



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ZAMBIA AND COMESA

April – June, 2019

EDITORIAL

BY MR ROBERT DE RAEVE

During the second quarter of 2019, a large amount of the activities focussed around Europe month: the participation of the EU in the Agritech Expo in Chisamba, the third editions of the EU Walk/Run and the CSO Fair, the annual 9th May Reception, the Euro-Zambia Arts Festival and a concert from Czech musician Terezie Kovalova. Another highlight was the Election Follow-up Mission in June, as a follow-up of the Election Observation Mission in 2016.

Other articles which you may find of interest in the Newsletter are the 25 M € grant award to increase access to electricity services and the launch of the European Investment Plan and of the Energy investment Facility Electrifi. We further focus on workshops to assess gender equality in the energy sector and to raise capacity building and awareness in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Another article focusses on the health sector, the unveiling of a wall painting and sculpture and the participation of the EU in The Pharmacy Awareness Week.

To conclude the *EU Zambia Partnership* section there is a description of our support to Zambia's first Arts Business Forum.

In *Voices from the Field*, attention is given to a woman who benefits from the project Women in Integrated Sustainable Agriculture Initiative and how a poacher successfully turned into a farmer.

More details can be found on the EU Delegation's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EUDelZambia/>

I wish you all an interesting read.

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EU - ZAMBIA PARTNERSHIP

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MATTERS: VALIDATION OF GENDER EQUALITY ASSESSMENT IN THE ENERGY SECTOR



On 4 April, the Ministry of Energy hosted a Gender in Energy workshop supported by the EU-funded "Increased Access to Electricity and Renewable Energy Production" (IAEREP) project. Over 120 participants attended the workshop which focused on validating an assessment on gender in the energy sector. The event also aimed to kick start the design of a gender strategy and action plan that seeks to operationalize the recommendations of the assessment. The PS of the Ministry of Energy, Brigadier General Emeldah Chola and the PS of the Ministry of Gender, Dr Auxilla Ponga, gave welcoming remarks and outlined the government's policy on gender respectively. In his remarks, Gianluca Azzoni, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation, stated *"gender equality matters for the European Union and we are determined to ensure that women empowerment maintains a central place in the partnership between Zambia and the European Union"*.

AGRITECH EXPO

The European Union participated to the Agritech Expo Trade Fair from 11 to 13 April, which has become a very important event in the agriculture calendar in Zambia, attracting the interest of Zambian farmers but also of many Zambian and international companies.

The European Union was present with stands set up by several EU Member States and the #EUinZambia itself. This was a wonderful opportunity to reconfirm the close partnership between the European Union and Zambia on agriculture and agribusiness related value chains. This goes beyond the traditional donor-recipient relation and was moreover demonstrated by the very strong presence of European companies interested in investing in Zambia and enhancing opportunities with Zambia in their mutual interest. All the EU Heads of Missions were present and the occasion was also graced by the presence of the Czech Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Martin Tlapa.



EU WALK/RUN 2019



The third edition of the [#EUWalkRun](#) took place in Lusaka



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in front of the EU Delegation on Saturday, 27 April 2019. It was a hugely successful event with the participation of some 500 runners, 500 walkers and 80 bafanas! All participants received a free T-shirt upon registration and a free medal upon arrival.

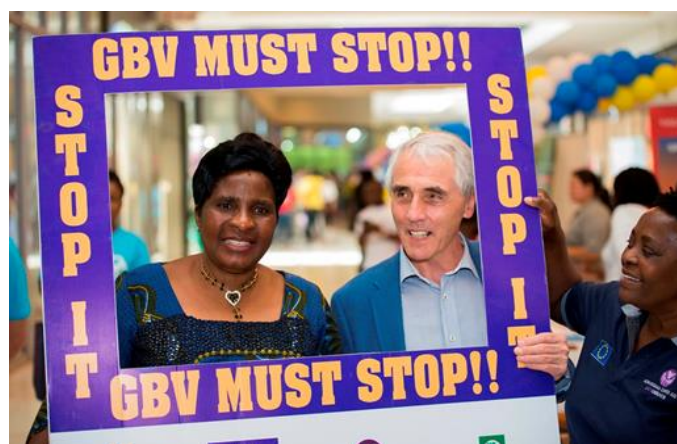


THE EU GIVES EUR 25 MILLION IN GRANTS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY SERVICES WITHIN RURAL AREAS AND TO PROMOTE THE RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY FOR PRODUCTIVE AND SOCIAL PURPOSES

On 8 May, the Government of the Republic of Zambia launched a call for proposals for increasing access to electricity services within rural areas and to promote the rational use of energy for productive and social purposes in Zambia with financial assistance from the 11th European Development Fund. The EU grants of EUR 25 million (approx. ZMW 350 million) are expected to tackle energy poverty in rural areas through stimulating the emergence of sustainable off-grid energy services that attract private capital but also target local rural communities, small entrepreneurs, clinics, schools, energy kiosks and promote other productive uses of energy. Also, the call intends to stimulate the emergence of viable business models to promote the use of energy efficiency solutions in schools, health centers, water utilities, etc. in the public sector at national level. Promoting women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship are important elements of this investment support.

An information meeting of the call for proposals took place on 21 May 2019 and was attended by some 100 participants, primarily private sector project developers. The deadline for submission of concept notes was 24 June 2019.

EU CSO FAIR 2019



On 11 May 2019, the EU in Zambia held its third Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Fair, at East Park Mall, Lusaka. This was one of a number of events organised by the EU throughout the month of May, as part of Europe Month.



The European Union is committed to supporting CSOs in Zambia, and it acknowledges that these organisations are the "eyes and ears" on the ground and a very important partner in our development cooperation. They carry out essential work for those who need it most, in areas such as agriculture, livelihoods, governance, culture and gender



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equality.

This year's CSO Fair theme was focused on gender equality and we used the hashtag #areyougenderequal. 40 CSOs participated, demonstrating to the public the work they do to promote gender equality in their programmes.

The event was very festive and interactive, with performances by Barefeet Theatre, face painting for children, and an interactive mural by Mwamba Chikwemba for members of the public to paint what gender equality meant to them.

Hon. Elizabeth Phiri, Minister of Gender, was the guest of honour and opened the event accompanied by H.E Alessandro Mariani, Ambassador of the European Union, and H.E Seamus O'Grady Ambassador of Ireland and newly appointed EU Gender Champion. Moderating the event was Lulu Haangala- Wood. All in all, it was a very successful event.



EUROPEAN EXTERNAL INVESTMENT PLAN OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED IN ZAMBIA

EURO-ZAMBIA ART FESTIVAL

The European Union Delegation and several EU Member States hosted the Euro-Zambia Art Festival showcasing talented artists from Europe and Zambia.



The Euro-Zambia Art Festival was officially opened on 17 May at the Lusaka National Museum with the exhibition of Swedish cartoonists and Zambian artists on the theme "Facing the Climate". The opening was followed by four cultural events.



On 28th May 2019, the European Union successfully launched the European External Investment Plan (EIP) for Zambia as part of the ongoing outreach missions. The event was officially opened by the Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Hon. Christopher Yaluma. The EIP is an EU initiative launched in 2017 to attract investment, in particular from businesses and private investors in partner countries in Africa and near the EU ('EU Neighbourhood'). Under the EIP umbrella, the EU has been supporting the establishment of financing instruments and guarantee products alongside technical assistance and policy dialogue to improve the business environment and investment climate.



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The 150 participants from the European and Zambian private sector, Government ministries and agencies, Cooperating Partners and EU Member States got first-hand information on the EIP itself, on the investment climate and on the 14 guarantee products applicable to Zambia under the EIP. The presenters included representatives from the International Finance Institutions (IFIs), namely the EIB, AFD (Proparco and GreenCo), KfW, AfDB and IFC, colleagues from the Directorate General for Development Cooperation, and representatives of the private sector and Government of Zambia. A separate session on *ElectriFI* was organised including one-to-one meetings with energy advisors which received an overwhelming response from companies.

Overall, the main takeaway from the event was that Zambia has the capacity and willingness to fully take advantage of the EIP. The EIP was recognised as a good instrument to engage with the Government and private sector through effective structured public-private dialogues. On the other hand, the IFIs present in Zambia have shown interest in joining forces with the EU in the implementation of the different guarantees once they are approved and ready to be rolled out in collaboration with the local finance institutions.

LAUNCH OF THE ZAMBIA WINDOW OF THE EU-FUNDED ENERGY INVESTMENT FACILITY ELECTRIFI: "ELECTRIFI ZAMBIA"



On 28 May, *ElectriFI* - the EU-funded energy investment facility - launched in Lusaka *ElectriFI Zambia*, a EUR 40 million - approx. ZMW 560 million - country window

dedicated to the Zambian renewable energy market. *ElectriFI Zambia* responds to the goal of the 7th National Development Plan that seeks to encourage private initiatives in order to meet targets of diversifying the energy mix with renewable energy technologies and increasing access to clean, modern, reliable and affordable energy services. It aims at supporting investors and entrepreneurs developing projects promoting access to reliable energy and renewable energy generation and at facilitating access to other sources of funding.

In terms of opportunities, *ElectriFI Zambia* will act as a catalyst for further very much needed investments and stimulate positive developments in the energy sector. The grant of EUR 40 million from the European Development Fund is expected to attract commercial and private investment of at least EUR 240 million. This new and innovative project financing facility will be open for 10 years and offers attractive and flexible support tools adjusted to actual needs of the investors and project development stage.

Although a country-specific investment strategy has been developed to respond to specific local market conditions, *ElectriFI Zambia* operates under the same rules, procedures and boundary conditions as the global facility (www.electrifi.org). Zambia is among the first four African countries (along with Benin, Nigeria and Ivory Coast) that have agreed to create country specific windows of the *ElectriFI* Initiative and it is the first one for which the country investment strategy has been developed.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME – HSSP

On 10 June, the Delegation participated in the unveiling of the winning wall painting and sculpture for the beautification of [Medical Stores Limited](#). The two winning artists, Joseph Manje and [Owen Milyoni Shikabeta Sculptor](#), have been both awarded a cheque of ZMW 15,000 for their creativity and artistic skills. This art competition was organized by the EU and MSL under the HSSP as a building event towards the forthcoming official inauguration of the new ultra-modern central warehouse



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for storing and dispatching medicines at MSL. 5,000 for their creativity and artistic skills.



The event was a testimony of the EU's strong commitment to support both effective health systems and the art community in Zambia.



Two days later, the European Union Delegation sponsored and participated in the 2019 edition of the "Pharmacy Awareness Week" under the theme: "Improving health outcomes through efficient supply chain management". The event started with a healthy walk through Kalingalinga and was followed by an official ceremony at Kabulonga Centro Mall. It is the fourth time that the EU supports this important health awareness raising event. Addressing a large crowd of students and young pharmacists, Ms. Elisabeth Locker, EU Head of Governance and Social Sectors, highlighted: "Building efficient supply chain systems is indeed critical to ensure access to essential medicines, which is a fundamental part of the human right

to health".

EU SUPPORTS ZAMBIA'S FIRST ARTS BUSINESS FORUM

Many artists in Zambia today are youths faced with low employment levels. While the arts offer a viable alternative employment for many young people in both urban and rural areas, one of the challenges is that many of these artists are operating in the informal and amateur sectors. An issue common to the informal sector is limited access to critical business development services and other social safety mechanism such as financing, market information, technology and social security.



It is for this reason that the National Arts Council of Zambia hosted the first Arts Business Forum, which took place from 12-14 June and was supported by the EU. The forum was able to showcase the incredible creative talent in Zambia that is already stimulating economic growth and providing credible jobs. The forum also provided a series of seminars on a wide array of topics, such as building a business plan and producing for a global market. The EU supported this event through a technical assistance programme to the National Arts Council, entitled "Improving the competitiveness of creative enterprises in Zambia".

EUROPEAN UNION: ELECTION FOLLOW UP MISSION

An EU Election Follow-up Mission (EFM) was deployed from 27 May to 19 June in Zambia and was led by Cecile



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Kyenge, former Chief Observer of the 2016 EU Election Observation Mission (EU EOM). The EFM assessed the status of implementation of the recommendations of the EOM based on extensive consultations of the Zambian institutions, civil society organisations, religious organisations, political parties and personalities from across the political spectrum.



Before leaving the country on 15 June 2019, Cecile Kyenge, Chief of the Electoral Follow-up Mission (EFM) to Zambia emphasised that *"2021 is not so far away, and it is important to provide legal certainty for the elections: at the same time, this implies broad ownership of the electoral framework across society, to guarantee its successful implementation and acceptance of the outcome of the process."* The report also highlights how additional consultations as well as relevant institutions could further enhance implementation of the recommendations and the integrity of the electoral process. The final report can be found [here](#).

THE EU DELEGATION GIVES ZMW 25 MILLION IN GRANTS TO SUPPORT CAPACITY BUILDING AND RAISE AWARENESS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ZAMBIA

On 26 June, the EU Delegation endorsed the financing of a

programme estimate to support country-wide capacity building development and awareness-raising campaigns in the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency in Zambia. With an implementation period of three years and a budget of approximately ZMW 25 million, the programme estimate aims to achieve the following three objectives:

- 1) Scaling up expertise across the country to develop sustainable renewable energy solutions and improve energy efficiency.

Interventions will include support to improvement of the overall governance of public institutions; adaptation of educational curricula at technical schools and universities and twinning programmes between EU universities and Zambian universities; development of partnerships between companies and educational centres; and support to the institutionalisation and operationalisation of an association of energy auditors and training of trainers.

- 2) Strengthening private sector and rural communities' expertise in developing sustainable renewable energy solutions.

This will be achieved through dedicated trainings for the private sector and for local communities targeted by demonstration projects.

- 3) Raising the level of "energy literacy" of state and non-state actors and of the general public about RE and EE.

- 4)

This will be done through targeted communication campaigns on the benefits of renewable energy and energy efficiency; promotion through Internet; and support to the Government-led off-grid Task Force.

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

WOMEN IN INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE (WISAI)

"My home never lacks food, I always have enough food to



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feed my family” said Elizabeth Ngosa of Chimyanga Muchele village in Chief Puta's chieftdom of Chienge District of Luapula Province after being supported in integrated sustainable agriculture by Caritas Mansa.



The 40 year old mother of five children beamed with pride as she shared her story of transformation, highlighting how she benefited from the Caritas Mansa project - **Women in Integrated Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (WISAI)**. Being one of the beneficiaries of the integrated sustainable farming support which was implemented from 2017 to 2019, Mrs. Ngosa said she used to focus on maize production only before receiving training and support from Caritas Mansa. The training exposed her to sustainable forms of agriculture which helped her to move away from seasonal farming. Apart from conducting agriculture and land rights advocacy trainings, Caritas Mansa directly offered some women groups' agriculture inputs to enable them to demonstrate Integrated Sustainable Agriculture to the rest of the community. In this, Mrs Ngosa received cassava cuttings to enable her to harvest two limas (pieces of land) of the crop, 200 fish fingerlings and two goats. *“I have had a good yield and I don't worry about vegetables for my family or feed for my fingerlings and goats, this cassava plant provides the feed for the goats, the goats provide feed for the fingerlings and garden. My plants and animals feed each other and they are all healthy and now even my family is healthy!”* added Mrs Ngosa. The project also helped Mrs Ngosa minimise the cost of her farming inputs as she is now using animal manure as fertiliser, which is not as costly as chemical fertilisers. Asked on what her vision is as regards food security, Mrs Ngosa would

want to scale up integrated farming and adopt conservation farming. She is also a beneficiary of customary land, given to her by Sub-Chief Mulolwa of the Bwile people of Chienge district. This is just one of the many stories shared by the women in Chienge District who benefitted from the Caritas Mansa WISAI project, funded by the EU through the Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF).

TURNING POACHERS INTO FARMERS: THE START OF A BETTER LIFE

Mr Mbao, now a successful farmer in Chama district, summarized his past as a poacher by saying, *“I lived a risky life and spent many nights away from home hunting wild animals to support my family because I could not make enough money or grow enough food as a farmer. I learned the hard way that poaching was not the answer because markets were dangerous and the money was too low. In short, I lived in constant fear of being arrested by wildlife scouts.”*



With support from the EU funded Transfrontier Conservation Area project, COMACO targets local hunters like Mr Mbao who want to make a change. It's a process that demonstrates how COMACO as a farmer-support business working with local leaders has helped over 1,800 poachers surrender their guns and become more successful and prosperous farmers.

In the case of Mr Mbao and 23 other local hunters like him, the transfrontier project has given community leaders the opportunity to understand how they can convince such people to give farming another chance with the training programs and market opportunities that COMACO provides.



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Six months have passed and these 24 people have seen the benefits and realized they made the right decision. More importantly, community leaders have also realized that the future of wildlife is in their hands by transforming and not arresting.

With its legal markets that offer top prices and skills to increase yields, COMACO is helping communities to become a good partner with the transfrontier project by addressing such risks as poaching. Mr Mbao certainly summarizes it well, *“I would like to thank the European Union and the German/SADC Cooperation for their support in changing my life. Through the project, I have an apiary of five beehives and in addition to growing maize, have become a successful soya beans farmer giving me a better way to support my family.”* Aside from transforming poachers, an even more ambitious step community leaders are taking is setting aside land for restoring wildlife to help connect Nyika and North Luangwa National Parks. With improved collaboration among parties, the transfrontier project has given rise to high-level discussions for achieving such a vision.