



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIPS

Standing Committee on Partnerships (SCP)	Venue: 4M (CCIA)/Zahrabed-215 (Tunis) 14:00-15:00(Abidjan time) / 15:00-16h00 (Tunis time)	Date: 19/02/2015
	<p>ATTENDANCE</p> <p><u>Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Désiré Vencatachellum, Chairperson, FRMB • Mrs. Valerie Dabady Liverani, Manager, FRMB.2 • Ms. Victoria Chisala, Manager, ORQR.1 • Mr. Brendon Moyo, Chief Legal Counsel, GECL.3 • Mr. Haithem Ben Othman, Chief Financial Accountant, FFCO.1 • Mr. Claudius Peter Nkhata, Principal Budget Officer, COPB.2 <p><u>Absent Department</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSP <p><u>Invitees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Moulay Lachcen Ennahli, Advisor to Vice President, OSVP • Mr. Benedict Kanu, Lead Agricultural Expert, OSAN.0 <p><u>SCP Secretariat</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Dalya Elziniy, Senior Cooperation Officer, FRMB.2 	<p>Prepared by: SCP Secretariat</p>
<p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>1. Review of proposal for Memorandum of Understanding between AfDB and OXFAM - OSAN</p>		

Summary of Discussions

Concept Note Memorandum of Understanding between AfDB and OXFAM

TEAM PRESENTATION

A meeting took place recently between OSAN and OXFAM where exchange of information about strategies of both institutions and comparative advantages were shared. Many areas of possible collaboration were identified. With its strong field presence, technical expertise, and its strategy to address root-causes of poverty and food security, OXFAM is thought to be a strategic partner to AfDB.

COMMENTS BY SCP

A point of clarification by the Chairperson

The Chair reminded attendees that FRMB does not develop concept note for partnerships for other departments. Its role is to serve as the secretariat for the SCP, and SCP procedure requires each department to develop their concept notes; FRMB is willing to assist and provide advice whenever needed. In this particular case of the proposed OXFAM partnership, the processing was presented as urgent and FRMB drafted the concept note. Therefore, what is presented today to the SCP is a draft to be taken forward by the responsible department for revision and finalization. Such practice will not be deemed as a new procedure.

SCP Comments

- SCP conveyed support for this partnership which is deemed to be a good fit for the Bank, given the work of the two institutions and the strong field presence of OXFAM.
- The numbers in document should be consistent as some discrepancies appear through different paragraphs regarding for example, the number of country offices of OXFAM.
- Request was made to clarify if the collaboration would entail financial support to OXFAM.
- Request was made to clarify if the collaboration would mean that OXFAM would be able to bid for bank financed projects.
- The last point of the scorecard about the 'cost' should reflect any expected in-kind contribution and running cost.
- The concept note should reflect that it is a Bank wide MoU, though the focal point for the creation of the MOU is with OSAN/OSVP.
- The value chain potential should come out stronger in the document.
- For partnerships with a social aspect, the alignment with the Ten Years Strategy (TYS) should be clear in the concept note, with some quotes from the YYS.
- The areas identified for collaboration are very broad with no specifics; there should be a framework for implementing actions in the future.
- The Due Diligence (Q3) shows that OXFAM supports activities that some countries might construe as political (e.g. supporting writers persecuted for their work, etc.). A question was raised as to whether there are any countries where collaborating with OXFAM could be problematic. . Additionally, given the provisions of the Bank charter prohibiting political activity by the Bank, we should ensure that the Bank's collaboration with OXFAM is not viewed as support for the latter's political activities.
- Section 3.7 indicates preferential treatment to OXFAM by the Bank and should be revised.

TEAM RESPONSE

- The team notes the support of the SCP and welcomes the comments which are well noted; the team will revise the concept note accordingly.
- OXFAM is not to have any preferential treatment from the Bank, and it can bid for any contracts as would any other entity, in accordance with the Bank's rules.
- The MOU is not to provide any financial support to OXFAM.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY SCP
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SCP members endorsed the proposed partnership for approval by SMCC and took note that time is of the essence as the MoU is expected to be signed on March 4th, 2015.• The concept note to be revised by the team to reflect all the comments from the SCP members as well as the non-preferential treatment (section 3.7).• ORTS and OSHD to be advised and involved.
CONCLUSIONS / NEXT STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No objection to the proposed partnership and the team should proceed with the revision of the concept note and send it to FRMB by noon the following day for the team to be able to meet the submission to SMCC before Friday COB.• To expedite the process, FRMB was given the mandate to ensure the integration of all comments and recommendations in the revised note.