installation) of which 611 Ha is under production as of June 2020 and 173 Ha still being developed (up to August 2020).

The farmer companies have been supported to access finance through the Nedbank – AfD ARIZ scheme providing guarantees to the local bank, and as of June 2020 SZL 32 million in loans has already been signed with farmer companies through this facility. There is one banana pack house that has been constructed at Mphumakudze, and two overnight storage dams where earthworks and lining have been completed. There are three multi-crop pack houses that have been constructed (Lavumisa, Nhlanguano and Msahweni). The procurement of cold rooms and processing equipment for these pack houses is ongoing (delivery by September 2020). The development of extension packages has been started, and will be complete by August 2020.



Water harvesting, small and medium earth dams project (WHDP)

The WHDP is a EUR 14.545 million (SZL 278.37 million) project that aims to achieving three main results, namely:

1. Water Storage Capacity Increased
2. Production Capacity for Smallholders Enhanced
3. Institutional Capacity Strengthened

As part of activities towards achieving the project purpose, WHDP contemplates the construction and rehabilitation of water storage structures and land development and irrigation schemes for the irrigation of more than 500 Ha and will directly benefit an estimated population of 6000 persons.



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Livestock Value Chain Development Program

The livestock value chain development programme with a budget of EUR 9.15 million (SZL 181.42 million) was approved by the EU in 2019 and started in May 2020. It aims to create economic opportunities for smallholder farmers, women and youth through strengthening the livestock value chain.

This program is in line with the national Agriculture Investment plan and the Africa-EU Alliance. It will support enterprise development, sustainable use of rangeland in poverty-stricken communities and improved access to domestic and international markets, taking advantage of the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement.



Support to agriculture value chains via sustainable and inclusive energy investments

The Support of Agriculture Value Chains, through Sustainable and Inclusive Energy Investments in Eswatini Programme with a budget of EUR 7.45 million (SZL 143 million) is due to start at the end of 2020.

It aims of strengthening the development of key agriculture value chains (sugarcane, horticulture, livestock), which are the essential sources of growth and jobs for

rural areas where the poverty is concentrated. With the energy issue becoming more relevant to the sector, and the economy as a whole, the Government has developed a draft energy master plan to which the proposed EU energy intervention contributes. The Programme, once started, will ultimately assist in preparation of bankable energy projects to be financed through the Electricity window that Eswatini is creating through the energy project.

Global Fund support to Eswatini

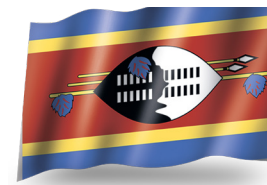
The Global Fund, where the European Union and its Member States has long been the biggest contributor, has

also allocated a budget of EUR 3.04 million (SZL 58.41 million) to help Eswatini fight the coronavirus pandemic.





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Social protection during the times of COVID-19 with a focus on gender-based violence



European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) Projects

As recently noted by the UN Secretary General, lockdowns have resulted in a “horrifying surge” in gender-based violence (GBV). This surge in domestic violence also has a direct impact on women victims because, as the UN Committee on ESCR noted, the pandemic further deepens gender inequalities because “the burden of caring for children at home and sick or older family members falls disproportionately on women”. It is therefore becoming increasingly important to support organizations fighting against domestic violence and gender-based violence.



The local NGOs supported by the EU Delegation are also in collaboration with their partners to find ways of responding and adapting accordingly to the challenges posed by the pandemic on activities of the project, target audience or beneficiaries, communi-

ties and partner organizations. They are together with other like-minded organizations providing protective materials like hand sanitizers and masks and planning to give more to members of our partner organizations in the communities.



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Post-Covid-19 Economic Recovery: EU Support to the Private Sector



In order to support the the Jobs and Growth Compact, the EU Delegation began in 2019 preparations for the implementation of two key regional programs, one being the “Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate” and the other is the “Implementation of the European Partnership Agreement”.

Both these actions will augment the State Business Relations aspect of the Strategic Roadmap of Eswatini through

improving Private Public Dialogue with respect to the opportunities presented by the EPA as well as supporting Public-Private Partnerships in selected value chains such as horticulture and livestock. Implementation of these actions should commence in 2020.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has also provided an EUR 10 million credit line to the Eswatini Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP).

Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate

To support the economic recovery of Eswatini amidst the Covid-19 pandemic crisis, the European Union (EU) will start implementing the “Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate” action in the following months. This EUR 5 million (SZL 100 million) programme will be aiming to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country as they face the economic challenges of the current crisis.

The low cash-flow, lack of access to finance, reduced diversity of products and markets are some of the reasons

that make MSMEs more vulnerable to the impacts of this crisis. Through this programme, MSMEs will get the needed support to diversify their markets and products, to add value to their products (increasing profits and wages) and to improve their financial management skills which will help them better face the financial challenges that are expected to result from this crisis. The main objective of this EU funded programme is to tackle the economic slowdown and to support incomes as well as consumption by contributing to the creation of jobs and income for the households.



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Programme in Support to the Implementation of the EU-SADC European Partnership Agreement

The “Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate” action will furthermore be complemented next year by the “Programme in Support to the Implementation of the EU-SADC European Partnership Agreement”. This EUR 6 million (SZL 120 million) EU programme will also focus on MSMEs, mostly on the ones that have the potential to export to regional and European markets. Working together with the buyers from the start, this programme will transfer know-how to companies which will prepare them to attract investors and sell worldwide.

Looking at these two EU funded programmes, Eswatini will arrive at an SZL 220 million (EUR 11 million) support that will equip MSMEs to face the economic consequences of the current pandemic. To ensure that all objectives of these programmes will be met, the public sector will

not be left aside. For this reason, these programmes will on the one hand increase the capacity of national institutions to provide relevant support to MSMEs and on the other hand they will establish public-private alliances and strengthen public-private dialogue on ease of doing business in the country.

Knowing that the steady economic recovery will be just as important as the resilience that is needed now with all the restrictions that had to be put in place, these programmes will focus on the most vulnerable enterprises and sectors during this crisis, always with the ultimate goal to create decent jobs. For this reason, the EU expects that these programmes will be essential to ease the medium-term economic impact of this crisis in Eswatini.

Regional Integration support Mechanism (RISM) – COMESA

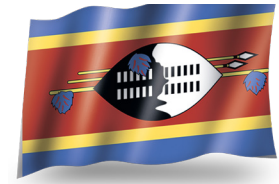
Under the regional indicative programme administered by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Eswatini signed a financing agreement of EUR 1,185,899 million (SZL 22.77 million) for the construction of a modern multi-purpose Trade Hub in Manzini.

The funds will also be used to provide private sector support to the country. The Project will enhance the performance of the leather value chain, improve quality infrastructure services to support production and trade, and raise the capacities for investment promotion in the country. The Trade Hub is expected to accommodate 300

traders and impact over 400 businesses. The focus will be on women and youths bringing young and old together. The new facility will also protect the artisans from unfavourable weather conditions which makes it difficult for them to operate. The Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade, Manqoba Khumalo, said bringing these traders under one roof would enhance the capacity of government to offer support services, improve collaboration in procurement, production and marketing. In addition, the cost of extension support will also decline significantly as technical support officers will meet the critical mass of handcrafts in one place.



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ANNEX I – SUMMARY TABLE OF PROJECT DETAILS. EU ASSISTANCE TO ESWATINI AGAINST THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19

EUR 75.19 million (SZL 1.44 billion) + Global Fund EU contribution

PROJECT	START DATE AND END DATE	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S)	BUDGET	PROJECT SUMMARY
Humanitarian Food Assistance to Communities in Eswatini Affected by the Food Security Crisis	01-05/2020	Finnish Red Cross, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society	EU contribution: EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6 million)	Through ECHO immediate humanitarian food assistance operation covering 2200 of the most affected households in Shiselweni, helping people survive the height of the agricultural lean season. The Finnish Red Cross with the EU support organises information dissemination campaigns and handwashing sessions to households.
Crisis response to vulnerable populations in shock-affected areas in Eswatini	01-06/2020	World Food Programme (WFP)	EU contribution: EUR 500,000 (SZL 9.6 million)	Through ECHO organisation of cash distributions for food insecure vulnerable households faced with deteriorating food security as result the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak which is expected to exacerbate the impact of the poor performing season.
Eswatini Revolving Fund in Support of Increasing Agricultural Production	May – October 2020	NAMBoard	EUR 58,000 (SZL 1.2 million)	Contribution to the Eswatini Revolving Fund in Support of Increasing Agricultural Production to avoid shocks in food supply chains by encouraging appropriate agriculture policies to be put in place.
Humanitarian actions in favour of Southern Africa and Indian Ocean to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) through ECHO	Scheduled to start second half 2020	Finnish Red Cross, World Food Programme (WFP)	EUR 2.4 million (SZL 46.6 million)	Through ECHO addressing food insecurity in the Southern African region, the European Union has allocated a total of EUR 30 million within the 11th EDF. Eswatini will benefit from this with an envelope of EUR 2 million as humanitarian food assistance, nutrition, COVID-19 preparation and response including the following sectors: health, water, sanitation and hygiene, logistics. Targeting will focus on areas most affected by high food insecurity, including areas covid-19 have significantly impacted.
The High Value Crop and Horticulture Project	06/2015-11/2021	ESWADE, Ministry of Agriculture, NAMBoard	EUR 16,60 million (SZL 318.69 million)	The project aims to increase the contribution of the agricultural sector to poverty reduction in Eswatini by creating pro-poor growth, securing livelihoods of small holder farmers by providing them with marketing opportunities and locally produced diversified food on the market. Achievements to date include, amongst other things, the construction of cold stores in Mahlanya, Manzini and Mbabane markets.



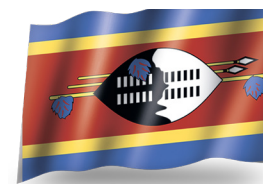
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Water Harvesting, small and medium earth dams project (WHDP)	10/2016 -04/2023	1.Ministry of Agriculture 2.ESWADE 3.TA Sofreco 4.World Vision	EUR 14.5 million (SZL 278.37 million)	Tackle food insecurity in Eswatini while supporting economic growth by enhancing the availability of water throughout the year in a context of very limited access to irrigation for smallholders. Emphasis on the collection, storage and allocation of water for agriculture purposes. Two tenders for works and supervision for 16 irrigation schemes in the regions of Hhohho, Shiselweni and Manzini were expected to be issued in the second part of 2020 with contracts expected to be signed in January 2021.
Livestock Value Chain Development Program	2nd half of 2020 – 05/2025	- ESWADE, Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services	EUR 9.15 million (SZL 181.42 million)	Create economic opportunities for smallholder farmers, women and youth through strengthening the livestock value chain. This will become especially relevant to mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19. The Programme Estimate for the implementation of this project is to be signed by August 2020.
Support to Agriculture value chains via sustainable and inclusive energy investments	2nd half 2020 – 07/2032	- Electri-Fi	EUR 7.45 million (SZL 143 million)	Strengthen the development of key agriculture value chains (sugarcane, horticulture, livestock) through developing bankable energy projects to be financed through the Electri-fi window. This will become especially relevant to mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19.
Me too, Break the Silence on Violence Against Women and Children	02/2019 – 01/2021	1.Foundation for Socio Economic Justice (FSEJ) 2. Eswatini Rural Women's Assembly. 3. COSPE 4.Gcama Mfati Women's Development Network	EUR 350,253.00 (SZL 6.7 million)	Mitigation and prevention of violence against women and girls in the Kingdom of Eswatini especially in the rural areas.Key activities include trainings and capacity building of women's groups in 20 communities in the 4 regions of the country (Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, and Shiselweni) to become key agents on GBV information and self-help.
Supporting Women Empowerment & Equality in Eswatini	02/2018 – 01/ 2021	Coordinating Assembly of Non-governmental Organizations (CANGO)	EUR 249,931.93 (SZL 4.8 million)	Protection and promotion of women and girl's rights in Eswatini, through strengthening the role of CSOs, particularly women's human rights organisations, to be able to better advocate for women's rights as well as directly empowering women and facilitate their participation in society, particularly at the political level.
Preventing vulnerability by empowering communities to better care for at-risk youth	02/2019 – 02/2021	1. Kwakha Indvodza 2. Sonke Gender Justice Network	EUR 467,000 (SZL 8.97 million)	The project wants to be gender transformative and advocates for women equity and dignity, women rights, by focusing on young men and their perceived role. It aims at changing attitudes and behavior of male youth at risk of sexual and other delinquencies in selected high-risk communities.



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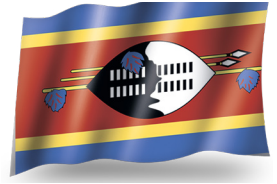
Women and Youth Drivers of Change	02/2020-01/2022	COSPE	EUR 471,750 (SZL 9 million)	Strengthen the role of women and youth as actors of sustainable development and civic life in rural areas by supporting women and youth in promoting innovative experiences to influence and contribute to the socio economic development in rural areas (Shiselweni and Lubombo regions).
Women's rights: Making inroads towards gender equality, participation and equal representation in Eswatini	02/2020-01/2022	1.WLSA 2. SWAGAA 3. Kwakha Indvodza 4. Women Unlimited	EUR 465,000 (SZL 8.92 million)	Empowering the women in Eswatini to play meaningful roles in the political, legal and civic life in the country. The project entails activities to enhance the effective participation of women and girls in leadership and governance, expand national awareness of women's rights and create platforms that promote male involvement in promoting women's rights and gender equality. The activities are mainly to be done in the Manzini Region and Lubombo Region in Eswatini.
Support to Job Creation and the Investment Climate	09/2020 – 08/2025	International Trade Centre	EUR 5 million (SZL 100 million)	Support for MSMEs to help them diversify their markets and products, to add value to their products and to improve their financial management skills which will help them better face the financial challenges that are expected to result from this crisis
Programme in Support to the Implementation of the EU-SADC European Partnership Agreement	01/2021 – 12/2025	International Trade Centre	EUR 6 million (SZL 120 million)	Transfer of know-how to companies in Eswatini to assist them with attracting investors and sell worldwide. The programme will on the one hand increase the capacity of national institutions to provide relevant support to MSMEs and on the other hand they will establish public-private alliances and strengthen public-private dialogue on ease of doing business in the country.
Regional Integration support Mechanism (RISM) – COMESA	06/2019-06/2020	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade	EU Contribution: EUR 1.19 million (SZL 22.77 million)	The Regional Initiative supported by the EU and COMESA to develop a modern trade hub in Manzini, enhance the performance of the leather value chain, improve quality infrastructure services to support production and trade, and raise the capacities for investment promotion in the country.

Total financial assistance EUR 75.29 million (SZL 1.46 billion)

Global Fund contribution to the Kingdom of Eswatini	2019-	National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA) Coordinating Assembly of Non-governmental Organizations (CANGO)	EU Contribution: EUR 3.04 million (SZL 58.41 million)	The Global Fund, where the European Union and its Member States has long been the biggest contributor, has also allocated a specific envelope to help Eswatini fight the pandemic.
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EUROPEAN UNION - ESWATINI PARTNERSHIP



Official opening of EU-Funded Msahweni Vegetable Pack-House



