

Program: City Creditworthiness Initiative

	Millennium Challenge Corporation	
	Comment	Response
	I am supportive of this very interesting concept and look forward to exploring how to collaborate with PPIAF on this.	<p>PPIAF has communicated this support to the TTL The Initiative systematically organizes partners' conference calls in advance of engagement with countries to harness the capacity/know-how of relevant partners in each context.</p> <p>We would welcome from the MCC the pipeline of Compacts under development so we can possibly design interventions in parallel.</p>

	DFID	
	Comment	Response
	<p>Thank you for the chance to comment, DFID has no objection to these proposals and views them favourably.</p> <p>In terms of comments, we provide the following, including from our advisers in Ethiopia and from Rubbina Karrina, our cities adviser:</p>	
1	Our advisers commented favourably on the capacity building approach to develop action plans and follow up on these, working closely with the municipality, as well as the strong knowledge sharing and dissemination element.	PPIAF to communicate this to the TTL
2	For Ethiopia we note the plan is to do a credit-worthiness academy in March next year, but that Ethiopia is not on the list for further TA. This could fit nicely with a new programme DFID is designing here as at the end of the 5 days participants will have a draft plan of action of specific reforms, capacity building etc. required. If this goes well it could create demand for our new investment facility and DFID could potentially pick up any further TA requests that flow from it.	<p>PPIAF has communicated this to the TTL.</p> <p>In advance of the Ethiopia Academy, the TTL will invite the DFID country team to participate in a partners' conference call to communicate and coordinate effort.</p>
3	On linking with other WB Urban work: In the PCN at the end it talks about the WB ensuring links and consultation with other stakeholders as needed. We would just flag that it would be good if this work links up with other urban strands of work being delivered by the Bank – in particular the WB competitive cities work-strand which is relatively new but is looking at how city	<p>PPIAF has communicated this to the TTL.</p> <p>For the Academy delivered for Colombia, the collaboration with the World Bank Group's Competitive Cities program was established at</p>

	governments can improve city competitiveness. I would have thought the cities that are being worked in as part of this work would be potential candidates for the City Creditworthiness Initiative.	<p>both the design and delivery stages, and is expected to continue during implementation of the post-Academy technical assistance program</p> <p>The Initiative is housed in the World Bank's Urban Practice ensuring alignment with WB operations. Activities are coordinated and executed in close collaboration with the World Bank country teams.</p>
4	City Size: Are you looking at cities of any size? The 5 cities listed in the diagram on page 6 of the PCN that are receiving on-going TA are capital or primate cities. We know that future growth in cities is going to come from secondary cities in particular – any chance there can be a specific push to look at these cities as well – we know that since this is about credit worthiness the primate cities are going to be usually in the best position to succeed in this area, but thinking about how to tailor this type of training and TA to smaller cities could be useful.	The inclusion of secondary cities is a priority for the Initiative, precisely for the reasons raised by the donor representative. As a result, in Tanzania the TA already targets 34 municipalities. In Colombia the TA is being finalized for 17 municipalities. In Rwanda and Uganda, the Academy- expects a total of 60 local governments to participate. The self-assessment and action-planning tools, allow easy customization of interventions to cities of different sizes.
5	Focus on FCAS: Again not so easy to work with fragile cities but often they lack a private sector so attracting investment from outside is important. Can we suggest PPIAF look at how to deliver this type of initiative in a fragile city?	<p>PPIAF will emphasize the focus on FCAS under the Initiative and at the portfolio level, to generate lessons on how to deliver this type of initiative in a fragile city.</p> <p>An Academy is already planned for West Bank and Gaza at the end of May, 2015. The Initiative expects to learn from this Academy, as it pilots and adjusts its approach to the context, both at the Academy and post-Academy stages.</p>