



1. Project Data:		Date Posted : 02/12/2004	
PROJ ID: P047250		Appraisal	Actual
Project Name: Infra, Water And Environment Project	Project Costs (US\$M)	13.3	0
Country: Comoros	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	11.4	0
Sector(s): Board: TR - Roads and highways (54%), Water supply (37%), Central government administration (9%)	Cofinancing (US\$M)	1.9	0
L/C Number: C3468; CQ044			
	Board Approval (FY)		01
Partners involved : French Co-operation	Closing Date	12/31/2005	07/31/2003

Prepared by :	Reviewed by :	Group Manager :	Group:
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2. Project Objectives and Components

a. Objectives
To assist the Government of Comores to improve living conditions and stimulate economic growth, while protecting the environment through investments in basic infrastructure, specifically :

- i) To maintain road infrastructure and improve safety of road transport;
- ii) Upgrade and expand urban water infrastructure and significantly increase access to clean water for people living on the Anjouan and Moheli islands by 2004-2005, and
- iii) Improve decentralized management of road transport and water supply through strengthening of public sector institutions, increased public awareness, stakeholder participation, and implementation of cost recovery measures .

b. Components

- i) Transport: roads periodic maintenance, road safety and engineering studies, expertise, and institutional strengthening;
- ii) Urban water supply: urban water works and engineering studies, expertise, and institutional strengthening, and,
- iii) Support to sectors and program co-ordination.

c. Comments on Project Cost, Financing and Dates
Project was in line with the Interim Support Strategy approved by the Board on Nov 14, 2000. Preparation took 54 months because of delays due to IDA suspension of disbursements and to general political turmoil . The Government of Comores then informed the Bank of its decision to close the project - this became effective on July 31st, 2003.

3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives:
None were achieved since the loan was not implemented and the credit did not become effective .

4. Significant Outcomes/Impacts:
Failure to implement serious setback for road and urban water sectors, but inevitable in deteriorating political environment.

5. Significant Shortcomings (including non-compliance with safeguard policies):
Factors constraining commencement of implementation include :

- i) Islands preoccupied by their autonomy and unwilling to move forward on a project requiring central oversight;
- ii) Failure to create functioning Road Fund;
- iii) Project co-ordinator not acceptable to Comorians .
- iv) Lack of capacity to resolve problem areas .

6. Ratings:	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement /Comments
Outcome :	Not Rated	Not Rated	
Institutional Dev .:	Not Rated	Not Rated	

Sustainability :	Not Rated	Not Applicable	
Bank Performance :	Not Rated	Satisfactory	Rating refers to quality at entry and performance during preparation only. Conditions leading to the failure to move forward were beyond the control of the Bank.
Borrower Perf .:	Not Rated	Highly Unsatisfactory	Rating refers to major unresolved problems during preparation rendering implementation impossible.
Quality of ICR :		Satisfactory	

NOTE: ICR rating values flagged with '*' don't comply with OP/BP 13.55, but are listed for completeness.

7. Lessons of Broad Applicability:

In a situation of absence of functioning government and mutual distrust of the political leaders, it appears judicious to focus development assistance on communities and civil society .

8. Assessment Recommended? Yes No

9. Comments on Quality of ICR:

Generally satisfactory . Completion Note did extensively discuss the high risk associated with investing in the Comores before the political situation had stabilized . Could, however, have usefully highlighted the cost of fruitless expenditure and commitments due to non-implementation. Standpoint of French Co-operation (co-financier) also not discussed.