

## Czech Republic

### A. AFRICA

Official Development Assistance (ODA) is an integral part of the Czech foreign policy and reflects the principles of the EU development assistance. In addition to the European Community development policies, the Czech Republic also intends to continue providing development assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, independently.

In relation to its membership in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Czech Republic has provided financial resources for the ODA since 1996 and thus contributed to addressing global issues and fulfilling the concept of sustainable development. The framework for the ODA provision is based on the “*Principles for Providing Foreign Assistance*” approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in 1995. The objectives and principles for the 2002-2007 period are further specified in the medium-term “*Concept of the Czech Republic Foreign Assistance Programme for the 2002-2007 Period*” approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in 2002. According to the newly approved “Principles” (2004), after accession of the Czech Republic to the EU, its intention is to concentrate the Czech ODA on prioritized countries for the long term. This assistance will be provided to Angola, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Moldova, Mongolia, Serbia, Vietnam, Zambia and Yemen. However, assistance to other countries is not excluded and, in the future, implementation of further environmental projects is anticipated.

As a non-African country, the Czech Republic provides information on its bilateral foreign development cooperation projects in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2006, the overall volume of Czech Republic’s bilateral foreign development cooperation projects in sub-Saharan Africa reached USD 2,794,000, i.e. 15% of the total volume of bilateral projects. In 2006, 18 bilateral development projects and 11 small local projects were carried out in eight countries of sub-Saharan Africa. Six bilateral projects are to be launched in 2007.

Angola and Zambia are two least developed African countries included in the Czech Republic’s foreign development cooperation list of eight priority countries. In Angola, the priority sectors are agriculture and education. In 2007, the fields of cooperation are to be increased to include also transport and health care. In Zambia, development cooperation focuses on health care, with agriculture, education and environment considered to be included in the mid-term perspective.

In addition to the priority countries, the Czech Republic has been carrying out projects in Ethiopia as well (education, health care and environment), Kenya (environment), Malawi (health care), Namibia (education, social problems, environment), Tanzania (health care) and Uganda (health care).

In the future, funds earmarked for bilateral projects in the priority countries are to be increased while the number of projects in non-priority countries is to be reduced.

Despite the relatively small amount of funds allocated to bilateral projects in Africa, carried out within Czech Republic’s foreign development cooperation, the majority of these projects can be described as highly effective.

Another form of Czech Republic’s bilateral foreign development cooperation is government scholarships granted within the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. From the total number of 250 scholarships granted for the 2007/2008 school year, 41 were awarded to students from sub-Saharan African countries.

Within its foreign development cooperation, the Czech Republic is also providing voluntary contributions to international organizations that are used, *inter alia*, to fund projects in Africa.

Within trilateral projects, the Czech Republic contributed in 2006 e.g. to a project in Zambia (carried out together with the Canadian International Development Agency, CIDA) and in Mali (carried out in cooperation with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg).

## ***Bilateral projects of Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation***

### *Angola*

The programme of Czech Republic's development cooperation with Angola in 2006 - 2010 sets out agriculture and development of rural areas as priority sectors. With regards to the agriculture sector, a project in the field of consultancy on fish and poultry farming was carried out and the first steps were made towards the launching of cooperative assistance to petty farmers to make their agriculture production more effective (experimental introduction of new technologies, consultancy). Both topics correspond to the approved programme of cooperation. In the education sector in 2006, projects in the fields of elementary and secondary education with specialization on agriculture (following up the project carried out in 2003 - 2005) were launched.

In addition to activities within the priority sectors, there were three local projects and one continuing project carried out in 2006 within the competence of the Embassy of the Czech Republic and Ministry of Environment respectively.

In 2006, Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation allocated the total of USD 586,820 for the bilateral cooperation with Angola, of which the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports contributed USD 471,590, Ministry of Agriculture USD 61,367, Ministry of Environment USD 32,318 and Ministry of Foreign Affairs USD 21,545.

Smooth cooperation between the Czech Republic and Angola was troubled by problems connected with the issuing of work visas to the Czech citizens who worked in the programme of foreign development cooperation on a long-term basis.

### *Ethiopia*

In 2006, Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation allocated USD 429,090 for the bilateral cooperation with Ethiopia, of which the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (2 projects) contributed USD 318,181, Ministry of Environment (2 projects) USD 90,909 and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (small project run by the Czech Embassy) USD 20,000.

Projects within the competence of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports on "*Assistance in Implementation of Modern Teaching Methods in the Ethiopian Education System*" (2003-2007) and "*Provision of Education and Care for AIDS Orphans and Their Economic and Social Stabilization in the Society – Construction of the Apprentice Training Center and Boarding School in Awassa*" (2004-2006) were carried out by a public benefit company People in Need (Člověk v tísni). The first project aimed at improving the quality of education in the selected elementary schools by introducing modern teaching methods in education, while the other project focused on education and care of orphans as well as other groups of children at risk.

The aim of the project within the competence of the Ministry of Environment on "*Hydrology Research with Focus on the Areas Struck by Drought*" (2006-2008) is to share know-how of creating hydro-ecology maps in the river basin of Jemma. The project of "*Construction of the Modern Climatologic Database CLIDATA*" (joint project of several countries all around the world, 2004-2006) focused on modernization of the climatological information data flow.

A small local project run by the Embassy of the Czech Republic on "*Training Skills and Social Work in the Disadvantaged Communities of Awassa*" followed up the above mentioned project of People In Need, which also focused on the area of education.

Within the *trilateral cooperation*, the Czech Republic co-funded (roughly USD 6,820) a project which introduced low-cost environmentally friendly materials and which was carried out by People in Need in cooperation with the Austrian Regional Partnership Programme (RPP).

## *Kenya*

In 2006, Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation allocated USD 113,636 for the bilateral cooperation with Kenya, of which the Ministry of Environment (1 project) contributed USD 90,909 and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (small project run by the Czech Embassy) USD 22,727.

The project within the competence of the Ministry of Environment on "*Solar Electric Power in Schools across Kenya*", which ended in 2006, was aimed to support elementary education in problematic areas – especially in slums and other areas struck by poverty. The main scope of this project was the delivery of photovoltaic (FV) solar electric systems and information technologies (desktop computers, printers, software). Training of local workers in basic operation skills to be able to use the FV systems and training of teachers to be able to use computers were also parts of this project.

A small project run by the Embassy of the Czech Republic on "*Reconstruction of Health Care Center – Itibo*" was carried out by the ADRA company.

## *Malawi*

In 2006, Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation contributed USD 77,273 to the bilateral cooperation with Malawi for the project of "*Rehabilitation and Nursing Care Sue Ryder*" which was within the competence of Ministry of Health Care (2004 - 2006). The aim of this project was to improve quality of life of local people providing them with basic health care and rehabilitation. The important aspect of this project is also protection of disabled individuals against social exclusion.

## *Namibia*

Although Namibia does not belong to the priority countries of Czech Republic's foreign cooperation, it was and still is one of the countries, in which the Czech projects are supported because of the interest from the Namibian side.

In sectors of education, social development and environment, three projects continued in Namibia in 2006. The project on "*Development of Technical-Economic Study Programmes at the Polytechnic of Namibia*" planned for 2004 - 2008 included supplies of school devices for technical programmes. A number of students pursued their internships in the Czech Republic and Czech professors were discoursing at the Polytechnic of Namibia. The project on "*Socio-economic Stabilization of Families and Communities Suffering from HIV/AIDS and Opportunistic Infections*" of 2003 was prolonged until the end of 2008. A souvenir manufacture has been established which employs local women whose husbands died of AIDS. Manufactured souvenirs are sold in Windhoek and thanks to the company "People In Need" in other countries as well, including the Czech Republic. The three-year project "*Evaluation Report about the Ore Processing and Mining and their Influence on Environment in the Mining Areas of Namibia*" ended in 2006.

In 2006, Czech Republic's foreign development cooperation contributed to the bilateral cooperation with Namibia in total of USD 462,136 of which USD 85,681 within the competence of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, USD 274,590 within the competence of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Environment contributed USD 101,865.

## *Tanzania*

Two-year project within the competence of the Ministry of Health Care "*Health Aid for the Lushoto Hospital*" ended in 2006. Its aim was to provide medical supplies and medicaments, and it was carried out by the Volonté association. The total budget of the project reached USD 256,590.

## *Uganda*

The project within the competence of the Ministry of Health Care “*Hospital and Training School for Midwives in Equatorial Africa – Uganda, Buikwe*”, which ended in 2006, was carried out by Archdiocese Charity Prague. The total budget of the project reached almost USD 295,454. This project followed up successful “Distance Adoption in Uganda” project.

## *Zambia*

The programme of development cooperation between the Czech Republic and Zambia in 2006 - 2010 expects to carry out cooperation in the sector of health care, supporting primarily health care in rural areas with the focus on mother care and childcare in provincial and district hospitals. All bilateral projects carried out in 2006 in Zambia have been already launched before the approval of this programme, therefore, no development cooperation has been launched yet within this programme.

In 2006, the trilateral project in cooperation with the Canadian International Development Agency CIDA “*Masuku Empowered*” was carried out in Zambia whose goal was to improve the quality of services in the given area by making electricity from renewable sources more available (solar panels). Czech Republic’s contribution reached almost USD 45,454. The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Harare carried out several small local projects.

In 2006, Czech Republic’s foreign development cooperation contributed to the bilateral cooperation with Zambia in total of USD 785,590 of which 691,864 within the competence of the Ministry of Health Care, USD 79,090 within the competence of the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed USD 14,636.

## ***Trilateral projects of Czech Republic’s foreign development cooperation***

### *Mali*

Within the *trilateral cooperation*, there is an ongoing project on “*Rural Water Supply in Barouéli*” (2006 - 2008) being carried out on the partnership basis between the Czech Republic, Mali and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg within the so-called *North-North-South cooperation*. This cooperation involves development projects, which are carried out by one EU member state together with a new EU member state and a developing country, for which the project is designed. Apart from the renewal of drinking water resources, the project also secures functioning of the resources through a network of qualified and effective workers and users. The project also joins the process of administration decentralization, which is Mali currently undergoing (training of personnel responsible for water and sanitation). In 2006, the Czech Republic contributed USD 68,181.