

STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY06
SOPE
REGION: AFRICA
COUNTRY: NIGER

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 19, 2006



Report on the Status of Projects in Execution - FY06
SOPE
Region: Africa
Country: Niger

Introduction

The Status of Projects in Execution (SOPE) Report for FY06 provides information on all IBRD/IDA projects that were active on June 30, 2006.

The World Bank has issued a SOPE Report every year as an internal communication to the Board of Executive Directors. In accordance with the Bank's revised disclosure policy, since FY02, the SOPE Report is available to the public.

The report is intended to bridge 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.

In addition to the project progress description, the FY06 SOPE report¹ contains project level comparisons of disbursement estimates and actual disbursements, and a table showing the loan/credit/grant amount and disbursements to date for all active projects.

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): NE-Priv Reg Reform (FY99) (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-3130A, 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.

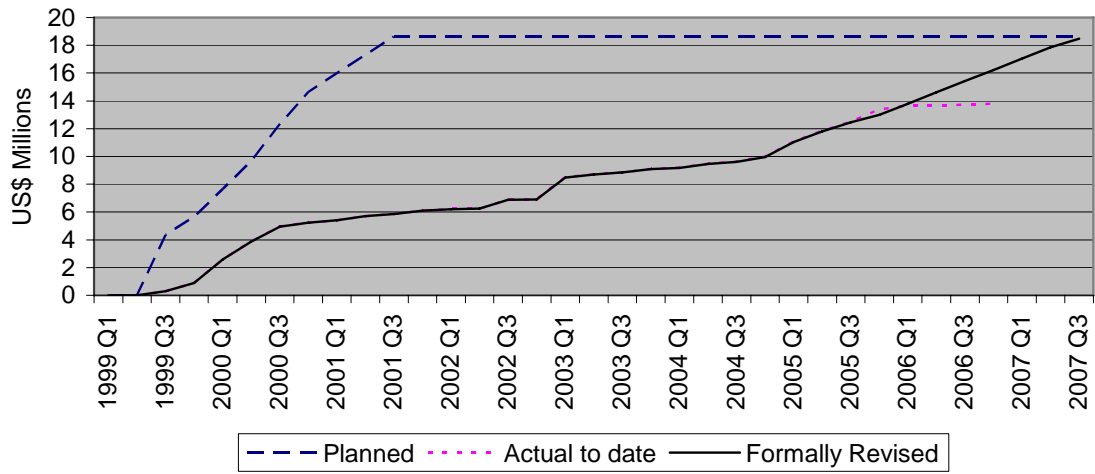
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Out of the 13 companies listed for privatization, 7 were privatized. Among the resulting improvements in the population access to infrastructure services are: teledensity (lines per 100 inhabitants) is close to 1.5 (up from 0.16); the number of subscribers in the Water sector increased by almost 25%. Agreement has been reached on several actions needed to put the project back on track to achieve its development objectives: in the energy and telecom sector reform, regulatory reform, corporate governance and investment climate.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-31300	Effective	10.15	4.03	5.87	0.00
IDA-3130A	Effective	10.43	9.82	0.00	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): Basic Education Project (P061209)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 07/17/2003

Midterm Review Date : 05/24/2006

Closing Date : 12/31/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IDA-38120, IDA-3812A, 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.

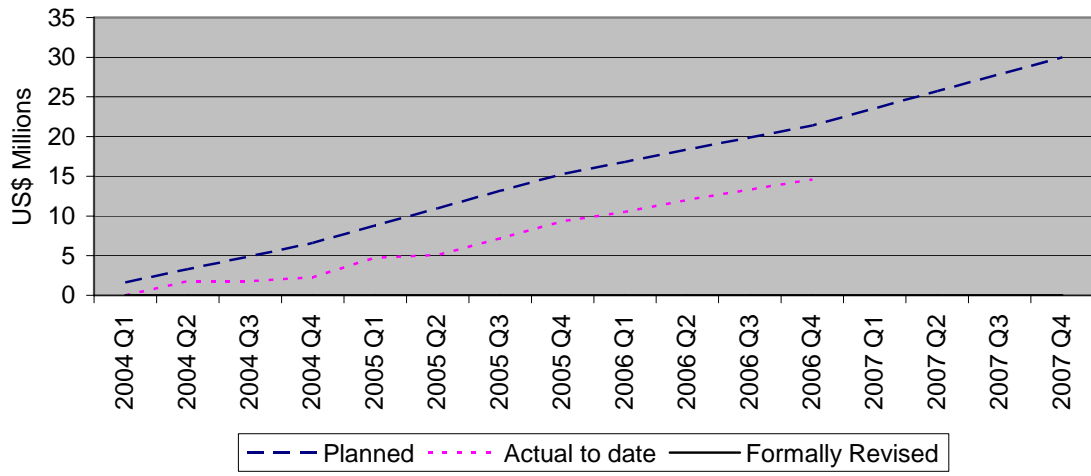
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The country has continued to successfully maintain the recent path in increasing school enrollment in primary education. Primary Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) has increased to 52.4% (2004/2005) from 41.7% (2002/2003). Girls' primary GER rose to 40.8% (2004/2005) from 39.8% (2002). The project successfully contributed to reducing disparities in enrollment between urban and rural areas (to 6 points of percentage from 23 points). Results on student achievement tests still remain below expectations. In 2006, 4,266 new contractual teachers were recruited and the construction of 196 primary classrooms has been completed in 2005/2006 both of which had a positive impact on increasing access to education. The project continues to support activities aimed at empowering local communities in school management through transfer of resources, involvement in teacher recruitment and day-to-day management decisions. Finally, as much as 72,000 adults are currently enrolled in literacy courses of which 65% are women.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38120	Effective	5.65	2.52	3.17	0.00
IDA-3812A	Effective	0.37	0.38	0.00	0.00
IDA-H0600	Effective	26.02	11.71	14.32	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	4.00	4.00	0.00





Project Name (ID): WATER SECTOR PROJECT (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-3505A, 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: (a) improving water production and distribution efficiency and providing affordable sanitation services, (b) strengthening institutional capacity, policy formulation, monitoring and regulation and, (c) rehabilitating rural water facilities, developing on-site sanitation services and implementing community-based management of rural water facilities involving private sector participation.

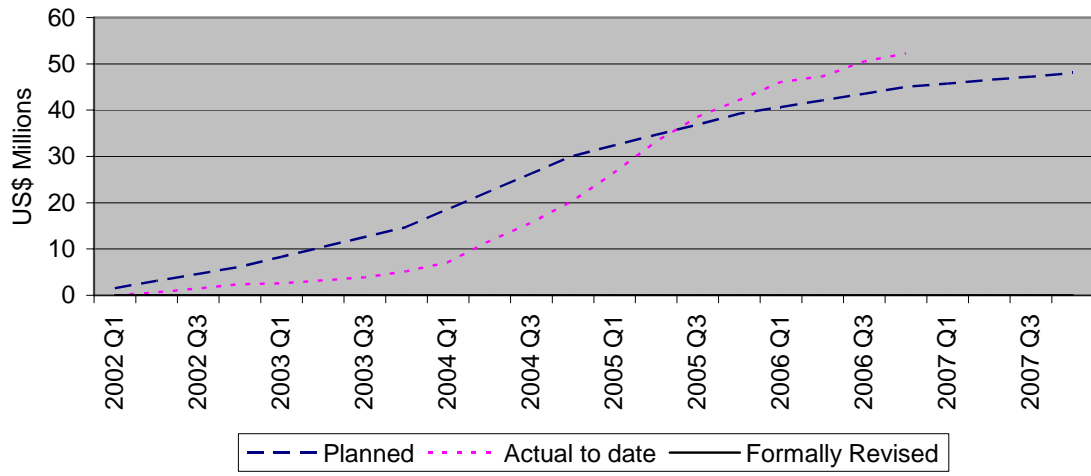
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Access to potable water has significantly increased in urban towns. 265,000 additional people (representing 115% of the end-of-project target), have had access to potable water. The institutional reform supported by the project has significantly improved 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, and the financial equilibrium of the urban water sub-sector is being progressively restored through moderate water tariff adjustments. Rehabilitation/extension works for rural water facilities are near completion as well as the selection of local private operators to manage rural water facilities. The sanitation component which was completed, 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 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-35050	Effective	42.26	39.84	2.08	0.00
IDA-3505A	Effective	12.57	12.47	0.00	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

Midterm Review Date : 03/07/2006

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

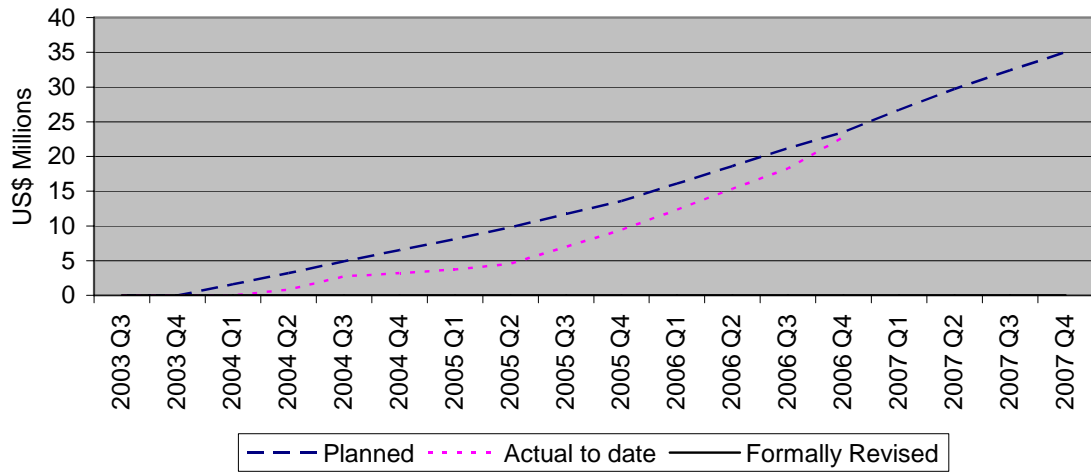
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is well on track towards achieving its development objectives. To date, 80% of the village communities associated to the project (total of 178) have elaborated a community development plan, and over a third have implemented at least 5 micro-projects derived from those plans. The project also supports Niger decentralization process and operates in 54 communes where it has strengthened the capacity of over 1,200 local government officials in administrative and fiscal management, and communal planning. In terms of natural resources management, the project has launched a biocarbon initiative with the planting of Arabic gum producing trees on 4,000 ha (in the first year) degraded land. Besides the land rehabilitation and the revenue from the sale of Arabic gum, it is expected that this initiative will be registered with the Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol, enabling communities to benefit from addition revenue from the sale of carbon emission rights for the carbon sequestered by the planted trees.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-H0250	Effective	37.34	22.79	14.55	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 Project (P071612)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 04/04/2003

Midterm Review Date : 06/30/2006

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.

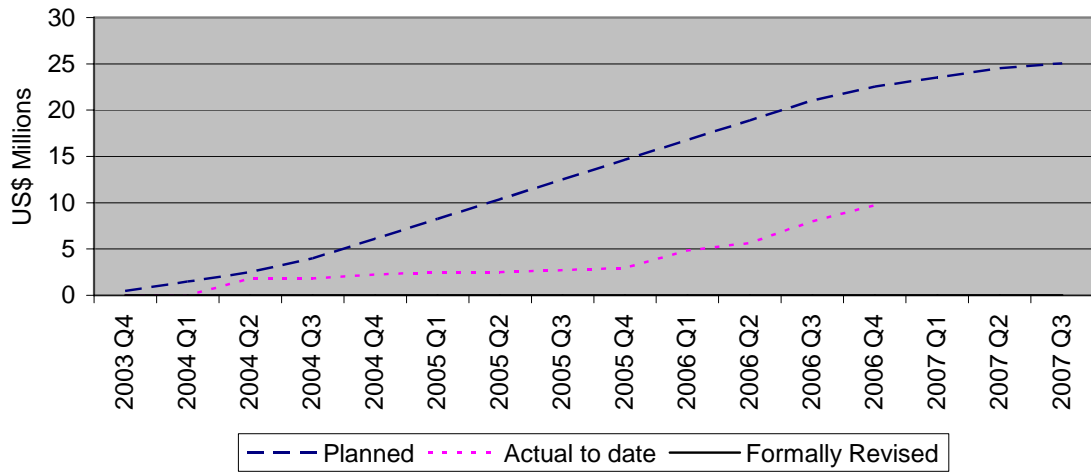
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project supports training and other capacity-building activities necessary for the public sector and civil society agencies to be able to effectively and efficiently implement HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and support activities in the country. Progress toward the objective is on track despite implementation delays. The project finances the work plans of 23 line Ministries aiming at sensitizing the personnel within their ministries and within the different entities directly linked with their ministries. The health system work plan has been based on care and treatment, and plays a pivotal role in preventive activities. Despite some difficulties in the treatment of persons living with AIDS, the project has supported (a) the creation of 9 voluntary counseling testing centers out of the 8 envisaged, (b) the setting up of a mother-to-child transmission program, (c) the treatment of 684 patients living with AIDS under an antivirals free-distribution program, (d) the setting up of blood testing centers in 42 health districts in regional and national hospitals, and in key maternities. The treatment of patients is provided for free countrywide. Altogether, 265 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been financed in the whole country to develop prevention and health care promotion campaigns. Real impact on the behavior change within the communities cannot be seen yet, however, which is partly due to the very limited period in which the support to NGOs and their scope of activities was carried and, in addition, to weaknesses as to implementation capacities.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-H0310	Effective	26.75	9.77	16.91	0.00
IDA-Q3460	Closed	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.57





Project Name (ID): NE-Priv Irrigation Promotion SIL (FY02) (P072996)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 03/19/2002

Midterm Review Date : 11/30/2005

Closing Date : 12/31/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IDA-36210, IDA-3621A, 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.

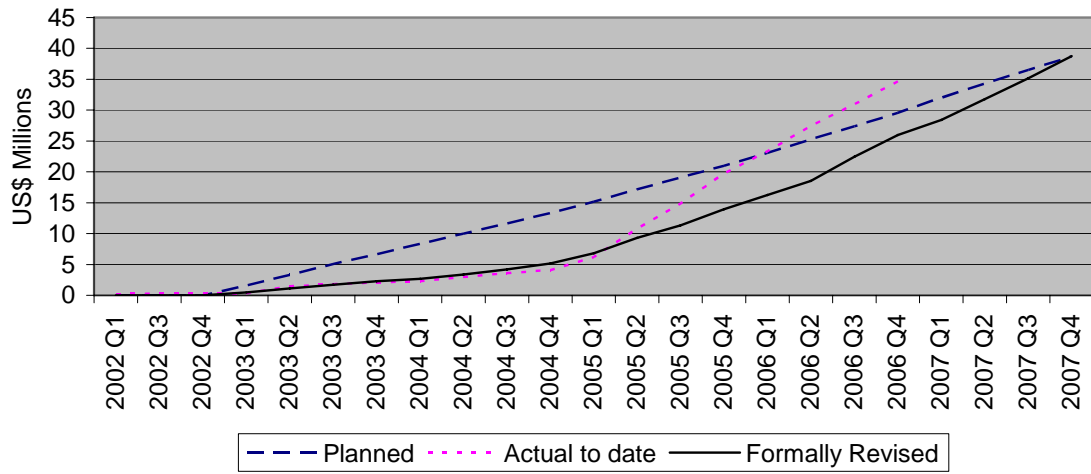
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is unlikely to meet its development objectives unless major improvements in project management and implementation are undertaken. An action plan to improve project performance had been developed, which includes a number of strategic orientations that the project needs to pursue, e.g. for the subsidized micro-projects: the focus on newly irrigated rather than rehabilitated land, the right balance between the irrigation technology subsidized and the area of land actually irrigated, the adoption of a technology-based approach to determine the subsidy level. However, inadequate project leadership and a lack of collaboration among the implementing and executing agencies has so far prevented the project from getting back on track. Adding to that, governance issues with respect to the matching grant scheme and the project's numerous partnership agreements, and the lack of counterpart funding are key issues that the project urgently needs to address.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-36210	Effective	43.22	31.54	11.68	0.00
IDA-3621A	Effective	2.79	2.79	0.00	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 PROJECT (P074316)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 02/19/2004

Midterm Review Date : 01/15/2007

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.

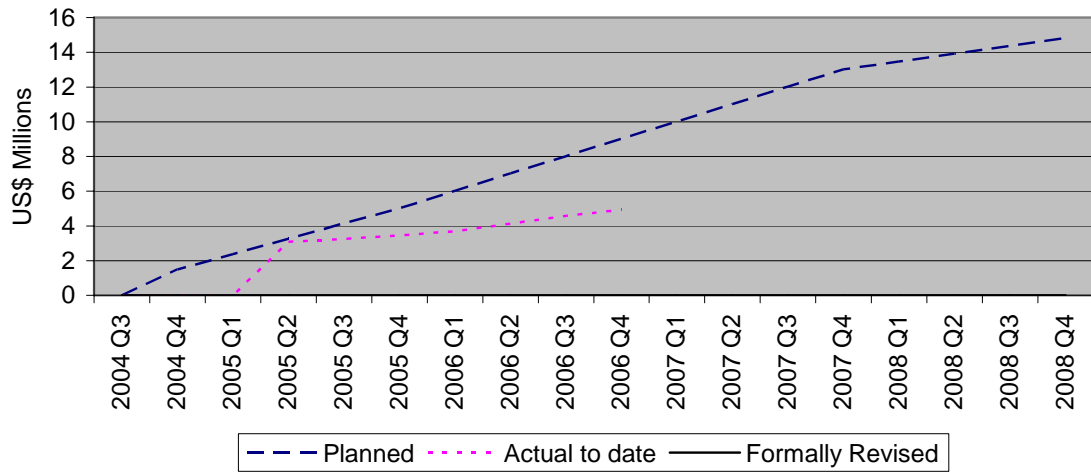
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The assessment of the Housing Bank (Credit du Niger) is finalized and the privatization is underway. In the Microfinance sector, the steering Committee set up by the Government to create an independent microfinance supervisory agency has now submitted its work to the authorities for decision. The Board at NigerPoste has authorized the creation of FINAPOSTE as a financial services subsidiary of NigerPoste.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-38560	Effective	16.02	4.92	11.18	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): Instit. Strengthening & Health Sector Support Program (ISHSSP) (P083350)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 01/05/2006

Closing Date : 06/30/2011

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IDA-41410, IDA-Q4950, JPN-53735

Sector(s): Health (65%), Other social services (15%), Central government administration (13%), Sub-national government administration (7%)

Theme(s): Health system performance (P), Population and reproductive health (P), Child Health (S), Other communicable diseases (S), Participation and civic engagement (S)

Project Development Objectives:

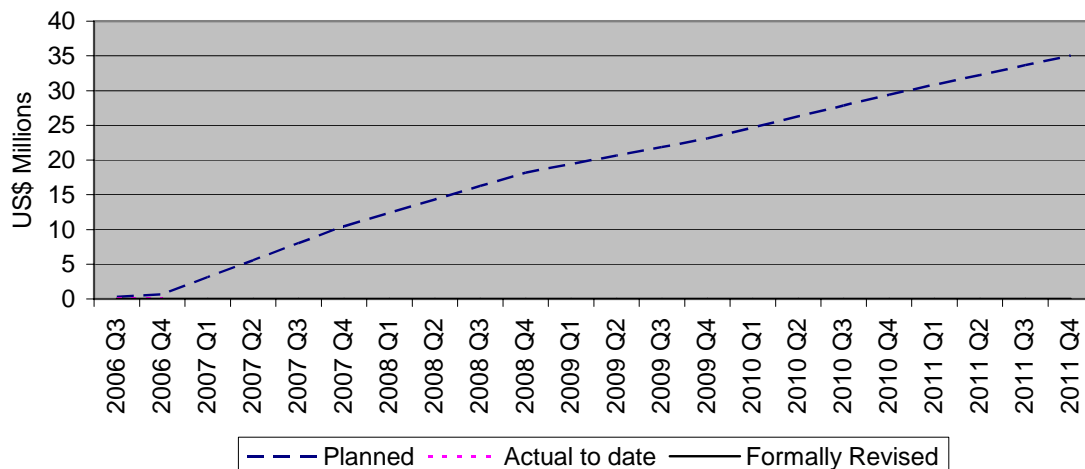
The objective is to improve sector capacity, effectiveness and efficiency in the provision of essential health care in Niger and contribute to the reduction of maternal and child mortality by providing a minimum package of essential health services targeted at the poor, women and children.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project has just become effective shortly before the end of the reporting period.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-41410	Effective	35.57	0.00	35.57	0.00
IDA-Q4950	Effective	0.60	0.20	0.40	0.00
JPN-53735	Closed	0.47	0.40	0.07	0.00



Project Name (ID): Rural and Social Sector Policy Reform Credit 1 (P096411)

Country: Niger

Board Approval Date : 06/13/2006

Closing Date : 06/30/2007

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IDA-41890

Sector(s): General public administration (20%), Other social services (20%), ` (20%), Primary education (20%), Health (20%)

Theme(s): Public expenditure, financial management, and procurement (P), Education for all (P), Rural policies and institutions (P), Health system performance (P), Social safety nets (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The objective is to help the Government of Niger improve service delivery to the poor, while continuing reforms in public sector management to secure adequate financing in critical sectors of the economy.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project did not become effective before the end of the reporting period.

Lending Information/Disbursement Summary (USD millions, as of June 30 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IDA-41890	Not Effective	51.15	0.00	51.15	0.00

