

STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY05
SOPE
REGION: AFRICA
COUNTRY: MAURITANIA

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 23, 2005



Report on the Status of Projects in Execution - FY05
Region: Africa
Country: Mauritania

Introduction

The Status of Projects in Execution (SOPE) Report for FY05 provides information on all IBRD/IDA projects that were active on and beyond June 30, 2005. Thus it bridges the gap in information available to the public between the Project Appraisal Document, disclosed after the Bank approves a project, and the Implementation Completion Report, disclosed after the project closes.

The World Bank has issued a SOPE Report every year as an internal communication to the Board of Executive Directors. Now, in accordance with the Bank's revised disclosure policy, the SOPE Report is also available to the public. By publishing this improved report, we have addressed one of the main concerns we heard from the public during disclosure consultations – that the public has very little access to information on projects while they are being implemented. Readers familiar with past reports will note that projects that closed during the fiscal year are no longer included in the SOPE, since their Implementation Completion Reports are now also disclosed.

The FY05 SOPE introduces a new element: in order to disclose project-by-project comparisons of disbursement estimates and actual disbursements, the SOPE report contains a line chart¹ showing the original estimated disbursement schedule, the latest approved revised schedule (if any) and actual disbursements for investment operations and a table showing the loan/credit/grant amount and disbursements to date.

¹ Notes:

- Amounts for Projects in currencies other than U.S. dollars may not match exactly due to exchange rate fluctuations over the life of the project.
- Disbursement graphs are not included for Development Policy Loans, which provide quick-disbursing external financing to support policy and institutional reforms. For these loans, funds are disbursed in one or more stages (tranches), released when the borrower complies with agreed conditions.
- Projects which are not yet effective may not have a planned disbursement schedule and thus may not include a graph.

Country: Mauritania**Project Name (ID):** Energy, Water and Sanitation Sector Technical Assistance (P066345)**Country:** Mauritania**Board Approval Date:** 06/13/2000**Midterm Review Date:** 11/19/2002**Closing Date:** 12/31/2005**Loan/Credit/Grant Number:** IDA-33770, IDA-Q1660**Sector(s):** Central government administration (100%)**Theme(s):** State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (P), Legal institutions for a market economy (P), Pollution management and environmental health (S), Climate change (S), Rural services and infrastructure (S)**Project Development Objectives:**

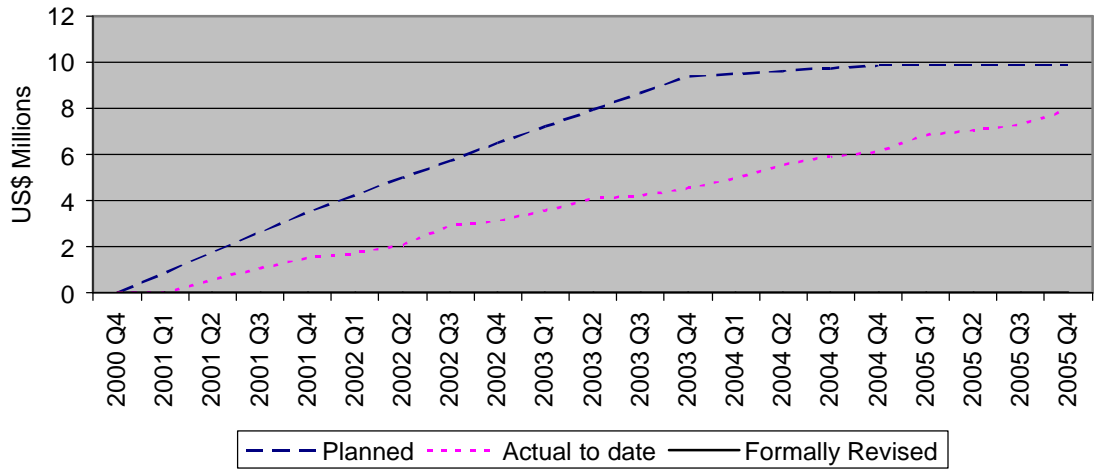
The objective of the project is (i) to restructure the legal and institutional framework of the water/sanitation and energy sectors to create an environment for private sector participation; and (ii) to prepare future investments in the water/sanitation and energy sectors (urban and rural).

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Progress is rather mixed: (a) the restructuring of the legal and institutional framework is under way but rather slow. Although, the electricity and water codes have now been passed, no enabling decrees ("decrets d'application") have been issued. The national power utility, SOMELEC, is not in compliance with the provisions of the electricity law (formal licenses have not yet been issued to SOMELEC by the Government) and this does not allow the regulatory agency (ARM) to regulate SOMELEC. Given the deterioration in SOMELEC's financial condition, the government's lack of responsiveness to Private Sector Participation (PSP) options, and the apparent effort to modify ARM's role from that of a regulator to an advisory role, it is fair to say that the environment is not yet right for PSP. (b) On the investment program, strategic and preparatory work in rural energy and water was completed in connection with the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Support Credit, now on hold. The Government is currently engaged in alternative resource mobilization to enable an increased delivery of water and electricity services in rural areas.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-33770	Effective	10.80	7.91	2.32	0.00
IDA-Q1660	Closed	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00



Project Name (ID): Urban Development Program (P069095)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 10/25/2001

Midterm Review Date: 10/15/2004

Closing Date: 12/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-35740, IDA-Q2420, IDA-Q2421, JPN-26223

Sector(s): Roads and highways (22%), General water, sanitation and flood protection (22%), General education (22%), General industry and trade (22%), General public administration (12%)

Theme(s): Municipal governance and institution building (P), Access to urban services and housing (P), Decentralization (P), Land administration and management (P), Participation and civic engagement (P)

Project Development Objectives:

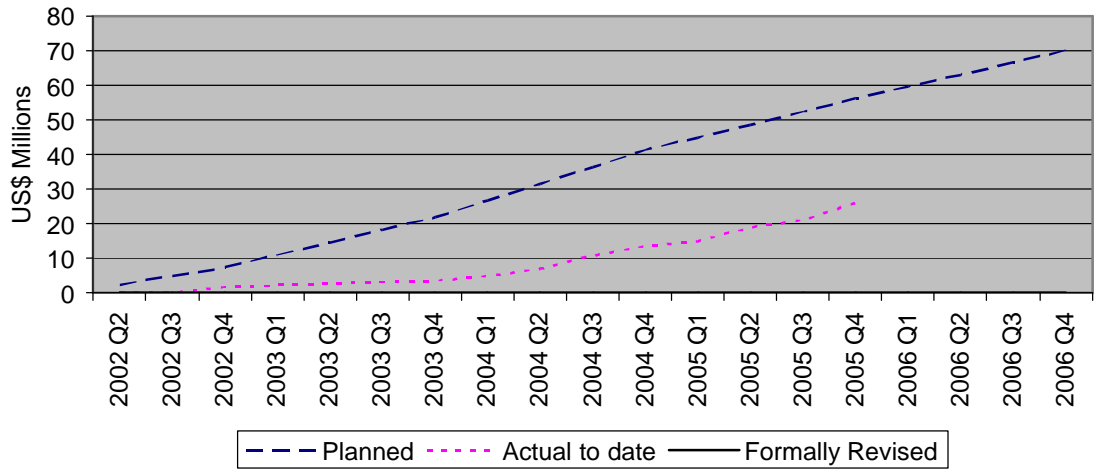
The objectives of the project are: (a) improving the living conditions and employment opportunities in the main towns of Mauritania, and especially in slums; and (b) strengthening the institutional framework and capacity for urban and land management.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The resettlement of households affected by the construction of new infrastructure in El Mina has been completed, allowing for physical investments to start in the Kebbe. Electricity, roads, and latrines construction contracts have also been completed. Other works related to water supply and equipment are underway and will be commissioned by December 2005 and the community support activities are being implemented in the neighborhoods targeted by the project. Institutional capacity building activities including training, support to municipalities and ministerial departments, development and implementation of tools to improve municipal and urban management are being implemented. Technical assistance is provided to the various agencies involved in the project to prepare major sector studies and subsequent activities namely in land and urban management, urban transport, decentralization, training, project management, monitoring and evaluation. Municipalities, Association of mayors, communities and sector ministries are also participating in the training program. Regional capitals have implemented their first city contract.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-35740	Effective	81.42	25.93	55.32	0.00
IDA-Q2420	Closed	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.60
IDA-Q2421	Closed	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
JPN-26223	Closed	0.62	0.51	0.00	0.11



Project Name (ID): Education Sector Development Program (P071308)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 10/25/2001

Midterm Review Date: 05/07/2005

Closing Date: 05/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-35730, MULT-53481, NETH-53485

Sector(s): Primary education (32%), Tertiary education (30%), Vocational training (19%), Central government administration (13%), General education (6%)

Theme(s): Education for all (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Gender (P), Child health (S), Social analysis and monitoring (S)

Project Development Objectives:

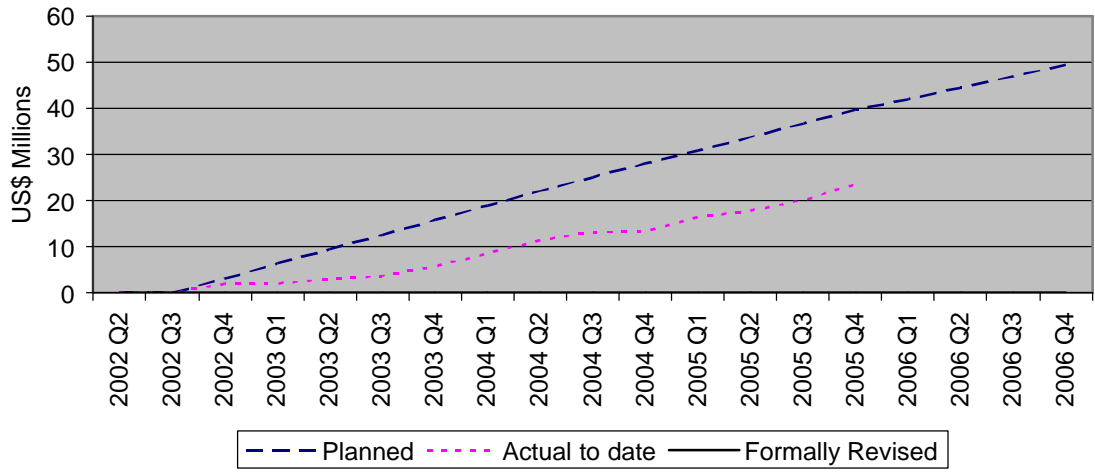
The Project aims to: (a) implement bilingual education at the primary and secondary levels of education; (b) improve access and equity; (c) enhance quality and increase internal efficiency; and (d) improve the relevance and external efficiency of the vocational, technical and higher education systems.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Overall, the progress toward the achievement of the project development objectives remains good. Key outcome and impact indicators show that between 2000/2001 and 2003/2004, the gross enrollment ratio (GER) in primary education increased from 87% to 96.0%, which represents a net progress above the target level for 2005. Regarding gender equality, Mauritania has made remarkable progress in facilitating access to primary education for all children, and the related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have almost been achieved at the primary level, with girls representing 49.2% of total enrollment. Significant progress was also made at the secondary level, with girls representing 44.4% of total enrollment. This level of progress made at the primary and secondary levels carries over to higher education where the proportion of female students has grown steadily from 16.5% in 1998 to 21.6% in 2003. However, quality remains a major issue. For instance, completion rate at the primary level decreased from 51% in 2001 to 40.2% in 2004; the success rate at the end of secondary education examination (Brevet) decreased substantially from 45.3% in 2002 to 28.8% in 2004, well below the 2005 target of 65%. The Government and partners agreed on strategies and actions likely to ensure that the Project's objectives are met.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-35730	Effective	57.05	21.61	34.98	0.00
MULT-53481	Closed	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
NETH-53485	Closed	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00



Project Name (ID): Global Distance Learning Center (P071881)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 11/21/2001

Midterm Review Date: 03/25/2005

Closing Date: 01/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-35780, IDA-Q2460

Sector(s): Telecommunications (100%)

Theme(s): Education for the knowledge economy (P), Technology diffusion (P), Participation and civic engagement (P), Infrastructure services for private sector development (P)

Project Development Objectives:

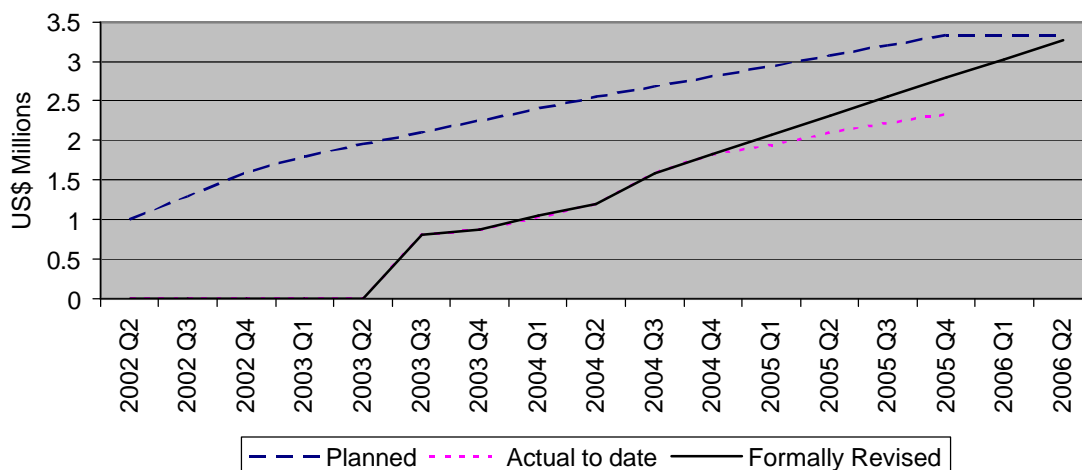
The objective is to test mechanisms of public and private sector partnership that would promote better access to and dissemination of information relevant to Mauritania's country development and policy reforms.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project will accomplish these objectives by providing a high-quality and cost-efficient capacity-building tool that is open and accessible to participants from all sectors in Mauritania. The Distance Learning Center (DLC) in Nouakchottis currently delivering courses to respond to demands coming from local training institutions, ministries, private firms and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). The DLC will achieve its development objectives by including on its Board, representatives from the public and the private sectors who would define a common training program that would be delivered through the DLC. The DLC is currently recovering 45% of its operating costs after 18 months of operations and its revenues are increasing. The host Ministry of the project as well as the DLC Board promote the utilization of the DLC within the public and private sectors in order to broaden the access to knowledge in Mauritania. The Mauritania Development Gateway (MRDG), the second component of this project, is currently developing a new platform to offer on-line services to the public and private sectors. The growing demand for these types of services will help the MRDG to achieve its development objectives.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-35780	Effective	3.94	2.32	1.55	0.00
IDA-Q2460	Closed	1.20	0.00	0.00	1.20



Project Name (ID): Multisector HIV/AIDS Control (P078368)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 07/07/2003

Closing Date: 03/31/2009

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-H0570, IDA-Q3550

Sector(s): Other social services (44%), Central government administration (36%), Health (20%)

Theme(s): HIV/AIDS (P), Other communicable diseases (S), Participation and civic engagement (S), Gender (S), Population and reproductive health (S)

Project Development Objectives:

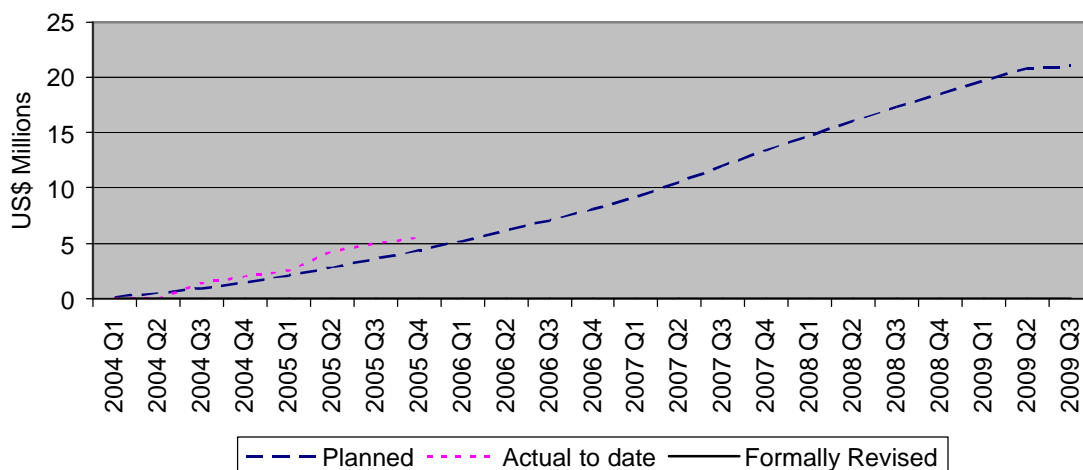
The objective of the Multi-sector HIV/AIDS Control Project is to maintain the level of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) below the prevalence rate of 1% and reduce opportunistic infections.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The HIV prevalence has increased during the first 18 months of the Project but remains below 1% (0.84%). This increase, which is lower than expected from the initial model, is not surprising since the impact of the Project activities is still small. However, the objective remains likely to be achieved. This is probably due to the continuous high level of mobilization of the Mauritanian society against HIV/AIDS, including the religious leaders and Imams. However, implementation of the public and health sectors responses to HIV/AIDS are slower than planned, and the strong Civil Society response has been initially biased towards the non-governmental organizations sub-sector and is hardly reaching the community-based organizations sub-sector. The National HIV/AIDS Council (NAC) and the National HIV/AIDS Secretariat (NAS) are aware of this and have taken corrective actions by setting up specific action plans to address these issues. One important success of the Ministry of Health is the creation of an Ambulatory HIV/AIDS Treatment Center that treats 250 positive persons, including 140 anti-retroviral (ARV). In December 2004, the Project was in problem status because of procurement capacity weakness, delays in implementing an efficient monitoring and evaluation system; and delays in the implementation of environmental risk mitigation measures. Action plans have been agreed upon with the NAS to implement urgent corrective measures.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-H0570	Effective	22.32	5.57	16.85	0.00
IDA-Q3550	Closed	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.60



Project Name (ID): Second Mining Sector Capacity Building (P078383)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 07/08/2003

Closing Date: 03/15/2009

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-38100, JPN-51878

Sector(s): Mining and other extractive (70%), Central government administration (20%), Sub-national government administration (10%)

Theme(s): Environmental policies and institutions (P), Other public sector governance (P), Participation and civic engagement (S), Other environment and natural resources management (S), Water resources management (S)

Project Development Objectives:

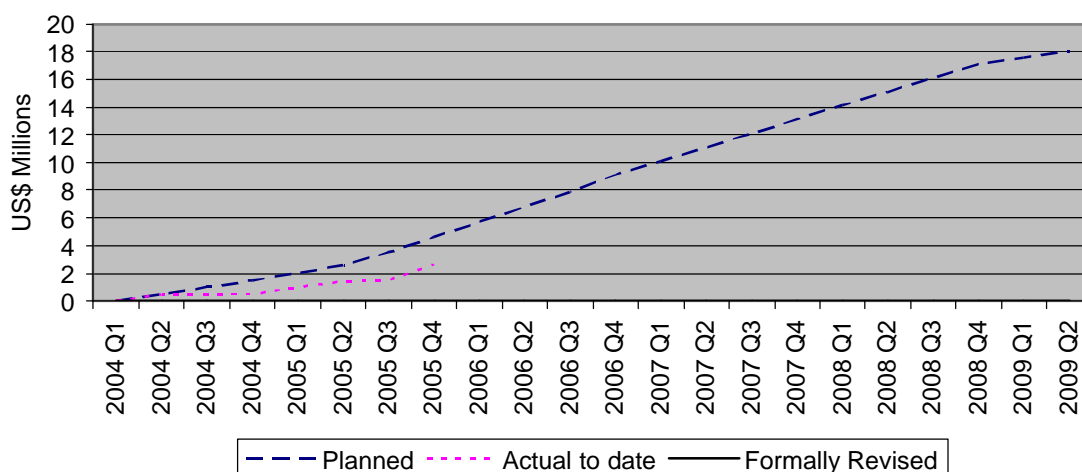
The objectives are to: (i) Build up and promote institutional and technical capacity to manage the country's mineral resources, including social and environmental management and improve sector contribution to national and regional economic development; and (ii) Promote private investments in mining.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

All Project components are under implementation and proceeding according to schedule. In particular, activities in the Zouerate-Nouadhibou corridor (around a major iron mine) are contributing to local economic development, diversification and improvement of water resources and of utility services to communities. The extension of the geo-scientific information infrastructure (geophysics, geology) continues to progress. Important measures to ensure the long term sustainability of the sector institutions are being implemented. As a consequence of the favorable investment climate, two new mining operations (gold and copper) are under development and should start production in late 2005/early 2006.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38100	Effective	19.11	2.63	16.52	0.00
JPN-51878	Closed	0.39	0.39	0.00	0.00



Project Name (ID): Community-Based Rural Development (P081368)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 04/20/2004

Closing Date: 12/31/2010

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-38830, IDA-Q3740

Sector(s): General agriculture, fishing, and forestry (40%), Other social services (30%), General industry and trade (10%), Water supply (10%), Roads and highways (10%)

Theme(s): Rural services and infrastructure (P), Land administration and management (P), Rural non-farm income generation (P), Decentralization (S), Participation and civic engagement (S)

Project Development Objectives:

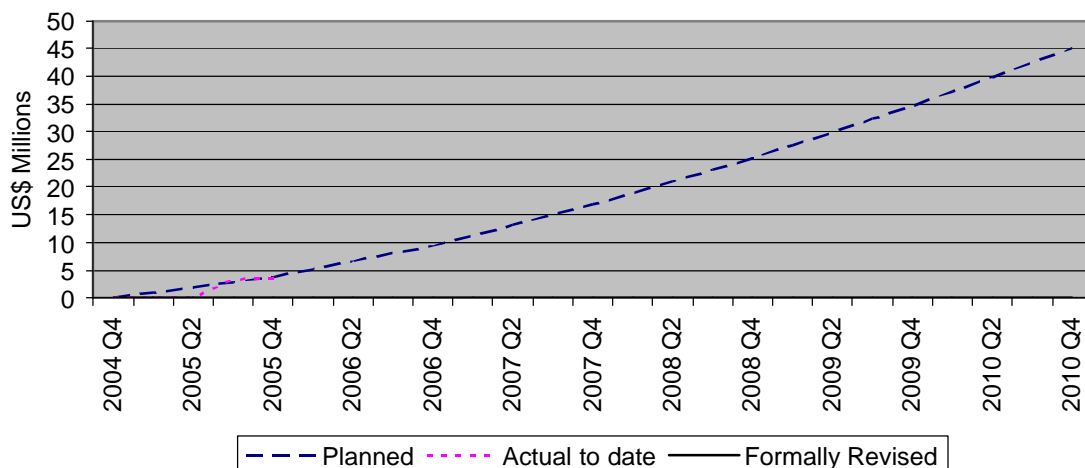
Improve the living conditions of project-supported village communities in terms of sustainable income increase, access to basic socio-economic services, and improved natural management practices.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Although this project became effective on October 2004, it is off to a good start towards achieving the development objectives: (i) It has organized well-attended project-launch workshops in all 10 regions of the project area. Each workshop served as the venue for the Regional Development Committee (CRD), which officially approved the list of selected villages that would receive direct project support; (ii) The project's 2005 work program includes a total of 400 village communities, including 250 new villages; (iii) Ten rural municipalities have been selected for piloting the rural road component of the project; and (iv) The project is finalizing the recruitment of facilitators to assist these 400 village communities.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38830	Effective	43.92	3.54	40.48	0.00
IDA-Q3740	Closed	1.37	0.00	0.00	1.37



Project Name (ID): Higher Education (P087180)
Country: Mauritania
Board Approval Date: 08/03/2004
Closing Date: 06/30/2010
Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-39700
Sector(s): Tertiary education (100%)
Theme(s): Education for the knowledge economy (P)

Project Development Objectives:

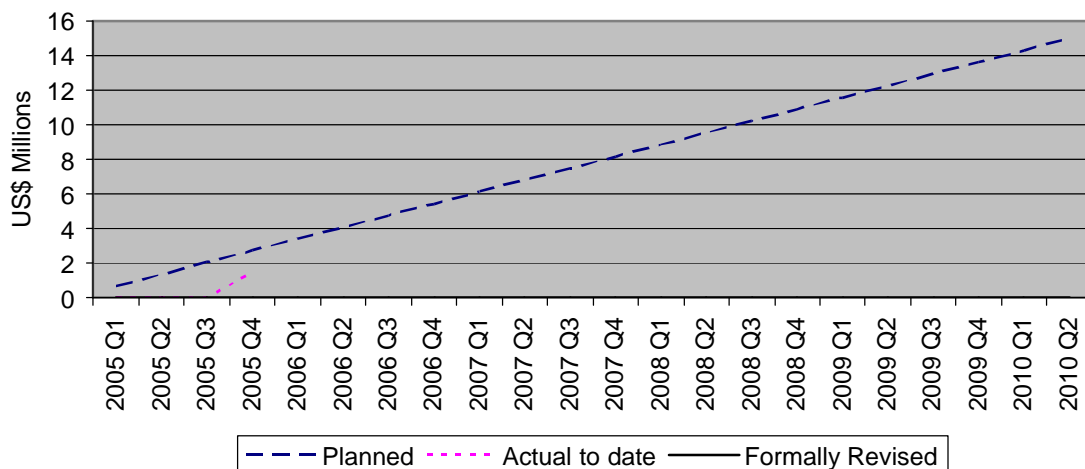
The objective is to help the Government of Mauritania to implement its strategy of producing qualified graduates with the skills needed for increased productivity and diversification of its economy.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The Project has become effective on January 12, 2005. Since then, some progress has been achieved in the implementation of the main components: (a) a Law to reform higher education has been drafted and presented to the Parliament; (b) strategic decisions have been made by the University of Nouakchott about the occupationally oriented programs to be renewed, and the ones to be created, and the terms of references for the procurement of twinning arrangements with a consortium of universities has been prepared; (c) the master plan for the new campus is being prepared; and (d) the study tour for the design of the new central library has been organized.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-39700	Effective	14.88	1.50	13.40	0.00



Project Name (ID): Integrated Development for Irrigated Agriculture APL 2 (P088828)

Country: Mauritania

Board Approval Date: 03/17/2005

Closing Date: 12/31/2010

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-40430

Sector(s): Irrigation and drainage (25%), Crops (20%), Agricultural extension and research (20%), Agricultural marketing and trade (20%), General public administration (15%)

Theme(s): Export development and competitiveness (P), Infrastructure services for private sector development (P), Rural markets (P), Water resources management (P), Land administration and management (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objective of the Phases II of the APL is three-fold: (i) consolidate key incentive measures, (ii) increase sustainable irrigation schemes, and (iii) intensify agricultural diversification for targeted actors engaged in irrigated agriculture.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project was not effective before the close of the reporting period.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2005)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-40430	Effective	37.50	0.00	37.50	0.00

