

ADVICE

It takes more than finance to achieve sustainable private sector development. IFC's experience shows the powerful role advice can play in unlocking investment by the private sector and helping businesses expand and create jobs—thereby strengthening the World Bank Group's efforts to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity.

That is why we continue to strengthen our advisory work. This year, we took steps to more closely align our advisory services with other areas of IFC and the World Bank, so that our clients can benefit from the full range of capabilities available across the Bank Group. Advice is increasingly integrated into the wide suite of solutions IFC provides to our clients.

At the end of FY15, IFC had an active portfolio of more than 600 advisory projects in 101 countries, valued at \$1.2 billion. Most of the program was in IDA countries, and around 20 percent was in fragile and conflict-affected areas.

Seventy-three percent of IFC projects that closed during 2014 and could be assessed for development effectiveness were rated high. In addition, 91 percent of clients said they were satisfied with IFC's advisory work.

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Selected highlights of 2014:

EXPANDING FINANCE

- › Through our investment and advisory services, we worked with 331 financial intermediaries focused on lending to micro, small, and medium enterprises. These institutions provided 44 million micro and 4 million small and medium loans, totaling \$270 billion. Our clients also provided over 965,000 housing finance loans, totaling \$22 billion.
- › We also helped our partners in digital financial services to facilitate 70 million noncash retail transactions, totaling over \$160 billion.
- › We helped strengthen financial markets by working with collateral registries and credit bureaus that facilitated a total of \$1.2 billion in financing. About 294,000 SMEs and microenterprises were also able to receive loans secured with movable property. In addition, we helped create or improve credit bureaus in Jamaica, Samoa, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan.

SUPPORTING FIRMS

- › We helped businesses reach 26.4 million people with affordable off-grid lighting solutions.
- › We helped firms adopt new practices and technologies that attracted additional financing of \$929 million—nearly all of which came from sources other than IFC. Corporate governance reforms helped attract \$535 million in financing for our clients, and clean-energy and resource-efficient technologies led to investments of \$384 million.

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENTS

- › We helped governments sign 18 public-private-partnership contracts that are expected to improve access to infrastructure and health services for almost 16 million people and mobilize over \$5.8 billion in private investment.
- › We helped governments in 47 countries adopt 94 investment-climate reforms to foster growth and business creation. Seventy-eight of these reforms were in IDA countries, including 25 in fragile and conflict-affected situations.
- › We helped national and local governments with reform and investment-promotion support that contributed to an estimated \$743 million in new investments.