

U.S. Position

Proposed EBRD Investment: Olam International

November 16, 2017

The United States appreciates that this project is expected to create new opportunities for producers in remote and underdeveloped regions of Turkey and Georgia.

However, the United States believes this investment delivers little financial or other additionality. Olam is a leading, well-capitalized, global agribusiness company which maintains sufficient liquidity to manage its working capital needs.

Moreover, this loan would push Olam's cumulative IFI financing to roughly \$400 million since 2013. The United States is not convinced Olam needs more MDB financing, and the United States abstained on an African Development Bank investment in Olam earlier this year.

Finally, given the size of the company and the sector in which it operates, the United States sees the risk of environmental problems as high, and believes the EBRD might incur reputational risks with the investment. The project document notes the company attracts a high level of media attention.

The United States wishes to be recorded as abstaining on this project, due its limited additionality.