

# Independent Limited Assurance Statement

ITFC Development Effectiveness Report 2022

Prepared for International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC): April 13, 2023

## Introduction

BlueMark was engaged by ITFC to conduct a limited assurance of select information in its 2022 Annual Development Effectiveness Report (ADER), as outlined in the methodology and scope below.

## Summary assessment conclusions

Based on the assessment performed and evidence reviewed, and subject to key assumptions and inherent limitations set out below, nothing has come to BlueMark's attention to suggest any material misstatements within the reported data against the following five preselected KPIs reviewed in the 2022 ADER:

- KPI 1: Total Volume of Disbursements (\$)
- KPI 2: Volume of LDC financing (\$)
- KPI 3: Volume of food commodities imported (metric tons)
- KPI 4: Number of corporates and SMEs provided with access to finance
- KPI 5: Number of Farmers reached

BlueMark can therefore provide limited assurance for the 2022 data reported against each of the KPIs listed above.

## Assurance methodology and scope

BlueMark's limited assurance engagement involved identification and review of appropriate evidence to obtain a sufficient level of confidence over the data reported for a select set of KPIs within ITFC's 2022 ADER, in line with the ISAE3000 standard for non-financial assurance. The processes undertaken and selected were based on our professional judgment, understanding of ITFC's Development Impact Framework, ITFC's other data collection and impact management methodologies, and other engagement circumstances.

The scope of BlueMark's review and our approach to the work consisted of:

- 1. Review and analysis of the supporting monitoring data underpinning the 2022 ADER, including background materials related to each of the five specified KPIs.
  - Specific documentary evidence reviewed by BlueMark included the 2022 ADER, ITFC's Master Data sheet and
    a sample of utilization reports, self-assessment reports and credit memos, along with underlying calculation
    methodologies and assumptions. BlueMark believes that the evidence obtained in the scope of its assessment is
    sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusions.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Discussions with ITFC staff responsible for defining and implementing data collection protocols at ITFC.
- 3. Delivery of assurance findings to ITFC, outlining BlueMark's conclusions.

### Limitations

There are inherent limitations in performing assurance – for example, assurance engagements are based on selective testing of the information being examined – and it is possible that fraud, error, or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. There are additional inherent risks associated with assurance over non-financial information including reporting against standards that require information to be assured against source data compiled using definitions and estimation methods that are developed by the reporting entity. Finally, adherence to ISAE 3000 is subjective and will be interpreted differently by different stakeholder groups. Our assurance was limited to the underlying documentation reviewed, which did not include access to ITFC's corporate database (IMAL). Our assurance is limited to policies and procedures in place as of April 13, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The scope of BlueMark's assessment procedures does not include providing limited assurance over the resulting impacts achieved. BlueMark's assessment is based on its analyses of publicly available information and information in reports and other material provided by ITFC. BlueMark has relied on the accuracy and completeness of any such information provided by ITFC. The assessment results represent BlueMark's professional judgment based on the procedures performed and information obtained from ITFC.



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### Permissions and disclaimer

This statement, including our conclusions, has been prepared solely for ITFC in accordance with the agreement between our firms. We permit ITFC to disclose this statement in its entirety online, or to furnish this statement to other interested parties including other ITFC stakeholders to demonstrate the credibility of data presented within the 2022 ADER. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than ITFC for our work or this statement except where terms are expressly agreed between us in writing.

#### About BlueMark

BlueMark is a leading provider of impact verification services in the impact investing market. BlueMark was founded with a mission to "strengthen trust in impact investing" and to help bring more accountability to the impact investment process. BlueMark is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tideline Advisors, LLC, a certified women-owned advisory firm in impact investing. Since its founding in 2014, Tideline has become a recognized leader in impact measurement and management, working with leading asset owners and managers to design and implement impact management systems.

BlueMark has conducted this verification with an independent and unconflicted team experienced in relevant impact measurement and management issues. BlueMark has implemented a Standard of Conduct requiring our employees to adhere to the highest standards of professional integrity, ethics, and objectivity in their conduct of business activities.

BlueMark has office locations in London, UK; New York, NY; Portland, OR; and San Francisco, CA and is headquartered at 915 Battery St, San Francisco, CA 94111, USA. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.bluemarktideline.com">www.bluemarktideline.com</a>.



## Verifier Statement

Summary of Findings from Impact Reporting Verification

Prepared for ITFC: April 13, 2023

#### Introduction

The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) engaged BlueMark to undertake an independent verification of ITFC's approach to impact reporting, including an evaluation of the completeness and reliability of ITFC's 2022 Annual Development Effectiveness Report ("the Report") ahead of its publication, drawing on BlueMark's proprietary framework and approach to verifying impact reports.

## Summary conclusions

### Completeness:

- BlueMark's verification findings indicate that the 2022 Annual Development Effectiveness Report (ADER) clearly articulates ITFC's mission to act as a catalyst for trade development among OIC member countries and presents the Development Impact Framework as a logic model for ITFC's work. The report provides financial input metrics and aggregated output metrics, including distribution amounts and progress against select SDG indicators by theme.
- To improve, ITFC should explicitly describe the rationale behind each development impact theme and clarify the relationship between its clients and end beneficiaries. To ensure readers are provided with a comprehensive view of ITFC'S impact performance, ITFC should include transaction-level data in the ADER and continue plans to report impact progress against baselines and targets.

#### Reliability:

- ITFC collects impact data annually through self-assessments completed by clients. Impact data is
  aggregated, stored, and analyzed using a consistently applied process. The 2022 ADER includes high level
  descriptions of its proprietary Development Impact Framework (DIF), ex-ante scoring model, and
  alignment to the UN SDGs.
- To ensure data reliability in the ADER, ITFC should consistently cite all data sources and explain calculation methodologies for key impact metrics. ITFC should ensure all impact data is reported consistently across self-assessments, the master data sheet, and the ADER, and document processes for any data points that rely on assumptions or extrapolation. Finally, ITFC should implement data quality protocols both internally (e.g., a data review process) and externally by providing instructions and KPI methodologies for clients to follow when completing self-assessments.

## Assessment methodology and scope

ITFC provided BlueMark with the relevant supporting documentation to assess the Report. BlueMark believes that the evidence obtained in the scope of its assessment is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusions.

BlueMark's full assessment methodology, based on its professional judgment, consisted of:

- 1. Assessment of the Report and supporting documentation, including background materials related to ITFC's impact management and reporting system;
- 2. Interviews with staff responsible for developing the Report;
- 3. Analysis of the Report was organized by the following key criteria:
  - <u>Completeness:</u> Assessment of completeness of reporting against the impact strategy and impact performance results at both the portfolio- and theme-level.
  - <u>Reliability</u>: Assessment of the clarity and quality of impact performance data presented in the report, including underlying data management systems and practices.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BlueMark's verification does not constitute either an endorsement of the impact report or a verification of impacts achieved. BlueMark's assessment is based on its analyses of publicly available information and information in reports and other material provided by ITFC. BlueMark has relied on the accuracy and completeness of any such information provided by ITFC. The assessment results represent BlueMark's professional judgment based on the procedures performed and information obtained from ITFC.



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