



West Africa Regional Communications Infrastructure Project - APL 2 (P123093)

AFRICA | Western Africa | Transport & ICT Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2013 | Seq No: 9 | ARCHIVED on 29-Oct-2017 | ISR29795 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Post and Telecom, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development, Ministry of Employment, Professional Education and New Technologies, Ministry of Post and Telecom

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:30-May-2013

Effectiveness Date:16-Dec-2013

Planned Mid Term Review Date:29-Nov-2016

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:19-Sep-2016

Original Closing Date:30-Nov-2018

Revised Closing Date:30-Nov-2018

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objectives of each Project are to contribute to increase the geographical reach of broadband networks and to reduce costs of communications services in the territories, respectively, of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Togo.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

MAURITANIA - Supporting Connectivity:(Cost \$21.50 M)

MAURITANIA - Creating an Enabling Environment for Connectivity:(Cost \$5.30 M)

MAURITANIA - Project Implementation:(Cost \$3.20 M)

TOGO - Supporting Connectivity:(Cost \$16.00 M)

TOGO - Creating an Enabling Environment for Connectivity:(Cost \$11.50 M)

TOGO - Project Implementation:(Cost \$2.50 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory



Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Substantial	● Substantial

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This ISR (sequence 9) is covering Mauritania and Togo. It is based on a supervision missions conducted in Togo February 2017 and July 2017. The last supervision mission in Mauritania was in April 2016 and three missions took place on October 2016, April 2017 and July 2017.

MAURITANIA:

Significant progress was made since the April 2016 supervision mission and following missions in October 2016, April 2017 and July 2017.

First, the bids evaluation process regarding the construction contract or the missing fiber optic links of the national backbone was completed in July 2017. The signing of the contract is expected by end of October 2017, allowing construction works to start.

Second, although they are not all met yet, progress has been made on the three remaining disbursement conditions related to the PPP for the national backbone: (i) The Mauritanian Government has signed the Main Contractual Agreement with the SDIN on January, 25, 2016 (condition is now met); (ii) the IMT (i.e. the PPP operating the ACE cable and designated to operate the national backbone assets) has obtained from the Regulatory Authority the necessary authorization as required for the operation of the national backbone assets (the authorization-related cahier des charges is still to be finalized); and (iii) Agreement on the key provisions of the delegation contract between SDIN and existing International Mauritania Telecom (IMT; PPP operating the ACE submarine cable landing station in Nouakchott) that will operate the fiber optic links and provide the services has been achieved and recorded in negotiation minutes dated September 7, 2014.

Third, with respect to the legal covenant pertaining to the revision of existing ICT legal and regulatory framework, 2 of the 4 Information Society draft Laws have been approved by the parliament on December 22 2015; the two other Information Society Laws have been approved by the Parliament in August 2017.

Fourth, there was also significant progress on the counterpart funds (legal covenant). The 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 subsidies for the WARCIP PIU have been paid by the Government together with the provisions for safeguards, and the 2017 subsidies have been allocated.

Fifth, procurement process for the US\$1,000,000 to support the implementation of activities No. 433 (Mettre en place un Centre National de Données / Establishment of a national data center) and No. 435 (Mettre en place un prestataire de certification électronique / Establishment of an electronic certification office) of the 2012-2016 Strategy for ICT and Modernization of Public Service have registered good progress and are still underway.

Furthermore, the Internet Exchange Point has been created and inaugurated on November 27th, it is now fully operational.

Finally the EIB co-financing agreement signed on October 23, 2013 was made effective June 5, 2014. All supervision missions are conducted jointly with EIB; bidding documents for the backbone links as well as safeguard documents were reviewed and cleared by both institutions.

With 20% disbursement rate at the end of september 2017, disbursements are behind forecast due to delays in launching the bidding process for the national backbone and delays in the bids evaluation process for the construction of the national backbone. There are 18 disbursement conditions (5 for the WB and 13 for the EIB). As of January 2017, 3 of the 5 WB conditions and 10 of the 13 EIB conditions have been met. A follow up mission in Mauritania is planned in November 2017 to monitor progress on the disbursement conditions and on the construction process of the missing fiber optic links of the national backbone as well as to conduct the mid-term review. The Project Development Objective Indicators and the Intermediate Results Indicators have been updated with the data as of June 2017.

TOGO:

Since the last ISR two major actions have been carried out by the team, in collaboration with the Government.

1 . ICT sector has been successfully included in the prior actions and triggers of the DPO and the team already noticed some progress from the policy level: the market entry of ISPs has been facilitated and the market opened up to competition and investment, provisions and barriers preventing licensed operators to deploy their own fiber optic infrastructure backbone have been withdrawn...

2 . The team is preparing an extensive restructuring that would include: i) adjusting the disbursement conditions in order to speed-up the award of large contracts (e.g. construction work); ii) streamlining the project components (e.g. reducing the number of activities and bundling them where relevant), in order to focus on selected impactful activities; iii) extending the project closing date, to factor the slow progress.

Since the last ISR, progress has been done none of the disbursement condition has been met although progress has been made toward the creation of SPV. Following the November 24, 2016 statement from the Conseil des Ministres confirming the creation of SIN (Societe d'Infrastructures Numeriques – Digital Infrastructure Company, the above mentioned SPV), the SPV has now been duly created (Presidential Decree Nov. 24, 2016), registered and made operational in Togo (September 19, 2017), including through the appointment of their managers and the adoption of their by-laws (minutes of the first Board meeting dated Sept. 27, 2017). This SPV is related to the disbursement condition related to the conclusion of a “contractual



agreement with the SPV to transfer to the SPV.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	● High	● High
Macroeconomic	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	● High	● High
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Fiduciary	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Environment and Social	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Stakeholders	--	● High	● High
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	● Substantial	● Substantial

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

► Access to Telephone Services (fixed mainlines plus cellular phones per 100 people) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	100.00	98.00	98.00	124.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

Comments

In Mauritania, there was a Regulator decision in June 2013 (included) not to count inactive sims anymore.

► Mauritania - Volume of international traffic: International Communications (Internet, Telecoms, and Data) per person - Kbits per second per person (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
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Value	6.00	8.30	6.90	11.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

Comments

In Mauritania the indicator has decreased following a significant increase in the number of internet users since 2016.

► Mauritania -Average monthly price of wholesale international E1 capacity link from capital city to Europe - Amount (USD) per monthper 2 Mbps (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	7,000.00	82.70	82.70	250.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

► Access to Internet Services (number of subscribers per 100 people) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	2.00	34.00	40.00	11.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

Comments

In Mauritania the total number of internet subscriptions has increased significantly.

► Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3,355,930.00	3,667,363.00	3,800,951.00	5,061,125.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017



▲ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	51.00	51.00	51.00	51.00

▶ Togo - Volume of international traffic International Communications (Internet, Telecoms, and Data) bandwidth per person - Kbits persecond per person (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	2.50	0.53	2.20	6.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

▶ Access to Internet Services (number of subscribers per 100 people) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.90	26.95	18.00	8.70
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

▶ Access to Telephone Services (fixed mainlines plus cellular phones per 100 people) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	48.90	75.35	75.60	75.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

▶ Togo - Average monthly price of wholesale international E1 capacity link from capital city to Europe - Amount (USD) per month 2 Mbps (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	2,348.00	1,433.00	171.00	200.00



Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017
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► Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3,350,000.00	5,113,000.00	1,580,000.00	6,000,000.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

▲ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	30.00	30.00	16.70	40.00

Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators

► Retail Price of Internet Services (per Mbit/s per Month, in US\$) (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	51.00	33.00	33.00	27.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017



► Mauritania - Average cost of mobile call (three minutes, local, peak) - USD/3mn (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.52	0.57	0.50	0.31
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

► Mauritania - Number of localities with broadband Internet access (256 Kbps) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	144.00	144.00	144.00	200.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

► Mauritania - Number of operators and ISPs buying capacity from the infrastructure deployed (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

► Mauritania - Cross-border interconnections built (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017



► Length of Fiber Optic Network Built (km) (Kilometers, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,577.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

► Impact on Telecom sector of World Bank Technical Assistance (composite score: 1- low impact to 5-high impact) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.20	0.00	3.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	30-Dec-2016	30-Jun-2017	31-Dec-2017

Comments

In Mauritania: value for December 2016 is 3 (instead of 2.2). there is no value for June 2017 as this indicator is only populated at the end of each year.

► Retail Price of Internet Services (per Mbit/s per Month, in US\$) (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	149.00	58.00	58.00	110.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017

► Togo - Access for all operators to international infrastructure: Number of operators and service providers getting capacity from the regional infrastructure deployed (as a percentage of total) (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017



► Togo - Increase of number of players in the sector (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3.00	4.00	4.00	8.00
Date	31-Dec-2012	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017

► Togo - Additional Cross-border interconnections built (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017

► Impact on Telecom sector of World Bank Technical Assistance (composite score: 1- low impact to 5-high impact) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Date	31-Dec-2011	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2015	31-Dec-2017

Overall Comments

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

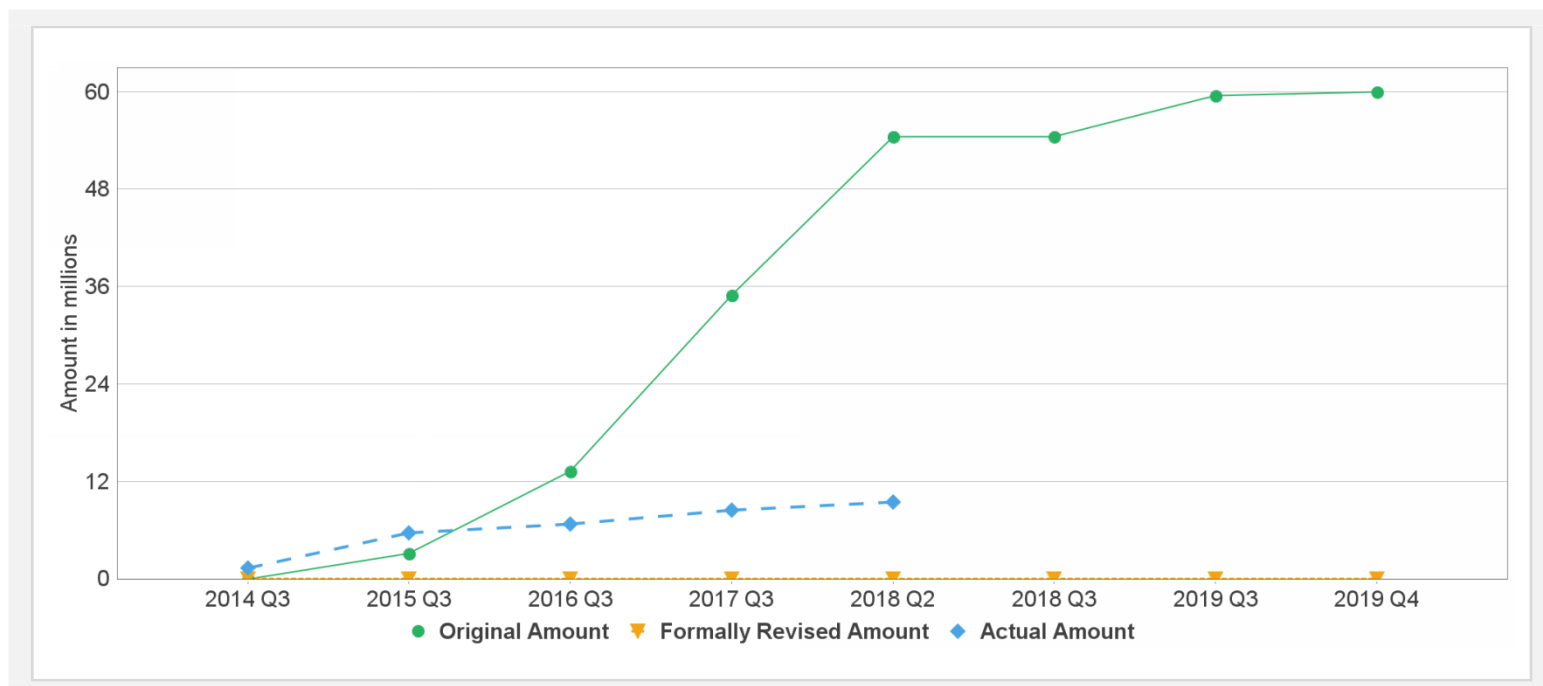
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P123093	IDA-52530	Effective	USD	30.00	30.00	0.00	3.46	24.46	12%
P123093	IDA-52550	Effective	USD	30.00	30.00	0.00	6.00	22.65	20%



Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P123093	IDA-52530	Effective	30-May-2013	12-Nov-2013	31-Mar-2014	30-Nov-2018	30-Nov-2018
P123093	IDA-52550	Effective	30-May-2013	20-Jun-2013	16-Dec-2013	30-Nov-2018	30-Nov-2018

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.