

7th August 2013

Dear Dr Dixie,

Thank you for your recent visit to London and for your excellent briefing on the World Bank's Benchmarking Business for Agriculture (BBA) project. We were greatly encouraged by your openness to inform and listen to civil society on this important topic.

As you know, many NGOs across the globe have many years of experience working with small holder farmers in developing countries to improve the viability of their livelihoods, as well as with governments and donors to advocate for best practice and policy in designing the best environment for those farmers.

So that the World Bank can draw on this expertise and a positive collaboration with civil society, it would be invaluable for the World Bank to ensure that civil society groups are well-informed of and consulted on the development of the BBA project.

To this end, we would like to offer to co-organise a World Bank-Civil Society event on BBA during the annual meetings this October. This would provide a platform for you to inform a broader set of actors about the project and to receive their initial inputs. If possible, it would be useful to involve other members of the team working on the indicators and if available, other members of the advisory council.

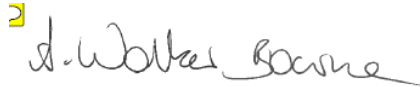
We hope that you can give our offer your positive consideration.
Please contact my colleague, Alison Griffith

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(Alison.griffith@practicalaction.org.uk tel +44 1926 634400), if you would be amenable to such collaboration or to discuss further.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Astrid Walker Bourne". There is a small yellow square mark to the left of the first letter of the first name.

Astrid Walker-Bourne

Policy and Practice Director of Practical Action

On behalf of the ASFG Farmers as Entrepreneurs Working Group

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