



Private Infrastructure
Development Group
Pioneering infrastructure changing lives

PIDG Pathfinder Spring 2020

Welcome to publication of the PIDG Spring newsletter

As we navigate these uncertain and quite unusual times, I am reminded of how PIDG has long been familiar with the concepts of uncertainty and risk. With our unique focus on infrastructure, we operate at the frontier, delivering pioneering infrastructure projects that offer an innovative and sustainable way of combating poverty and delivering high development impact. We play a pathfinder role by doing what others cannot or will not do, yet. We are also working with various stakeholders, both public and private, to see where and how we can contribute to the response.

One of PIDG's core values is impact, which we define as having a strong, positive and tangible effect on people's lives. Fundamental to this is improving outcomes for women and girls. This year, PIDG celebrated International Women's Day with the launch of our [Gender Equity Action plan](#), which outlines the key actions that we are committed to implementing in 2020 across our group of companies. To celebrate this launch, members of the PIDG Gender Equity Task Force have contributed from their areas of expertise to this newsletter. [Claudine Lim](#), COO of InfraCo Asia, explains how implementing gender equity across PIDG projects is empowering women and girls, [Dahlia Nacef](#), Development Impact Analyst, InfraCo Africa talks about the challenges and positive outcomes for women in her work and [Sinenhlanhla Zulu](#), an Investment Specialist at Ninety One (formerly Investec Asset Management) shares her experience of working in infrastructure and corporate finance, traditionally male-dominated businesses.

We have run two successful social media campaigns in March around [International Women's Day](#) and [World Water Day](#) and you can read James Leighland's blog for the latter, highlighting the successful implementation of the [Kigali Bulk Water Concession in Rwanda](#).

The PIDG team has had a busy schedule in the first quarter, with widespread attention focussed on the Acorn Holdings bond listing in Nairobi and London, guaranteed by GuarantCo, to provide finance for clean, safe, affordable and green-certified accommodation for 5,000 students in Nairobi. This coincided with the UK-Africa Investment Summit which was hosted by the UK government in January 2020.

If, like me and all my PIDG colleagues, you are working from home and seeking out interesting items to watch and listen to, then you might like to try this podcast I recently recorded with [African Business magazine](#), where I discuss the best ways to mobilise investment to build infrastructure in Africa.

Finally, on behalf of PIDG and our companies, I would like to assure our stakeholders that we are working closely together on the COVID-19 response. We are monitoring government and health authority advice across our countries of operation, we are adopting all measures appropriate to look after the health and safety of our teams and their networks, and we are collaborating with industry partners to ensure business continuity.

I am hoping that the world is soon on a journey to better health and more economic certainty.

Philippe Valahu, CEO

The Private Infrastructure Development Group Ltd. ("PIDG") is a private limited company incorporated in England and Wales, whose registered office is at 6 Bevis Marks, London, EC3A 7BA.

Tel: +44 (0) 203 848 6740 | www.pidg.org | Communications@PIDG.org
Company number: 11265124 | VAT number: 296085564