Early Warning System

DFC-2018-MEII3SAFAB

MEII 3 - SAFA Bank

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Quick Facts

Countries	Palestine, West Bank, Gaza
Financial Institutions	US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)
Status	Active
Bank Risk Rating	U
Borrower	Safa Bank
Sectors	Finance, Technical Cooperation
Loan Amount (USD)	$ 4.00 million

Project Description

According to bank documents, the project involves the provision of loan guaranty support for SMEs operating in the Palestinian territories. The loans under the Project will be made by downstream financial institutions (each, a “Borrower”) and guaranteed pursuant to guaranty facility agreements (a “GFA”) among OPIC, MEII, and each Borrower. MEII will also provide technical assistance and training (“TA”) to loan officers and mid-level management of the Borrower, enabling those institutions to better assess the creditworthiness of prospective SME borrowers and to structure loans that effectively meet the working capital or longer-term financing needs of those businesses. To address “demand”-side weaknesses, TA efforts will help SMEs on the threshold of bankability demonstrate their creditworthiness to commercial lenders. The goals of the Project, which will replace a highly successful but expiring OPIC loan guaranty facility, are to increase the number and enhance the quality of loans from private financial institutions operating in the Palestinian territories to local SMEs (the “Downstream Borrowers”), and to improve economic conditions in the Palestinian territories.

Investment Description

- US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)

Financial Intermediary

Financial Intermediary: A commercial bank or financial institution that receives funds from a development bank. A financial intermediary then lends these funds to their clients (private actors) in the form of loans, bonds, guarantees and equity shares. Financial intermediaries include insurance, pension and equity funds. The direct financial relationship is between the development bank and the financial intermediary.

- Safa Bank (Financial Intermediary)

Contact Information

Contact information not provided at the time of disclosure

Bank Documents

- Project Disclosure [Original Source]