The Republic of Benin

Country Partnership Framework

Chair Summary*

July 5, 2018

Executive Directors discussed the World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework (R2018-0143[IDA/R2018-0200, IFC/R2018-0199, MIGA/R2018-0069]; /1) for the Republic of Benin for Fiscal Year 2019 to 2023. They welcomed the three focus areas designed to strengthen competitiveness and productivity, invest in human capital and increase resilience, and reduce disaster and climate-related risks.

Directors noted the CPF’s plans to boost agricultural productivity and export potential, to improve the quality of key infrastructure, including in water and sanitation, energy, and the digital economy. They emphasized the need for market diversification and leveraging value chains, and supported building synergies for regional integration and corridors, tapping regional windows as well as exploring options with new partners. Directors stressed the importance of a strong focus on service delivery, transparency and accountability, women’s economic empowerment and inclusion, and gender-based violence. In that regard, they encouraged establishment of more equitable and transparent institutions and improved management and governance of public finances and institutions.

Directors noted the CPF’s strong focus on investment in human capital, which is critical for improving the quality of basic education and creating employment opportunities as well as strong and comprehensive social protection frameworks. Directors welcomed the emphasis on building resilience of communities to climate-related risks, and to reducing the vulnerability to natural disasters. They encouraged strong outcome monitoring as part of the CPF, in alignment with the pillars, especially on job creation. Directors recognized the generally strong macro-economic framework and encouraged further support, supervision and collaboration in revenue collection and in managing the increasing fiscal deficit.

Directors recognized the cost of doing business in Benin and the modest financial envelope. They urged strong coordination and collaboration with other development partners, including with emerging partners, to leverage and complement the Bank Group’s resources and instruments beyond the IDA envelope, boost private sector investment and maximize finance for development.

*This Summary is not an approved record.