

Ethiopia

Productive Safety Nets Project 4

Chair's Summary

September 30, 2014

Executive Directors approved a credit to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for the Productive Safety Nets Project 4 (IDA/R2014-0282) in the amount of SDR 391.9 Million (US\$600 million equivalent) on the payment terms and conditions set out in the President's Memorandum.

Directors welcomed the risk mitigating measures proposed in order to manage the risks identified by the Government and the Bank team in the preparation of the Project. They stressed the importance of ensuring that initiatives to ensure strong accountability and transparency measures are implemented.

Directors recognized the importance of the Productive Safety Nets Project (PSNP) in the World Bank Group's strategy to support Ethiopia over the coming years. They noted that PSNP 4 forms part of a series of projects that will help the Government implement the Disaster Risk Management Policy, the social protection policy and systems development in line with the Government's long-term development program. Directors underscored the pivotal role the PSNP has played in improving food security and providing a safety net for the most vulnerable in Ethiopia over the past 10 years. In particular, the Directors highlighted how PSNP 4 will continue to support Ethiopia in protecting its poorest, while also making important investments in long term systems for social protection and disaster risk management and supporting sustainable livelihoods development. They appreciated that the project aims to ensure greater gender equity and social inclusion by focusing in particular on unserved and underserved populations, who are often the poorest and most vulnerable.

Directors noted that achievement of the Project's development impact will require continued focus to ensure adequate financing as well as careful implementation of safeguards policies. The Directors also commended the Government for its important commitments to ensure that the program and the systems it supports are put on budget. Directors also encouraged continued close collaboration with other development partners in the sector.

*This summary is not an approved record.