Early Warning System

FMO-66091

Gledhow Sugar Company Proprietary Limited

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Quick Facts

Countries	South Africa
Specific Location	KwaDukuza
Financial Institutions	Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2026-06-05
Borrower	Gledhow Sugar Company Proprietary Limited
Sectors	Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environment, Energy
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 20.12 million
Loan Amount (USD)	$ 20.12 million

Project Description

As stated by the FMO, the funding supports Gledhow's expansion and modernization program, including the installation of newer, more efficient equipment that reduces steam use and improves energy performance. It also enables the mill's transition away from coal toward power generation using bagasse, a natural by-product of sugarcane processing, supporting a shift to cleaner and more sustainable operations.

Financing will help modernize a key agro-industrial employer in a rural area with limited job opportunities and a high dependence on the sugar industry. Around 26,000 people in the region rely on Gledhow for their livelihoods, and this investment helps safeguard economic activity while enabling Gledhow to move toward cleaner and more efficient production.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

Gledhow is categorized as B+ E&S risk based on the limited E&S impacts that are site-specific and not irreversible. The IFC Performance Standards (PS) applicable to the expansion and operation of the sugarcane mill are related to PS1 - PS4. Gledhow is working with existing farms, but PS 6 (biodiversity management) may be applicable for undeveloped land both at the mill and in the supply chain. PS5, 7 and 8 are not triggered. Generally, the E&S risks are considered to be manageable with the right measures and resource capacity, which Gledhow already largely has and can be improved where needed over the coming years with support of FMO through a targeted Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP).

Investment Description

- Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO)

Private Actors Description

As stated by the FMO, Gledhow Sugar Company is a long-established sugar mill in KwaDukuza, South Africa, that processes sugarcane supplied by a broad base of farmers. Gledhow supplies refined sugar to a range of national food and beverage manufacturers in Southern Africa.

Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	Gledhow Sugar Company Ltd.	Client	Agriculture and Forestry

Contact Information

Client - Gledhow Sugar Company Proprietary Limited:

Address: No.1 Gledhow Mill Road, Stanger, 4450
Phone:+27 32 437 4400
Website: https://www.gledhowsugar.com/

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

As part of FMO's ex-ante disclosure (disclosure of transactions before contracting), you can send requests or questions for additional information to: disclosure@fmo.nl

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF FMO

Communities who believe they will be negatively affected by a project funded by the Dutch Development Bank (FMO) may be able to file a complaint with the Independent Complaints Mechanism, which is the joint independent accountability mechanism of the Dutch Development Bank (FMO) and the German Investment Corporation (KfW). A complaint can be filed in writing, by email, post, or online. The complaint can be filed in English or any other language of the complainant. The Independent Complaints Mechanism is comprised of a three-member Independent Expert Panel and it can provide either problem-solving, compliance review or both, in either order. Additional information about this accountability mechanism, including a guide and template for filing a complaint, can be found at: https://www.fmo.nl/independent-complaints-mechanism