

April 8, 2015

**Comments from the UK--Approval by mail: Tanzania: SREP Mini-Grids Project (IFC)**

Dear Mafalda,

Thank you for circulating the SREP Tanzania Mini-Grids project for approval. We are supportive of this programme and glad to see its focus on developing the market infrastructure/enabling business environment for mini-grids, and transaction advisory services in Tanzania. These activities are strongly complementary to the wider package of support around mini-grids currently being developed by REA, SIDA, DFID and WB.

We would however appreciate confirmation from IFC regarding the following points before approval:

- In the responses provided by the Government of Tanzania and the MDBs to the questions we raised in approving the Investment Plan, it was stated that **“IFC will recruit a team member, based in Dar, to lead on the RERE project”**. We do not see a specific reference to the appointment of an IFC lead in Dar in the project document, and we would like to confirm that this is still the case.

- In addition to the national co-ordination provided by REA, with increasing interest and action on mini-grids regionally and globally, we believe there is an important priority in improved international co-ordination and learning around mini-grids. The IFC (through the World Bank Group) is already a member of the **SE4ALL Clean Energy Mini-Grids High Impact Opportunity (HIO)** and we would encourage the IFC to engage with that to promote alignment with wider efforts, and to share tools and experiences. For example it would make sense for IFC's proposed work on Mini-Grids Quality Assurance and standards in Tanzania, to be co-ordinated with that under the HIO, led by the US Department of Energy. Similarly the market development tools developed by IFC in Tanzania would have strong relevance to the AfDB-led Green Mini-Grids Africa Regional Facility – and vice versa.

Best wishes,

Lawrence (on behalf of Steven Hunt)