

CO Lusaka signs a Euro 5,730,000 financing agreement for the Zambia Green Jobs Programme Implementation Phase

CO Lusaka has, on behalf of five UN Agencies (ILO, FAO, UNEP, ITC, UNCTAD), signed a Euro 5,730,000 Agreement with the Government of Finland to finance the implementation of the Joint Programme on enhancing competitiveness and sustainable business among MSMEs in the Zambian building construction industry (Zambia Green Jobs Programme). The Government of Finland has provided funding for the first 3 years of a four year implementation phase.

The signing ceremony took place on Monday 19th August 2013 at the Finnish Embassy in Lusaka. Mr. Martin Clemensson, Director, CO Lusaka signed on behalf of the UN System while Ms. Marja Ahonen from the Finnish Embassy signed on behalf of the Finnish Government. The UN Resident Coordinator's Office represented by Mr. Simon Cammelbeeck of WFP signed as witness to the financing agreement.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Mr. George Okech, FAO Representative – Zambia, Mr. Andreas Klemmer, Senior Enterprise Specialist, Pretoria, Mr. Mwiinga Cheelo, Coordinatio Analyst UN Resident Coordinators Office, Ms. Belinda Chanda (UNDAF Outcome 2 Convenor), Mr. Eric Chipeta (Technical Lead, UNDAF Outcome 2) and Mr. Tapera Muzira, Chief Technical Advisor, Zambia Green Jobs Programme.



The Zambia Green Jobs Programme has successfully concluded a twelve months Inception Phase during which analytical research on the Zambian building construction industry was conducted with the view to generate the evidence needed to align implementation phase interventions to the needs of the programme stakeholders and target groups. The Programme implementation phase will commence operations on 1st September 2013 and will apply a human and environment rights-based approach to support creation of sustainable livelihoods for rural and urban families through private sector development, in particular by supporting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to engage in sustainable business practices which promote creation of green jobs.

The Zambia Green Jobs Programme will be officially launched together with the Zambian Government and other Stakeholders within the next six months.