

European Development Fund - National Authorizing Office Support Unit / EDF NAO Support Unit

Objectives of the EDF/NAO Unit

Following the establishment of MINECOFIN Single Project Implementation Unit, the EDF NAO portfolio will continue with its objective of reinforcing the effectiveness of EDF (European Development Fund) assistance in its contribution to poverty alleviation. Accordingly, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) established the EDF NAO portfolio management structure under the SPIU Framework that will continue discharging the core responsibilities in the implementation of the cooperation with the European Commission including:

- Reinforce the MINECOFIN capacities to program, manage, coordinate and control the resource allocation of the EDF aid;
- Improve the effectiveness of the EDF financed projects in Rwanda.

Functions of the Unit:

- define the objectives and priorities on which the indicative programmes are based, in harmony with the Country Development Strategies;
- be responsible for the coordination, programming, regular monitoring and annual, mid-term and end-of-term reviews of the EDF implementation cooperation;
- ensure programme formulation after appropriate consultations with line ministries;
- prepare and present programmes and projects to the EU for approval;
- launch tenders, prepare, negotiate and conclude contracts;
- regular monitoring and operational follow up of EDF programmes and projects.

Framework of the EDF Rwanda Cooperation

Currently the Rwanda-EU cooperation is governed by the Cotonou Agreement which was signed between the EU and all ACP Countries on June 23rd 2000 in Benin and revised on June 25th 2005 in Luxembourg. The Cotonou Agreement which will last for 20 years, is centered on a common objective of reducing poverty, consistent with the goals of achieving sustainable development and gradual integration of the ACP Countries into the world economy.

The bilateral cooperation between the Government of Rwanda and the EC is based on the Rwanda 10th EDF Country Strategy Paper and National Indicative Programme (CSP/NIP) signed in December 2007 for five years (2008-2013).

Significant portion of the 10th EDF portfolio (about 80%) is committed through General Budget and Sector Budget Support. The coming year should serve to identify the next programme of cooperation, the 11th EDF between Rwanda and EU.

