# INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT ON A SELECTION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

In response to a request made by IFC, we performed a review on a selection of sustainable development information in the Annual Report for the financial year ending June 30, 2013, including quantitative indicators ("the Indicators") and qualitative statements ("the Statements"). We selected statements that were deemed to be of particular stakeholder interest, and involved a potential reputation risk for IFC, together with statements on corporate responsibility management and performance. The Indicators and the Statements are related to the following material areas:

MATERIAL AREAS	STATEMENTS	INDICATORS		
IFC Policy	"The IFC Development Goals" (p. 80) "IFC's approach to sustainability" (p. 98)			
Development effectiveness of investments and advisory services	"How We Measure Development Results" (pp. 80-87) "Investment Results" (pp. 82-87) "Advisory Results" (pp. 84-87)	Investment projects Rated High: 66% (p. 86); and detailed value: by industry (p. 87), by region (p. 87), and by performance area (p. 87); and weighted and unweighted scores (p. 87) Advisory Projects Rated High: 76% (p. 86); and detailed values by busines line (p. 87) and by region (p. 87)		
Reach	"Local capital markets, an effective way to spur growth" (p. 54) "Creating Opportunity Where It's Needed Most" (pp. 68–69)	Jobs supported (m	nillions) 2.7	
		Patients reached (millions) 17.2		
		Students reached (millions) 1.0		
		Gas distribution (millions of persons reached) 33.8		
		Power distribution (millions of persons reached) 45.7		
		Water distribution (millions of persons reached) 42.1		
		Number and amounts of microfinance loans and SME loans for CY12 (p. 86)		
		Type of loans	Number of loans (millions)	Amount (\$ billions)
		Microloans	22.9	25.13
		Small and medium loans	5.8	241.3
Environmental and social ratings	"IFC Performance Standards" (p. 98) "Sustainability in Practice" (pp. 98-99)	IFC commitments by Environmental and social category (p. 28)		
		Category	Commitments (\$ millions)	Number of projects
		A B	884 5.490	17 167
		C	6,764	269
		FI	1,751	48
		FI-1	450	14
		FI-2 FI-3	2,203 807	59 38
		Total	18,349	612
Sustainable business	"Climate Change, addressing global warming" (pp. 36-37) "Gender—boosting development through equality" (p. 60) "IFC Advisory Services" (p. 74) "Our Footprint Commitment" (p. 99)	Commitments in Climate-related investments for FY13 (p. 36): $$2.5$ billion Carbon Emissions (p. 99): 47.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> equivalent in financial year 2012		
Influence on Private Sector Development	"Food Security, expanding opportunity for small farmers" (p. 47) "Job creation, the surest pathway out of poverty" (p. 43) "Small and medium enterprises, Helping Businesses Thrive" (p. 45) "Middle income countries, promoting Prosperity for all" (p. 61)			
Engagement in the poorest and fragile countries	"Infrastructure—Promoting Prosperity in Africa" (p 51) "South-South investments, a vital force for development" (p. 53) "Generating Conditions for Sustainable Growth" (pp. 58–59) "IDA countries, creating opportunities for the poorest" (p. 63)			
Working with others	"Mobilization, opening new markets for Private investment" (p. 52) "Working with Donor Partners" (pp. 94–95) "Working with Other Development Institutions" (p. 95)			
Asset management	"IFC Asset Management Company" (p. 75)			
Evaluation of IFC's activity	"Independent Evaluation Group" (p. 92) "Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman" (pp. 92–93)			

Our review aimed to provide limited assurance<sup>1</sup> that:

- the Indicators were prepared in accordance with the reporting criteria applicable during fiscal year 2013 (the "Reporting Criteria"), consisting in IFC instructions, procedures and guidelines specific for to each indicator, a summary of which is provided in the Annual Report, for the indicators related to Commitments by Environmental and Social Category (p. 28) and Development effectiveness of investments and advisory services (Monitoring and tracking results, p. 81) and on IFC's website for the others.
- 2. the Statements have been presented in accordance with "IFC's Access to Information Policy," which is available on IFC's website<sup>2</sup> and the principles of relevance, completeness, neutrality, clarity and reliability as defined by international standards.<sup>3</sup>

It is the responsibility of IFC to prepare the Indicators and Statements, to provide information on the Reporting Criteria and to compile the Annual Report.

It is our responsibility to express a conclusion on the Indicators and the Statements based on our review. Our review was conducted in accordance with the ISAE 3000, International Standard on Assurance Engagements from IFAC.<sup>4</sup> Our independence is defined by IFAC professional code of ethics.

# NATURE AND SCOPE OF OUR REVIEW

- We performed the following review to be able to express a conclusion:
- » We assessed the Reporting Criteria, policies and principles, with respect to their relevance, their completeness, their neutrality and their reliability.

- » We reviewed the content of the Annual Report to identify key statements regarding the sustainability and development areas listed above.
- » At the corporate level, we conducted interviews with more than 25 persons responsible for reporting to assess the application of the Reporting Criteria or to substantiate the Statements.
- » At the corporate level, we implemented analytical procedures and verified, on a test basis, the calculations and the consolidation of the Indicators.
- » We collected supporting documents for the Indicators or Statements, such as reports to the board of directors or other meetings, loan agreements, internal and external presentations and reports, or survey results.
- » We went to the Hong Kong office in order to meet with result measurement specialists, investment officers, portfolio managers and others in charge of gathering data from clients, consolidating it and reviewing it locally.
- » We reviewed the presentation of the Statements and the Indicators in the Annual Report and the associated notes on methodology.

## LIMITATIONS OF OUR REVIEW

Our review was limited to the Statements and Indicators identified in the table above and did not cover other disclosures in the Annual Report.

Our tests were limited to document reviews and interviews at IFC's headquarters in Washington, DC and Hong Kong. Within the scope of work covered by this statement, we did not participate in any activities with external stakeholders or clients, nor did we conduct testing or interviews aimed at verifying the validity of information related to individual projects.

#### INFORMATION ABOUT THE REPORTING CRITERIA AND THE STATEMENT PREPARATION PROCESS

With regards to the Reporting Criteria and the Statement preparation policies and principles, we wish to make the following comments:

#### Relevance

IFC presents sustainability information on its own impact and on environmental and social risks, impacts and outcomes of projects it financed directly or through financial intermediaries. This level of disclosure is in line with that of other multilateral development banks. A specific effort is made by IFC to assess the development results of its Investment and Advisory Services, notably through its Development Outcome Tracking System (DOTS), the implementation of its evaluation strategy and the testing of IFC Development Goals.

However, we note that IFC would benefit from further improving the relevance and number of indicators (beyond the Environmental and Social (E&S) management system) in the E&S DOTS performance area, in order to better measure how clients are improving their own E&S performance. This is of particular importance with financial institutions where E&S impacts are indirect.

#### Completeness

The Indicators' reporting perimeter covers the most relevant IFC activities. The scope covered by each indicator has been indicated in the comments next to the data in the Annual Report.

With the growing importance of Trade Finance activities in IFC's portfolio, in 2012, IFC launched a pilot DOTS client data collection survey for its Global Trade Finance Program which provided a report

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<sup>1.</sup> A higher level of assurance would have required more extensive wo

<sup>2.</sup> http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/disclosure.nsf/content/disclosure\_policy

<sup>3.</sup> ISAE 3000 from IFAC, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), or AA1000 Accountability Standard.

ISAE 3000: "Assurance Engagement other than reviews of historical data," International Federation of Accountants, International Audit and Assurance Board, December 2003.

of baseline data findings and which should enable IFC to start reporting ratings soon.

#### Neutrality and clarity

IFC provides information on the methodologies used to establish the Indicators in the comments next to the published data or in the related sections. Further information is available on the IFC website.

We have noted the efforts made, together with the other principal International Finance Institutions, to harmonize the definitions of the Reach indicators, which should significantly enhance the consistency of IFIs' communication on the reach of their activities.

### Reliability

IFC has made progress in strengthening internal controls on "Climate related investments", "micro loans" and "small & medium loans" (MSME reach indicators).

In addition to the numerous controls performed at the corporate and project level, IFC should implement further checks at the source information used to track Reach indicators. As these data often come directly from external sources, and can sometimes be based on estimates rather than clients' audited financial statements, it is essential to ensure that data reported are consistent with IFC's own definitions and calculation methodologies.

# CONCLUSION

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that:

- » the Indicators were not established, in all material aspects, in accordance with the Reporting Criteria;
- » the Statements were not presented, in all material aspects, in accordance with "IFC's Policy on Disclosure of Information" and the principles of relevance, completeness, neutrality, clarity and reliability as defined by international standards.

Paris-La Défense, France, August 5, 2013

The Independent Auditors ERNST & YOUNG et Associés

# ERNST & YOUNG

Quality In Everything We Do

Eric Duvaud Partner, Cleantech and Sustainability

#### LETTER TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Directors of IFC has had this annual report prepared in accordance with the Corporation's by-laws. Jim Yong Kim, President of IFC and Chairman of the Board of Directors, has submitted this report with the audited financial statements to the Board of Governors. The Directors are pleased to report that, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, IFC expanded its sustainable development impact through private sector investments, Advisory Services, and fund management.