

November 3, 2015

**Approval by mail: Liberia: Renewable Energy Access Project --XSRELR031A--(SREP) (World Bank) – Comment from the UK**

Dear Mafalda,

We are currently reviewing the above SREP project and wonder whether you could pass on the following comments to the project team which will enable them to prepare a response for discussion at the CIF meetings later this month:

- In order to approve the proposal we would like clarification from the project team on the following points:
  - Regarding Component 1, the decentralised mini-grid in Lofa County will be based on hydropower backed up by diesel powered generation during the dry season, estimated to be for four months of the year. We see (on page 75) that the AfDB is developing a similar project in the south of the country that will use hydropower and biomass generation. Is there a reason why biomass was not considered as the back-up for the proposed plant in Lofa County? This would ensure that the project was 100% renewable energy based and would reduce the ongoing dependence on fossil fuels.
  - With respect to Component 3, the market development of stand-alone solar systems, would it be possible to elaborate on the business models being considered to bring these products to the Liberian market? Will models such as those developed in East Africa (eg. M-KOPA) be considered?

Kind regards,

Simon

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