

STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY05
SOPE
REGION: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
COUNTRY: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 23, 2005



Report on the Status of Projects in Execution - FY05
Region: Latin America and the Caribbean
Country: Dominican Republic

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: Dominican Republic

Project Name (ID): Telecom Regulatory Reform (P052736)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 07/06/1999

Closing Date: 06/30/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-45050, IBRD-P3350

Sector(s): Telecommunications (90%), Central government administration (10%)

Theme(s): Rural services and infrastructure (P), Law reform (P), Regulation and competition policy (P), Social safety nets (S)

Project Development Objectives:

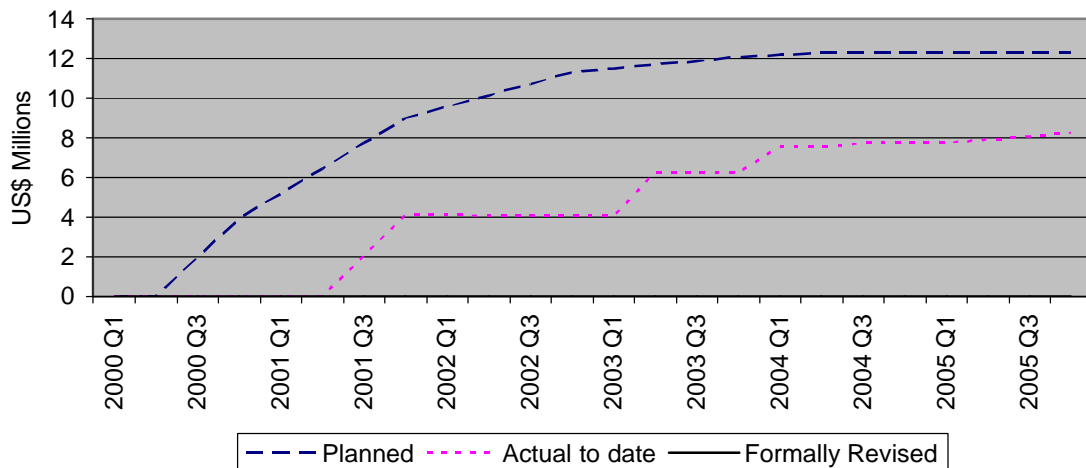
The objectives are to strengthen the policy, legal and regulatory environment in the telecommunications sector and improve rural access to services by encouraging private investment in those areas.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The telecommunications sector has continued growing, at slower rates this year, in spite of a major overall economic crisis in the country. The telecommunications companies have faced difficult times due to the 16.5 percent emergency tax imposed by Government due the crisis. However, after an initial slowdown in traffic, the situation seemed to be improving. The telecoms regulator's Board recently approved two Regulations: the Radio Spectrum and the Spectrum Fees Regulations. Regulations for Competition and Cable TV Regulations were published for public consultation. The Telecommunications Development Fund completed the first bi-annual program successfully and it has prepared a second set of projects for financing, including: (a) Community Technology Centers to integrate rural communities by connecting them to the rest of the country; (b) Information and Communication Technologies Training Centers for Urban Youth; and (c) the "Digital Cities" project to develop Internet portals for municipalities to provide the public with information about the municipal projects and other initiatives.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-45050	Effective	12.30	8.25	4.05	0.00
IBRD-P3350	Closed	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00



Project Name (ID): Early Childhood Education (P054937)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 09/05/2002

Closing Date: 06/30/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-71440, JPN-25609

Sector(s): Pre-primary education (90%), Other social services (5%), Central government administration (5%)

Theme(s): Education for all (P), Social risk mitigation (P), Child health (S), Nutrition and food security (S)

Project Development Objectives:

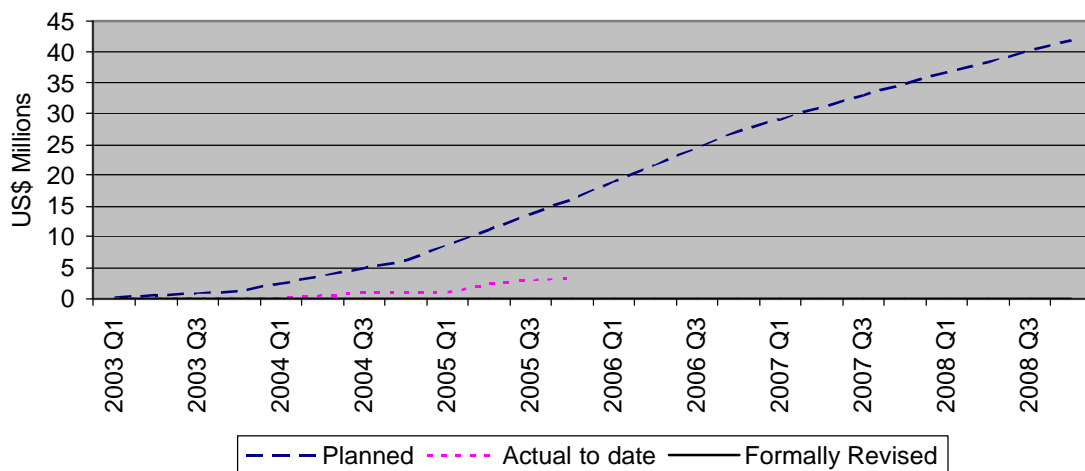
The objectives are to: (a) increase access to early childhood development services for all children ages zero to five, and (b) strengthen the quality of early childhood education that is available to children ages zero to five.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

There has been progress in increasing access to early childhood education in that the first set of contracts for classroom construction/rehabilitation was completed, and first group of subprojects was selected in May 2005. Project implementation is slightly behind schedule, but is expected to catch up during calendar year 2005. The Government has agreed to increase planned classroom construction and rehabilitation in 2006 to catch up with delays in project effectiveness and has committed to include sufficient counterpart funding in the 2006 national budget to make this happen. A baseline study is currently being designed this school year for the quality of preschool education in order to measure the project's qualitative impact at its conclusion.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71440	Effective	42.00	3.59	38.41	0.00
JPN-25609	Closed	0.18	0.16	0.00	0.01



Project Name (ID): Global Distance Learning (P068753)
Country: Dominican Rep.
Board Approval Date: 09/22/2000
Closing Date: 10/31/2005
Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-45810, IBRD-P3670, IBRD-P3671
Sector(s): Telecommunications (56%), Adult literacy/non-formal education (44%)
Theme(s): Education for the knowledge economy (P)

Project Development Objectives:

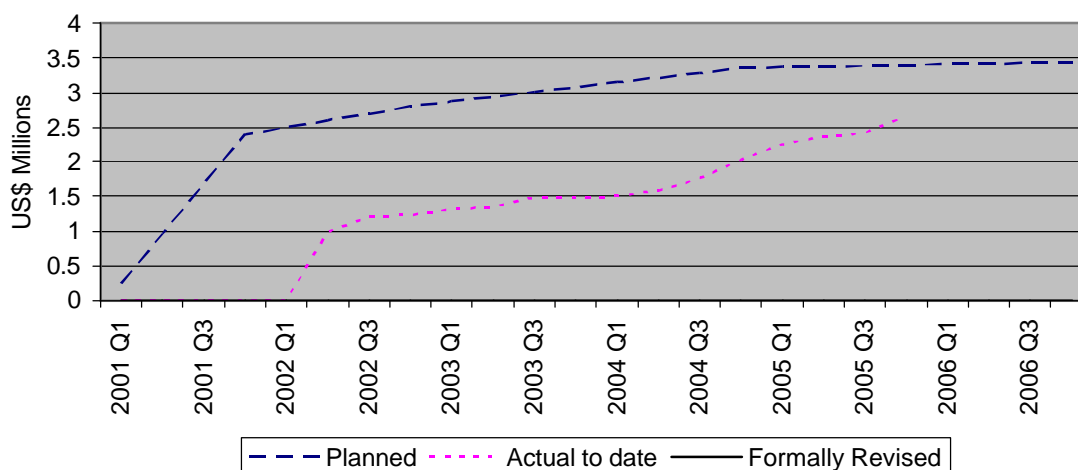
The objectives are to: (a) test the effectiveness and sustainability of a Distance Learning Center; and (b) support the establishment of a Cyberpark.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Moving into the last year of implementation, and under a new Administration, it was agreed that while the Global Distance Learning Network (GDLN) is now a proven concept, it is challenging to sustain a technology-based Distance Learning Center (DLC) in the public sector. It was agreed to explore options to move primary responsibility for the GDLN to a university - in line with the model being used throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. This model largely avoids sustainability issues, can benefit from the implementation of advanced research networks, and can integrate these organizations into their societies. A transition plan was developed, which would retain technical facilities in the National Institute of Public Administration, but re-focus these on the public sector, and the Universidad Iberoamericana will be equipped to operate as the lead center. There is a renewed focus on the Cyberpark of Santo Domingo and the project is likely to support the Marketing Plan, Communications Plan, Promotional campaigns, Architectural design of a multimedia center, equipping of the Information Technology (IT) incubator and development of a Business Plan for this IT incubator.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-45810	Effective	3.43	2.60	0.83	0.00
IBRD-P3670	Closed	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.55
IBRD-P3671	Closed	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.40



Project Name (ID): HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control (P071505)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 06/28/2001

Closing Date: 12/31/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70650, JPN-26469

Sector(s): Health (87%), Central government administration (13%)

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

Project Development Objectives:

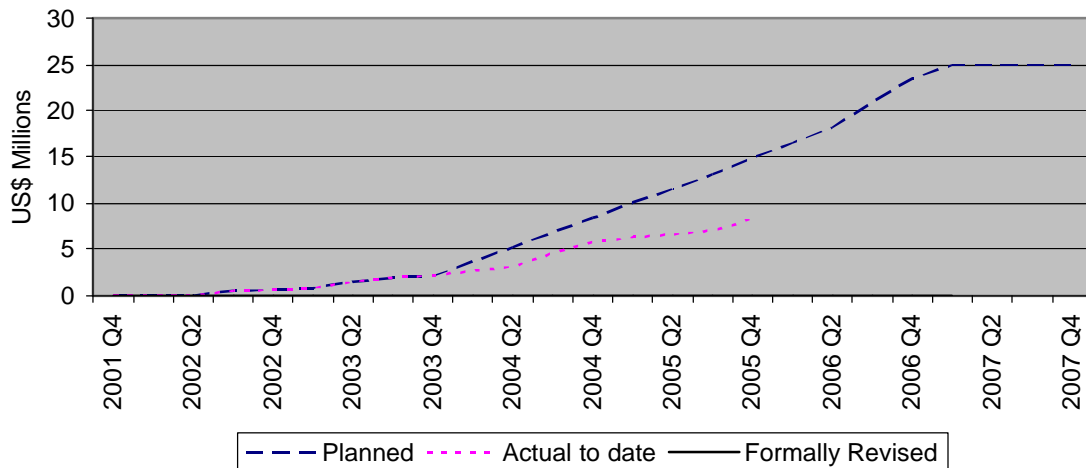
The objectives are to: (a) prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS; (b) improve access for people living with HIV/AIDS to care that is effective, affordable, and equitable; and (c) strengthen the institutional capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS in a sustainable way.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Progress in implementation remained slower than expected. Since September 2004, a new team was appointed to manage the HIV/AIDS Presidential Council. The new team focused on the development of a new, innovative National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS. The Council and the Bank team recently agreed on an emergency action and procurement plan with three objectives: First, ensure the continuation of ongoing prevention and control activities. Second, support the finalization of the National Strategic Plan. Third, finalize a 12 to 18 month procurement plan in line with the priorities of the new strategic plan. Thus far, the implementation of the plan has been timely.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70650	Effective	25.00	8.28	16.72	0.00
JPN-26469	Effective	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.00



Project Name (ID): Health Reform Support (APL) (P076802)
Country: Dominican Rep.
Board Approval Date: 06/26/2003
Closing Date: 12/31/2007
Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-71850
Sector(s): Health (50%), Health insurance (50%)
Theme(s): Health system performance (P)

Project Development Objectives:

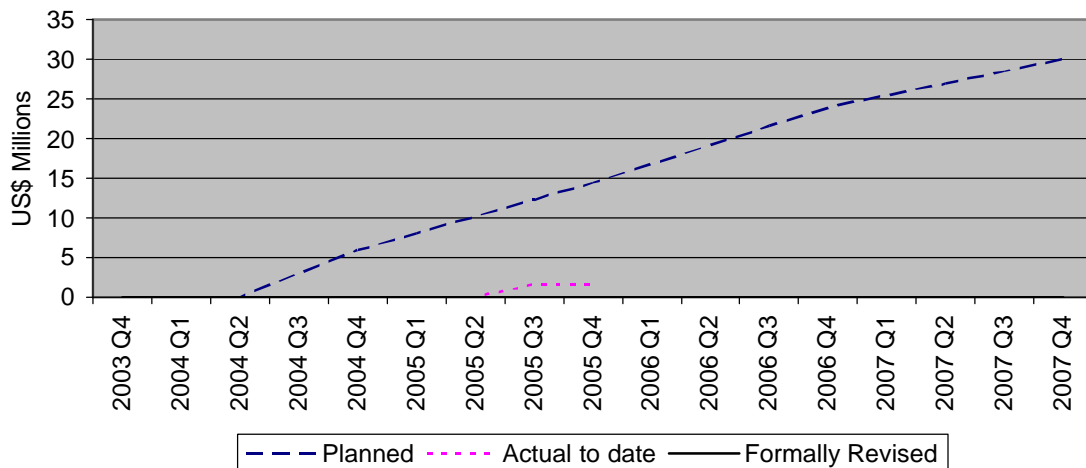
The objective is to support implementation of the new legal framework for the health sector, and support preparation, validation and dissemination of supplementary norms and regulations to the General Health Law (42-01) and the Social Security Law (87 -01).

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Arrangements have been put in place to start project implementation quickly. Given the delays reaching effectiveness, the Executive Commission for Health Sector Reform and the Bank team agreed to perform an in-depth review of the reform process to decide whether the project is still appropriate or requires restructuring.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71850	Effective	30.00	1.55	28.45	0.00



Project Name (ID): Financial Sector Technical Assistance (P078838)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 02/12/2004

Closing Date: 12/31/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72160

Sector(s): Banking (38%), Payment systems, securities clearance, and settlement (25%), Capital markets (20%), Non-compulsory pensions, insurance, and contractual savings (17%)

Theme(s): Regulation and competition policy (P), Other financial and private sector development (P), Standards and financial reporting (P), Legal institutions for a market economy (S), Debt management and fiscal sustainability (S)

Project Development Objectives:

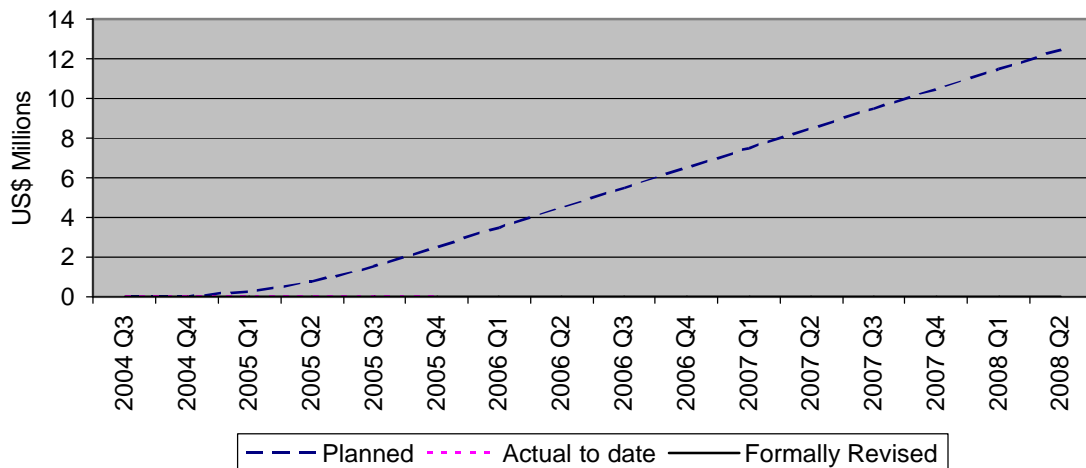
The objectives are to: (a) strengthen the institutional capacity of the monetary authorities; and (b) strengthen the institutional capacity of the financial regulatory agencies.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project had just become 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
IBRD-72160	Effective	12.50	0.00	12.50	0.00



Project Name (ID): Power Sector Program - Second Generation Reforms (P082712)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 05/10/2005

Closing Date: 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72920

Sector(s): Power (100%)

Theme(s): Access to urban services and housing (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Regulation and competition policy (S), Corporate governance (S), Debt management and fiscal sustainability (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objective is to support the initial phase of the financial recovery of the sector to stabilize power supply, with improving cash recovery, controlling costs and dealing with arrears.

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
IBRD-72920	Effective	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00

Project Name (ID): Power Sector Technical Assistance (P082715)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 02/12/2004

Closing Date: 06/30/2009

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72170

Sector(s): Central government administration (97%), Power (3%)

Theme(s): Infrastructure services for private sector development (P), Administrative and civil service reform (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Regulation and competition policy (S), Environmental policies and institutions (S)

Project Development Objectives:

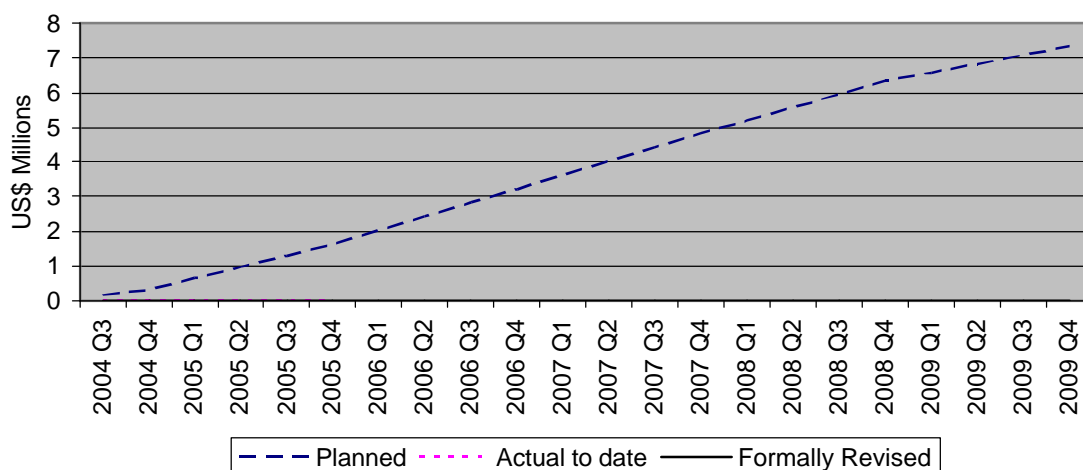
The objective is to strengthen the Government's regulatory and consumer protection performance; improve policy formulation and implementation; design the transmission grid and the wholesale power market; and increase the quantity and quality of electricity for the poor.

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
IBRD-72170	Effective	7.30	0.00	7.30	0.00



Project Name (ID): Social Crisis Response Adjustment (P085433)

Country: Dominican Rep.

Board Approval Date: 02/12/2004

Closing Date: 08/31/2005

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72150

Sector(s): Other social services (50%), Health (30%), Central government administration (15%), General education (5%)

Theme(s): Social risk mitigation (P), Education for all (P), Access to urban services and housing (P), Social safety nets (S), Child health (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objectives are to cope with the current economic and social crisis and to stimulate overdue and continuing reforms in the social and electricity sectors.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

There is progress toward the objectives and all specific actions described in the Loan Agreement have been taken in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank, paving the way for the disbursement of the third and final tranche of this loan. These actions include, inter alia, issuance by the Government of at least 11,000 birth certificates to undocumented children, and involvement of 70,000 poor individuals in the Government's non-contributing health insurance program. These actions will pave the way for strengthening of the Social Safety Net for poor households, which were adversely affected by the economic crisis. However, the macroeconomic policy framework of the Borrower could not be judged satisfactory before the close of the reporting period, due to a delay in the completion of the International Monetary Fund's quarterly review of the Stand-By Agreement.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72150	Effective	100.00	75.00	25.00	0.00