



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ZAMBIA AND COMESA

October - December 2017

EDITORIAL

BY AMBASSADOR ALESSANDRO MARIANI

During the last quarter of the year very significant work was invested in the human rights dialogue and activities including:

(i) the joint analysis of Zambia's participation at the UPR session where Zambia was represented by the Ministry of Justice, the Human Rights Commission and a number of Civil Society Organisations; (ii) the joint promotion of the fight against Sexual Gender Based Violence; (iii) the dialogue with Civil Society Organisations which have an important role in terms of policy advocacy and also in terms of implementation of development activities to update the CSO road map in Zambia; (iv) the dialogue with civil society organisations with a specific mandate to assist marginalised group, which culminated in the signature of five specific grants to be implemented. This very important work benefitted from a very active role of all EU Member States, the Government of Zambia and Civil Society Organisations.

In the last quarter of the year the Delegation represented the European Union at the 37th COMESA Policy Organs meeting which is the most important annual appointment for COMESA Member States to discuss about their progress towards economic regional integration and is made of a series of events. This year the meetings took place at the COMESA Secretariat in Lusaka. The European Union had the opportunity to stress the importance of the long-lasting partnership between COMESA and the European Union, which is the biggest trade and development partner for the entire region.

This newsletter offers a number of interesting articles with stories from the field. They cover a wide variety of subjects which is testimony to the wealth of the development relations between Zambia and the European Union.

I wish you all a good and informative reading.

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EU – ZAMBIA PARTNERSHIP

16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

In support of the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, representatives from Delegation of the European Union to Zambia as well as EU Member States joined a community conversation on the 29th November, discussing gender based violence (GBV) in the peri-urban community of Bauleni compound, Lusaka.



The event was organised by the Non-Government Organisation Coordinating Council (NGOCC) and its member organisations, including the Young Women's Christian Association, who brought GBV survivors and perpetrators, as well as members of the community together for a lively discussion of their experiences and how communities themselves believe we can work together to tackle GBV in Zambia, particularly violence against women and girls.



The Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, Alessandro Mariani, emphasized how important it is that we engage fully in the fight against GBV. In his speech, H.E. Mariani stated that "we stand with the people and government of Zambia who are condemning all forms of

violence, recognizing the overwhelming burden of violence against women and girls, and reaffirming our commitment to ending GBV". He detailed current and future programmes the EU has in place to support Zambia in combatting GBV, in line with European Union's Human Rights and Democracy Country Strategy for Zambia, jointly agreed by all EU Member States, that includes the fight against gender-based violence and the advancement of women's and girls' rights.

Celebration of Human Rights Day

This year, the celebration of Human Rights Day coincided with the 28th session of the Universal Periodic Review for Zambia. It was therefore appropriate for the Delegation of the European Union to organise a Breakfast event where the Ministry of Justice and the Human Rights Commission-Zambia were invited to debrief key stakeholders in Zambia about the ins and outs of the UPR Session in Geneva.



The CSOs who submitted a report, the EU Member States, the UN agencies, as well as various cooperating partners including Canada and USA participated actively in a Questions & Answers session after the presentations. The Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, Alessandro Mariani, and the Minister of Justice, Given Lubinda, agreed on the necessity to closely monitor the implementation of the UPR recommendations.

EU-CSO Roadmap Consultative Meeting

The European Union Delegation to Zambia and COMESA, together with its Member States, have been rolling-out a strategy for engagement with civil society in Zambia - the CSO Roadmap.



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On 12 December 2017, a total of 53 representatives of various CSOs and Cooperating Partners gathered to reflect on the achievements of the current roadmap (2015-2017). Some of the achievements highlighted included: enhancement of M&E capacities in local Zambian CSOs, improved internal governance & project management, enhanced capacities of board members and increased coordination of CSOs.



For the next CSO roadmap (2018-2020), CSOs proposed to the EU & its Member States to maintain the three priorities in the current roadmap (Enhancing CSOs' capacities in project management, internal governance, fund raising, monitoring and evaluation; Enhancing CSO contribution to governance and development processes, improved interaction with government; Improving coordination between EU Delegation, its Member States and other international donors and joint support where possible.)

However, they also submitted modifications to include issues of economic empowerment, enhancing CSO capacities in engagement processes, understanding the country context (political economy & adaptation) and building the institutional capacity of civil society.

Signature of EIDHR Grants in Zambia

On 3 December, on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the EU Delegation to Zambia announced the list of the organisations which were awarded a grant for the protection of the rights of marginalised groups, and especially for the rights of persons with disabilities. Examples of inequality and discrimination do exist

in Zambia, despite the efforts of the Government to try and protect the victims.



Equal in rights worldwide
EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

That is why the European Union has decided to support civil society organisations that dedicate themselves to coming to the aid of those who suffer from discrimination and intolerance in various parts of Zambian society.

Organisation	Partners	Title of the project
AIDS-Fondet	Itezhi-Tezhi Widows and Widowers Association	Reducing stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS in Itezhi-Tezhi District
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)	Households in Distress Programme	Inclusion for All: Promoting economic and social rights of people with disabilities in Mbala district
SOS Children's Villages Zambia	- Archie Hinchcliffe Disability Intervention - Disability Rights Watch - SOS Kinderdorf International	Effective inclusion and participation for children with disabilities in quality education, health and social services in Zambia
Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD)	N/A	Enhancing Access to Inclusive Education for Children with Disability in Rural Zambia
CeLIM	Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Assisi	Socio-economic inclusion of people with disability in the Districts of Ndola and Luanshya

The overall amount of the 5 selected projects is EUR 1,239,692 (approximately 15mio ZMK).

Making agriculture an inclusive private sector business for jobs and growth



In November 2017, the European Union, approved a € 87M



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Programme in support of the development of the agriculture sector in Zambia. The "Support to the sustainable commercialisation of Zambia's smallholder farmers" Programme aims at increasing smallholder farmers' productivity, income and employment opportunities. The programme will support selected agribusinesses with improved access to finance, services, inputs and investment opportunities while helping small-scale farmers to be better integrated into value chain and markets.



The Programme will also support climate smart crop production and gender-sensitive land management practices and irrigation. Last but not least, the Programme will seek to contribute to fighting malnutrition notably but not exclusively through a direct contribution to the First 1,000 Most Critical Days Programme.

European Union Supports the Enhancement of Zambia's Aviation Sector

On the 7th of December 2017, the European Union Delegation to Zambia and COMESA and the EASA project team joined the Civil Aviation Authority as well as other stakeholders in commemorating the International Civil Aviation Day.

The European Union and European Air Safety Agency (EASA) signed a 1.8 million Euro (20 million Zambian Kwacha) agreement through which the European Air Safety Agency will assist Zambia to further enhance its air safety operations

and management.



The Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, Alessandro Mariani, stated that "this assistance under the wider Aviation Sector Support Programme demonstrates the continued commitment of the European Union to support structural improvements in the aviation sector. Through this programme, we expect to see improvements in addressing air safety issues and an improved institutional as well as regulatory framework of the aviation sector. Those improvements should enable the sector to not only meet international standards but also attract additional investments. This will yield economic and financial benefits to the country as a whole.



The Project's first Steering Committee which took place on the 6th of December 2017 brought together various stakeholders including the Zambia Airports Cooperation Limited (ZACL). During the meeting, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Communications,



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Engineer Misheck Lungu who also chaired the Steering Committee, stated that "the Government of the Republic of Zambia values the partnership with the European Union from which his Ministry was beneficiary in several projects. The Zambian Government is committed to making Zambia into an inter-modal transport hub.

The investment being made by the Government to modernise and expand international airports' terminal facilities and the installation of two state of the art air traffic control surveillance radars as well as development of domestic airports was testament to that fact."

EU and Medical Stores sign 4.8m Euro Agreement

On Wednesday 13th December 2017, the EU Delegation and Medical Stores Limited (MSL) signed a 24 months Grant agreement worth 4.8 million EUR (58 million Zambian Kwachas) in order to support the establishment in Lusaka of a central warehouse for medicines which meets international quality standards.



Speaking at the signature event, the Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, Alessandro Mariani, emphasized that this Grant will: "significantly enhance MSL capacity and efficiency to store and distribute medicines, and more broadly assist MSL and the Ministry of Health to improve the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of the

pharmaceutical supply management system, which will ultimately benefit the health needs of the Zambian people".

This support to MSL is part of the broader 18 million EUR EU-funded Health Systems Strengthening Programme (HSSP) which aims at improving the availability and correct use of good quality medicines for the people of Zambia.

EU – COMESA PARTNERSHIP

37th COMESA Policy Organs Meeting

The 37th COMESA Policy Organs Meetings took place in Lusaka from the 30th October to the 4th November 2017 under the theme: "Towards Digital Economic Integration", gathering delegates from 18 COMESA countries as well as from several African and International Organizations and Cooperating Partners.



At this occasion, the Ambassador of the European Union to Zambia and COMESA, Alessandro Mariani, delivered a statement at the Opening Session of the Intergovernmental Committee meeting. Ambassador Mariani stressed the importance of the long-lasting partnership between COMESA and the European Union: "*Being the biggest trade and development partner of COMESA, let me state that the European Union will continue to support trade and economic integration in the region based on your own priorities and the commitment at all levels, including at the level of the COMESA Member States that are indeed responsible for the domestication of the regional agenda*".

Ambassador Mariani highlighted the EU financial support for regional cooperation to the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa



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and Indian Ocean regions (1.3 Billion EUR for 2014-2020), as well as the potential of the European External Investment Plan to leverage additional private funding and spur inclusive sustainable growth and decent jobs creation in the region.



works contract is to be signed in 2018. The EU-financed works contractor (RAZEL-BEC, France) is working on site with a significant workforce based in Siavonga.

A large construction camp - the site offices, accommodation and workshops - is under preparation so that many necessary elements for the plunge pool rehabilitation can be fabricated. Some local recruitment has been made (residents of Siavonga so far) and more will follow as progress continues to be made. The civil works for the reshaping of the plunge pool will take approximately three years to complete.

The staff of the EU Delegation regularly attend progress meetings with the engineers, contractors and representatives of the Government of the Republic of Zambia as well as the Zambezi River Authority in order to keep fully updated with progress and to ensure the smoothest possible implementation of this flagship project.

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Kariba Dam Latest Developments – September 2017

After almost 60 years of operation the Kariba Dam is now undergoing significant rehabilitation works with the support of the European Union, the Government of Sweden, the World Bank and the African Development Bank. The civil engineering works will improve both the plunge pool on the downstream side of the dam and the spillway of the dam. The works should lead to a significant extension of the operational life of the facility.



Since the first works contract signature in February 2017, progress has continued to be made on the Kariba Dam Rehabilitation Programme (KDRP). The Plunge Pool reshaping contract, financed entirely by European Union, is already in the implementation phase, while the spillway rehabilitation

Safe Deliveries for Mothers in Kaniki

By Precious Mumbi Habeenzu

COPPERBELT, ZAMBIA – Marble Kalanga, a mother of five children, remembers how, in the past, she preferred to give birth at home because it took nearly two hours to walk to the nearest health centre, which lacked basic facilities. “I knew that even if I reached the clinic on time, I would probably still not get a bed as the facility did not have enough beds for us all.”

This was before the Kaniki Urban Health Centre in Copperbelt Province was refurbished, along with two other health centres in Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces, at a total cost of about 10 million Kwacha (US\$1 million), funded by the European Union through the Millennium Development



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Goal initiative (MDGi). The refurbishment includes upgraded maternal and child health wings as well as the provision of new medical equipment and supplies.



This was before the Kaniki Urban Health Centre in Copperbelt Province was refurbished, along with two other health centres in Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces, at a total cost of about 10 million Kwacha (US\$1 million), funded by the European Union through the Millennium Development Goal initiative (MDGi). The refurbishment includes upgraded maternal and child health wings as well as the provision of new medical equipment and supplies. The Kaniki Urban Health Centre now has six beds in the antenatal ward compared to two before; eight beds in the postnatal ward which previously only had two; and four beds in the labour ward which also previously only had two.



The official inauguration of the Kaniki Urban Health Centre took place in November 2017 when the Ministry of Health carried out site visits with officials from the European Union. While attending the event, Marble conceded that, in the

past, she did not attend the antenatal clinics early. "I only used to register my pregnancies after six months as I didn't understand the importance of doing it before," she admitted, before adding, "I now realize the importance of delivering at a health facility."



Ethel Liselo, 42, also speaking at the inauguration, confirmed that "before the European Union programme, mothers did not understand the importance of registering pregnancies early; the dangers of home deliveries; the importance of checking ourselves in (to the health centre) when the time is right for delivery; nor the importance of family planning methods."



The programme aims at accelerating the reduction of maternal, neonatal and child mortality in Zambia with an investment of 582 million Kwacha (49.5 million EUR). It is implemented by the Ministry of Health with technical support from UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The programme covers Ndola, Luanshya, Kitwe, Mufulira, Chingola and Masaiti districts in Copperbelt



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Province, and Lusaka, Kafue, Chilanga, Chongwe, and Rufunsa districts in Lusaka Province.

TRANSFORM Training of Trainers - EU-Social Protection Systems Programme

From 16 to 27 October 2017, a TRANSFORM regional training for trainers' workshop took place in Lusaka. TRANSFORM is an innovative learning package on the administration of national social protection floors in Africa. It is supported by the EU Social Protection Systems Programme (EU-SPS), Finland, Ireland, and the UN. The EU-SPS programme is supporting ten developing partner countries in their efforts to build up inclusive and sustainable social protection systems. In Zambia, the programme further aims to support the roll-out of Social Health Insurance and other forms of contributory social protection for informal and rural economy workers ('SPIREWORK'), as well as developing a curriculum for social protection with the University of Zambia.



Speaking at the workshop, EU Team Leader for Governance and Social Sectors, Ms Elisabeth Locker, stated that social protection is an important pillar for EU development cooperation as it is a means to reducing poverty, inequality and vulnerability, thus a critical factor for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

"Inclusive Education for Disabled Children" a Leonard Cheshire Disability Project for the Communities

On 3 November 2017, the EU Delegation participated in a ceremony in Kafue town where the Leonard Cheshire Disability in partnership with the Cheshire Homes Society of

Zambia handed over the "Inclusive Education for Disabled Children" project they implemented for three years (Nov 2014 – Nov 2017) to the Ministry of Education and the community. Activity implementation took place in Kafue, Mazabuka, Monze, Pemba, Choma, Kalomo and Livingstone districts.



Speaking at the handover ceremony, Provincial Education Standards Officer Dr Mwenga Mwamba was delighted to learn that the project addressed some basic human needs of disabled children, which included water supply, health, basic education, sanitation through construction of water-borne toilets which are disability-sensitive and also ramps. Kafue District Commissioner Joseph Kamana stressed the importance of community involvement and assured that government will continue to deploy trained teachers to community schools.



Speaking at the same event, a mother of a differently-abled child appreciated the support of the European Union to



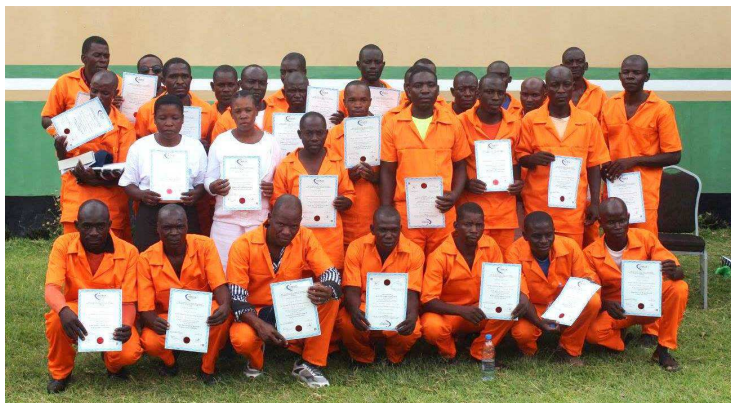
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Twatasha Community School. Ms Tembo mentioned that prior to commencement of Inclusive Education activities at school, her child never went to school. The EU Team Leader for Governance and Social Sectors Ms. Elisabeth Loacker acknowledged the need for continued support to disabled children and implored the community to sustain the investment.

Hand-over Ceremony of certificates for inmates in Mukobeko Correctional Centre

On 10 November 2017, a handover ceremony of certificates took place in Mukobeko Maximum Correctional Facility (Kabwe) whereby 88 male and female inmates have brilliantly passed the national exams in various topics such as mechanics, metal fabrication, sewing, carpentry, decoration, etc. Prisoners were graduated thanks to the EU-funded project of CELIM Milano who provided skills training and the fees for the Teveta Zambia certified courses.



On this occasion, Ms Elisabeth Loacker, Team Leader at the EU Delegation, said that the reintegration of detainees as productive members of society was of crucial importance for the EU and contributed to the trust of a society in its institutions. The Zambia Correctional Service represented by Commissioner Tobias Mwanza also explained that this activity was a good demonstration of the recent shift in approach from prisons to correctional facilities in Zambia.

Better Nutrition for the Nation

In November, Marion Michaud and Trijntje Talen from the European Union Delegation visited the EU-funded Integrated Scaling Up Nutrition project implemented by "Village Water

Zambia" and "Send a Cow". The project aims at reducing maternal and child undernutrition in Kafue, Rufunsa, Luangwa and Shibujunji districts.



At the Shimbololo Rural Health Centre, in Kafue district, the EU representatives met the mother of a malnourished child, identified by health volunteers during a growth monitoring outreach visit. The mother had been advised to go to the clinic to receive nutrition counselling and High Energy Protein Supplements needed for the recovery of her daughter. Advocacy materials, commodities and bikes supplied by the project had made this visit possible and enabled hundreds of other mothers to access healthcare services.



Catherine Simubali from Shibuyunji district, has been sensitized by project-trained Community Champions on the importance of good hygiene and sanitation to prevent infections, diarrhoeas and ultimately under-nutrition. She received support to construct hard toilets, tip taps, energy-saving stoves and dish-racks for improved personal and



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household hygiene and safer food storage, handling and preparation. As a Lead Farmer, Catherine has further trained another 20 women as members of her Self Help Group. Next year, she may also benefit from one of the 40 water points to be constructed or from one of the 170 existing ones that will be rehabilitated, operated and maintained by Village Water and WASH Committees with support from the project.



Increased food security and dietary diversity

Mercy Shibelesa, member of the Busy-Bee Self Help Group in Kafue district, was one of the 248 Lead Farmers to benefit from a training package on nutrition-sensitive production systems. To mitigate climate change and other major water constraints, Mercy learned how to establish key hole, sack and banana homestead gardens. She was also trained in producing tea manure, organic pesticides and compost. She also received high quality vegetable seeds. Since the project started, not only has she increased her production, but she has also diversified what she grows and understood the importance of good nutrition thanks to the nutrition education and cooking demonstrations provided under the project.

European Union Improves the Livelihood of Communities in Mumbwa, Zambia.



Amatheon Agri (Zambia) Limited Farms

The European Union through the EU-ACP Energy Facility funded the grid extension project under the Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Small Scale Projects in Mumbwa town, Central Province. Provision of electricity services has resulted in increased agricultural production especially for big farms (ZNS Kalenda, Kitumba Prison & Amatheon Agri) which has also trickled down to the local peasant farmer. *'Currently we are producing 30,000 x 50kg bags of maize as opposed to 7,000 bags before. All year round production is assured because we have electricity to power our water pumps and also use centre-pivots for irrigation.'* Capt. Mwewa – Irrigation Engineer, ZNS Kalenda Farms.

The access to electricity has contributed to job creation opportunities for unskilled locals and skilled labour coming into the area to support major activities such as agriculture and mining. *'Initially we were mining on small scale but large scale mine operations are being established that will employ about 600 people from the current 320 people. Electricity has helped us improve our operations and save costs; we were using generators with a consumption of 600Lts diesel per hr.'* Alex Mwanza – Site Manager, Grosvenor Resources Mine (Z) Ltd.



ZNS Kalenda Farms, Electrified Staff Houses

Access to health services in the area has improved, the medical personnel at the clinics are able to do safe deliveries during the nights and also perform minor surgical operations. During a visit at one rural health centre, we were informed that 'night safe deliveries' have increased from 27% to 38% due to access to electricity. *'We can work in the night, we are able to store our vaccines and drugs safely. We can conduct deliveries and suture patients anytime. At household level, you cannot mention the benefits as they are numerous.'* Ms Precious Madubansi – Nurse in charge, Kabwanga.



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ZNS Kalenda health centre has also acquired electrical equipment (incubators, lab equipment, ART machines and surgical equipment) that will enhance the quality of services that will be provided.

Education institutions have also greatly benefited from the electricity access, as they are now able to provide computer studies lessons, conduct adult literacy classes and also allow pupils to study from the classrooms in the evenings. *'A lot of things have changed, computer classes have been introduced, we are able to put electrical appliances in the houses and enrolment figures have increased. We are able to print all our school needs, such as tests papers for the pupils.'* Mrs Shimalukwe – Head Teacher, Kabwanga School.



Some schools have increased their enrolment levels, leading to additional investment in classroom infrastructure. Local traditional leaders are using these better education facilities as a catalyst to support the campaign to end early child marriages which is prevalent in the area.