

STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY05
SOPE
REGION: MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
COUNTRY: TUNISIA

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 23, 2005



Report on the Status of Projects in Execution - FY05
Region: Middle East and North Africa
Country: Tunisia

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: Tunisia

Project Name (ID): Ozone Depleting Substances Phaseout (P005591)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/14/1994

Closing Date: 12/31/2010

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: WBTF-21936

Sector(s): Other industry (78%), Central government administration (22%)

Theme(s): Pollution management and environmental health (P), Environmental policies and institutions (S)

Project Development Objectives:

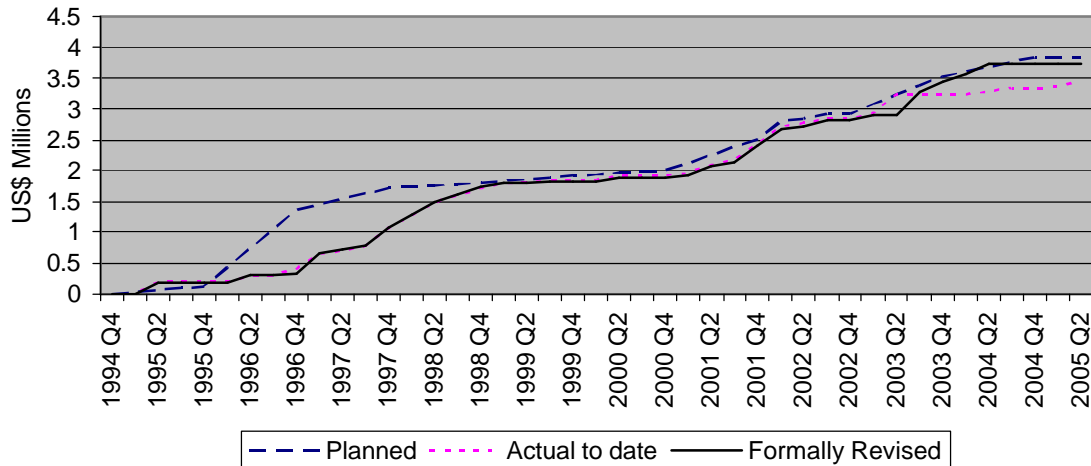
The project objective is to implement a strategy aimed at establishing an institutional and regulatory framework for decreasing the use of ozone depleting substances and introducing, on a demonstrational basis, ozone depleting substance-free technologies to the country's refrigeration, foam, and aerosol industries, thus initiating actions leading to the phase out of ozone depleting substances.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Project activities have resulted in the elimination of 300.4 tons of CFC-11 from a projected target of 400.4 tons. The project has eliminated its full target of 72 tons of CFC-12. The project will complete the update of Tunisia's National Strategy for the Elimination of Ozone Depleting Substances in the fall of 2005. Based on the outcome of the updated National Strategy, the project will identify additional sub-project for investment from the Montreal Protocol Trust Fund, which closes in 2010.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
WBTF-21936	Effective	3.79	3.45	0.34	0.00



Project Name (ID): Greater Tunis Sewerage (P005731)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 05/29/1997

Midterm Review Date: 01/06/2003

Closing Date: 12/31/2005

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-41740, IBRD-41750, JPN-22633

Sector(s): Sewerage (86%), Irrigation and drainage (14%)

Theme(s): Other urban development (P), Other rural development (P), Pollution management and environmental health (P), Other financial and private sector development (P)

Project Development Objectives:

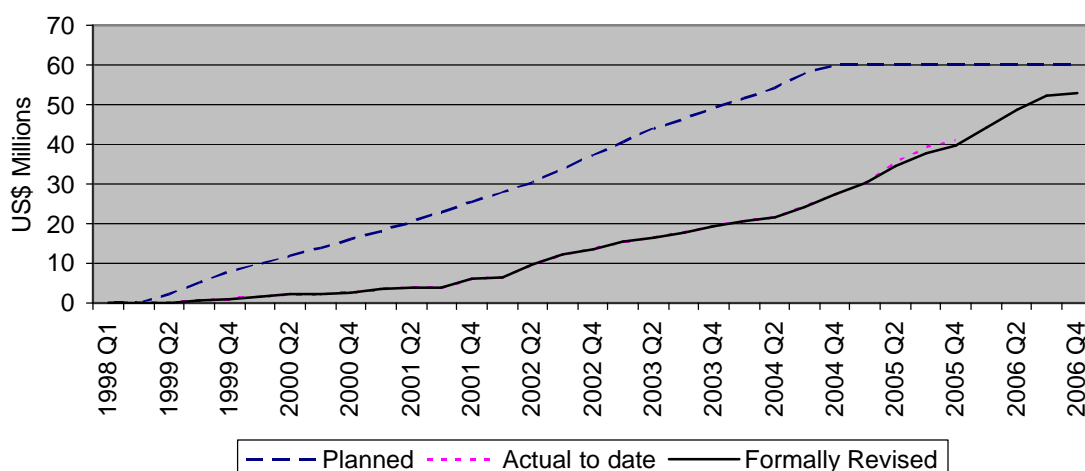
The objectives are to: (a) improve service levels of urban sewerage, (b) promote efficient reuse of effluent from sewage treatment plants for agricultural purposes, (c) reduce urban pollution and promote reduction of coastal pollution and other recipient systems, (d) improve the Office National de l'Assainissement (ONAS) financial position, (e) introduce appropriate new sewerage technology, and (f) develop private sector participation in the sewerage sector.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

ONAS, the national sewer utility, has substantially achieved the Project's development objectives, in particular with respect to improving service levels, increasing the efficiency of the sewage collection system in Greater Tunis, and towards increased pollution control capacity. ONAS has also amended the law to enable extensive private sector participation in the sector. As of mid-2005 however, the Government continues to freeze sanitation tariffs, and ONAS' cost reduction programs are unable to substantially improve its financial situation.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-41740	Closed	10.48	0.84	0.00	7.17
IBRD-41750	Effective	52.04	40.37	7.09	0.00
JPN-22633	Closed	0.60	0.62	0.00	0.04



Project Name (ID): Agricultural Support Services (P005750)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/26/2001

Closing Date: 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70630, JPN-25459

Sector(s): Agricultural extension and research (65%), Agricultural marketing and trade (19%), Animal production (15%), Central government administration (1%)

Theme(s): Rural markets (P), Small and medium enterprise support (S), Rural policies and institutions (S)

Project Development Objectives:

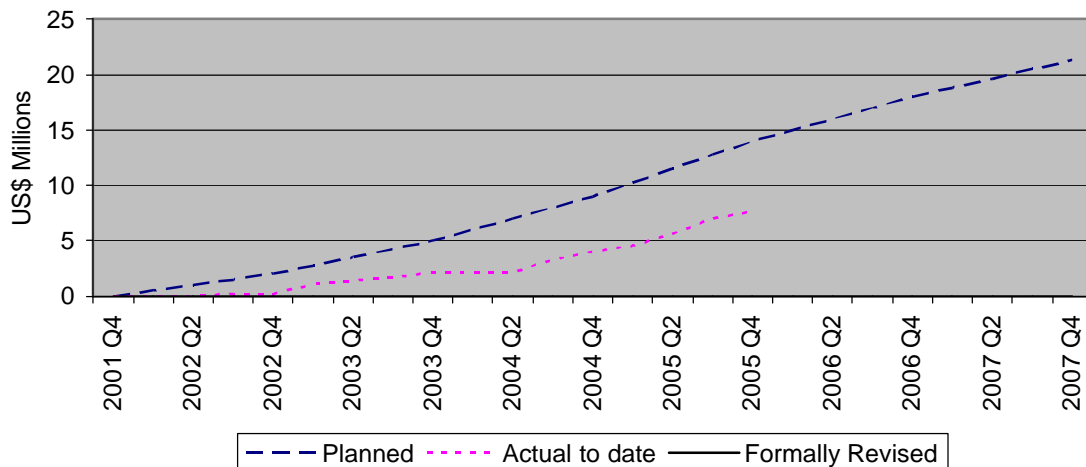
The Project Development Objective is to upgrade public and private services to agricultural producers, processors and exporters, in order for them to become more competitive on export as well as on domestic markets, with a view toward the opening of trade barriers in the future.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The Groupement interprofessionnel Vignes et Vins has put in place a mechanism to certify the origin of Tunisian wines. Other products are being assessed for the feasibility of introducing signs of quality, in particular for Maltese oranges. Fisheries statistics are now available for the first time and agricultural statistics have been updated. Plant protection and quality control on agri-food products as well as animal products are now moving to international standards performances thanks to upgraded equipment, infrastructure and the ongoing training of staff. Research regionalization has been enhanced thanks to research poles being equipped and staffed. The Government postponed the creation of the Institut Unique for agronomic research until 2008 when the situation will be reassessed.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70630	Effective	28.71	7.63	20.97	0.00
JPN-25459	Closed	0.49	0.37	0.00	0.11



Project Name (ID): Water Sector Investment (P035707)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/22/2000

Midterm Review Date: 12/01/2003

Closing Date: 06/30/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70250, JPN-22555

Sector(s): Irrigation and drainage (69%), Water supply (26%), Central government administration (3%), Crops (2%)

Theme(s): Water resources management (P), Decentralization (P), Administrative and civil service reform (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P)

Project Development Objectives:

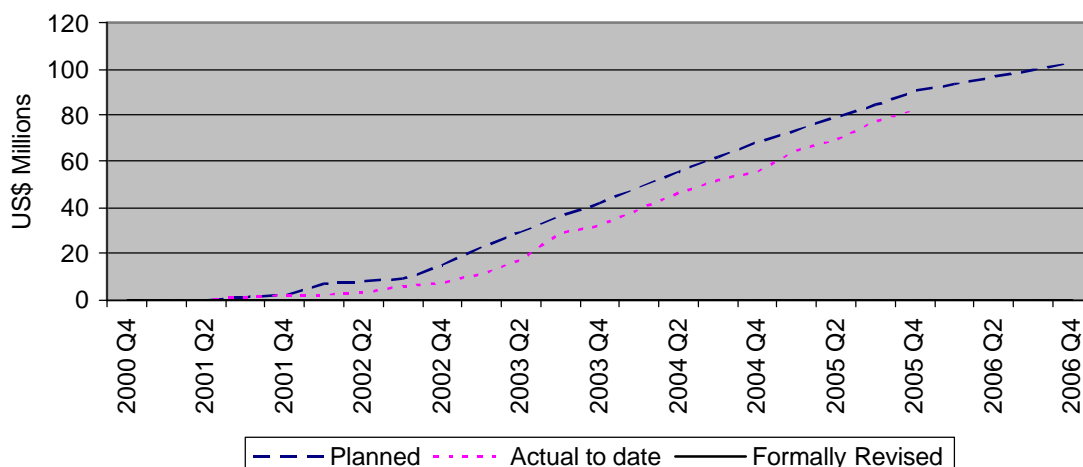
The project's main objectives are: (a) to promote effective integrated water resources management; and (b) to promote conservation of water resources and protection of the environment, both of which are expected to significantly improve the productivity of agriculture and increase access of rural populations to safe water.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Despite some delays with the groundwater and water conservation and environmental protection components, the project is making good progress overall, and is likely to achieve most of its development objectives. The monitoring and evaluation system needs to be strengthened to provide timely information on the achievement of intermediate outcomes and project objectives. It will be necessary to extend the closing date by at least one year to allow critical activities to be completed and the project objectives to be attained.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70250	Effective	135.21	82.33	47.40	0.00
JPN-22555	Closed	0.88	0.84	0.00	0.00



Project Name (ID): Transport Sector Investment (P043700)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/23/1998

Midterm Review Date: 07/10/2001

Closing Date: 12/31/2005

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-43570, IBRD-43580, JPN-29649

Sector(s): Railways (64%), Ports, waterways, and shipping (28%), Central government administration (8%)

Theme(s): Infrastructure services for private sector development (P), Other financial and private sector development (P), State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (P), Regulation and competition policy (S), Regional integration (S)

Project Development Objectives:

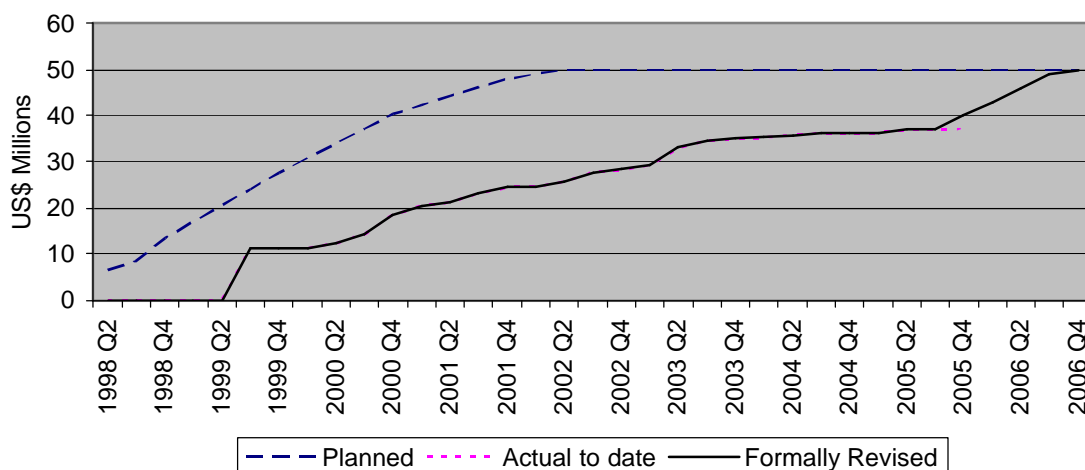
The objectives of the first phase of a transport reform and investment program are to increase the efficiency and quality of transport services and reduce the financial burden of the transport sector on the Government's budget.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The port reform has been brought to fruition and the railway financial restructuring program has achieved expected results, at least in the short term. Railways investments have been fully completed but capacity investments in the port of Rades are late; thus the new multi-purpose terminal will not be completed by the closing date, but that should not affect the achievement of project objectives as the "Office de la Marine Marchande et des Ports (OMMP)" is committed to financing the funding shortfall out of domestic resources. The project has also financed sector studies and the design of the Greater Tunis metro network which has been approved by Government in early 2005.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-43570	Effective	14.38	4.25	9.35	0.00
IBRD-43580	Effective	40.91	33.45	0.55	0.00
JPN-29649	Closed	0.96	0.91	0.00	0.05



Project Name (ID): Protected Areas Management (P048315)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/27/2002

Closing Date: 08/31/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: EECT-21160, MULT-51308, WBTF-22384, WBTF-28357

Sector(s): Forestry (61%), Central government administration (29%), General education (10%)

Theme(s): Biodiversity (P), Environmental policies and institutions (P), Export development and competitiveness (P)

Project Development Objectives:

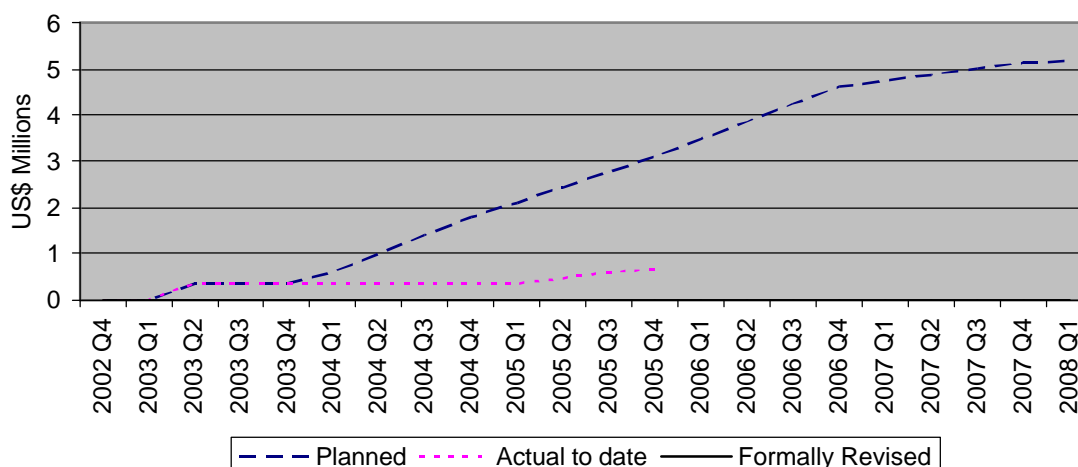
The Project's Development Objective is to improve the management and protection of selected national parks for the purposes of conserving biodiversity of global importance and contributing to the overall improvement in welfare of local populations.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Noticeable progress has been made towards achieving the Project Development Objective in the areas of (a) capacity building, research and training; and community trust building and participation; (b) preparation of park management and community development plans; and (c) communication. It is expected that if the implementing agency and the project staff follow-up on Bank mission's advice and recommendation, the project will be on target. The communities are now convinced that the potential for economic impact is high. Physical realizations are taking place in and around the three parks which will improve the welfare of the communities.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
EECT-21160	Closed	0.08	0.07	0.00	0.00
MULT-51308	Effective	5.13	0.66	4.47	0.00
WBTF-22384	Closed	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
WBTF-28357	Closed	0.09	0.08	0.00	0.01



Project Name (ID): Cultural Heritage (P048825)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/12/2001

Midterm Review Date: 01/24/2005

Closing Date: 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70590, ITAL-51463, JPN-27148

Sector(s): Other social services (78%), Law and justice (12%), Other industry (9%), Central government administration (1%)

Theme(s): Law reform (P), Infrastructure services for private sector development (P), Export development and competitiveness (S)

Project Development Objectives:

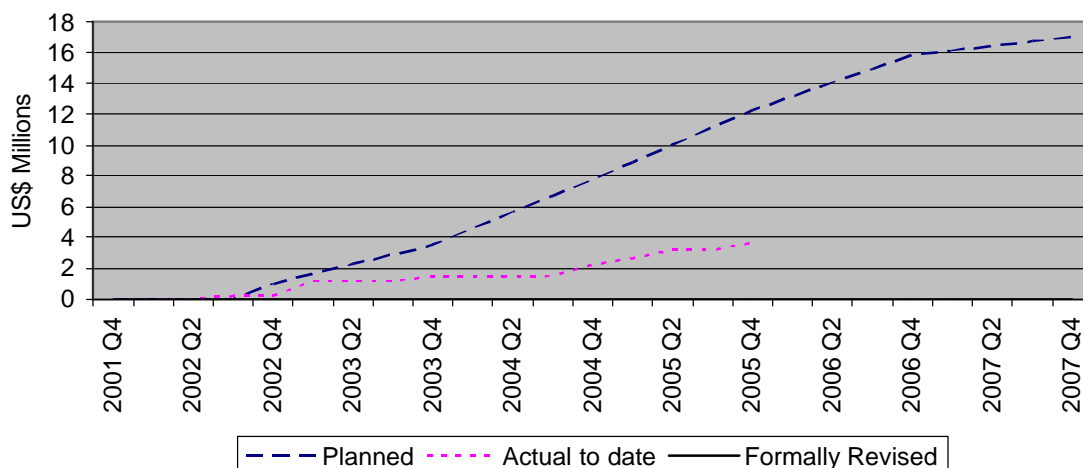
The objective is to improve the management of cultural heritage in order to develop cultural tourism and generate additional revenues.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Albeit slow, progress toward achieving the development objective has been consistent. The various studies directed to strengthening the institutional setting, developing the production and marketing of cultural products, and improving access, preservation, and presentation of various cultural sites have been completed; the quality of the analyses and specificity of the recommendations give good indication that (i) the overall management of the sector will gradually improve, through more adapted regulations, modernization of the institutions in charge of cultural heritage, and increased collaboration with the tourism sector in particular; (ii) the various project sites will have a much added appeal once the works are completed. At this stage, clearing works have already resulted in a much enhanced view of the remains on the project's archeological sites. The project has also contributed to enhancing communication on the country's national heritage.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70590	Effective	23.16	3.66	19.27	0.00
ITAL-51463	Closed	0.33	0.05	0.28	0.00
JPN-27148	Closed	0.45	0.42	0.00	0.04



Project Name (ID): Education Quality Improvement Program (P050945)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/27/2000

Midterm Review Date: 08/01/2003

Closing Date: 08/30/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70280, JPN-22632, JPN-25667

Sector(s): Primary education (83%), Central government administration (12%), Tertiary education (4%), Vocational training (1%)

Theme(s): Education for the knowledge economy (P), Education for all (P), Rural services and infrastructure (P), Social analysis and monitoring (S)

Project Development Objectives:

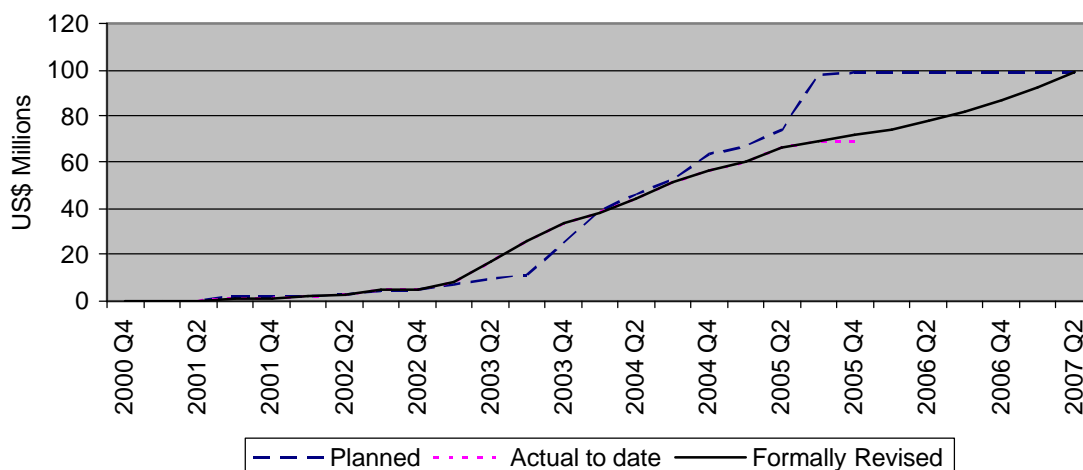
The project objective is to promote excellence in teaching and learning, while continuing the push for the inclusion of all children at all levels of the basic education system.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Progress has been made toward achieving the development objective, and most indicators have been reached. Enrollment rates, promotion rates and completion rates have improved at primary and middle school levels; 97% of boys and girls were enrolled in primary school in 2004, up from 88% in 1998; completion rates for girls have improved to 87.3% (from 75%) and for boys to 81.5% (from 72%) over the same period. Entry exams to middle schools were eliminated and repetition rates for the last year of primary school dropped from 25% in 1998 to 7.5% in 2004. A special program focusing on improving performance in the weakest 600 schools (primarily in rural areas) has been operational for four years and an evaluation will be carried out in FY06 to analyze the results. To improve quality the government has introduced a new curriculum, trained 80% of all teachers in the new curriculum, 60% of all school directors and administrators in school management, and 100% of inspectors in pedagogic evaluation. The Government carried out the first national student assessments for 2nd and 4th graders in 2004.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70280	Effective	99.00	71.94	27.06	0.00
JPN-22632	Closed	0.84	0.84	0.00	0.07
JPN-25667	Closed	0.21	0.10	0.00	0.11



Project Name (ID): Transport Sector Investment (P064082)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 04/19/2001

Midterm Review Date: 01/10/2004

Closing Date: 06/30/2006

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-70510

Sector(s): General transportation (52%), Railways (30%), Sub-national government administration (15%), Central government administration (3%)

Theme(s): Municipal governance and institution building (P), Other urban development (P), Access to urban services and housing (P)

Project Development Objectives:

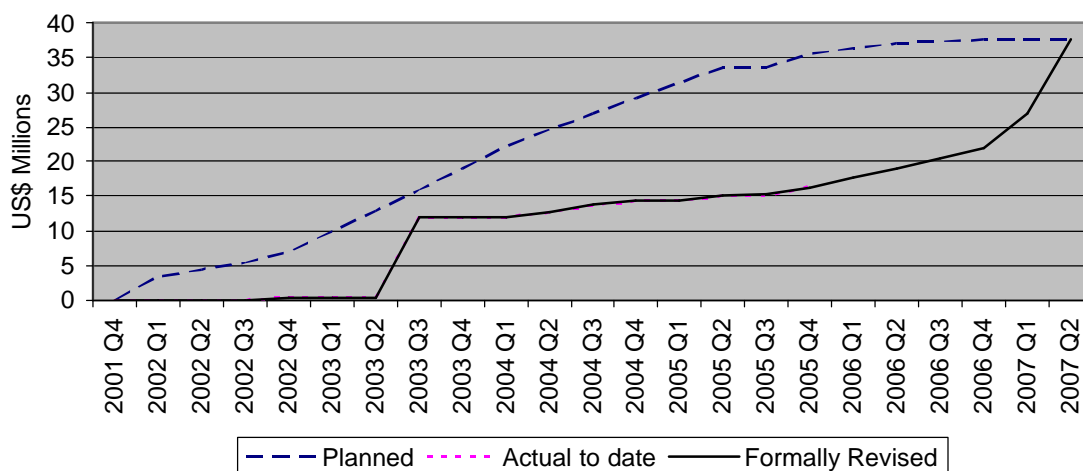
The objectives of the program are to increase the efficiency and quality of transport services and reduce the financial burden of the transport sector on the Government's budget.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The urban transport reform is taking shape and a first set of implementation regulations of the new Transport Law has been enacted. Capacity investments in railways (phosphate network) and urban transport, including bus depots in Tunis, Sousse and Sfax, and studies to improve the efficiency of the Tunis metro and regional urban transport companies, have been delayed by technical and procurement issues but project objectives can still be achieved when all activities are completed.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70510	Effective	49.45	16.37	31.69	0.00



Project Name (ID): Gulf of Gabes Marine and Coastal Resources Protection (P069460)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 03/10/2005

Closing Date: 06/30/2010

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: MULT-54942, WBTF-22968

Sector(s): General water, sanitation and flood protection (50%), General agriculture, fishing, and forestry (30%), General public administration (20%)

Theme(s): Biodiversity (P), Participation and civic engagement (P), Environmental policies and institutions (S), Water resources management (S), Administrative and civil service reform (S)

Project Development Objectives:

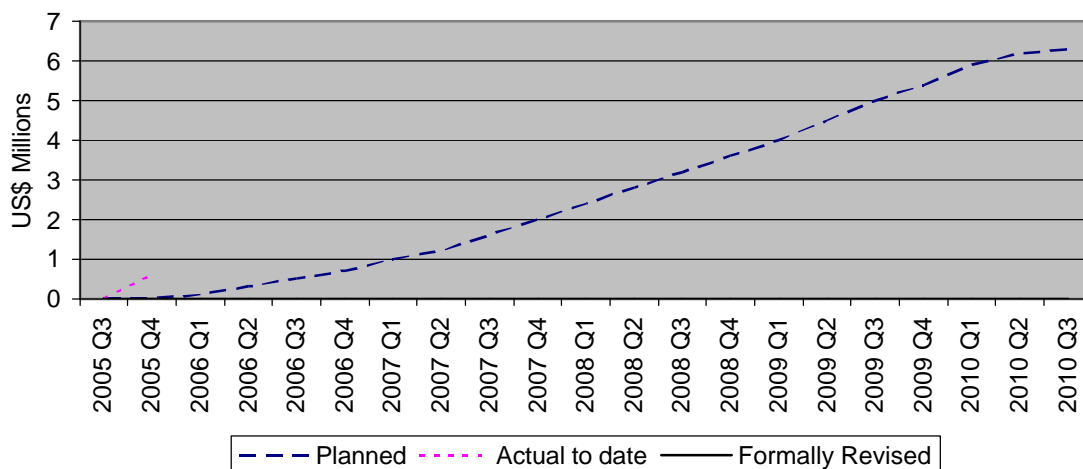
To project development objective is to establish a functional integrated monitoring and participatory management system for the project area to manage biodiversity degradation in the Gulf of Gabes region.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project became effective on April 27, 2005. A project launch workshop was held in Tunis in July 2005 where participants included project staff, partner institutions, NGOs and other beneficiaries from the project region. Implementation is off to a good start with many project activities underway.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
MULT-54942	Effective	6.31	0.60	5.71	0.00
WBTF-22968	Closed	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00



Project Name (ID): Second Export Development (P071115)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/29/2004

Closing Date: 03/31/2010

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72390, JPN-51356

Sector(s): Central government administration (30%), General industry and trade (30%), Other industry (20%), Agro-industry (15%), Micro and SME finance (5%)

Theme(s): Export development and competitiveness (P), Small and medium enterprise support (S), Trade facilitation and market access (S), Other public sector governance (S)

Project Development Objectives:

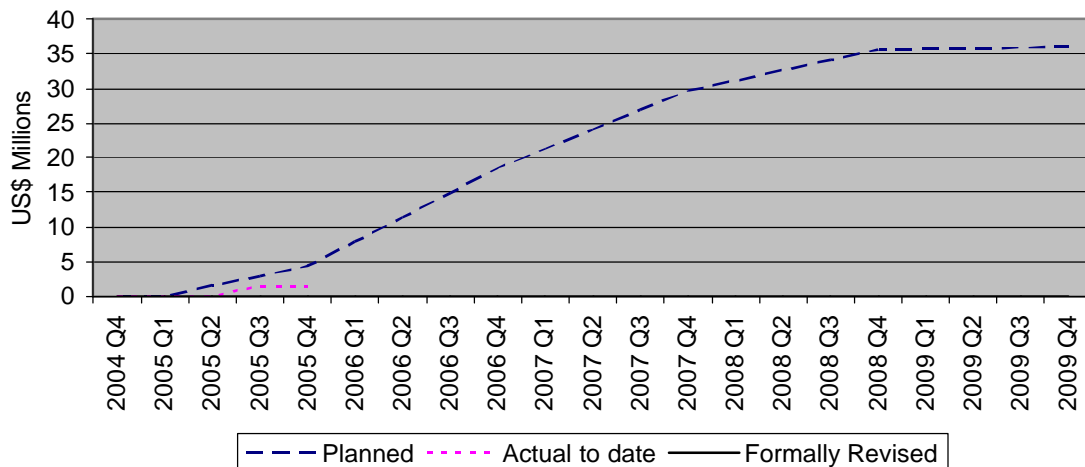
The objectives are to: (a) improve access to export markets and finance, and (b) enhance the efficiency of trade logistics.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The Project is at an early stage of implementation. The management team of the Second Export Market Access Fund is in place since February 2005 and to date has approved about 360 (out of 600) requests for assistance by eligible enterprises. The National Institute for Standards and Intellectual Property (INORPI) has issued an expression of interest for experts to help INORPI design and implement the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point. COTUNACE (the export insurance agency) has also issued an expression of interest for the management team of the pre-shipment finance guarantee fund. The work on Logistics Indicators and Trade Logistics components is on track, with part of the consultant study completed.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72390	Effective	36.55	1.48	34.97	0.18
JPN-51356	Closed	0.50	0.14	0.00	0.35



Project Name (ID): Northwest Mountainous and Forestry Areas Development (P072317)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 10/31/2002

Closing Date: 12/31/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-71510, JPN-26699

Sector(s): Roads and highways (35%), General agriculture, fishing, and forestry (30%), Agricultural extension and research (20%), Crops (15%)

Theme(s): Other rural development (P), Rural markets (P), Rural non-farm income generation (P), Land administration and management (P), Participation and civic engagement (S)

Project Development Objectives:

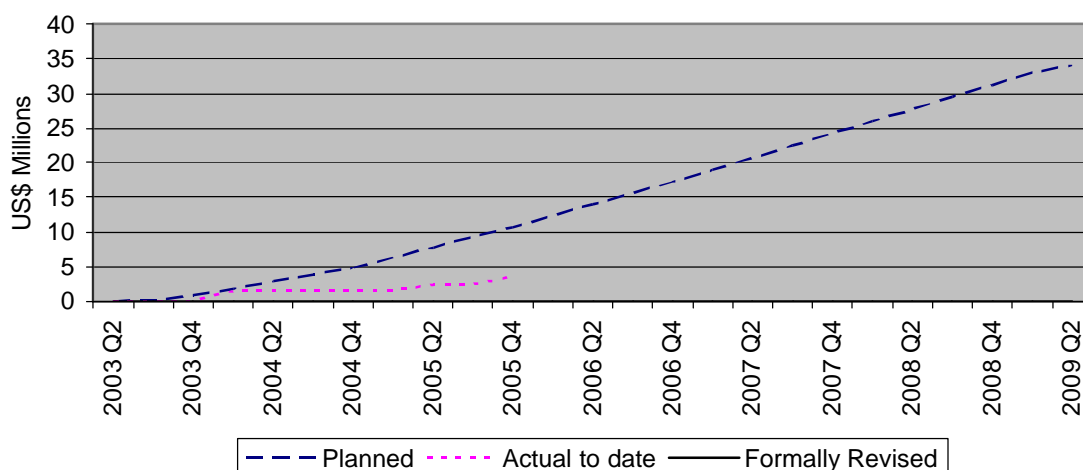
The Project Development Objective of the project is to increase household incomes and enhance the socio-economic conditions of the rural populations in the mountainous and forested areas of Northwest Tunisia while ensuring sustainable management of the natural resources through the improvement and diversification of the agricultural and pastoral production systems and the promotion of off-farm income-generating activities.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

After a slow start, the project is now progressing well and is set to achieve most of its major development objectives. There is a strong community participation in the activities and a good level of partners participation in project financing. There is also a strong support from local government authorities. Actual disbursement rate is low but this will soon improve significantly as financial commitments have now reached about 80% of original forecasts.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71510	Effective	41.85	3.57	38.30	0.00
JPN-26699	Closed	0.45	0.44	0.00	0.01



Project Name (ID): Third Municipal Development (P074398)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 12/05/2002

Closing Date: 06/30/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-71540, JPN-26823

Sector(s): Roads and highways (30%), General water, sanitation and flood protection (30%), Sub-national government administration (25%), Other social services (15%)

Theme(s): Municipal finance (P), Municipal governance and institution building (P), State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (S)

Project Development Objectives:

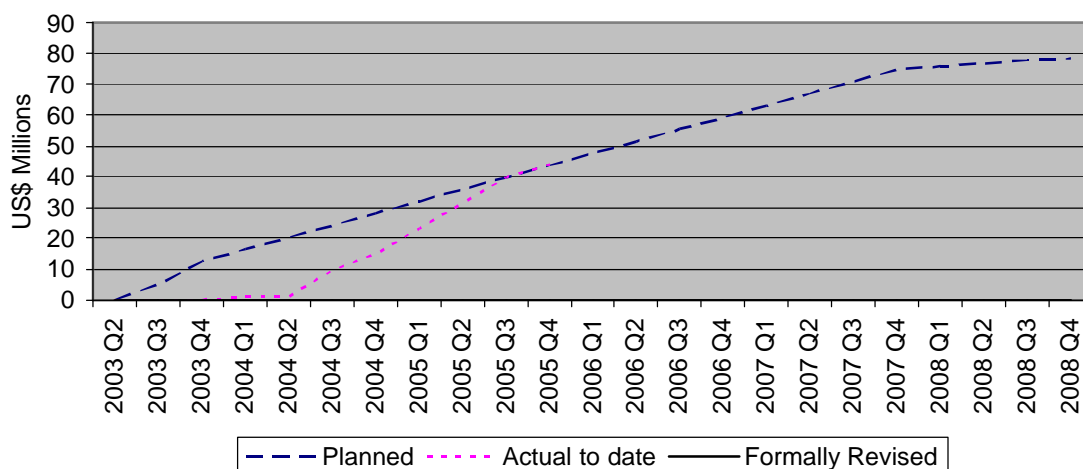
The objectives are to: (i) strengthen the institutional environment for the delivery of municipal basic services and infrastructure; and (b) increase the institutional capacity of both local governments and related central agencies.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Important progress has been achieved in the "physical" component of the project, evidenced by increased disbursements in the support to municipalities' investment plans. The "institutional" component is also progressing, albeit more slowly. The financial indicators of the "Caisse de Pret et de Soutien aux Collectivites Locales" have evolved in the right direction, but more attention needs to be paid to the level of arrears. Based on the pilot financial restructuring plans prepared for three municipalities that are financially vulnerable or facing financial difficulties, the roll-over to 50 other similar municipalities is on-going, and should lead to the identification of sector reforms aimed at increasing local revenues from local taxes and fees.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71540	Effective	96.61	44.06	54.28	0.00
JPN-26823	Closed	0.40	0.31	0.00	0.09



Project Name (ID): Fourth Economic Competitiveness Development Policy (P075893)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 06/09/2005

Closing Date: 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-73040

Sector(s): Banking (25%), General industry and trade (25%), Non-compulsory pensions, insurance, and contractual savings (20%), Central government administration (20%), Capital markets (10%)

Theme(s): Regulation and competition policy (P), Other financial and private sector development (P), State enterprise/bank restructuring and privatization (S), Macroeconomic management (S), Debt management and fiscal sustainability (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objectives of the Program are to:

(a) maintain a sound and reactive macroeconomic framework, in particular by promoting fiscal consolidation and strengthening the medium term fiscal framework; (b) improve Tunisia's investment climate and increase private investment opportunities; (c) reinforce the financial sector's capacity to finance growth, by supporting initiatives to reduce the level of non-performing loans, further strengthening the regulatory framework for bank intermediation, and fostering the development of contractual savings, especially in the insurance sector.

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
IBRD-73040	Not Effective	140.03	0.00	140.03	0.00

Project Name (ID): Energy Efficiency Program for the Industrial Sector (P078131)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 11/04/2004

Closing Date: 12/31/2009

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: MULT-54398

Sector(s): District heating and energy efficiency services (65%), General industry and trade (29%), Banking (6%)

Theme(s): Climate change (P), Other financial and private sector development (P)

Project Development Objectives:

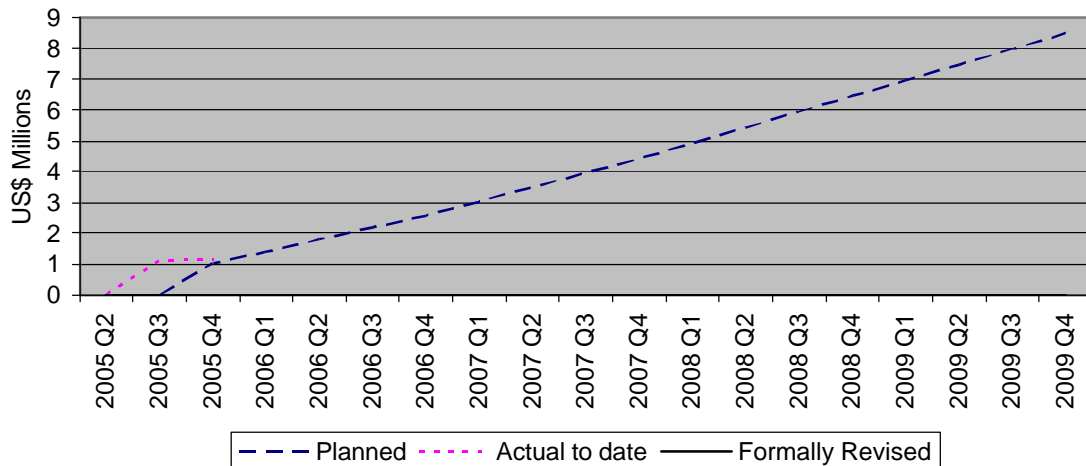
The objective is to achieve a deeper penetration of sustainable commercial energy-efficiency investment activities in Tunisia's industrial sector, by removing barriers and lowering transaction costs.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Since the project was launched in February 2005, very good progress has been made in terms of communication, awareness raising and training. About 40 applications from industry have already been received by the energy efficiency agency and are being processed. It is expected that there would be a significant increase in project approvals and project applications before the end of 2005.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
MULT-54398	Effective	8.50	1.16	7.34	0.00



Project Name (ID): Education Quality Improvement Program Phase 2 (P082999)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date: 03/08/2004

Closing Date: 06/30/2008

Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72200

Sector(s): Secondary education (40%), Primary education (40%), Central government administration (12%), Sub-national government administration (8%)

Theme(s): Education for all (P), Education for the knowledge economy (P)

Project Development Objectives:

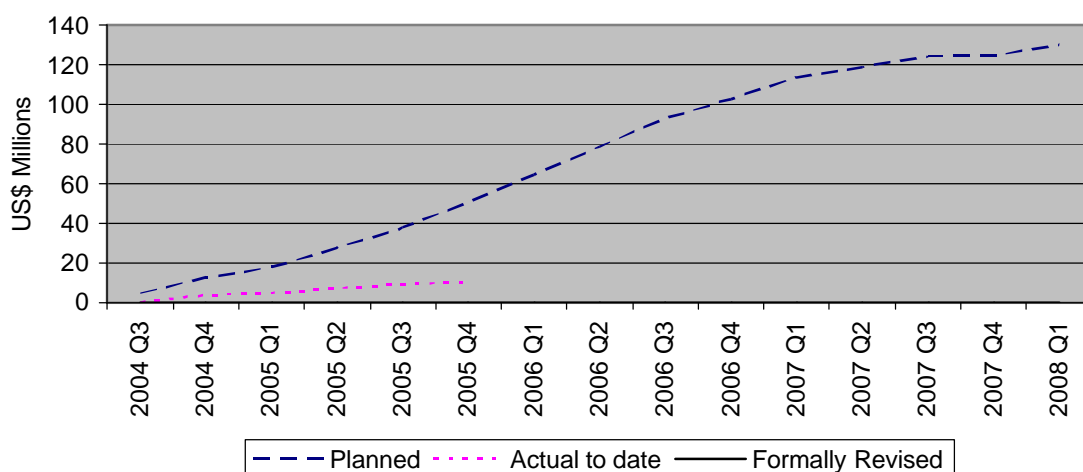
The objective of the project is to promote excellence in teaching and learning through the school sector while continuing the push for equity by ensuring the inclusion of all children at all levels of the basic education system.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Progress toward meeting the development objectives has been good. The Ministry of Education has begun an ambitious program of construction and pedagogic reform in lower secondary and secondary aiming to respond to the greater diversification of the student body as more and more children from poorer and rural families continue in school. Completion rates for primary, lower secondary and secondary education continue to improve for girls and boys, although girls do better than boys. Completion rates between 2003/04 and 2004/05 for girls in lower secondary have improved from 64.3 to 67.9 percent, while for boys, the completion rate went from 43.6 to 45 percent. In secondary the completion rate for girls improved from 64.4 to 68.6 percent, and for boys from 51.3 to 55.4 percent. The Ministry has committed to keep class size below 20 students per teacher and guidance counselors have been introduced into schools to assist students in program choice and in post-secondary orientation. Strategies to improve school management are being implemented and include programs to increase parent involvement in schools, training of school directors in school management and conflict resolution.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72200	Effective	125.92	10.41	116.04	0.00



Project Name (ID): Information and Communication Technologies Sector Development (P088929)
Country: Tunisia
Board Approval Date: 07/01/2004
Closing Date: 06/30/2009
Loan/Credit/Grant Number: IBRD-72440
Sector(s): Central government administration (45%), Telecommunications (40%), Law and justice (10%), General education (5%)
Theme(s): Infrastructure services for private sector development (P), Regulation and competition policy (P), Education for the knowledge economy (S), Other social development (S), Access to law and justice (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Sector Development Project Development Objective is to assist Tunisia in promoting the development of its ICT sector by: (a) supporting ICT institutional and sector reforms; (b) improving its e-security mechanisms; (c) developing e-government applications; and (d) promoting the participation of the private sector in the ICT sector.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project has made good progress toward achieving its development objectives. The Government of Tunisia (GoT) has been supportive of the efforts of INT, the telecom regulator, to build its capacity through training and technical assistance. The project activities on ICT policy and liberalization have suffered some delays, but GoT's recent announcement of a planned sale of 35% of Tunisie Telecom to a strategic investor in Q3 2005 should help get these activities moving. The workshops and activities related to the World Summit on the Information Society are on track and the e-government and e-security components are proceeding broadly well.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72440	Effective	13.03	1.39	11.66	0.07

