

November 6, 2014

**Approval by mail: MENA Regional: SEMed Private Renewable Energy Framework
(SPREF) (EBRD)**

Dear Mafalda,

Thank you for the approval by mail for the MENA regional SEMed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF) project under the Dedicated Private Sector Programme. The UK is happy to approve.

In the process of approving we noted that the development benefits, in terms of providing evidence of poverty reduction, were not as apparent as they perhaps could have been in the proposal. There is clearly some good read across from the activities in the proposal to the goals in the Investment Plan, and the positive poverty reduction benefits arising from economic growth due to the provision of electricity to satisfy increasing demand; as stated in the proposal. However it would be helpful for us in endorsing future proposals if activities that will help reduce poverty could be made more apparent - through clearer reference to poverty reduction in the section of the proposal that explains the fit with the CTF investment criteria (section 9).

Kind Regards
Simon

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