

STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY06
SOPE
REGION: Middle East and North Africa
COUNTRY: TUNISIA

Operations Policy and Country Services
SEPTEMBER 19, 2006



Report on the Status of Projects in Execution - FY06
SOPE
Region: Middle East and North Africa
Country: Tunisia

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: Tunisia

Project Name (ID): TN-Ozone Depleting Substance (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.

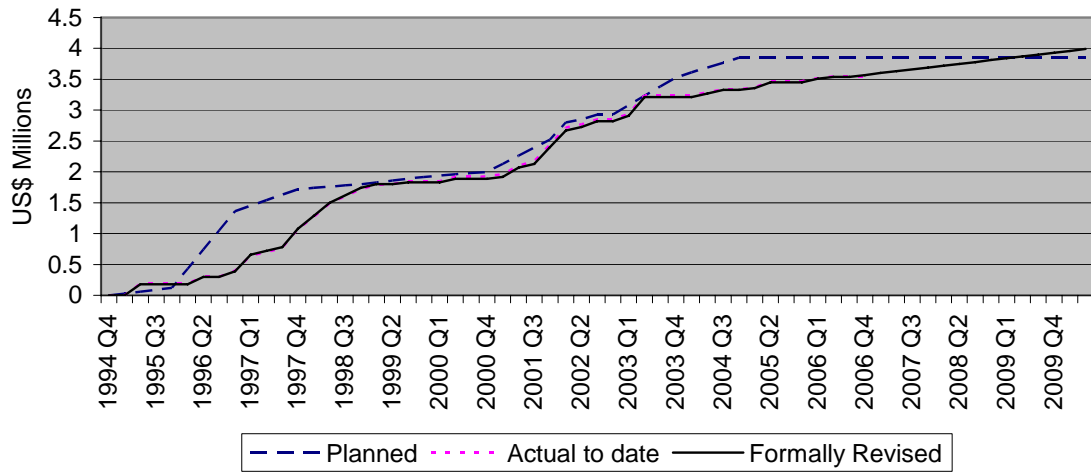
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Project activities have resulted in the elimination of 1025 tons of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) (627 tons CFC 11 and 397 tons of CFC 12). The national ozone unit is fully operational, an ozone depleting substance (ODS) control system has been put in place, along with ODS import and monitoring procedures. With project support, Tunisia's National Strategy for the Elimination of Ozone Depleting Substances was updated for 2006-2010 and on this basis an additional US\$1.1 million of Montreal Protocol support has been approved to finance additional sub-projects. In addition, US\$242,000 has been approved to finance the fourth phase of Tunisia's institutional strengthening program.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
WBTF-21936	Effective	3.79	3.53	0.26	0.00





Project Name (ID): AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROJECT (P005750)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 06/26/2001

Midterm Review Date : 05/09/2005

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.

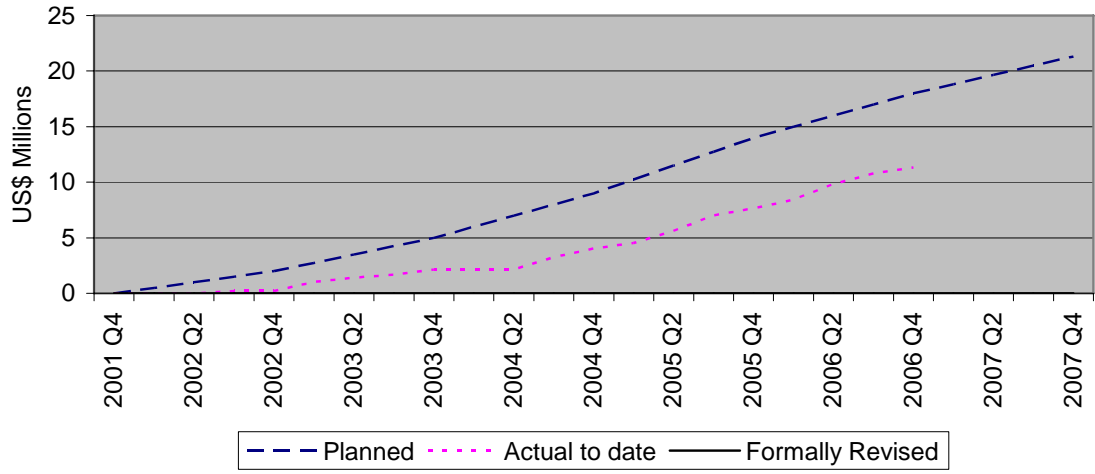
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

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, "Blue" fish, lamb from Sidi Bouzid, etc. 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 laboratories with upgraded equipment, infrastructure and the ongoing training of staff. Research regionalization has been enhanced thanks to research poles being equipped and staffed. The Government has postponed the creation of the Institut Unique for Agronomic Research until 2008 when the situation will be reassessed. However, in May 2006, the Center for Oasis Crop Research was created in Tozeur and the creation of a second regional research center in Chott Mariem for organic agriculture is envisioned.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70630	Effective	29.91	11.34	14.72	3.21
JPN-25459	Closed	0.49	0.37	0.00	0.11





Project Name (ID): TN-WATER SECTOR INVESTMENT PROJECT (P035707)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 06/22/2000

Midterm Review Date : 12/01/2003

Closing Date : 12/31/2007

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.

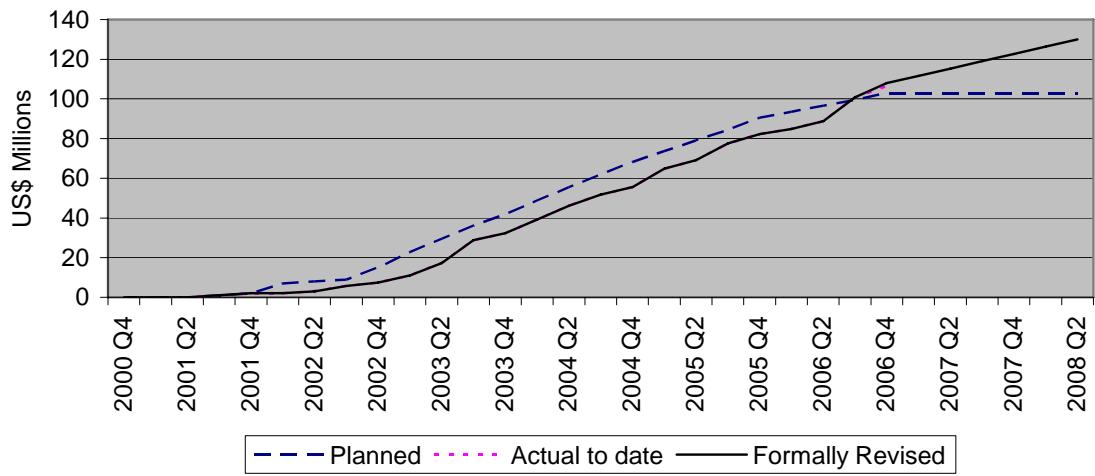
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

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 project has already exceeded its objectives for increasing access to safe drinking water and has significantly increased coverage of efficient on-farm irrigation equipment (from 67% to 75% of the country's irrigated areas) and has rehabilitated infrastructure in 30 of the target 40 irrigation perimeters. The Government of Tunisia is taking steps to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system to provide information on the achievement of intermediate and final outcomes. The project's closing date has been extended to December 2007 to allow critical activities to be completed and the project objectives to be attained.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70250	Effective	140.86	106.49	24.32	0.00
JPN-22555	Closed	0.88	0.84	0.00	0.00





Project Name (ID): PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT PROJECT (P048315)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 06/27/2002

Midterm Review Date : 07/03/2006

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.

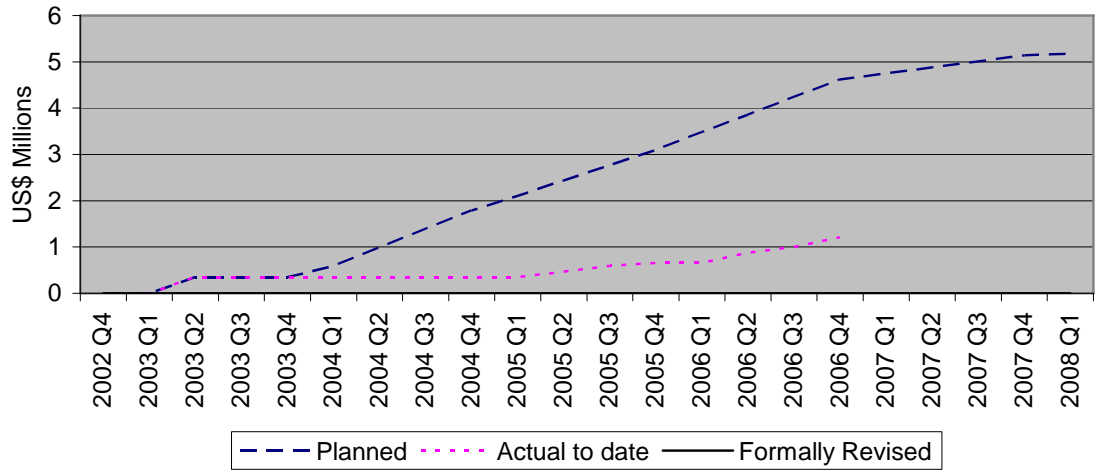
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

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. Physical realizations -mainly under (b)are taking place in and around the three parks which will improve the parks conditions and the welfare of the communities however, progress under (b) remains slower than initially planned but is expected to pick up.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
EECT-21160	Closed	0.08	0.07	0.00	0.00
MULT-51308	Effective	5.13	1.21	3.92	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): TN-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.

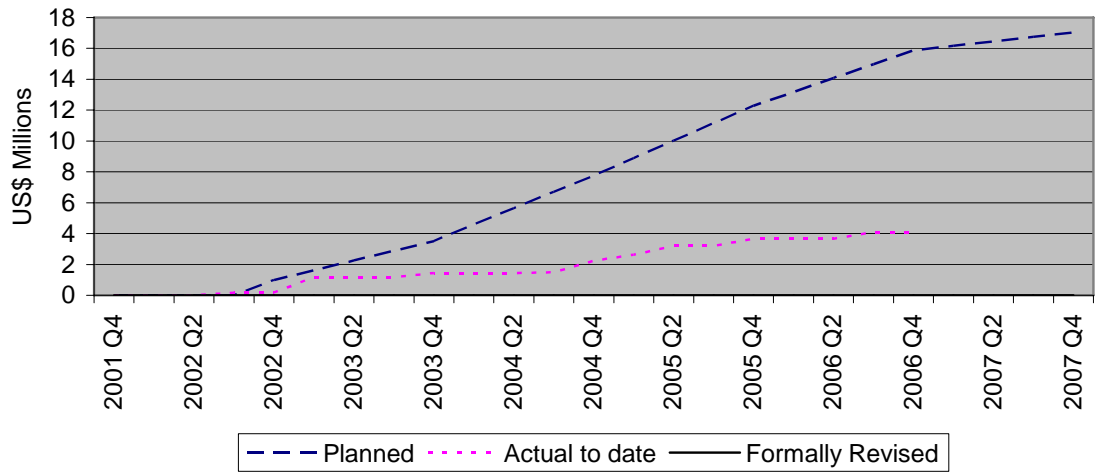
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

Albeit slow, as noticed in similar projects in the World, progress toward achieving the development objective has been consistent. Works currently underway include an extension/renovation of Djerba's Museum, the construction of an Interpretation Center in Kairouan, and the preparation of visitor circuits also in Kairouan. Works are expected to be launched at the Bardo and Sousse Museums. Once these landmarks are completed, the number of visitors will then substantially increase and bring added revenues. In addition, substantial progress has been made toward improved communication and management of the national heritage, thus opening the avenue for much improved cultural tourism.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70590	Effective	24.13	4.09	19.63	0.00
ITAL-51463	Closed	0.33	0.30	0.00	0.02
JPN-27148	Closed	0.45	0.42	0.00	0.04





Project Name (ID): Education Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) (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.

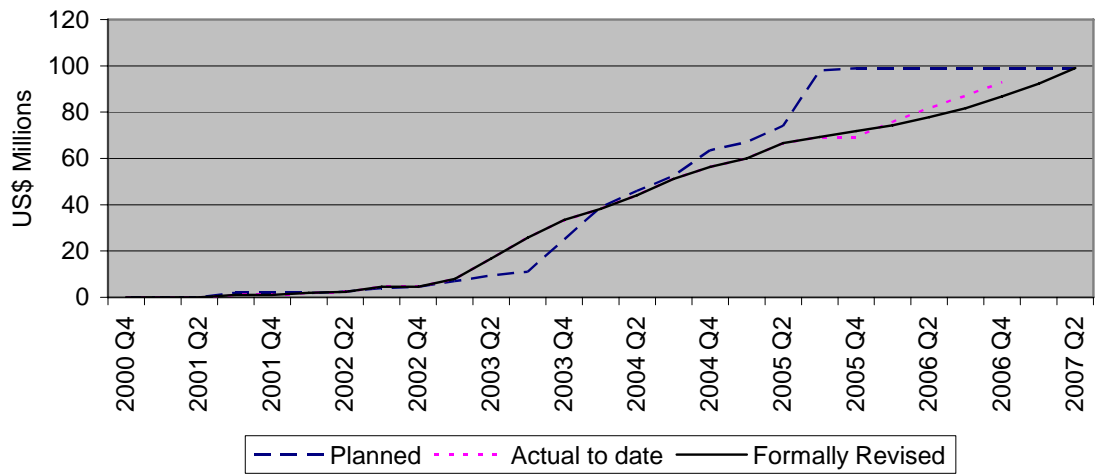
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project continues to make progress. Enrollment rates, promotion rates and completion rates have continuously improved at primary and middle school levels, in large part due to the elimination of entry exams to middle schools and secondary schools, and the expansion of access at these two levels. The competency-based approach has been generalized throughout the country, and in-service teacher training has been revamped. A special program focusing on improving performance in the weakest 104 schools (primarily in rural areas) and 40 weakest colleges has been set up and an evaluation is being carried out to analyze the results in ensuring that poorer children complete primary and continue to middle school. To improve quality the government has introduced a new curriculum, trained 95% of all teachers in the new curriculum, and 100% of inspectors in pedagogic evaluation (surpassing the goal of 60% for both). The Government has made excellent progress in developing a system of student learning evaluations with the implementation of the 2004 national student evaluations of second and fourth graders.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70280	Effective	99.00	92.91	6.09	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): TN-TRANSPORT SECTOR INVESTMENT (P064082)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 04/19/2001

Midterm Review Date : 01/10/2004

Closing Date : 06/30/2009

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:

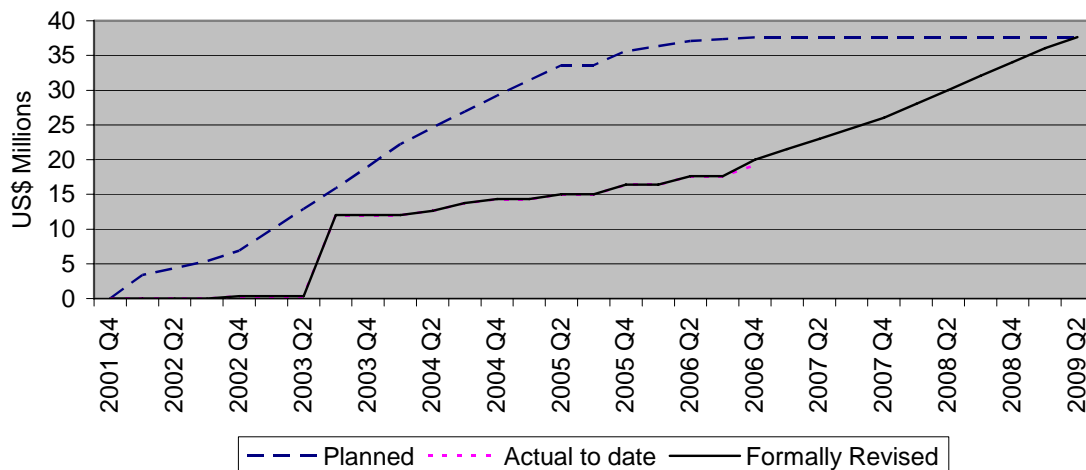
The objectives of the program are to increase the efficiency and quality of transport services and reduce the financial burden of the transport sector on the Government's budget.

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 2006)

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-70510	Effective	51.52	19.21	30.12	0.00



Project Name (ID): TN-URBAN WATER SUPPLY (P064836)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 11/17/2005

Midterm Review Date : 03/31/2008

Closing Date : 06/30/2012

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IBRD-73390, JPN-25853, JPN-29347

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

Theme(s): Water resources management (P), Access to urban services and housing (P), Regulation and competition policy (S), Other financial and private sector development (S)

Project Development Objectives:

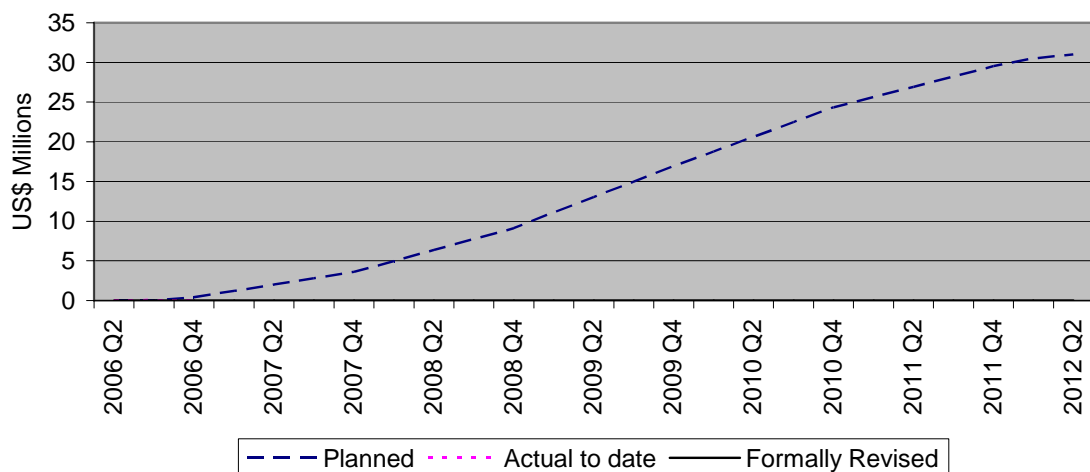
The objectives are to: (i) sustain the reliability and quality of water service in Greater Tunis and selected urban centers, through augmentation, upgrade and renewal of water supply infrastructure; and (ii) enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of SONEDE operations, through modernization of management practices and information systems, for better cost control, enhanced revenue and more responsive customer service.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The Project became effective in the latter part of the reporting period and still in an early stage to measure the achievement of the project development objectives.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-73390	Effective	38.95	0.09	38.86	0.00
JPN-25853	Closed	0.50	0.25	0.00	0.26
JPN-29347	Closed	0.41	0.34	0.00	0.10



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

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 03/10/2005

Midterm Review Date : 04/15/2008

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:

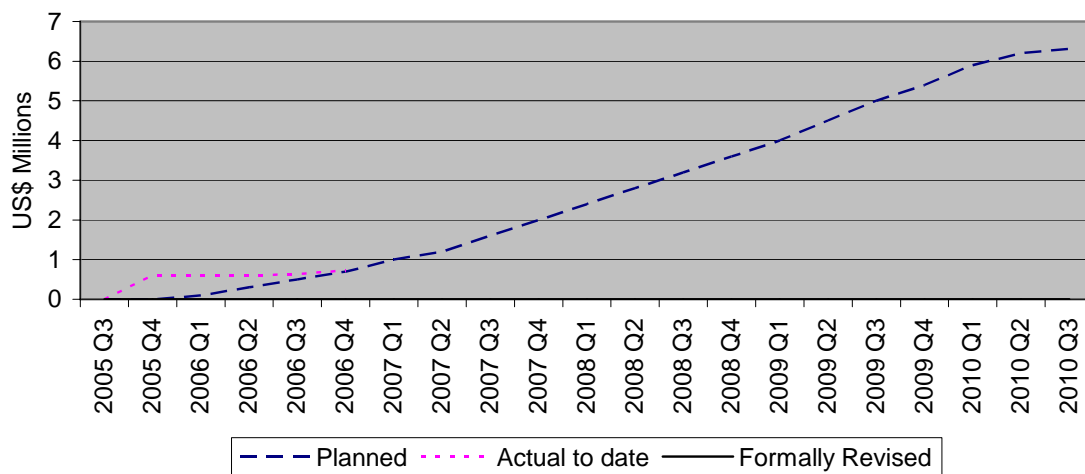
The project's development objective is to establish a functional integrated monitoring and participatory management system for the project area to manage biodiversity degradation in the Gulf of Gabes region.

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 2006)

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
MULT-54942	Effective	6.31	0.72	5.59	0.00
WBTF-22968	Closed	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00



Project Name (ID): TN-EXPORT DEVELOPMENT II (P071115)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 06/29/2004

Midterm Review Date : 06/30/2007

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.

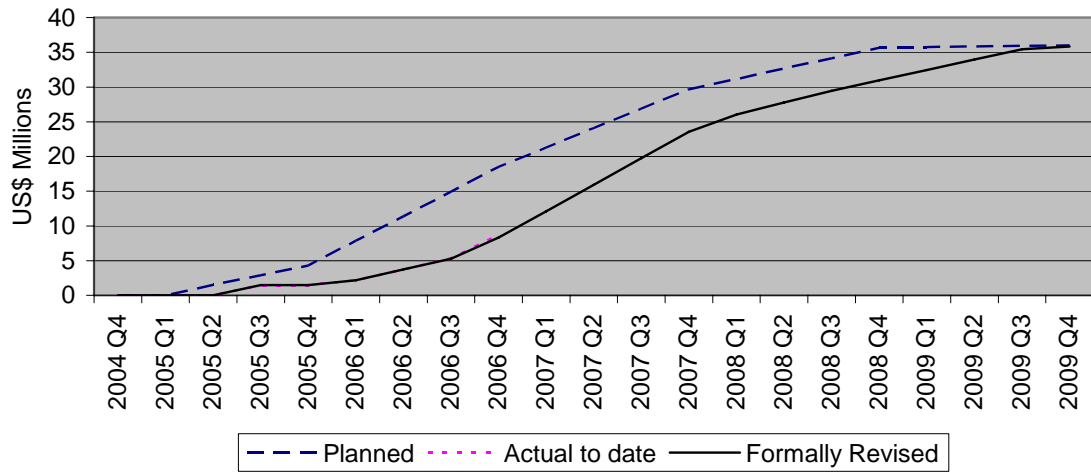
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project continues to make good progress towards achieving its objectives. The Second Export Market Access Fund component has already met its targets of support to 500 enterprises. The Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Enquiry Point component is also being implemented by the National Institute for Standards and Intellectual Property (INORPI) and work is in progress for numerization of Tunisian standards and the required equipment to disseminate them. "Compagnie Tunisienne pour l'Assurance du Commerce Exterieur" (COTUNACE), the export insurance agency, is in the process of finalizing the selection of a new management team for the pre-shipment finance guarantee fund. The work on Logistics Indicators and Trade Logistics components is well advanced and the Ministry of Commerce has compiled the baseline indicators, and in collaboration with the customs, a first series of time release data for consignments. The Customs component is also well underway. The customs has put in place the selectivity module and is in the process of enhancing its capacity. It is now preparing Terms of Reference for risk management and change management sub-components, and is in the process of completing the procurement of IT equipment to connect customs offices to the Tunisian Trade Network and enable customs officers to apply new customs techniques supported under the project.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72390	Effective	38.07	8.69	29.03	0.18
JPN-51356	Closed	0.50	0.14	0.00	0.35





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

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 10/31/2002

Midterm Review Date : 09/11/2006

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):

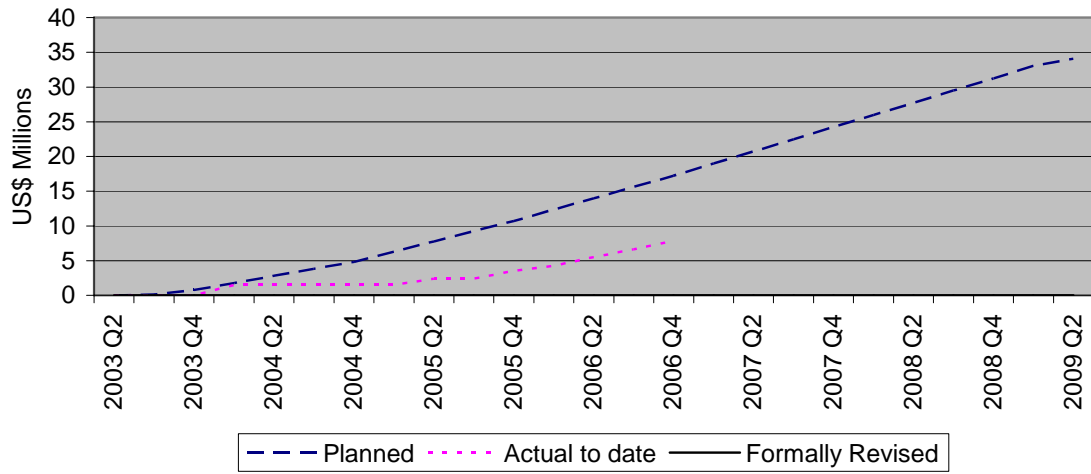
The project is now progressing well and is set to achieve most of its major development objectives. There is strong community participation in the activities and a good level of partner participation in project financing. There is also strong support from local government authorities.

Physical implementation is improving; financial commitment and disbursement rates are increasing significantly and procurement procedures are progressing well.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71510	Effective	43.60	7.86	35.48	0.00
JPN-26699	Closed	0.45	0.44	0.00	0.01





Project Name (ID): TN-MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT III (P074398)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 12/05/2002

Midterm Review Date : 04/08/2006

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.

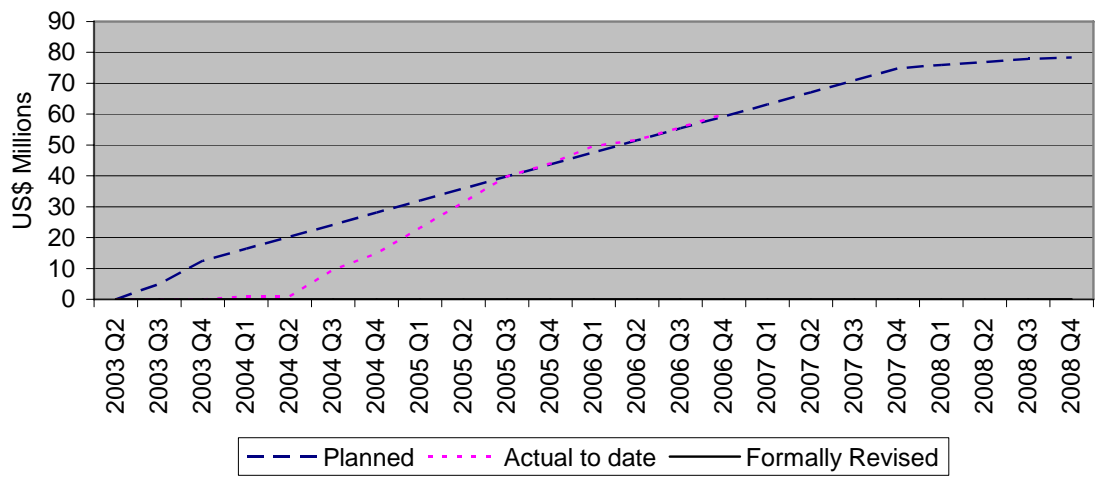
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is successfully supporting the Government in its implementation of the municipal investment program [Plan d'Investissement Communal (PIC)] under the Tenth Plan (2003-2007). Around 82 percent of the municipal investments under the PIC will be implemented by the loan closing date. Tunisian municipalities are making efficient capital investments and are benefiting from the technical and financial assistance provided by the "Caisse des Prêts et de Soutien des Collectivités Locales" (CPSCL). The implementation of the institutional component of the project, though delayed, has led to a culture of financial discipline within the sector management in Tunisia. It has also raised awareness to the issue of financial viability and creditworthiness of Tunisian municipalities. As a result, the Government is expected to take a set of measures including local tax reforms, enhancement of local tax collection, rescheduling of arrears, and restructuring of municipalities in financial difficulties.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-71540	Effective	100.65	60.03	40.13	0.00
JPN-26823	Closed	0.40	0.31	0.00	0.09





Project Name (ID): Higher Education Reform Support II (P075809)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 06/15/2006

Closing Date : 11/30/2011

Loan/Credit/Grant Number : IBRD-73920, JPN-52425

Sector(s): Tertiary education (55%), Central government administration (45%)

Theme(s): Education for the knowledge economy (P), Administrative and civil service reform (S), Decentralization (S), Law reform (S), Improving labor markets (S)

Project Development Objectives:

The development objective is to support the implementation of the Government's program to develop the higher education system by increasing the capacity and efficiency in expanding access and improving the quality of education and institutional performance.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is not yet effective.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-73920	Not Effective	77.03	0.00	77.03	0.00
JPN-52425	Closed	0.48	0.05	0.00	0.43



Project Name (ID): TN - ECAL IV (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):

Progress toward achieving the development objectives is substantial. The Government has started reducing the number of prior administrative authorizations and announced key measures regarding the VAT. The banking sector is dealing with the huge stock of non performing loans for targeting 15% by 2009. Progress is slow on the insurance component, particularly on the institutional side. On the other hand, the securities markets component has been moving forward with the promulgation of the financial security law in October 2005.

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

Loan/Credit/ Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-73040	Effective	145.89	71.84	72.21	0.00



Project Name (ID): ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (P078131)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 11/04/2004

Midterm Review Date : 06/30/2007

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:

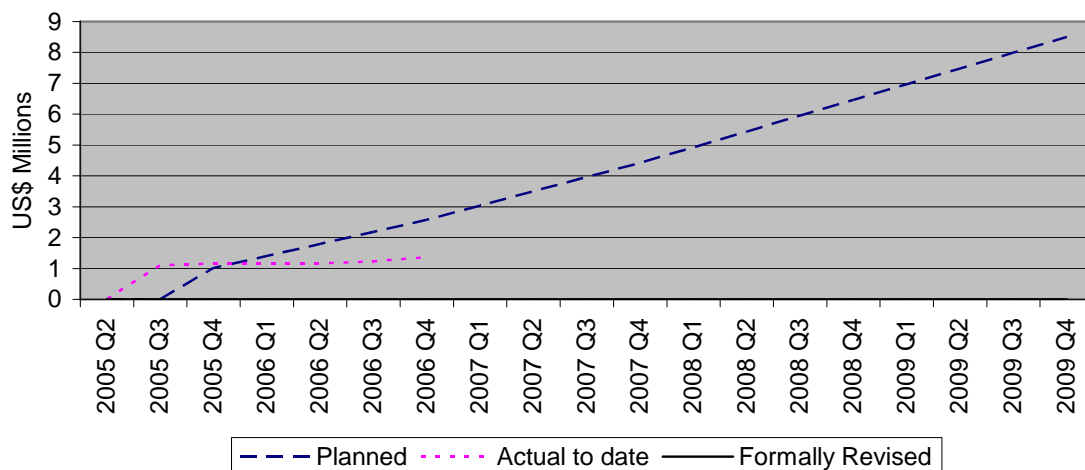
The objective is to achieve a deeper penetration of sustainable commercial energy-efficiency investment activities in Tunisia's industrial sector, by removing barriers and lowering transaction costs.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project is on track to meet its development objectives. Since the project was launched in February 2005, progress has been made on the GEF subsidy to energy efficiency projects and it is expected that 60 requests from industry will be processed by end of the project and a majority accorded a GEF investment subsidy (in addition to other financial support from the Government). Progress was also made in terms of communication, awareness raising and training. A significant increase in project approvals and project applications is expected in 2007.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
MULT-54398	Effective	8.50	1.37	7.13	0.00



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

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 03/08/2004

Midterm Review Date : 12/31/2006

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.

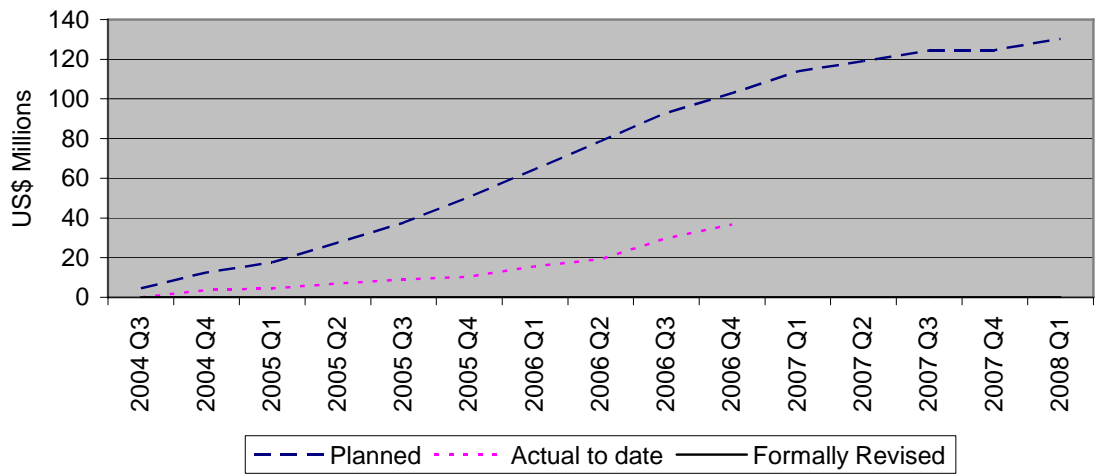
Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The project continues to make progress toward meeting the development objectives. The Ministry of Education is pursuing its 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 children from poorer and rural families continue in school. New streams responding to the changing demand have been introduced; guidance counselors for all schools have been selected and trained; school improvement plans are progressing; training of teachers, inspectors and pedagogic counselors at middle school and curriculum changes have been introduced in 2006. Enrollment rates, completion rates, and student/teacher ratios for boys and girls at all levels have improved. The biggest improvements have been in completion rates of lower secondary which improved from 43.6% in 2003/4 to 45% in 2004/5 for boys, and from 64.3% in 2003/4 to 67.9% in 2004/5 for girls. Efforts have been made to improve services in the poorest regions where enrollments and completion rates are low, through the introduction of nursery schools, the construction of middle schools, and the provision of additional resources to poor schools.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72200	Effective	131.18	36.81	93.60	0.00





Project Name (ID): Tunisia Information and Communication Technologies Sector Development Project (P088929)

Country: Tunisia

Board Approval Date : 07/01/2004

Midterm Review Date : 09/30/2006

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. Project activities related to INT are on schedule. The project activities on ICT policy and liberalization have experienced further delays, but the GoT has completed the sale of 35% of Tunisie Telecom to a strategic investor. Three eGovernment applications are about to be launched, and the esecurity component is fully under implementation. The project is proceeding broadly well, with some delay with respect to the original tight procurement timetable. Three activities which were not showing progress (IT security lab, e-learning and the ICT virtual library), were cancelled by mutual agreement of the Government and the Bank task team.

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

Loan/Credit/Grant	Status	Amount	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Cancellation
IBRD-72440	Effective	13.57	2.11	11.41	0.07



