Early Warning System

# MIGA-15549

## FirstRand Capital Optimization

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### Quick Facts

| | |
|---|---|
| **Countries** | Eswastini |
| **Financial Institutions** | Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) |
| **Status** | Approved |
| **Bank Risk Rating** | FI |
| **Voting Date** | 2026-06-07 |
| **Borrower** | FirstRand EMA Holdings (Pty) Ltd |
| **Investment Type(s)** | Guarantee |
| **Investment Amount (USD)** | $ 63.88 million |

## Project Description

According to bank provided information, this summary describes equity investments by FirstRand EMA Holdings (Pty) Ltd (FREMA), a wholly owned subsidiary of FirstRand Limited (FirstRand or the group), in its subsidiary First National Bank of Eswatini Limited (FNB Eswatini or FNBE). The Guarantee Holder or investor is FREMA. The investor has applied for MIGA guarantees of up to USD[63.88] million covering mandatory and voluntary reserves for a period of up to 3 years.

FirstRand is one of the largest financial services groups in Africa by market capitalization. The group is based in South Africa and also has subsidiaries in eight countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Its subsidiary banks outside of South Africa are required to maintain reserves at the central banks in their respective jurisdictions, based on the volume of customer deposits that these subsidiaries have. Mandatory and voluntary reserves contribute to FirstRand's overall risk-weighted assets (RWA) at the consolidated level, consuming a level of capital that could have otherwise been deployed in productive assets.

The proposed MIGA guarantee builds on a previous 2020 transaction in which MIGA issued guarantees covering FirstRand's subsidiaries in Botswana, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia.

## Investment Description

- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

| Private Actor 1 | Private Actor 1 Role | Private Actor 1 Sector | Relation | Private Actor 2 | Private Actor 2 Role | Private Actor 2 Sector |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| - | - | - | - | FIRSTRAND BANK LTD | Parent Company | Finance |

## Contact Information

**Contact information not provided at the time of disclosure**

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit a request for information disclosure at: https://www.miga.org/contact/access_to_information

You can also request general information about MIGA and for information on guarantees by emailing: migainquiry@worldbank.org

### ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF IFC/MIGA

The Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an IFC or MIGA- financed project. If you submit a complaint to the CAO, they may assist you in resolving a dispute with the company and/or investigate to assess whether the IFC is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. If you want to submit a complaint electronically, you can email the CAO at CAO@worldbankgroup.org. You can learn more about the CAO and how to file a complaint at http://www.cao-ombudsman.org