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## EU READY TO CONTINUE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS IN ARMENIA

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A four [ ] program with financial support from the Austrian Development Agency and the European Neighborhood Program for Agriculture and Rural Development that launched in January 2015 to support Armenian farmers was closed on November 13 in Yerevan.

It was implemented by UNDP, the Industrial Development Fund, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The budget of the program was 25 million euros.

According to the Deputy Head of the Office of the Austrian Development Agency for the South Caucasus, Nora Alanakyan, one of the main goals of the program was to improve the quality of life of the rural population.

Thanks to the program, 600 people got jobs, and their families (about three thousand people) received additional livelihoods.

The head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, Piotr Switalski, said development of agriculture in Armenia will have not only economic, but also cultural and demographic significance. In the course of the program, 53 rural cooperatives, producing and processing agricultural products, were upgraded.

Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in Armenia, expressed readiness to continue cooperation in order to achieve new results and further development of agriculture in Armenia. We reaffirm our readiness to continue cooperation, so today's event is not a closing, but the beginning of something new, the discovery of new opportunities, said Sharp.

[http://arka.am/en/news/society/eu\\_ready\\_to\\_continue\\_agricultural\\_programs\\_in\\_armenia/](http://arka.am/en/news/society/eu_ready_to_continue_agricultural_programs_in_armenia/)

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