Comments received from the US on SREP Financing Modalities and SREP Programming Modalities and Operational Guidelines

Colleagues,

Please find U.S. comments below (and attached).

* The main "Programming Modalities" section, and in particular (new) paragraphs 28-35, are confusing and need to be streamlined. We are happy to offer some detailed suggestions on this. One key suggestion would be to make the text (including both the headings and the terms used) consistent with the 12 steps from the table on page 4.

* To avoid confusion and provide context, a short paragraph should be added to the top of Annex three to underscore how capacity building fits into the broader programming model. For example:

"CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVISORY SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE DEMAND DRIVEN, COUNTRY OWNED AND FLEXIBLE AND INCORPORATED INTO THE INVESTMENT PLAN OF EACH PILOT. SUCH SERVICES SHOULD BE TAILORED TO SREP RECIPIENT COUNTRY NEEDS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS AND GENERALLY INTEGRATED INTO THE DESIGN OF INVESTMENTS. ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS ONLY, CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVISORY SERVICES ACTIVITIES MAY ALSO BE DELIVERED SEPARATELY AND FUNDED INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE INVESTMENT ACTIVITY.

Eligible Advisory Services...include..."

* Additionally, the text in caps below should be added to the end of last sentence of para 5 of annex 3:

"Recognizing that SREP funding is to flow through the MDBs, the MDB Committee will agree upon procedures to facilitate the provision of services by the UN Country Teams, if so requested by the country, WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS, AND FIDUCIARY AND PROCUREMENT STANDARDS OF THE FACILITATING MDB."

Regards,

Daniel