

May 7, 2013

Comments from United Kingdom on the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience for Haiti

Dear Andrea,

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the Haiti SPCR – please see below:

- The UK welcomes the SPCR for Haiti.
- We particularly welcome the recognition of the importance of information (historical series of meteorological data and other climate information gaps) to help planners anticipate future climate events and the measures that are proposed to ensure the long-term sustainability and add value to the investments in hard infrastructure which include technical assistance component, climate information and risk and vulnerability assessments for decision making will be generated and tools to facilitate implementation of adaptation measures. It will also be very important to ensure that the infrastructure investment is maintained in terms of its physical functions and the availability of finance to support its continued operations including for example staff salaries.
- However, there are number of points where we seek clarification:
 - The relationship between the SPCR proposal and the Action Plan for National Recovery and Development (PARDN) is not entirely clear. If, as the proposal states, the PARDN identifies a need for \$11.5bn of investment in the environment then it would be helpful to know more about the relationship between the other parts of PARDN and the \$25m of proposed SPCR projects sits and how it fits in the wider strategic investment portfolio. Without this information but recognising the existence of the PARDN, it is difficult to judge the value of the SPCR proposals.
 - It is not clear how the 4 investment areas were decided on and what the allocation of finance across the 4 areas was based on. It would be useful to know how the investment areas were prioritised because it could be argued that investment area 4 is a more significant and urgent task and currently, the project costs (estimated at \$2m) suggest a very significant underestimate of need.
 - World Bank acknowledges that its very focused on the more physical side of things (reforestation, road, drainage, etc), as opposed to the more social components of building resilience (social protection, insurance), so it will be important that this broader view is taken on board during implementation and how this programme will link up with these and other investments (including the ones referred to in the annexes).
 - We would like more information on how the private sector will be drawn in.
 - There are a number of indicators included in the results framework which appear hard to measure. For example:
 - Level of integration of the issue of climate change in government policies, plans, programs and projects and public budgets.

- Quantity and quality of operational tools put in place to facilitate local government's appropriation of the PPCR project, its implementation, monitoring and evaluation

We hope more detail on how these indicators will be measured will be included in the individual project proposals.

- The Haiti SPCR independent review usefully pointed out some areas for development. In particular, we agree with the particular point made in the review that it would be useful to indicate what approaches will be undertaken to manage the risks articulated for each project and it would also be useful to provide a measure of the level of each risk i.e. medium, high or low.

Kind regards,

Anna

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