

West Africa Regional Communications Infrastructure Project - SOP3 (P155876)

AFRICA | Western Africa | Digital Development Global Practice |
 IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2017 | Seq No: 5 | ARCHIVED on 05-Aug-2019 | ISR37935 |

Implementing Agencies: The Republic of Guinea Bissau, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 24-Mar-2017	Effectiveness Date: 29-May-2018
Planned Mid Term Review Date: 21-Dec-2019	Actual Mid-Term Review Date: --
Original Closing Date: 31-May-2022	Revised Closing Date: 31-May-2022

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Development Objectives of this project are to contribute to increasing the geographical reach of broadband networks, and reducing costs of communication services in the territory of the Recipient, and between the Recipient and ECOWAS countries.

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

No

Components

Name

Supporting Connectivity:(Cost \$31.59 M)
 Enabling environment for improved connectivity:(Cost \$2.04 M)
 Implementation support:(Cost \$1.36 M)
 National backbone and Restructuring of GuineTelecom/GuineTel (co-financing)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● High	● High

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This is the fifth ISR since the beginning of project implementation. The last supervision mission was conducted on June 2019. significant progress were made since the last mission:

First, the project disbursement rate is 82%: ACE invoices number 2 and 3 for a total amount of 23 million USD have been processed through direct payment under credit category 1. This allowed for the full construction of the submarine cable and for conducting the activities required for the construction of the national infrastructure (landing station and Beach Manhole). The construction works for the landing station have been launched in July 2019 and the submarine is expected to be operational in February 2020.

Second, the SPV is a public (49%)-private (51%) company that is established (with a minimum capital of 10 million FCFA) and operational, it now substitutes to the MoF in the ACE consortium/CM&A. Following recent attribution of the license to the SCGB, the SCGB is now in the process of increasing the SPV capital to 31,5 million USD and transferring the related additional shares to private operators proportionally to their current participation in the SPV capital. It is to be noted that processing the SPV's capital increase (and associated transfer of shares) will trigger the private sector payments to the government for a total amount of 16 million USD to be paid over 5 years. The government has now opened the SCGB special account where the proceeds (i.e. 16 million USD to be paid over a 5 years period) of the transfer of government's shares to the private sector will be deposited.

Third, safeguards Plans (RAP and ESIA) for the construction of submarine and terrestrial infrastructure have been finalized and approved by both Government and WB; they are being published.

Fourth, the strategic study for the restructuring of the national public incumbent operator Guinetelecom/Guinetel has been successfully delivered. The recommendations of the study are being implemented. It was agreed that the government could use the SCGB special account to contribute to the payment of the incumbent social debt which is considered as a prerequisite for the incumbent successful privatization to which the GoGB committed. Agreements between the incumbent and its staff have been signed so as to terminate staff contract in compensation of a first 30% payment. These agreements have been shared with the WB and are under review; the WB will send a comments/recommendations letter to the government as per the next steps of the process.

Fifth, On FM aspect, the external audit report was submitted with delays to WB on July 2019; it is being reviewed.

Sixth, the GRM has been designed and is under implementation.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

improved quality of service

► 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

Value	3.70	3.70	6.90	12.90
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022

improved penetration of service

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

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	4.60	16.00	19.60	22.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022

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

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	72.00	82.00	87.40	82.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022

higher affordability of service

▶ Average monthly price of international wholesale E1 capacity link from Bissau to Europe (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	169.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022

Comments: the information is not available, the team will follow up on this.

increased number of beneficiaries

▶ Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1,296,222.00	1,296,222.00	0.00	1,702,619.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022

Comments: the data is not yet available, the team will follow up on this.

▲ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

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



►Grievances registered related to delivery of project benefits that are actually addressed (%) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022
Comments:	the information is not available, the team will follow up on this.			

Overall Comments

some data are not yet available due to difficult PIU/ARN/operators coordination and collaboration and low capacity of the ARN. The team will follow up on this.

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Supporting Connectivity				
►Retail Price of Internet Services (per Mbit/s per Month, in US\$) (Amount(USD), Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	736.00	736.00	61.00	206.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022
►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	3.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022
Comments:	infrastructure is not yet built.			
►Number of cross border interconnection built (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022
Comments:	infrastructure is not yet built.			

Enabling environment for improved connectivity

► 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	0.00	0.00	3.00
Date	31-Dec-2016	20-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2018	31-May-2022
Comments:	the information is not available, the team will follow up on this.			

Overall Comments

some data are not yet available due to difficult coordination between PIU, ARN and operators. The team will follow up on this.

Data on Financial Performance

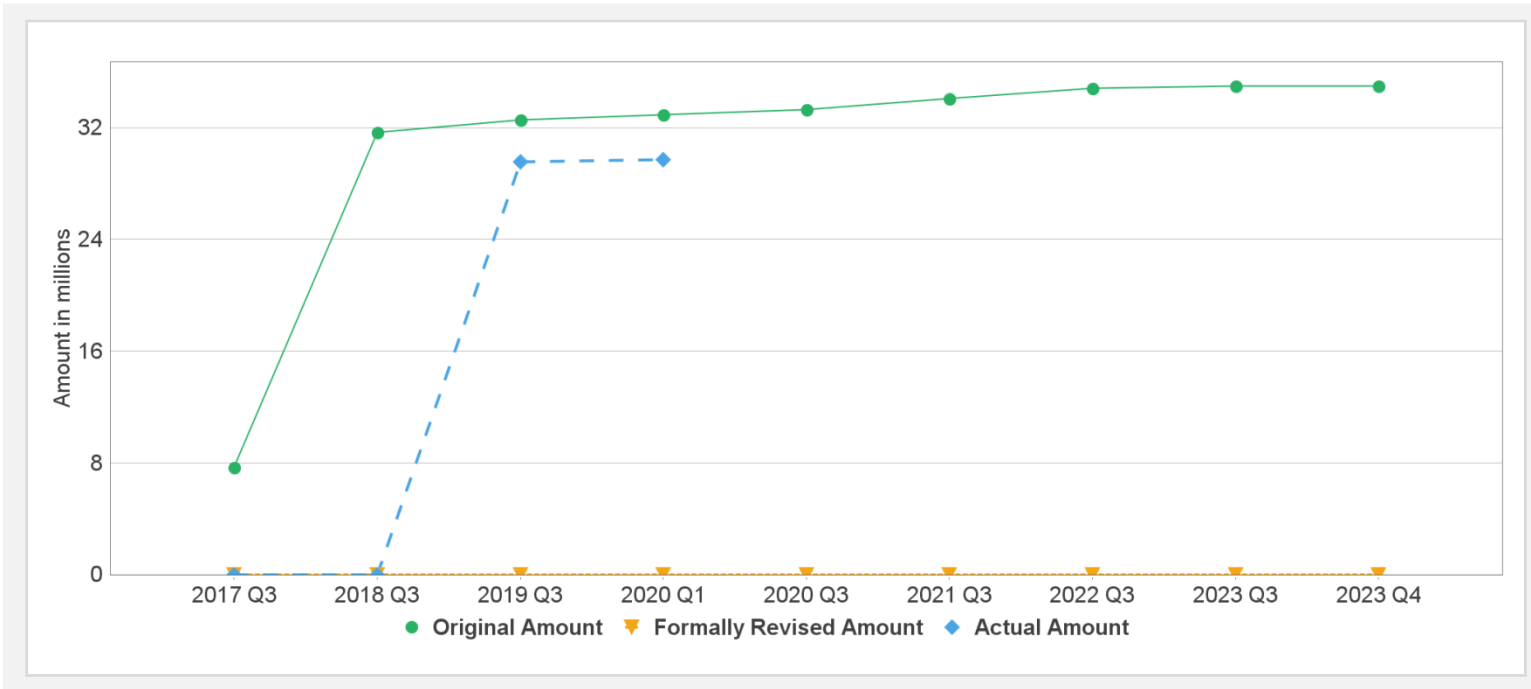
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P155876	IDA-59970	Effective	USD	35.00	35.00	0.00	29.70	6.51	82%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P155876	IDA-59970	Effective	24-Mar-2017	23-May-2017	29-May-2018	31-May-2022	31-May-2022

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.