

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

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 23, 2005



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

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: Niger

Project Name (ID): Privatization and Regulatory Reform (P051272)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 09/15/1998

Midterm Review Date: 06/18/2001

Closing Date: 12/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-31300, IDA-Q0830, IDA-Q0831

Sector(s): Central government administration (74%), Other social services (26%)

Theme(s): State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (P), Regulation and competition policy (P)

Project Development Objectives:

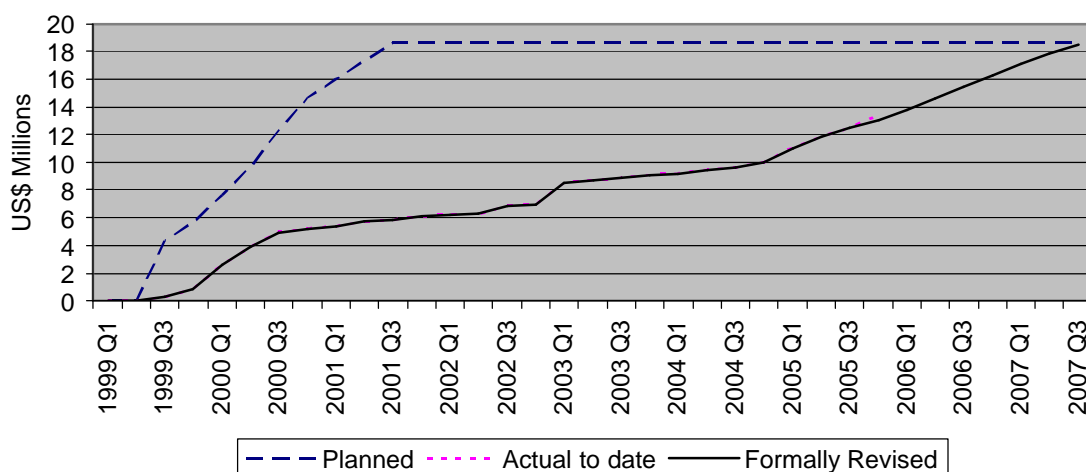
The objective of the project is to increase the operational and financial performance of the public enterprise sector and selected utilities through privatization of assets and private sector participation in infrastructure.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Despite Government of Niger's (GON) commitment to undertake the Privatization Program as well as institutional reforms, the implementation of the privatization process has suffered some delays due to lack of private investors/operators response. All project components but one were closed on December 31, 2004. Only the Telecom component was left open to enable GON to complete the procurement and implementation of a US\$ 1.28 million Frequency Management System.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-31300	Closed	20.43	13.44	6.24	0.00
IDA-Q0830	Closed	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.60
IDA-Q0831	Closed	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.80



Project Name (ID): Agro-Pastoral Export Promotion (P058730)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 06/01/2000

Midterm Review Date: 10/06/2003

Closing Date: 10/31/2005

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-33630, IDA-Q1500, JPN-25761, JPN-53113

Sector(s): Agricultural marketing and trade (83%), Central government administration (17%)

Theme(s): Export development and competitiveness (P), Infrastructure services for private sector development (S), Trade facilitation and market access (S)

Project Development Objectives:

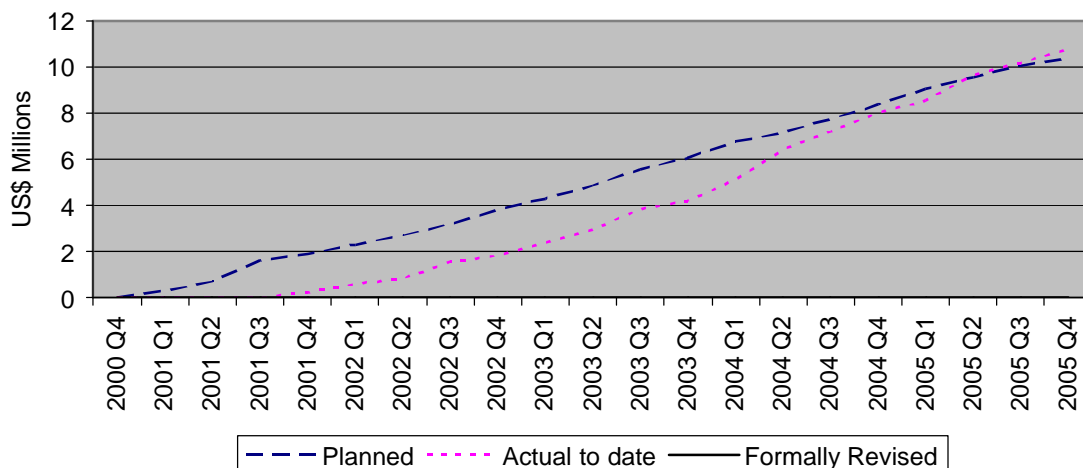
The project will build the technical, organizational, and institutional capacity in businesses, professional organizations, and producer groups, so that they may take advantage of opportunities in regional and international markets and increase exports of agricultural commodities.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

57 national and regional organizations of professional commodities operators, including 1,220 cooperatives, firms, associations and economic interest groups have been established with 62,015 members and are now providing services to their members. Contacts with target external markets (Kano, Lagos, Cotonou, Lomé, Accra, Abidjan, Marseille and Madrid) have been established, and information from these markets is readily available and used by producers and exporters in making their market decisions. Several contracts of livestock, sesame, sweet pea, cowpea, Arabic gum and onion have been initiated, totaling US\$18 million; and many financial applications were received and analyzed, and 86 of them have been partially financed by the project to help producers increase production and commercialization for a total amount of US\$ 3 million.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-33630	Effective	11.24	10.72	0.08	0.00
IDA-Q1500	Closed	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
JPN-25761	Closed	0.20	0.19	0.00	0.01
JPN-53113	Closed	0.20	0.19	0.01	0.00



Project Name (ID): Basic Education (P061209)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 07/17/2003

Closing Date: 12/31/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-38120, IDA-H0600, IDA-Q3360, NETH-53053, NETH-54461

Sector(s): Primary education (75%), Adult literacy/non-formal education (13%), Central government administration (12%)

Theme(s): Education for all (P), Rural services and infrastructure (S), Gender (S), Participation and civic engagement (S), Administrative and civil service reform (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objectives of the Project are to increase the enrollment and completion rates of the students in the basic education programs, in particular in the rural areas, and to strengthen the administrative and managerial capacities in the basic education sector.

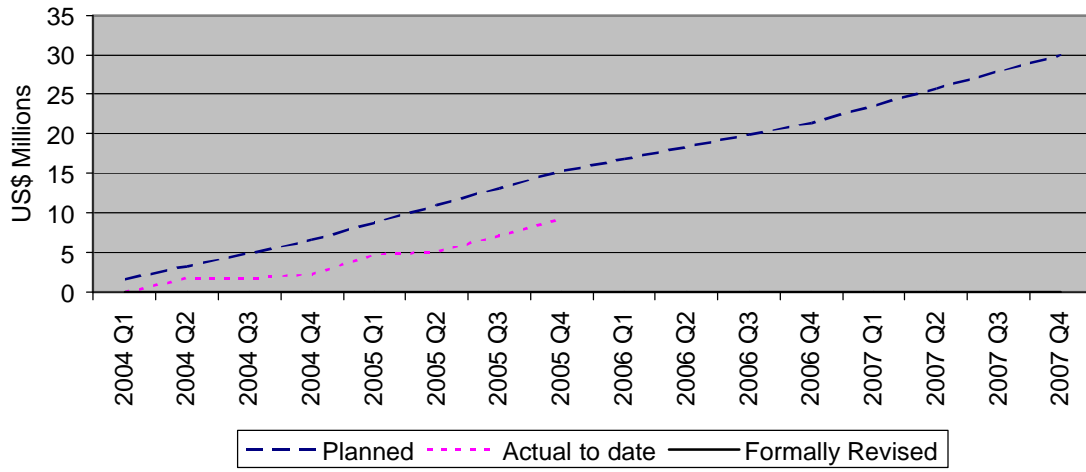
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The country has continued to successfully maintain the recent path in increasing school enrollment in primary education. The Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) has increased from 45.4% in 2002/03 to 50% in 2003/2004. Enrollment in rural areas has also increased with the GER having passed from 42.6% in 2002/03 to 48.4% in 2003/04 (compared with a target of 46%). While the girls' GER rose from 36.5% to 40.4%, their share in primary education has stagnated around 40%. After a slight decline in 2003/04, the primary education completion rate seems to be on the rise again, reaching 32.2% in 2003/04 (slightly exceeding the set target of 30%). However, the overall low level of the education quality remains a concern. Progress has been made in improving existing capacity, in particular at the regional and local levels where the Regional Alphabetization Education Unit's (Direction Régionale d'Education de l'Alphabétisation - DREBA) management capacity has been improved through the provision of qualified staff in core domains. Also, the experience of empowering local communities in school management (transfer of resources, involvement in teacher recruitment and management) is being expanded as planned.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38120	Effective	5.98	2.42	3.62	0.00
IDA-H0600	Effective	25.83	6.93	19.00	0.00
IDA-Q3360	Closed	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
NETH-53053	Closed	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
NETH-54461	Effective	8.00	0.00	8.00	0.00

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Project Name (ID): Water Sector (P061558)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 05/03/2001

Midterm Review Date: 04/26/2004

Closing Date: 12/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-35050, IDA-Q1760

Sector(s): Water supply (87%), Sanitation (10%), General public administration (3%)

Theme(s): Water resources management (P), Regulation and competition policy (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Participation and civic engagement (S), Access to urban services and housing (S)

Project Development Objectives:

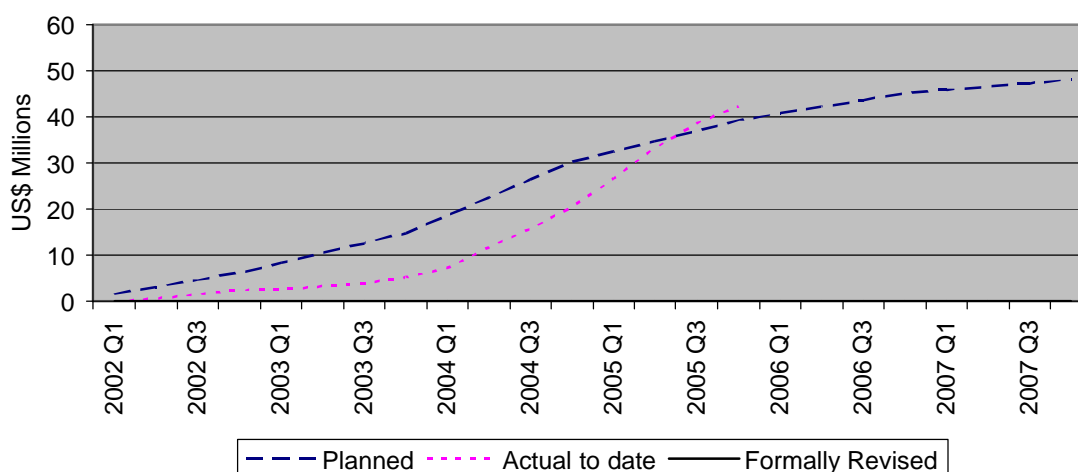
The objectives of the project are: (i) improving water production and distribution efficiency and providing affordable sanitation services, (ii) strengthening institutional capacity, policy formulation, monitoring and regulation and, (iii) rehabilitating rural water facilities, developing on-site sanitation services and implementing community-based management of rural water facilities involving private sector participation.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Access to potable water has increased as 223,000 more people (representing 97 % of the end-of-project target of 230,000 people) have had access to potable water. The institutional reform supported by the project is improving the overall management of the sector in terms of service quality, pricing and cost recovery. The private operator of the urban water utility is performing as expected. The financial equilibrium of the urban water sub-sector is being progressively restored through moderate water tariff adjustments, and the financial management capacity of the Urban Water Holding Company is being strengthened through various technical assistance. Rehabilitation/extension works for rural water facilities are under way as well as capacity building activities for local private operators. The sanitation component was completed and has achieved significant impact by increasing household sanitation coverage in Niamey. In this city, 100,000 additional people have had access to improved sanitation services representing 130 % of the end-of-project target.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-35050	Effective	54.43	42.19	12.20	0.00
IDA-Q1760	Closed	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10



Project Name (ID): Community Action Program (P065991)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 03/20/2003

Closing Date: 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-H0250, IDA-Q2450, IDA-Q2451, JPN-26176

Sector(s): Sub-national government administration (35%), General agriculture, fishing, and forestry (20%), General water, sanitation and flood protection (20%), General education (15%), Health (10%)

Theme(s): Decentralization (P), Participation and civic engagement (P), Other social protection and risk management (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Poverty strategy, analysis, and monitoring (S)

Project Development Objectives:

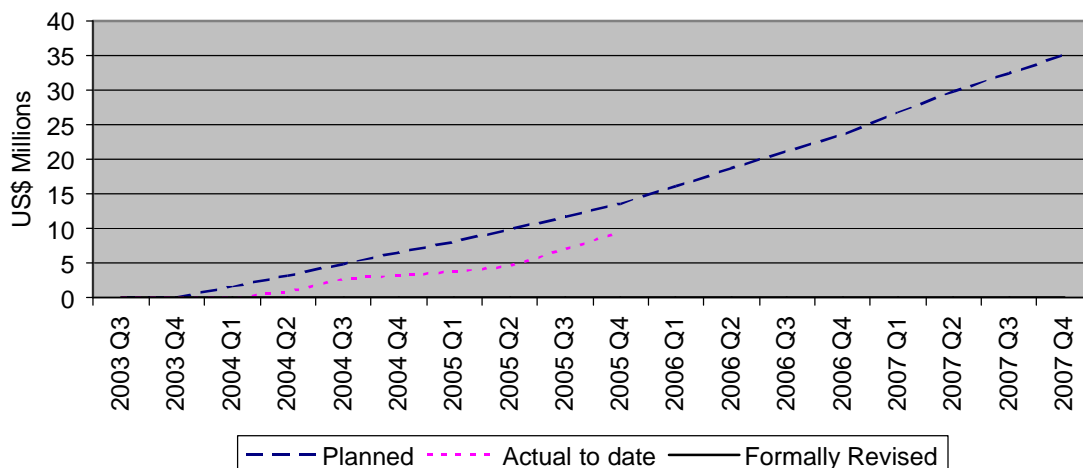
The objectives are: (i) design and implement decentralized, participatory and transparent financing mechanisms that enable communities and local governments to carry out development plans; and (ii) promote community-based integrated ecosystem management, and foster multiple global environmental benefits.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

All upstream activities to strengthen the institutional capacity of local governments have been completed, including training of mayors and municipal councils in budget planning, financial and administrative management. A local development guide has been elaborated for the communes with input from the United Nations Capital development Fund (UNCDF). Local communities have formed more than 170 village groupings, supported by various committees. Two-thirds of the village groupings have developed local development plans which highlight the community's priorities. This has led to over 500 community-based micro-projects approved for matching grant funding in a broad range of sectors, including natural resources management, income generating activities and building health and education facilities.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-H0250	Effective	37.06	9.43	27.86	0.00
IDA-Q2450	Closed	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
IDA-Q2451	Closed	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.40
JPN-26176	Closed	0.37	0.36	0.00	0.01



Project Name (ID): Multi-Sector STI/HIV/AIDS Support (P071612)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 04/04/2003

Closing Date: 06/30/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-H0310, IDA-Q3460

Sector(s): Health (40%), Other social services (35%), Central government administration (20%), Sub-national government administration (5%)

Theme(s): HIV/AIDS (P), Population and reproductive health (P), Participation and civic engagement (S), Health system performance (S), Vulnerability assessment and monitoring (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objective of both the National Program and this operation are to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS in the general population, to mitigate the negative impact of HIV/AIDS on individuals and communities, and to strengthen the capacity in Niger to formulate, manage, implement, monitor, and evaluate a viable cost-effective HIV/AIDS Program.

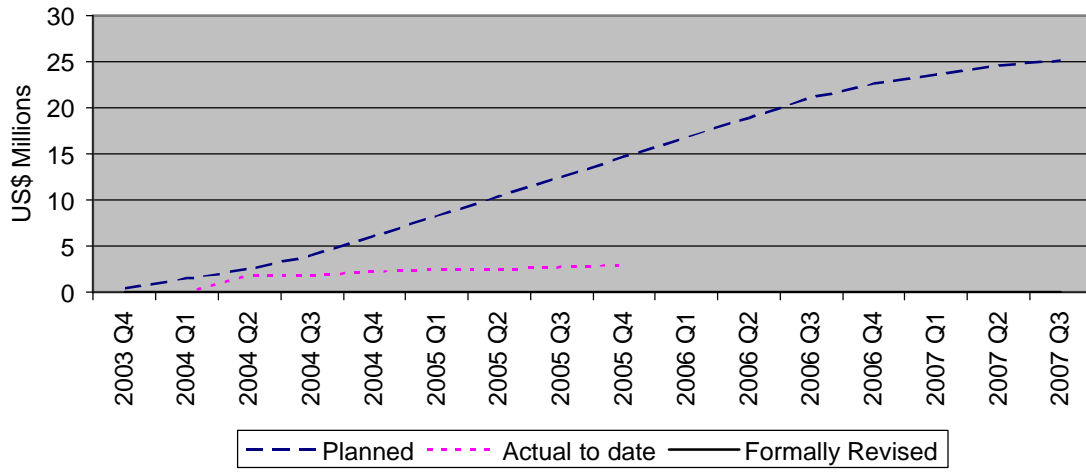
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Progress toward the objective is on track despite delays in the implementation of the Project. In the last months the Project witnessed a significant improvement in the areas of promotion and coordinating community-based activities against HIV/AIDS. Many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been financed in the whole country to develop prevention and health care promotion campaigns. The Project contributed to improved implementation of some key activities, i.e: (a) promotion of the public sector response by increasing preventive activities within the sector at central and regional levels ; (b) increasing the community and civil society involvement in the fight against the diseases by the financing of subprojects; (c) strengthening the availability of drugs to support and care to people living with HIV; and (d) strengthening of the project coordination unit by the improvement in internal communication, staff management, and the recruitment of new staff to handle some key function (monitoring and evaluation, and support to the Health Ministry). The expected results for this Project are to maintain the current level of HIV/AIDS prevalence among adults (15-49 years) to 0.87%. To do so, more than 200 information, education and communication (IEC) activities have been implemented, 5 to 8 regional capitals have voluntary counseling and testing services and more than 300 persons living with AIDS benefit from anti-retroviral drugs in the whole country.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-H0310	Effective	26.56	2.98	23.59	0.00
IDA-Q3460	Closed	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.57

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Project Name (ID): Private Irrigation Promotion (P072996)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 03/19/2002

Closing Date: 12/31/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-36210, IDA-Q3190, WBTF-26717

Sector(s): Irrigation and drainage (60%), Central government administration (19%), Agricultural extension and research (16%), Other social services (5%)

Theme(s): Water resources management (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Other rural development (P), Participation and civic engagement (P), Technology diffusion (S)

Project Development Objectives:

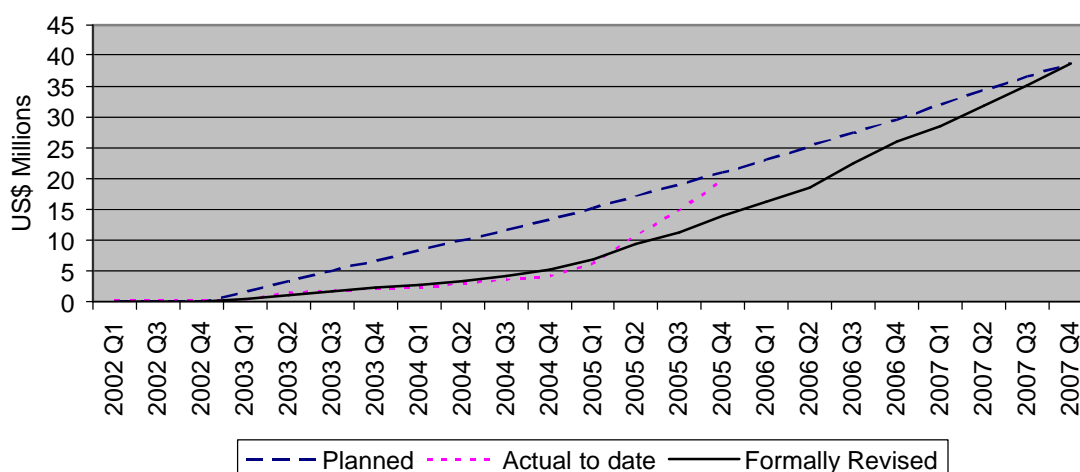
The objective of the project is to increase production and profitability of high-value irrigated crops by private and smallholder farmers with simple and low-cost technologies.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Producers are benefiting from a matching grant scheme to access appropriate irrigation technologies, which is enabling them to increase production. Over 1,600 micro-projects have already been approved to receive project support, with almost 1,000 under implementation: this corresponds to an irrigated area of well above 10,000 ha, and the project is providing institutional strengthening to four major national networks of microfinance institutions, to improve their performance in the delivery of financial services for irrigation farmers, and to make the matching grant scheme more accessible to small scale farmers. Also, the project is building the capacity of producer organizations through training and regional exchanges.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-36210	Effective	45.67	19.39	26.60	0.00
IDA-Q3190	Closed	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.40
WBTF-26717	Closed	0.37	0.35	0.00	0.02



Project Name (ID): Financial Sector Technical Assistance (P074316)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 02/19/2004

Closing Date: 04/30/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-38560, IDA-Q3270, IDA-Q3271

Sector(s): Banking (30%), Postal services (30%), Housing finance and real estate markets (20%), Micro and SME finance (15%), Compulsory pension and unemployment insurance (5%)

Theme(s): Other financial and private sector development (P), State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (S), Legal institutions for a market economy (S), Rural markets (S), Social risk mitigation (S)

Project Development Objectives:

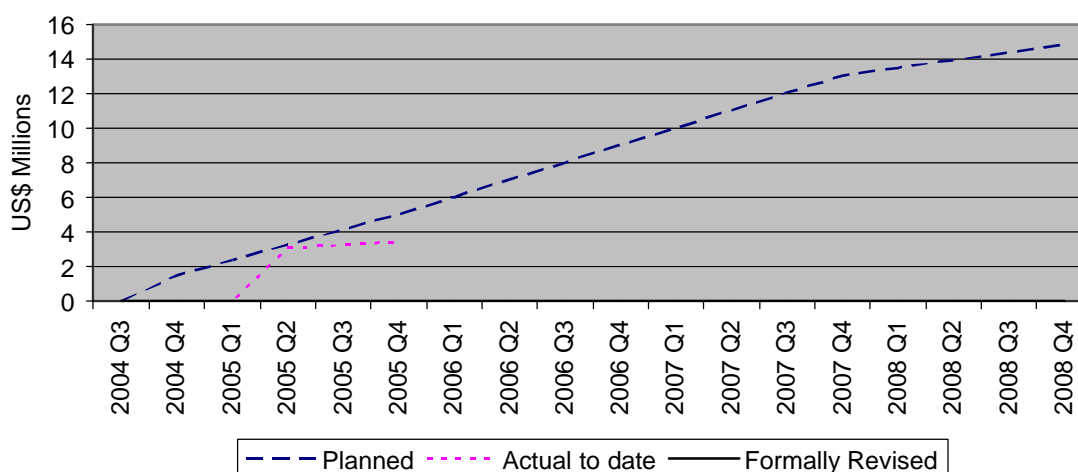
The objective is to improve the depth, reach and efficiency of the financial sector as well as access to financial services through: (a) improvement in the legal, regulatory and judicial environment within which financial institutions operate, (b) the restructuring of the housing bank, (c) the strengthening of the micro-finance sector, (d) the restructuring of the postal financial services with the creation of a financial services subsidiary, (e) the conduct of an actuarial audit of the social security institution and (f) capacity building in Ministries and in financial institutions.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The retrenchment of workers of Office National des Postes et de l'Epargne (ONPE) has been completed; privatization of Credit du Niger (CDN) is on course; and the hiring of an adviser to establish a MFI regulatory agency is currently ongoing. The financial management and procurement functions are working well and there is a participatory approach to the training program. A consultant has been recruited to define indicators which would be used to assess the project performance over its lifetime.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38560	Effective	15.90	3.46	12.57	0.00
IDA-Q3270	Closed	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.60
IDA-Q3271	Closed	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35



Project Name (ID): Public Expenditure Reform (P083275)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date: 05/24/2005

Closing Date: 03/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IDA-40660, IDA-H1720, JPN-52676

Sector(s): Central government administration (70%), General agriculture, fishing, and forestry (10%), General education (10%), Health (10%)

Theme(s): Public expenditure, financial management, and procurement (P), Education for all (S), Health system performance (S), Rural services and infrastructure (S), Poverty strategy, analysis, and monitoring (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objectives of the credit are to: (a) deepen the reforms in public expenditure management; (b) increase the impact on the poor of public spending in key priority areas, including public service delivery in education and health, and investment for agricultural growth and rural development; and (c) improve the monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation of the PRSP and its revision.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is not yet effective.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-40660	Not Effective	27.43	0.00	27.43	0.00
IDA-H1720	Not Effective	11.38	0.00	11.38	0.00
JPN-52676	Effective	0.68	0.26	0.42	0.00