

March 27, 2015

Query on IFC proposal for Climate Smart SME Financing in Bangladesh—comments received from the UK

Dear Mafalda,

Thank you for sharing with us the IFC proposal for Climate Smart SME Financing in Bangladesh.

I have reviewed this proposal alongside that which was circulated for the first component of this project in August 2013. I noticed that there were some comments and queries included in our approval of the original proposal that might also be pertinent to this second paper, and hoped that we might be able to ask for some clarification on these?

- Originally, Juliet Field had asked for some assurance concerning the Department of Agricultural Extension's role in the investment stage of the project (although this was based on the understanding that there would be a solely agricultural focus to the investment phase, which has become broader in its scope). There is still strong participation expected by agricultural SMEs however, so it would be useful to know whether there will be any interaction with this Department as part of this project, or whether this was taken forward as part of the advisory services component?
- It had also been requested that the role of the Water Management Board be clarified, as the investment component was to focus on polder-based enterprises. This geographical focus was found to be excessively limited after the scoping study, so I am not sure whether SMEs based in the polders are still in scope, is this true? In which case it would be good to know whether there will be any role for the WMB in the water management activities for the project.

It would be very helpful for us to understand the extent that comments or queries from donors are used once these have been forwarded to the CIFs Admin Unit and onwards to the MDBs. If you might be able to provide further clarification on this matter it would be much appreciated.

Many thanks,

Emma

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