



AgriNet Albania Organization

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Dear Prime Minister,

We, a partner organisation to We Effect, Sweden, write to you to express our deep concerns of the decision to dramatically cut Sweden's official development assistance.

The war in Ukraine has underlined how severely vulnerable groups are affected in times of crisis. Already enduring the economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis, the people, especially the poorest, are now suffering from skyrocketing food prices. The world is in the worst humanitarian situation since World War II.

We, in Albania, bear witness to this. With this in mind, the historic and tragic decision to cut the development assistance will impact us in unprecedented ways. For us, the cut has drastic implications/effects.

1. Poverty levels are rising in rural areas as a result of rising prices of agricultural inputs and fuels.
2. Rising prices for basic foodstuffs make poor people poorer.
3. All the positive results achieved through support from project implementation become unsustainable.
4. Increased poverty in rural areas will result in the abandonment of the village by residents and increased emigration.

Dear Magdalena, as Sweden's prime minister and leader of your government, we know you are a strong believer in international solidarity. We can't thank you enough for the support your country has given in the past.

We now encourage you to stand with us in these desperate times and re-evaluate the decision to cut development assistance, to make sure that the consequences of the war in Ukraine and the climate crisis will be as limited as possible.

Show your full support to civil society organisations and people in poverty that we support. Your financial support is needed more than ever. It is a long-term investment in a more sustainable and just world.

We look forward to your reply.

P/AgriNet Albania

Korçë, 18.5.2022

Tomi Pikuli

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several vertical and horizontal strokes, appearing to be a stylized name.

Executive Director