The **ADB** and **Côte d’Ivoire**

Enhanced Cooperation to End the Crisis
The **ADB**

and **Côte d’Ivoire**

Enhanced Cooperation to End the Crisis
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Note : Jaune et blanche

54.84 Kg

1ère à 2ème : ⅔
## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>AfDB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>Temporary relocation Agency</td>
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<td>BNEDT</td>
<td>National Office for Technical Studies and Development</td>
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<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>West African Economic Community</td>
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<td>DCGTX</td>
<td>Major Projects Directorate and Monitoring</td>
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<td>CSP</td>
<td>Country Strategy Paper</td>
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<td>ADF</td>
<td>African Development Fund</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agricultural Organization</td>
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<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Fund for Population Activities</td>
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<td>PADER-CM</td>
<td>Moyen Comor Rural Development Support Project</td>
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<td>PADER-LACS</td>
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<td>PAIMSC</td>
<td>Crisis Emergence Institutional and Multi-sectoral Project</td>
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<td>PAGRC</td>
<td>Governance and Capacity Building Support Project</td>
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<td>PAPP</td>
<td>Country Portfolio Improvement Plan</td>
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<td>PAR</td>
<td>Risk Portfolio</td>
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<td>PAREF</td>
<td>Economic and Financial Reform Support Programme</td>
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<td>PEMFAR</td>
<td>Public Expenses and Financial Responsibility Review</td>
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<td>RMC</td>
<td>Regional Member Country</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>PPP</td>
<td>Public-Private Partnership</td>
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<td>PPP</td>
<td>Potential Problem Project</td>
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<td>WABP</td>
<td>Work and Annual Budget Programme</td>
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<td>TFP</td>
<td>Technical and Financial Partners</td>
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<td>HIPC</td>
<td>Heavily Indebted Poor Country</td>
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<td>HRDP</td>
<td>Human Resources Development Project</td>
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<td>RAP</td>
<td>Project Completion Report</td>
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<td>ROSA</td>
<td>Official Representation of the Bank’s Headquarters</td>
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<td>RPPP</td>
<td>Country Portfolio Performance Review</td>
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<td>SYGFIP</td>
<td>Public Finance Management Systems</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
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<td>UA</td>
<td>Units of Account</td>
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<td>PCU</td>
<td>Project Coordination Unit</td>
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<td>WAMU</td>
<td>West African Monetary Union</td>
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Message from Donald Kaberuka
President of the African Development Bank Group

This brochure is being published at a time when the Forty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Bank (ADB) and the Thirty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Fund (ADF) are underway in Abidjan. The choice of this city to host these meetings - the ADB Group’s most important meeting - is evidence of the Bank’s continuing confidence in Côte d’Ivoire’s promising prospects.

I have followed with keen interest the evolving political situation and the major structural reforms initiated at the same time by the Ivorian government to improve the living conditions of the population and prime Côte d’Ivoire to join the ranks of emerging nations.

Allow me to congratulate all the Ivorian people for the progress made towards national reconciliation, peace and development since the signing in 2007 of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement to end the socio-political crisis that has rocked the country since 2002. The Bank acknowledges the efforts made by the government to cope with the multifarious responsibilities inherent in the crisis-exit situation, while simultaneously initiating the implementation of a poverty reduction strategy. I trust in Côte d’Ivoire’s huge potential and its capacity to recover.

I commend the current exemplary partnership between the Bank and Côte d’Ivoire, established nearly four decades ago and materialized by sixty-odd projects, programmes and studies, satisfactorily financed and implemented. The Bank Group will continue to enhance the quality of its operations in Côte d’Ivoire to support the noble efforts of the country’s authorities to improve the life of its population. In reviving this cooperation in a crisis-exit context, our current concern is to mobilize more resources to support the government and the private sector in Côte d’Ivoire.

I am convinced that the future presages even more fruitful cooperation towards poverty reduction through rebuilding the social capital of the Ivorian nation and shared economic growth. We trust in this future and will relentlessly support Côte d’Ivoire’s legitimate aspirations to sustainable development.

Donald Kaberuka
Chapter 1
On 4 August 1963, twenty-three African governments signed the Agreement establishing the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Khartoum (Sudan). Eight other countries ratified the Agreement in December of the same year. On 10 September 1964, the Agreement entered into force when 20 member countries subscribed to 65% of the capital stock which then stood at US$ 250 million. The inaugural Board of Governors meeting was held from 4 to 7 November 1964 in Lagos (Nigeria). The Bank began operations on 1 July 1966 in Abidjan (Côte d’Ivoire).


The AfDB was established to mobilize resources for financing operations, so as to promote the economic development and social progress of its regional member countries (RMCs). Its Headquarter is in Abidjan (Côte d’Ivoire), but at present, it carries out operations from its Temporary Relocation Agency (TRA) in Tunis (Tunisia), due to the crisis in Côte d’Ivoire.

The Bank Group’s achievements over the years have enhanced its image and generated renewed confidence in the institution, as demonstrated by the Triple A rating of the Bank from major international rating agencies.

Since the beginning of its operations in 1967 up to the end of 2008, the AfDB Group has awarded to regional member countries a total of 3,232 loans and grants, amounting to UA 43.3 billion, equivalent to US$ 66.6 billion. As at 31 December 2008, the Bank Group’s authorized capital was UA 21.87 billion. The subscribed capital totaled UA 21.64 billion, representing US$ 22.3 billion, after the Fifth General Capital Increase of 200% in 1987.

The eleventh replenishment of the African Development Fund (ADF-XI) totaling a record US$ 8.9 billion, has greatly increased the volume of resources available for low-income member countries.

AfDB resources are derived from capital subscriptions by member countries, borrowings from the international financial markets, as well as income generated from loans.

The Bank Group comprises 53 African countries (regional member countries) and 24 non-African countries (non-regional member countries). The latter started to join the AfDB in May 1982 following the decision of the Board of Governors to open up the institution’s capital to non-African participation. This decision has proved very positive, in terms of membership and capital structure. Indeed, the AfDB’s capital increased from US$ 2.9 billion in 1982 to US$ 22.3 billion, following a 200% Fourth General Capital Increase concluded in Cairo Egypt, in June 1987. However, a non-regional member country must first be an ADF member before joining the AfDB. Turkey is finalizing the instruments of accession to become an ADB Group member.

As at 31 December 2008, the number of the Bank’s regular staff totaled 1,445, including six Vice-Presidents, thirty Directors, six Unit Heads, 55 Division Managers, 850 professionals and 595 general service staff members. Men accounted for 64.4% of the Bank’s staff as against 35.6% for women.

The African Development Bank Group is headed by Donald Kaberuka. Prior to his election as the seventh President of the ADB in September 2005 in Tunis for a five-year renewable term, Mr. Kaberuka served as Minister of Finance of Rwanda.
On the occasion of the 2010 Annual Meetings, the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group has decided to carry out an audio-visual coverage of the institution’s activities in Côte d’Ivoire. I hail the appropriateness of this initiative which, without a doubt, gives visibility to AfDB activities in Côte d’Ivoire. Our country is grateful to the AfDB for supporting efforts by our government to improve the living conditions of our people. This special coverage on Côte d’Ivoire will, without a doubt, help in providing more information to the public on the excellent partnership between the AfDB and our country. The coverage takes place in a dual context of the country emerging from its crisis, on the one hand, and the AfDB’s new resource mobilization through the Twelfth Capital Replenishment of the African Development Fund (ADF-12) and the AfDB’s Six General Capital Increase.

The AfDB has, for close to forty years, financed development projects and programmes in Côte d’Ivoire and I am pleased with the quality of results delivered within the framework of this partnership. Allow me, in this regard, to express my gratitude to the AfDB management and all the institution’s staff for the work they have done during this period. I hope that ongoing resource mobilization efforts will enable the institution to strengthen its role as the leading development finance institution in Africa and to continue to come up with appropriate responses to the needs of its regional member countries, in particular, Côte d’Ivoire which is in a critical phase of its development.

I also hail the Bank’s commitment to seek solutions to challenging development issues. In 2009, the Bank enabled our country to have access to the benefits of the new Fragile States Facility. Through this initiative, Côte d’Ivoire has cleared its arrears to the AfDB; a situation that has enabled it to come up with a programme supported by the IMF’s Enlarged Credit Facility, reach the decision point of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative and to set the stage for the implementation of the poverty reduction strategy (2009-2013 PRSP). I am convinced that the Bank will continue with its efforts to coordinate its interventions in Côte d’Ivoire with our technical and financial partners, and that it will step up its advocacy with these partners with a view to helping us with the financing of the priority activities contained in our Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

I am pleased that the Council of Governors has expressed confidence in Côte d’Ivoire regarding the organization of Bank Group Annual Meetings in May 2010 in Abidjan. I express the wish that discussions during the Annual Meetings pave the way for great mobilization of the financial resources the Bank needs to continue playing a counter-cyclical role and to support African countries in their efforts to attain economic growth and reduce poverty.

Finally, allow me to use the occasion provided by this coverage to recall that the signing and implementation of the Ivorian Peace Agreement in Ouagadougou in 2007 are creating favorable conditions for the Bank’s return to its statutory headquarters in Abidjan. We are looking forward to the Bank’s return with total confidence and assurances.

Paul-Antoine Bohoun Bouabré
Côte d'Ivoire: an Overview

Country Profile

Formerly a French protectorate in 1843, then a French colony in 1893, Côte d'Ivoire gained independence on 7 August 1960, under the leadership of Félix Houphouët-Boigny, the first President of the Republic. Côte d'Ivoire is situated in West Africa along the inter-tropical zone. The country is bounded to the North by Burkina Faso and Mali, to the South by the Atlantic Ocean, to the West by Guinea and Liberia and to the East by Ghana. It has a total surface area of 322,462 Km². It has an equatorial climate with two wet seasons and two dry seasons of variable length to the South and West in the forest zone. In the savannah areas of northern and central regions, the climate is tropical.

The population is estimated at 20.8 million in 2010, 26% of which immigrants mainly from countries of the West African sub region. With an average population growth rate of 3% per annum for the 2005-2010 period, the population is projected to reach 43.3 million in 2050. The population density stands at 64.5 inhabitants/km² and the urban population represents 48% of the total. Yamoussoukro is the country’s political and administrative capital since March 1983. Abidjan is the commercial capital and has approximately 4 million inhabitants. Other major cities include Bouaké, San Pedro, Korhogo, Gagnoa, Man, Daloa, Abengourou, Seguela, Katiola, Odienne, Anyama, Divo, Bondoukou. Côte d’Ivoire counts sixty ethnic groups divided into four main groups: the Malinké, the Mande, the Akan and the Krou. The country is secular with several coexisting denominations prominent among which are Islam, Christianity and animism. The country’s official language is French and the currency is the CFA Franc.

Côte d’Ivoire has a presidential political system; the President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for a five-year term, renewable once. The country has more than thirty political parties since the advent of multiparty politics in 1990.

In recent years, the country has been beset by a political crisis the high points of which include: (i) the 1999 military coup; (ii) events subsequent to the 2000 elections after which the current president, Laurent Gbagbo, was elected; and (iii) the outbreak of a political/military crisis on 19 September 2002 between rebels and government forces. Côte d’Ivoire is in crisis-exit status since 2007. After several peace agreements, the country on 4 March 2007 embarked on a new crisis-exit process based on a political agreement signed in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). The holding of peaceful elections in 2010 is widely expected to end the crisis and consolidate economic recovery.

At the social level, the political/military crisis worsened the poverty situation. The country’s Human Development Index (HDI) ranking dropped from 154 (out of 174 countries) in 1999 to 163 (out of 182 countries) in 2009. GDP per capita declined, basic social services deteriorated particularly in former rebel areas in the North, Centre and West - NCW. The poverty rate increased from 36.8 per cent in 2002 to 48.9 per cent in 2008. Poverty is more prominent in rural areas.
Recent Economic Developments

On the economic front, despite the global economic crisis, Côte d’Ivoire has continued the recovery underway since the signing of the political agreement. The GDP growth rate stood at 3.8% in 2009 and is estimated at 3% in 2010. Inflation declined thanks to good local market supply and a drop in international prices. GDP per capita is USD 1115, admittedly below the pre-crisis level, but representing a marked increase over the past two years. Production break-down by sector stands as follows: 29% for the primary sector with a workforce representing 49%, the secondary sector with 26% and a workforce representing 14% and finally the tertiary sector with 45% of production and 37% of the workforce. Côte d’Ivoire’s main resources include cocoa, coffee, pineapple, sugar, palm oil, rubber, petroleum, timber, gold and diamonds. Côte d’Ivoire remains the world’s highest producer of cocoa with 40% of world production whose spill-over effects provide livelihood for close to 6 million people. The country is still the highest coffee producer in Africa.

Figure n°1 - Evolution of GDP growth rate in real terms

Source : IMF data and national sources; estimates (e) projections (p).
Reunification of the country, resumption of international financial relations with a prudent fiscal policy, good rainfall in 2009 and favourable coffee, cocoa and oil prices all cushioned the impact of the global crisis on the Ivorian economy.

With a decline in industrial sector investment during the crisis, the oil and telecommunications sub-sectors become Côte d’Ivoire’s main growth drivers.

In the primary sector, good climatic conditions in 2008-2009 and border security largely explain the performance recorded by the main cash crops (coffee, cocoa, oil palm, rubber, cashew, sugar). The economic and financial crisis had no impact on the cocoa market. Cocoa prices remained steady, allowing for a significant improvement in tax revenue and increased cocoa export earnings despite a drop in the volume of cocoa exported owing to quality problems. Cocoa production increased by 13.6%, up from 1,152,600 tons in the 2008/2009 season to 1,309,300 tons for the 2009/2010 season. However, there is a lingering risk of disaffection for coffee cultivation due to falling world prices. Export agriculture may have been weakened by aging coffee and cocoa farms. Coffee production is likely to experience a 6% decline in 2010. It should be same for cocoa because of the persistence of plant diseases notably the most widely known, the “black pod”. The ongoing restructuring, modernization and transparency measures in coffee and cocoa sector management could by 2011 begin to bear significant fruit.

The fruit sub-sector, especially as concerns bananas and pineapples, continues to face competition from Latin American produce. The low-priced Ivorian quality combined with structural problems (problem of securing rural lands, organizational deficiencies, very low mechanization) led to a fall in the number of producers from nearly 3,000 in 2001/2002 to 250 in 2008/2009. These farmers reverted to the cultivation of rubber and oil palm whose production prices are more attractive. Rubber and palm oil production is expected to rise respectively to 10.1% and 3.5% in 2010.

Cotton continues to perform poorly due to the consequences of destruction of quality seeds in research centres in the former rebel zone [North, Centre, West (NCW)], difficulties in financing the sector and low world market prices. Yields fell by 14.5 per cent on average per year since 2006. The production of cashew, the second cash crop produced in the NCW zone, has been boosted over the last 3 years by demand from India.

Regarding the secondary sector, despite the good performance of food production (17.6%), concerns about certain elements of demand led
to a drop to 0.8 percent in 2009 against 3.7 percent the previous year. The lower implementation rate of the State’s major projects in 2009 impacted the building and construction sub-sector, and the performance of the building materials and chemicals sub-sectors. However, in 2010 and 2011, these sectors are expected to pick up with good prospects especially for employment.

Mining thrived in Côte d’Ivoire particularly in 2009, with the resumption of operations at the Baobab mine shafts that had experienced siting problems. Oil production rose to 18,614,000 barrels in 2009, up from 16,519,500 barrels in 2008 (representing a 12.7% increase). This upward trend is expected to continue through 2010 and 2011. Gold mining benefitted from the full effect of capacity-building investments carried out by enterprises. Production more than doubled between 2008 and 2009 from 2,883.6 kg to 6,558.8 kg, and is expected to attain 7,214.7 kg in 2010. In a changing environment favourable to gold prices, this performance is expected to strengthen the ore’s position in the sub-sector.

Regarding electricity, the production capacity is inadequate to meet demand. A slowdown was observed due to a decline in gas production to power thermal plants. In 2010, there are observable electricity supply inadequacies attributable to the difficulties at the Azito thermal power plant. Power cuts were recorded in early 2010 and solutions are being sought to enable the country meet local demand and maintain its position as a net exporter of electricity in the sub-region.

As for the tertiary sector, its real value added is expected to maintain the same growth pace (3.8% in 2009 compared with 3.6% in 2008) and is projected to grow by 4.1 percent in 2010. The impact of weak domestic demand on trade services is offset by the strong performance of telecommunications and transport. Telecommunications remained buoyant with a real growth rate of 9% in 2009 and 2010, thanks to the expansion of mobile telephony (one new operator in 2009). Under the impetus of its maritime component following the increase in the export of goods, transport also grew by 5.9% in 2009 and is projected to level off at 5.4% in 2010.

With regard to demand, in 2009, growth was further driven by the resumption of foreign trade. Final consumption decreased by 0.9% owing mainly to the tightening of public spending and a slowdown in household spending due to the fact that disposable income increased only slightly. In 2010, with the organization of elections, government consumption expenditure is expected to grow. The clearance of domestic arrears which began in 2009, should have its full effect on the private sector and household disposable income. The strong performance of agriculture, particularly food crops, also influences household consumption. Thus, final consumption is expected to be boosted with a 3.6% increase in 2010. As regards the gross fixed capital formation, the private sector has shown some progress with a 12.7% increase in 2009, mainly ascribable to investment in the mining sector and increased import of capital goods. For exports, in 2009 and 2010, growth is estimated at 5.9%
and 4%, respectively, driven by the strong performance of major food crops (cocoa and cashew nuts), mining (crude oil and gold) and rubber products. Imports fell by 1.3% in 2009 against the 2.4% rise recorded in 2008. This stems from weak consumer spending and a decline in retail trade, albeit offset by increased import of capital goods. In 2011, imports are expected to grow by 6.4%.

Figure n°2 - GDP Breakdown by Sector in 2009 (in percentage)

Source: Authors’ estimates based on data from the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the IMF.

Table 1 – Macroeconomic indicators

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<th>2008</th>
<th>2009(e)</th>
<th>2010(p)</th>
<th>2011(p)</th>
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<td>Real GDP growth rate</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inflation rate</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget balance in % of GDP</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current account in % of GDP</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>-3.5</td>
<td>-7.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Economy and Economic Forecasting, and BCEAO; authors’ estimates (e) and projections (p).
Macroeconomic Policies

As the country is pulling out of crisis, its fiscal policy aims to restore the climate of trust conducive to growth and private sector development. Budget management falls under the context of fiscal consolidation and transparency through implementation of the action plan resulting from the public finance management and system review (PEMFAR 2007).

In this context of national reunification, public resource mobilization still faces constraints of tax squeeze and strong administrative pressure from government tax services. The authorities are broadening the tax base and improving the tax yield. Several tax reforms are underway, relating to business tax, general income tax, property tax and VAT. The measures envisaged concern simplification of the declaration system, strengthening of domestic taxes and duty on exports, as well as optimization of taxation on the oil and informal sectors. The goal is to raise the tax ratio to at least the community standard of 17% of GDP by 2011.

The country’s monetary policy continues to be implemented at the regional level. Côte d’Ivoire is a member of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). As such, the monetary and credit policy is conducted by the Central Bank of West Africa States (BCEAO), which is linked to the French Treasury through the transactions account within the framework of the monetary cooperation agreement between France and WAEMU countries. Its currency is pegged to the Euro (EUR 1 = CFAF 655.957). The government participates in regional cash flow management in accordance with WAEMU instruments and plans the issue of bonds on regional financial and monetary markets in proportion to budget financing needs.

The country continues to engage in the regional (WAEMU and ECOWAS) and world trade (WTO) process. At the ECOWAS level, a decision was taken to establish a fifth tariff band at a rate of 35 percent in the Common External Tariff structure. Côte d’Ivoire is currently reviewing the determination of products concerned by this band. The signing of an interim Regional EPA is under discussion within the framework of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union.

Côte d’Ivoire’s external debt was estimated at about USD 13.3 billion in 2008 (61 per cent of GDP), including USD 5 billion in arrears (including post-maturity interest and penalties). About 25 percent of this debt is owed to multilateral creditors, 52 percent to the Paris Club, 1 percent to bilateral creditors that are not members of the Paris Club and 22 per cent to commercial creditors (short-term debt).

In March 2009, the country’s arrears with the African Development Bank Group were cleared. Significant results were noted subsequent to reaching the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative decision point in March 2009. A restructuring agreement with the Paris Club was signed in May 2009 under Cologne terms. This agreement resulted in the immediate cancellation of CFAF 542.7 billion and reduced the debt...
service owed the Paris Club creditors during the 2009-2011 period from CFAF 2,198 million to CFAF 138 million. Negotiations with London Club creditors led to the signing of a preliminary agreement on 29 September 2009 in Paris. The agreement concerns the debt stock determined at end 2009 and allowed a single bond issue in US dollars on 15 March 2010 following a 20% cancellation of that stock. The balance is to be repaid in 23 years, with a 6-year grace period at a fixed interest rate of 2.5% that may rise to 5.75% in the long term. The exchange of old Brady bonds against the new bond was approved by almost all creditors that hold 99.98% of these bonds. Negotiations are underway with other creditors that are non-members of the London Club for debt relief.

For private sector development, the government is implementing a number of reforms to restore business confidence and step up investment and growth. It prepared a national good governance and anti-corruption plan in 2009. A comprehensive coffee and cocoa sub-sector reform is underway. An upgrade programme is being prepared to increase oil production and develop the traditional rubber, timber and agribusiness industries. Along with these measures, the government has embarked on reforming the judiciary.

To increase farmers’ income and improve transparency in the use of public resources, reform measures in the coffee/cocoa sub-sector continue. The traceability of resources intended for the functioning of coffee and cocoa sub-sector structures was improved by their inclusion in presentations during cabinet meetings.

**Prospects**

Côte d’Ivoire’s major challenge remains the organization of peaceful democratic elections and the effective implementation of the 2009-2013 Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Following successful completion of the Emergency Post-Conflict Assistance Programme in 2007 and 2008, the government in March 2009 concluded the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF, currently known as Extended Credit Facility - EFC) to support its economic programme. This programme aims to improve the macroeconomic environment and set aside the resources to deploy to speed up growth, reduce poverty and restore a sustainable fiscal and external position. To this end, the government prepared a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP 2009-2013) set on improved prospects for the Ivorian people and designed to restore the place of the Ivorian economy at the sub-regional and continental level. The six strategic thrusts of the PRSP are: (i) consolidation of peace, protection of life and property, and promotion of good governance; (ii) sanitization of the macroeconomic framework; (iii) creation of jobs and wealth through support to the rural sector and promotion of the private sector as an engine of growth; (iv) improvement of the access to and quality of basic services, protection of the environment, promotion of gender equality and social protection; (v) decentralization as a means of having the population participate in the
development process and reduction of regional disparities; and (vi) international context and regional integration.

The Ivorian government set as priorities: (i) speeding up the pace of structural reforms to remove growth barriers and improve the business climate; (ii) improving resource mobilization to finance pro-poor budgetary expenditure and expenditure to upgrade infrastructure destroyed during the crisis; (iii) finding solutions to weaknesses in the financial system; and (iv) furthering debt restructuring and strengthening competitiveness. The government hopes to reach the HIPCI completion point by 2011, obtain the resources to reverse the critical trends induced by the socio-political crisis and catch up with the gains of growth with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Within this purview, the Bank Group will continue to support the government by way of new operations. Thus, to strengthen cooperation in this crisis-exit context, the instrument for programming Bank interventions in Côte d’Ivoire (i.e. the Results-based Country Strategy Paper for 2011-2015) will be based on the priorities set out in the poverty reduction strategy thrusts and the orientations of the Bank’s general policy under ADF XII.
Chapter 3
Côte d’Ivoire is a regional member country of the African Development Bank Group. Its membership dates back to the establishment of the Institution on 10 September 1964. Côte d’Ivoire’s interests within the Bank are represented at the Board of Governors by a Governor appointed by the highest Ivorian authorities and at the Board of Directors by an Executive Director and an Alternate Executive Director. Bilateral relations between the ADB and the country are rooted on excellent partnership. The country is home to the Bank Group’s headquarters, which has been temporarily relocated to Tunis.

Portfolio Overview and Structure

Since it started operations in Côte d’Ivoire on 19 May 1971, the ADB Group has so far approved fifty four (54) operations for the country, of which 38 have been fully completed, four cancelled, two ongoing and 10 suspended since April 2003 as a result of the socio-political crisis.

All approved operations amount to a net commitment of UA 1.135 million (CFAF 830 billion), with 67.2% from the ADB window, 22.1% from the ADF and 10.7% from the Nigeria Trust Fund. By end March 2010, cumulative disbursements amounted to UA 1.069 million (CFAF 782 billion), representing an overall disbursement rate of 94.2%. Bank Group-financed operations have been mainly loan-based and channelled, by order of importance, to the rural development and agriculture sector (26.2%), infrastructure (20.4%), multi-sector (16.7%), the social sector (16.5%) and energy, water and telecommunications (15.6%). The operations were financed mainly with resources from the ADB window (70%). The bulk of these funds (94.4%) was directed towards the public sector. It should be noted that funding for the private sector concerns electricity, telecommunications, transport and industry.

In addition to bilateral funding, Côte d’Ivoire received additional ADF resources to finance studies and/or projects in the fields of infrastructure and agriculture, to enhance sub-regional integration in West Africa.
The socio-political crisis that broke out in 2002 in Côte d’Ivoire brought in its wake accumulated arrears of repayments and the suspension of public sector loan disbursement in April 2003. However, the Bank maintained a minimum level of activities in the country, especially in favour of the private sector. Emergency assistance was also granted for food aid to children who were war victims and for avian influenza control. In addition, the Bank has clearly positioned itself within the scope of crisis-exit in Côte d’Ivoire by opting to support the country in the areas of governance, social infrastructure reconstruction and rebuilding the economic capital of the rural population, especially women and children. With regard to operations that were ongoing when disbursements were suspended, the Bank chose to adopt a prudent and measured portfolio management strategy by cancelling projects on a case by case basis, in a bid not to jeopardize the country’s development potential and responsiveness in the event of a rapid end to the crisis.

The implementation of this strategy tailored to suit Côte d’Ivoire necessarily shaped the structure of the Bank’s current portfolio operations in the country. Thus, as at 31 March 2010, the Bank’s active portfolio comprised: (i) one ongoing portfolio; and (ii) one frozen portfolio comprising suspended operations.

**Composition of the Current Portfolio**

As at 31 March 2010, the Bank’s ongoing portfolio consisted of two projects in support of crisis-exit activities, namely: (i) Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project (PAIMS C) amounting to UA 20 million (about CFAF 14.5 billion); and (ii) Targeted Support under the Fragile States Facility (FSF) to the tune of UA 2 million (CFAF 1.45 billion).

PAIMS C is being implemented during a transitional phase in Côte d’Ivoire, characterized by passage from a conflict situation to the restoration of peace. It concentrates on emergency actions to restore the normal functioning of the administration and return to peace, with focus on essential services such as education, health and rural development, with a view to reunifying the country, consolidating stability and providing a safe environment for the return of internal refugees.

Targeted support by the FSF aims to: (i) strengthen the coordination of public interventions by developing a forward-looking long-term development vision for the country; (ii) support PRSP implementation; (iii) improve the effectiveness of public finance management through national capacity building, development of decision support tools and improvement of public procurement management instruments in accordance with the action plan resulting from the Public Expenditure Management and Financial Accountability Review (PEMFAR 2008); and (iv) strengthen good governance through the national policy coordination framework, transparency, public service effectiveness, ethics and the fight against corruption, and improvement of the business climate.

**Composition of Suspended Portfolio**

As at 31 March 2010, the suspended portfolio comprised ten (10) operations, including seven (7) projects and three (3) studies, nine (9) rural development sector operations and one (1) social sector operation. The overall suspended portfolio amounted to UA 177.1 million. Following the clearance of Côte d’Ivoire’s arrears with the Bank
Group in 2009, the last portfolio review recommended the restructuring of three operations among the suspended projects. The operations in question were at the start-up phase when disbursements were suspended. This restructuring will entail: (i) consolidating the Moyen Comœ Rural Development Project (PADER-MC) with the Lakes Region Rural Development Project (PADER-LACS) into a single operation of UA 24 million (CFAF 17.4 billion) covering the two adjoining regions of central Côte d’Ivoire; and (ii) restructuring the Human Resource Development Project (PVRH) into a less complex operation of UA 18.2 million (CFAF 13.2 billion) targeting one or two Ministries with objectives consistent with the current needs of the workforce.

Portfolio Prospects in the Short Term

The 2009 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) enabled Côte d’Ivoire to obtain additional resources amounting to UA 29 million (CFAF 21 billion) in 2010. The resources are being used to finance a sanitation project in Abidjan (Agboville and Abobo drainage basin, the Indénié Junction) and conduct studies to improve the preparedness of the pipeline of projects billed under ADF-XII (2011-2013).

For private sector operations, cooperation has been effectively revitalized in 2010 with ADB participation in establishing a new microfinance bank in Côte d’Ivoire (MicroCred Côte d’Ivoire), providing financial services to low-income earners with no access to the traditional banking system. The Bank is also reviewing the terms of its contribution to finance the construction of the Marcory-Riviera Bridge in Abidjan and the possibility of expanding the palm oil production capacity of the PALM-CI company. As in the past, the Bank stands ready to provide support to boost the capacity of the AZITO thermal power plant to enable the country respond effectively to growing electricity demand and maintain its position as a net exporter in this area.

Coordination with Technical and Financial Partners with Regard to the Portfolio

Coordination of Bank interventions with those of other Technical and Financial Partners (TFP) slowed during the crisis period. Before the resumption of activities by major donors in early 2009, the Governance and Capacity Building Support Project (PAGRC) was the main subject of consultation between in particular the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union and bilateral cooperation agencies (France, Belgium, Canada). In the area of governance, coordination made it possible to delineate the areas of concentration and focus, with emphasis on the intervention synergy. Since the resumption of activities by the international community, coordination with donors is an essential aspect of budget support design to clear Côte d’Ivoire’s arrears, which fell within the scope of complementarity of the two support packages provided by the IMF under
the Emergency Post-Conflict Assistance and budgetary support from the World Bank. The Bank was also involved in implementing PEMFAR, which is expected to pave the way for other policy and capacity building operations. Finally, the Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project (PAIMSC), based on active partnership between the Bank, FAO, UNICEF and UNFPA, is part of this coordination effort between the TFPs. Coordination with other partners is satisfactory.

In total, with an average score of 2.2 and a portfolio risk reduced to 0, the performance of the Bank’s current portfolio in Côte d’Ivoire as at 31 March 2010 is deemed satisfactory.
Côte d’Ivoire
Some Flagship Projects

Rural Water Supply Project

Costing 14 million units of account, the Rural Water Project was approved on 17 January 1997 with funding from the ADF, and covered 10 districts in the country’s South-West. The project objective was to offset the drinking water supply deficit affecting the rural population of the Divo, Gagnoa, Issia, Lakota, Man, Sassandra, San Pedro, Sintra, Soubre and Taboo districts (meeting the drinking water needs of about 400,000 people). The project also aimed to induce the population to settle on fertile agricultural land and promote improved productivity. Despite enormous efforts by the Ivorian government, the problem of drinking water has remained acute both in terms of quantity and quality.

The project focused on the construction of water points (nearly a thousand new boreholes, numerous small rural water supply systems improved, 10 springs harnessed), maintained and managed by the villagers. As a result, the following components were selected for the project:

Project implementation produced concrete results, granting the population improved access to good quality water and in sufficient quantity, all year-round. This is the most important benefit of the project, with as outcome: (i) improved health status and living conditions for the population; (ii) reduction of disparities in terms of access to drinking water; (iii) increased productivity owing to improved health; (iv) improved convenience and channelling of women’s energy (in charge of fetching water) to many other activities, etc.

Education Project Phase IV

Costing 53 million units of account (equivalent to CFAF 39 billion), the project, was approved for ADF financing on 24 September 1992 and was completed on 29 July 2004.
The Education IV project is the Bank Group’s fourth operation in Côte d’Ivoire in the education sector. The project comprised the following components: (i) strengthening of primary education; (ii) strengthening of secondary education; (iii) increased enrolment in rural areas; (iv) introduction of environmental education; and (v) school map support.

Under this project, the provision of computer hardware to the Department of Information Technology, Planning, Evaluation and Statistics made possible the production of better designed and more accurate school maps. Constructed and rehabilitated infrastructure largely contributed to improving access to education by improving the carrying capacity of primary and secondary education, resulting in an improved gross enrolment rate (GER), particularly for girls in disadvantaged regions.

In primary education, between 1992-1993 and 1998-1999, the national GER rose from 73% to 73.2% (65.1% for girls), reaching 79.5% in 2001-2002 (67.3% for girls). In the same period, enrolment rose from 1,447,785 to 1,910,820, representing a 25% increase and from 1,943,101 to 2,113,836, between 2000 and 2002, representing an 8% increase. In other words, a 32% increase was observed between 1992 and 2002. This very significant social impact contributes to the development of human resources capable of providing a more effective input to wealth creation in the country.

The project also helped to improve the quality of learning and management of the education system as a whole by providing pupils, students and teachers with teaching materials and numerous training opportunities for managers of the system. One of the effects of this positive impact was improved pupil and student performance as reflected in the reduction of the overall grade-repeating rate from 29% in 1991 to 24% in 2005.

At the secondary education level, the presence of local ADB secondary schools has reduced school-related migration and the long distances covered by students.

In addition to achievements in improving access, the project helped to rehabilitate 240 primary schools and 31 secondary and high schools, equip six Regional Departments of Education (DREN) and train 88 regional education inspectors. In addition, for primary school pupils in the project areas, the average distance to school has decreased considerably, ranging between 0 and 3 km, instead of 7 km previously. The construction of science and earth and life science laboratories in 10 new secondary schools helped to improve access to science education.

Public awareness on the need to educate girls, reduction in the distance between the homes of students/pupils and their schools, systematic construction of two blocks of latrines in schools and the free loan of 934,956 textbooks to girls in 5 DRENs helped to improve enrolment and retention of girls in school.
The Azito Thermal Power Station Construction project

The project concerns a plant with two gas turbines of 144 MW each, one 225 kV line and a transformer, located in Azito, a village 5 km West of Abidjan. Its originality lies firstly in its set-up - a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) concession - and secondly in its “Take or Pay” clause. It was approved by the Bank Board in November 1998 and is the subject of a loan of USD 14 million (for a total cost of USD 215 million). Part of the funding was provided by members of the Consortium made up of Asea Brown Boveri Limited (ABB), Electricité de France (EDF) and Industrial Promotion Services (IPS, a subsidiary of the Aga Khan Fund).

The plant now generates one-third of the electrical power available in Côte d’Ivoire. The fact that it is powered by local gas allows the State to save USD 4 million yearly that would have been used to purchase petroleum products.

Until recently, the AZITO plant boasted a reserve margin and enabled Côte d’Ivoire to move from the status of electricity importer (409 GWh in 1992) to exporter (15 GWh in 1994, 593 GWh in 1998 and 1289 GWh in 1999). This reinforced its position as a key player in regional electricity integration. The commissioning of AZITO enabled the Ivorian Electricity Company (CEI) to meet the demand of private sector clients, even if that demand did not change significantly between 1999 and 2007. In addition, the project’s contribution to exports has an indirect positive effect on private sector development in neighbouring countries, although the tariffs charged do not reflect real costs and CEI has difficulties meeting external demand. As a matter of fact, although AZITO meets all of CEI’s demand, a quarter of the plant’s production is lost, given the state of the grid network and piracy. Despite the crisis that slowed down the country’s development, this project at least helped to alleviate the deterioration of the business environment by ensuring continuity in electricity supply. If this project had not been implemented at the time, the country would have lost its power to draw businesses.

Today, the Ivorian government alone bears the overall cost hikes of the kWh produced by AZITO Energie, whereas the combined cycle would have cushioned this rise by producing more electricity at least cost. This situation has prevented the Ivorian government from financing major rehabilitation and maintenance works and coping with the growing demand for electricity and maintenance. The government now pins its hopes on the project for the third combined-cycle turbine.
Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project (PAIMSC)

Financed with ADF resources to the tune of 20 million Units of Account (equivalent to CFAF 15 billion), the project is being implemented within the context of Cote d’Ivoire’s crisis-exit. It concentrates on emergency actions to restore the normal functioning of the administration and return to peace, with focus on essential services such as education, health and rural development, with a view to reunifying the country, consolidating stability and providing a safe environment for the return of internal refugees.

The achievements can be grouped into two main components. The first relates to support for the restoration of State authority and redeployment of the administration in the Centre-North-West (CNW) areas, with as sub-components the restoration of normal primary education, health and rural development services. The second concerns support for the consolidation of peace and national reconciliation, through capacity building for care delivery to women who are victims of violence and support to organizations providing care to vulnerable groups.

Governance and Capacity Building Support Project (PAGRC)

With a total of UA 3.79 million (equivalent to CAF 3.5 billion), the project grant was approved on 16 January 2002.

The project was designed in a context of crisis in Cote d’Ivoire. Since 1999, the country has been beset by a series of crises, including the 1999 military coup and contested elections in 2000. All these events undermined political, economic and social development. Faced with these challenges, the government formed following the October 2000 elections embarked on a vast economic recovery and trust rebuilding project through the development of: (i) an Economic and Financial Programme for 2001-2005; (ii) an interim PRSP; and (iii) the National Good Governance and Capacity Building Programme (PNBGR). With PNBGR, the government’s intention was to provide Cote d’Ivoire with an institutional framework built on rational structures, competent human resources, transparent, effective and efficient action, in which all development actors fully play their role.
The Programme’s objectives were approved by development partners, including the UNDP, the World Bank, the European Union, Belgian and Canadian cooperation missions. Approached by the government in March 2001 and in accordance with its country strategy, the Bank focused its support on equal access by all citizens to justice through an efficient judicial system, increased popular participation in policy making and local development by strengthening the decentralization process. Thus with this project, the ADB Group worked towards strengthening the rule of law, sound public resource management and the reduction of poverty and social exclusion.

With regard to Justice, encouraging results were obtained: (i) a diagnostic study of judicial and penitentiary systems was conducted and a roundtable conference of legal practitioners was organized; (ii) a statistical database is now available, as well as information for users and the civil society; (iii) 200 judges and judicial officers were trained in community law in Abidjan, in line with OHADA texts, and 19 received training at the “Ecole régionale supérieure de magistrature” (Regional Advanced School for the Judiciary - ERSUMA) in Porto-Novo (Benin).

Regarding support to the decentralization process, training was provided to 400 local officials and local government management staff, tax collectors, officers in charge of planning, procurement, administrative and financial management, and control procedures. To improve the level of revenue collection by local governments, a pilot phase equipped eleven councils with GIS; users were trained and information broadly shared with the population of the municipalities concerned.

The project supported the Government by making available economic policy analysis and formulation tools. A financial, economic and social development database was developed and made available to government departments. The Department of Public Debt was provided with equipment, the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) set up and workers of the department trained to use the system. As part of the prospective study, the survey on the aspirations of the Ivorian population was carried out through this project and the results informed the Government’s long-term vision for Côte d’Ivoire.

By focusing on improving the legal environment of business and public resource management, PAGRC contributed to strengthening an enabling macroeconomic framework likely to pave the way for restoring a climate of trust to achieve private sector efficiency. In addition, advocacy targeting elected officials and civil society members enhances the latter’s participation in building the rule of law.
I note with satisfaction that Côte d’Ivoire’s strategic orientations, outlined in the 2009-2013 PRSP, corroborates those defined in the 2008-2012 medium-term strategy and the operational directives of the Bank’s Fragile States Facility (FSF), especially with regard to social and economic infrastructure, governance and regional integration.

I am pleased that since 2007, the implementation of the Ivorian government’s crisis emergence programme has resulted in a real positive reengagement and coordination momentum on the part of the country’s technical and financial Partners. In this regard, the Bank has maintained dialogue with the government, while strengthening cooperation with its technical and financial partners, especially Bretton Woods institutions and the European Union. The arrears clearance operation and budget support approved in March 2009 by the AfDB within the framework of the FSF are tangible elements of this constructive trend. The attainment of the HIPC decision point with debt rescheduling within the framework of the Paris and London Clubs are the first decisive results.

The 2011-2015 results-based Country Strategy Paper will provide the Bank with the proper framework to respond in a sustainable and effective manner to Côte d’Ivoire’s reconstruction and development needs by paying special attention to economic and financial reform programmes as well as the financing of road and energy infrastructure, urban sanitation and social services. The convergence of views on our strategic options, the relevance of our operational instruments and the strengthening of coordination with technical and financial partners will be great assets for a diversified and fruitful cooperation.
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Testimonies

Yopougon Tribunal
Jean-Pierre Dohoulou, Chief Registrar

“Our jurisdictions had machines dating back to 1965, and with AIDB’s support, many of our services were computerized and this has a huge positive impact on the rapidity of our processes at the correctional and civil levels. The processing time has reduced from one week to one or two days. This has helped to reduce slowdowns in business. Regarding the training provided, it has helped me to figure out problems in the business register.”

Azito
UGECI President, Tanoh Angora,

“AZITO participates due to the need to create a conducive environment for big businesses. We need a second and, if necessary, a third AZITO as part of planned investment efforts to supply electricity at affordable rates and to produce more electricity.”

Mrs. Gotti Clarisse
Municipal Tax Collector
Yamoussoukro Council

“I was trained in Abidjan. I learned a lot and the training workshop helped me to deal with most of the situations I have faced in the field. Regarding tax collection, all taxpayers are not easy to deal with.”

Koué Eugénie (Chairperson of the Bodokro Women’s Group)

“This grant will motivate women to better do their job. In the past, we used to do things manually. We later used cattle driven ploughs. It was very slow and we used to lose the year’s harvest. We have just obtained a machine. We will be planting our crops on time.”

Yelamtou Ouattara
(Nangonièkaha Women’s Group Official)

Together we will fair better. The group is predominantly women. Today is a great day for us with the handing over of this farm equipment which will bring more members to our group.

Dr. Kodo, Djébonoua

The health centre was in a state of ruin. It was in a state of neglect. Since its rehabilitation, it is being frequented by patients and the staff is motivated to work.

Dr. Cyrille N’goran Kouassi,
Fish-breeding Centre

With the crisis, the main mechanisms for the production of fish fingerlings, especially the tilapia, the main species farmed in Côte d’Ivoire, had been destroyed or closed across the country.

With the project, we are relaunching fish production operations from quality biological material given that the Bouaké tilapia’s performance is remarkable. This biological material will be at the disposal of farmers, especially the small fish farmers, with a view to enabling them to relaunch operations in their farms.

Mrs. Emmou Eba Kouadio
Yamoussoukro ADB Modern College’s Principal

The Yamoussoukro ADB College was well built and equipped right from the start with furniture, rooms and laboratory equipment. We now work in two shifts.
Côte d'Ivoire
Production : ERCU
Coordination : Magatte WADE
Rédacteurs : Samba BA, Félix Tobin et Magatte Wade
Design : Yattien-Amiguet L.
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