The African Development Bank Group and Côte d’Ivoire
PARTNERING FOR GROWTH
Côte d’Ivoire at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>History</strong></th>
<th>Côte d’Ivoire gained independence from France on 7 August 1960</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geography</strong></td>
<td>From Côte d’Ivoire’s coastal lowland, the terrain gradually rises to a smooth forest plateau in the central region, and then to upland savannas in the north. Rainfall is heavy, particularly in the low coastal region. The rainy season is from May to October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital</strong></td>
<td>Yamoussoukro. The port city Abidjan is however the largest city in terms of Government and international business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
<td>22.8 million (July 2014 estimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Working population</strong></td>
<td>7.9 million (2013 estimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Official language</strong></td>
<td>French. Dioula is the most common local language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Currency</strong></td>
<td>CFA – West African Franc (US$ 1 = CFA 524 in November 2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GDP</strong></td>
<td>US$ 29 billion (2013 estimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GDP per capita (PPP)</strong></td>
<td>US$ 1,800 (2013 estimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy rate</strong></td>
<td>56.9% of the population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Religion</strong></td>
<td>Muslim 38.6%, Christian 32.8%, indigenous 11.9%, none 16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main sectors</strong></td>
<td>Agriculture (cocoa, palm oil, rubber, coffee), mining (gold), energy (oil)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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The African Development Bank Group and Côte d’Ivoire
PARTNERING FOR GROWTH
CÔTE D’IVOIRE
In 2014 and its 50th year, the African Development Bank is delighted to be back at its headquarters in Abidjan, after over 10 years of relocation in Tunis. I thank the government and people of Côte D’Ivoire for supporting our return and for making us feel at home once again.

We expected nothing less. This country was of course integral to the founding of the Bank, and then it invited us to set up our headquarters here in Abidjan. As our host of so many years – from 1965 to 2003, and now again from 2014 – it has played a key role in nurturing and grooming the Bank to adulthood.

We are a different Bank from the one that left Abidjan in 2003. We are bigger and more diversified: a fast moving Development Bank in a fast moving Development environment. Our Bank strategy for 2013-2022 puts us ‘At the centre of Africa’s transformation’, and - to be so - we have to be agile.

Yet it is constancy that underpins this agility. The Bank is faithful to the mission of its founding fathers to fight poverty and to support economic development in and between African countries. And it is faithful to its member countries. Since it began operations in this country in 1971, by the end of 2014 the Bank Group had financed over 70 operations here, worth some US$ 2.1 billion, or CFAF 1,376 billion.

Two-thirds of these operations have been financed through our non-concessional ADB window; and the remainder through the concessional ADF window. Of the total loans and grants, half have been spent in developing this country’s infrastructure, a quarter in agriculture and rural development, and nearly a fifth in the field of human development. The Bank Group has also supported capacity building and institutional reform in Côte d’Ivoire.

We hope that the return of more than 1000 people and their families will bring spin-off social and economic dividends for Abidjan and for this country, too. Our presence will also help to enhance the image of our host country, giving further confidence to investors as Côte d’Ivoire continues to re-establish itself as one of the growth engines of West Africa.

The Bank cherishes its cooperation with its host country, and this brochure illustrates some of the ways in which the partnership takes human and practical form.
The government and people of Côte d’Ivoire warmly welcome the African Development Bank Group as it returns to its headquarters in Abidjan in 2014. A growing and dynamic Bank has returned to a country which itself is growing and dynamic under the leadership of His Excellency President Alassane Ouattara.

The Bank is well on the way to establishing itself as Africa’s premier development finance institution, and Côte d’Ivoire is well on the way to establishing itself as a middle income country, and a place of security and prosperity. Our turnaround is remarkable. From a contraction of GDP growth of 4.7% in 2011, our growth rate rose to 9.8% and 8% in 2012 and 2013 respectively, and is projected to reach 10% in 2014.

With support from the Bank and other development partners, the Government has embarked on a massive infrastructure programme, involving the construction and repair of roads and bridges in Abidjan and beyond. We plan to build 1,000 km of tarmacked road each year, and to resurface 500 km of existing dirt roads, at a total annual cost of nearly US$ 250 million. Plans for a trans-West African highway are also taking shape, with the 1,000 km Lagos-Abidjan section central to the project.

Côte d’Ivoire is the fourth largest exporter of goods in sub-Saharan Africa, behind only South Africa, Nigeria and Angola. Its main export crops (coffee, cocoa, cashew, palm oil, cotton and rubber) are pivotal to the country’s growth. They, in turn, spur the manufacturing and transport sectors, and play a key role in poverty alleviation and job creation.

However, much of the country’s agricultural produce is exported unprocessed. In the field of agribusiness our country needs private investment to develop industry and to strengthen local capacity. We seek partnerships with the Bank and with others to explore business opportunities and promote further growth.

I welcome this publication and its refreshing narrative of planning, partnership and above all impact. I say welcome to the Bank: Akwaba!
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Fast facts

| Côte d’Ivoire becomes a member of the AfDB | 1964 |
| Bank Group commences operations in Côte d’Ivoire | 1971 |
| Bank Group operations in Côte d’Ivoire, 1967-2013 | 70 |
| Bank Group loan and grant approvals in Côte d’Ivoire, 1967-2013 | US$ 2.1 billion |
| Bank Group active operations in Côte d’Ivoire (2014) | 13 |
| Bank Group active loans and grants in Côte d’Ivoire (2014) | US$ 377.1 million |
1 The Bank and Côte d’Ivoire – a strategic partnership

A 50-year relationship

The African Development Bank and the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire are inextricably entwined – their roots go back 50 years.

The first President of the Republic, Felix Houphouët Boigny, was one of the Founding Fathers of the Bank, which was established to fight poverty, promote development, and encourage trade in and between its member countries. Having been one of those who signed it into being in 1964, Houphouët Boigny then invited the Bank to install itself in Abidjan in 1965.

From a staff of just 10 people in 1965 which had risen to some 990 by 2003, the Bank was physically present in Abidjan. Having occupied temporary offices at the National Assembly, Nour Al Hayat and Caisse de Stabilisation buildings, it moved to its Headquarters building on Rue Joseph Anoma in the Plateau District in the mid-1970s.

In the face of civil unrest in Côte d’Ivoire, it moved away in February 2003, and established a Temporary Relocation Agency in Tunis, where it remained for 11 years. The Bank’s return to its
Headquarters was officially sanctioned by its Board of Governors at the Annual Meetings of May 2013 in Marrakech. The first staff returned later the same year, while 1000 more had arrived by December 2014.

The Bank and the Ivorian flags were raised together at a ceremony on 9 September 2014, in the presence of the seventh President of the African Development Bank, Donald Kaberuka, and the Prime Minister of Côte d’Ivoire, Daniel Kablan Duncan.

Côte d’Ivoire – a 50-year journey

Under President Félix Houphouët-Boigny (1960-1993) Côte d’Ivoire prospered economically. The “Ivorian miracle”, derived from sound planning, strong ties with France, and the maximization of the country’s coffee and cocoa industries, which were to suffer in the 1980s in the wake of a sharp fall in the price of primary commodities.

The country maintained nearly 10% economic growth per year for twenty years in a row. However, the trend was disrupted in the 1990s following political unrest which reached a climax with a military coup in 1999. This was followed by 15 years of instability, with violent civil conflict from 2002-2004 and 2010-2011, and intermittent unrest in between those years.

The Côte d’Ivoire National Development Plan

Since the end of the first half of 2011, Côte d’Ivoire has embarked on a process of reconstruction, reconciliation and rehabilitation. It has stated its dual ambition of returning to its position as a driving force in the West African regional economy, and of becoming a middle-income country by 2020.


The Bank had finally returned home, and a partnership which had never been broken could fully flower again, says Pierre Wike Bi T, a retired Ivorian senior technician.

“The return of the African Development Bank is highly welcomed and appreciated by every Ivorian. We are pleased that the Bank is back in Côte d’Ivoire. This return itself has put smiles on the faces of Ivorians. We know what the African Development Bank stands for, and what it can do.”
account the new challenges which have arisen from the crises of the last decade. It also includes elements of the Millennium Development Goals agenda, and the agenda of President Alassane Ouattara.

Côte d’Ivoire believes that implementing the NDP will create the conditions required for lasting peace and stability. It believes that peace and stability will, in turn, foster long-term structural and economic transformation. Peace and stability also have the potential to restore the country’s regional leadership role. Another key element of the Plan is build and renovate the country’s infrastructure, using public-private partnerships which will, in turn, spur private sector development.

Côte d’Ivoire represents a major transit corridor for the sub-region because of its two ports in Abidjan and San Pedro. It is at the centre of a power interconnection grid linking Ghana to Togo and Benin, and also to Burkina and soon to Mali and the Mano River Union Countries (Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone).
A focus on Public-Private Partnerships to deliver infrastructure

The total amount of investment required to implement the NDP over the 2013-2015 period is estimated at US$ 19 billion, made up of US$ 8.4 billion to be provided by the public sector and US$ 10.6 billion from the private sector. Public sector investments will prioritize infrastructure, agriculture, justice and good governance, security, human capital, industry and SMEs, urban planning and housing. Meanwhile the private sector will support agri-business and public-private-partnership (PPP) in infrastructure development.

The NDP received strong support from its Ivorian stakeholders, as well as strong backing from the international financial community. As part of the NDP, sector strategies have also been prepared, especially the Agricultural Development Programme, the National Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Plan, the Industrial Development Action Plan, the Financial Sector Development Strategy, and the National Social Cohesion Plan. NDP implementation is making progress, as reflected in a 13.5 per cent increase in public and private investments in 2012, compared to 8.2 percent in 2011. The Government is now launched on the path of consolidating and building on this. Côte d’Ivoire now has a real opportunity for accelerated and even development, and its development partners have affirmed their commitment to increase their support.

The NDP is unfolding at a time rich in promise and opportunities, and also a time of continuing challenge as Côte d’Ivoire builds peace and security, and continues its efforts to achieve national reconciliation and social cohesion, alongside national reconstruction and economic recovery.
The response of the African Development Bank

The Bank tailors its support to reinforce the Government’s priorities and programmes. Immediately after the post-electoral crisis of 2011, it quickly developed a strategy to guide its rapid re-engagement in Côte d’Ivoire. This strategy has two aims: to strengthen and rehabilitate infrastructure and restore basic social services; and to improve governance and build capacity.

Soon afterwards, it approved two projects (an emergency programme to restore basic social and administrative services, and a ‘Post-Crisis Multi-Sector Institutional Support’ project). These were designed to meet the most immediate needs, particularly in the rehabilitation of health and educational establishments, the refurbishment of rural development administrative structures, the setting up of child protection centres, and the support for reconciliation in the former Centre-North-West (CNW) zones).

The Bank’s current Country Strategy Paper for Côte d’Ivoire (2013-2017) aims to support the National Development Plan. It was prepared after broad-based consultations. The Strategy is anchored on two pillars: strengthening governance and accountability; and developing infrastructure to support economic recovery. The Bank aims to strengthen social cohesion and inclusion, to improve access to decent employment, to upgrade financial governance, to promote the private sector and to develop infrastructure.

The Bank Group’s active portfolio reflects its current strategy in Côte d’Ivoire. At the end of December 2014, it comprised 13 projects, amounting to US$ 377.1 million. These operations are mainly infrastructure projects carried out in the context of post-conflict reconstruction. Half of the resources are allocated to the private sector for projects such as the construction of the Henri Konan Bédié Bridge in Abidjan, and the extension of the Azito Power Plant and the CIPREL power station.

The Bank is also financing projects designed to strengthen social cohesion and reconciliation in the former CNW zones. It does this by financing income-generating activities for community agricultural groups, using technology to aid marketing, and empowering women (particularly former victims of violence during the periods of crisis).

Going forward, the Bank will build on its lending operations in Côte d’Ivoire with a series of analytical works, capacity and institutional building activities, emergency rehabilitation operations, and technical assistance designed to help policy dialogue and also support the implementation of the NDP.
Cathédrale Saint-Paul, Abidjan
The Bank Group commenced operations in Côte d’Ivoire in 1971, and by the end of August 2014 it had financed over 70 operations at an estimated value of US$ 2.1 billion. The operations were funded mainly through the non-concessional ADB window, which accounted for some 70 per cent of the approvals.

The Bank Group’s portfolio in Côte D’Ivoire has always been diverse. Nearly half of its work has been in developing infrastructure. Within the field of infrastructure, transport received 26 per cent of funds, followed by energy at 36 per cent, telecommunications at 10 per cent, and water and sewerage at 12 per cent.

11 per cent of funds have supported agricultural and rural development, and 18 per cent have supported human capital development. Capacity building and institutional reforms (classified under “multi-sector” operations) constituted a further 11 per cent.
# AfDB project portfolio in Côte d’Ivoire in US $* (December 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Loan/grant amount</th>
<th>Agreement signed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public sector projects</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Targeted Support and Capacity Building Project</td>
<td>2.9 million</td>
<td>1 March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Emergency Programme to Restore Basic Social and Administrative Services</td>
<td>8.0 million</td>
<td>10 June 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Gourou Watershed Integrated Management Project</td>
<td>33.6 million</td>
<td>10 June 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Agricultural Infrastructure Project in the Indénié-Djuablin Region</td>
<td>31.5 million</td>
<td>20 March 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Waste water project (Africa Water Facility)</td>
<td>1.6 million</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Support to improve young people’s employability</td>
<td>27.4 million</td>
<td>6 December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Electricity network interconnection project (Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea)</td>
<td>48.2 million</td>
<td>22 November 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Support for Social Cohesion and economic reintegration project</td>
<td>43.8 million</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public sector sub-total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>197.1 million</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private sector projects</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Côte d’Ivoire MicroCred (equity participation)</td>
<td>0.9 million</td>
<td>11 June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 African Private Sector Assistance Fund</td>
<td>0.9 million</td>
<td>11 June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Henri Konan Bédié Toll Bridge</td>
<td>75.2 million</td>
<td>28 June 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 AZITO expansion</td>
<td>38.0 million</td>
<td>22 October 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Electric Power Plant Extension Project (CIPREL)</td>
<td>64.8 million</td>
<td>14 August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total private sector</strong></td>
<td>180 million</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total public &amp; private sector</strong></td>
<td>377.1 million</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portfolio sector breakdown

Best known among the Bank-funded projects in Côte d’Ivoire in the 20th Century and the first decade of the 21st Century are the Azito power project, the Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support project and the Gender-Based Multi-sector Support Project which won the United States Treasury Department ‘Development Impact Award’ in 2013.

Strengthening infrastructure – transport

Côte d’Ivoire has relatively well-developed infrastructure backbones. It has a good national power grid and a national Information and Communication Technology (ICT) backbone. The northern regions are connected with the rest of the country, despite their low population density. Côte d’Ivoire’s infrastructure networks (including road, rail, power, and ICT) are generally integrated with those of neighbouring Burkina Faso.

Côte d’Ivoire can develop its infrastructure potential and turn it into wealth to benefit the country and future generations. For this reason the government is reforming its infrastructure to attract private sector investment and to build a competitive economy.

The Bank Group is currently financing five operations in infrastructure, at an estimated value of US$ 174.3 million.

Efficient and safe transport infrastructure and services have been and will be key drivers of Côte d’Ivoire’s economic growth. But protracted instability has led to the destruction of infrastructure and low maintenance which in turn has resulted in higher road transport costs and a significant decline in the quality of service.

The shipping sub-sector, which handles 90 per cent of the country’s merchandise, is also facing constraints due to
inadequate infrastructure. These include inadequate port facilities, especially in the narrow Vridi canal which prevents large ships from berthing in Abidjan Port. There is also congestion in port areas, and a lack of maritime and port security. The transport potential of a fully navigable 300-km stretch of the inland lagoons is virtually untapped, due to a lack of loading wharfs and the port company’s weak capacity.

To date the Bank has approved US$ 28.1 million in loans and grants to the transport sub-sector. These include financing channelled to road sector studies, the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing roads, and the design of a road management reform programme. A better road network will improve access to agricultural regions and improve connections with neighbouring countries.

**A PROJECT IN FOCUS...**

The Henri Konan Bédié toll bridge (Abidjan)

The African Development Bank is supporting the construction of a major public-private partnership (PPP) infrastructure project scheduled for completion at the end of 2014. The Henri Konan Bédié toll bridge is designed to alleviate the current traffic problems in Abidjan, and to provide future direction for highway infrastructure in Côte d’Ivoire.

The existing roads and bridges – including the Félix Houphouët Boigny Bridge – are under severe pressure from the city’s growing traffic. The new bridge being built by the French construction company Bouygues will connect two of Abidjan’s major districts (Riviera in the north, and Marcory in the south), removing over 10 km of stressful traffic congestion. 100,000 vehicles will be able to cross the new bridge each day.

The project is the first PPP-funded toll road project in Côte d’Ivoire, and is among the first private city toll projects built in a post-conflict country in Africa. Several bilateral and multilateral institutions, including the Bank, are involved in mobilizing the necessary funds which are estimated at €232 million.

Desire Bouabi, a young student who jogs daily in that area, says that the beauty of the toll bridge project lies in its two 1.5-km three-lane carriageways, its toll gate and its inter-sectional exchanges on the Riviera axis.

"Every time I pass by I am captivated. I spend a long time admiring the excellent engineering works going on. This project reminds me that peace is stability, and stability underscores development. Our young brothers and sisters go to Europe at great cost to see development like this, but I am happy that such development projects are also coming our way. The cost may be high, but given the rapid urbanization towards Bingerville, the project is very important. We have friends beyond Côte d’Ivoire who are supporting our efforts to rebuild."

Other passers-by also expressed satisfaction with the Third Bridge and the Toll project, feeling that the management and maintenance arrangements put in place would ensure their sustainability. Poor maintenance culture has been an obstacle to the country’s infrastructure projects.
Strengthening infrastructure – energy

A reliable power supply is vital for the productive and social sectors of the economy. However, the country’s energy sector faces structural difficulties, including low generating capacity to meet growing demand. This is the consequence of the low volume of investment in the sector over the past decade. Ageing generating, transmission and distribution infrastructure, high levels of energy losses, as well as a lack of resources to finance renewable energy and hydro-power have seriously affected the supply of reliable, clean and low-cost energy. Although 74 per cent of households in Côte d’Ivoire live in electrified areas, only about 28 per cent are actually connected to the grid.

The strengthening of infrastructure, especially in power generation, is therefore essential to promote inclusive economic growth and to achieve the NDP objectives. The ongoing work on the construction and extension of hydro-power plants will help to reduce the country’s electricity deficit and provide surplus for export to neighbouring countries.

An expansion of the existing power supply will enable Côte d’Ivoire to respond effectively to growing demand and maintain its position as a net energy importer. The current operations include the extension of the Azito Power Plant through a Bank-supported public-private partnership to construct two 144-megawatt power plants. These investments are expected to save US$ 4 million in energy costs each year, and enable the country to graduate from being a net importer of electricity to being a net exporter.

In addition, the Bank Group recently agreed to finance the expansion of the Electricity Production Company (CIPREL) power plant, to the tune of €50 million. This investment will increase the power generation capacity of the plant from 321 MW to 543 MW. It will also support the development of a sustainable approach through the recovery of heat losses from the existing system, in order to produce more electricity and create jobs for the Ivorian people.
The Bank-supported Azito Power Plant is a flagship project in Côte d’Ivoire. The facility is the most important of the country’s six electricity generating plants: three of these (including Azito) are natural gas-powered plants, and three are hydroelectricity stations. The Koussou, Taabo and Buyo power stations in the interior of the country are powered by prominent rivers such as the Sassandra, which flows through the country from north to south.

Natural gas plants – such as CIPREL, Vrdi Power and Azito – are located a maximum of 8 km from the coast, in the lagoon areas of Abidjan. The Azito Project is sited in the village of Azito in the Youpougon district, about 6 km west of the Abidjan sea port. Côte d’Ivoire was the first Sub-Saharan African country to turn to the private sector to expand its electricity generation capacity in the early 1990s, and by the end of 2013 had reached an installed capacity of about 1,632 MW.

Côte d’Ivoire aims to double its electricity generation capacity by 2020. Power interconnection projects are being constructed under the West Africa Power Pool, aimed at connecting Côte d’Ivoire to several West African countries including Ghana, Burkina Faso, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The Azito Expansion Project – with a capacity of 288 MW – is being financed by the Bank to incorporate a 139 MW steam turbine powered by the exhaust heat of the existing turbines to produce a 426 MW combined cycle thermal plant.

One striking feature of the Azito plant is the tight security mounted around it. Officials like Corporal Amadou emphasised the importance of taking adequate security measures to protect the plant: “This is a very important project in Côte d’Ivoire for regional integration and cooperation, and our presence here ensures the continuous availability of reliable and affordable electricity in the country and the sub-region”.

By supporting this power infrastructure, the Bank is addressing key private sector objectives such as enhancing the environment for private sector-led economic development and growth. The project also promotes the Bank’s Regional Integration Strategy for West Africa, as well as its “green growth” agenda.
Strengthening infrastructure — water & sanitation

The Bank has devoted significant resources towards improving access to safe drinking water and public health, and bettering the general living conditions of the Ivorian people. Its Rural Water Project has constructed nearly 1,000 boreholes, improved numerous small rural water systems, and harnessed over 10 springs to serve more than 400,000 people across 10 districts in the south-western region of the country.

The project improved access to potable water, improved living conditions, reduced disparities in access to drinking water, and increased economic productivity thanks to improved sanitation and reduced time in fetching water.

Among the ten projects approved by the African Water Facility (AWF) in Côte d’Ivoire since January 2013, six are small strategic investments aimed at improving the sanitation value-chain for the urban poor. These projects have empowered women in particular, by making them responsible for social marketing and managing micro-credit organizations. In addition, young people have benefitted from these projects, which have generated employment opportunities in the waste re-use value chain.

Closing the gender economic gap and empowering youth is essential to economic growth in Africa. In 2013, the AWF launched a number of sanitation projects in Côte d’Ivoire, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, and Uganda that include components designed to deliver special benefits to women and young people.

These sanitation projects promote women’s employment: 440 out of 960 newly created jobs are for women. They also help women entrepreneurs to provide improved sanitation services. Young people will also benefit from opportunities allowing them to take part in small businesses in the sanitation sector. It is expected that more than 1,300 entry level jobs will be created in these small businesses, especially in Fragile States and more vulnerable cities, including some cities in northern Côte d’Ivoire, Monrovia in Liberia, and Ziguinchor in Senegal.
The project involves implementing basin-wide work to ensure better drainage of water toward the drainage outlet (especially at the Indénié interchange), improved environmental management and treatment of solid waste, and a new planning approach to basin-wide integrated water management. The project has been implemented over 36 months from January 2011, at an estimated cost of CFAF 18.2 billion.

The basin’s problems derive from persistent flooding caused by unplanned urbanization, poor road construction, poor solid waste management, soil erosion, and an inability to cope with storm drainage which causes traffic jams at the Indenie interchange. A major highway junction adjacent to the Gourou valley – which connects the areas of Agban, Williamsville, Deux Plateaux, and Abobo – also becomes inaccessible during heavy rains.

The project unfolded in several phases. The first (emergency) phase involved rehabilitating and constructing retarding basins, drainage channels and their connections to the main canal. It also produced a study to define the measures required to implement a sustainable sanitation and drainage strategy for the Basin. The activities implemented upstream of the basin during this phase aim at preventing flooding and reducing solid waste accumulating around the Indénié interchange, thus allowing for easier drainage at the interchange. These measures involved cleaning out and rehabilitating canals around Indénié, and dredging and reinforcing the Lagoon outfalls downstream of the Basin which have been financed by the World Bank. The Bank’s immediate work has aimed to speed up the implementation of measures designed to reduce flooding at the Indénié intersection.

“Since the work has been done in Gourou Valley, I can now safely cross the road intersection without fear of being carried away by flood water,” says Fanta, who lives on the opposite side of Williamsville hill top.

“We have had a lot of rain for some years now, and a project like this has been a long time coming. But better late than never,” says Ngotta Yao, a Taxi driver. “The story of the Gourou Basin has been a difficult one in the past. You would hear of soldiers hiding...
to attack the nearby Agban Military Camp uphill, thieves running into the swampy valleys, or children being washed away by flood waters. Those sad stories are now history. Today, thanks to the Bank’s support for this project, we are seeing something new, and more cheerful. The project is still in its emergency phase, but already it gives us hope. It’s a fine piece of hydraulic engineering work. At least, we need not tremble again when rain clouds gather in the sky. The Bank and other development partners have rallied round our government to respond once and for all to a real emergency situation. It is always to comment on works that save lives!”

Under the management of the Ministry of Family, Women and Social Affairs, the project is changing attitudes and behaviour, especially in the use of the so-called ‘no man’s lands’. The environment is being restored, fresh air returns, and people and districts are no longer cut off from one another.

Yao continued: “I am among the immediate beneficiaries as I live in Plateau Dokui, one of the four heavily populated districts of Abidjan, which has three million people. But the entire city which has a population of over five million, stands to benefit from the reinforced sanitation network which had clearly collapsed at the Basin before the project. They will benefit from improved land use, and better hygiene and sanitary conditions which will help reduce the incidence of malaria, cholera and other water-borne diseases. Some 2,300 jobs have been created, while the Industrial Zone, Vridi and Port-Bouet have received a new lease of life. You could never have imagined this site a few months ago. I cannot wait to see the project completed.”

Zoumana Desire, who drives a “woro-woro” taxi in the Adjame area, comments:

“Before the project began, people were very apprehensive about the coming of the rainy season. This is because the rains – even the light showers – often turned the place into a raging flood, unleashing landslides and all kinds of disaster. It’s incredible to think that this project site was such a notorious death trap just a few months ago. People avoided passing this way if they could. Deaths through drowning (especially children) and lost houses occurred with every flood. Districts were cut off from one another, and economic life often came to a standstill for
The agriculture sector contributes 26 per cent of Côte d’Ivoire’s GDP, 40 per cent of its export revenue, and about 75 per cent of its non-oil export revenue. About 75 per cent of the country’s land is arable, and soil quality and agro-climatic conditions are good for the production of a variety of tropical crops. Yet only 42 per cent of the arable land is in use.

The sector remains one of the main drivers of economic growth in Côte d’Ivoire, despite a decrease due to the decline in the price of cash crops and the decade of political crisis.

The National Agricultural Investment Programme (PNIA) provides new opportunities for the recovery, based on public-private partnership, and the development of production marketing and processing infrastructure. This bodes well for better food security and greater production and export of processed goods. The growing involvement of the private sector provides another opportunity for Côte d’Ivoire to bring extra funds into the sector, and to turn smallholder farming into modern competitive agriculture which is fully integrated into the regional and world markets.

Cumulatively, the Bank’s investments in the agricultural sector have provided potable water, diversified crop production and enhanced food security. They have improved the quality of meat production, and increased productivity and rural incomes. They have promoted forestation, and supported reforms in the agricultural sector.

The Gourou Basin itself covers approximately 28.6 km and stretches along 9 km from North to South into the Ebrie Lagoon, the Wridi Canal and the Gulf of Guinea. The Basin, its plains and surrounding districts are home to over 2.5 million people, notably in Abobo, Adjame, Plateau Dokui, Anyama, Il Plateau and Williamsville.

The Gourou Integrated Watershed Management Project is critical to the development effort in Abidjan. It involves rehabilitating canals and implementing basin-wide strategic operations to ensure better drainage, better environmental management and treatment of solid waste. It also builds a sense of responsibility. While the people of Adjamé, Abobo, Cocody and Plateau will benefit directly from the project, all Ivorians will feel its results.

N’Guessan Kwadjo Jean, traditional Chief of Bodokro Village, 120 km from Bouake, says:

“The African Development Bank has proved it is a true African institution by coming to this remote village to support us. The Bank has made us known, and we have become part of human race. The Bank’s project has shown us the way, the cooperative agricultural way. We are very happy with what is already happening in our farms but we need to get our produce to the market in Bouake. We would like even more Bank presence here and in all our four big villages. We need a means of getting our produce to market. We need better roads. We need transport. With the Bank, we know our labours will not be in vain.”
The Bank is currently financing the Agricultural Infrastructure Support Project in the Indénié-Djuablin Region (PAIA-ID). The project will sustainably increase the production and productivity of the major crops. It will develop infrastructure, and restore the conditions for the production and marketing of agricultural products. It will also build the organizational and institutional capacities which are needed to boost agricultural production.

The project will rehabilitate some 920 ha of irrigated lowlands and 620 km of rural roads. It will construct 40 boreholes and improve seven village water supply systems. It will install 100 hand pumps, and construct two agricultural produce collection and assembling centres, eight collection centres, ten food crop markets, 24 food storage warehouses, two shelters for rice hulling machines, and 20 cocoa drying sheds. It will also supply 20 cocoa quality kits, train business operators, and build the institutional capacity of rural technical support services.
The project will directly involve 9,000 small holdings, representing about 35 per cent of farms in the area. It will also benefit about 100,000 local inhabitants by improving rural roads and the supply of drinking water. It is estimated that a quarter of the total population of the region – and over 40 per cent of the rural population – will benefit from the project. It will create 3,000 permanent jobs, and help to increase the annual food production of the region from the current 280,000 tonnes to 340,500 tonnes by 2017: a 20 per cent increase.
A PROJECT IN FOCUS...

‘Response to the Food Crisis in the Sahel Program’ (‘P2RS’)
Building resilience to drought and famine through sustainable agriculture in the Sahel

The African Development Bank has been engaged in the Sahel over the past three decades, and it is still bringing new initiatives to the region. The objective is to make the Sahel a region that will enjoy lasting peace through strengthening regional integration, resilience and inclusive economic growth. To achieve this goal, in 2013 the Bank developed the Sahel Program as a response to the food crisis in the region.

The Bank is developing the ‘Response to the Food Crisis in the Sahel Program’ (‘P2RS’) covering 13 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo. The project aims to restore the resilience of households to natural disasters, and to the disruption to the food supply that they bring. Food insecurity is seen as a long-term and structural development challenge, and the work is therefore focused on reducing recurrent food insecurity through building rural infrastructure, supporting climate change adaptation, and promoting disaster risk reduction measures. The first phase of the program is funded by the African Development Fund, and will be implemented in partnership with the Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), in concert with Government ministries. The program will run in two, five-year phases.
Supporting the emergence from conflict

Developing artisanal skills among girls and women in Danane

The Bank’s Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project enabled many Ivorians, especially vulnerable groups including women and girls to cope with the immediate impact of the conflict through the delivery of essential services in critical areas such as agriculture, education, health and rural development. This went a long way in reunifying the country, consolidating peace and providing a safe environment for the return of internal refugees.

Adjo Eugenie, President of Bodokro Joint Women’s Associations, says:

“The African Development Bank is winning the battle in more than twelve big villages in this Central Bandama region, from Bodokro to Sakassou. And these women are its committed foot soldiers! We especially thank the Bank for building storage warehouses for us to preserve our produce from getting rotten. Thanks to the Bank we have 100 tractors, over 50 motorized cultivators, and five new water pumping machines. We are very grateful, and we are appealing to the Bank to continue its good work.”

Luc Gnepa, IT specialist and Acting Chairman of the Ivorian Republican and Democratic Alliance, sees AfDB as credible partner of progress to the country:

“The recent post crisis assistance of the African Development Bank to our dear country, Côte d’Ivoire, shows that the Bank is really concerned, as an African institution that understands the problems of African countries. The Bank is a credible institution in this country.”
A PROJECT IN FOCUS...
The Gender-Based Multi-sector Support Project
Supporting women brutalized by conflict

In 2013, a Bank-funded project in Côte d’Ivoire won a US Treasury Department ‘Development Impact Award’. The project operated across a number of sectors, and was designed to support the country’s emergence from conflict. A key element of it – funded to the tune of US$ 3.1 million – set out to rehabilitate women and girls who had been brutalized by conflict. Implemented over a five-year period from 2007-2012 at a total cost of US$ 20 million, the project covered the northern, central and western parts of the country.

Côte d’Ivoire’s political crisis in 2001 had serious humanitarian consequences. Gender-based violence became a big impediment to female livelihoods, with sexual violence used as a weapon of war. Without supportive institutions or access to legal redress and services, women and girl children were especially vulnerable.

The project benefitted some 3,500 women directly, and thousands more indirectly. It has since embarked on a more holistic provision of support through a number of schemes. The service centres it established offer an integrated package of medical, psychosocial, economic, legal and judiciary services for survivors of gender-based violence. Women are also encouraged to take part in income-generating projects – empowering them economically, and reducing their social isolation and stigma.

“One of the project’s important achievements was that it gave women access to maternal and health services, and gave children access to rehabilitated schools.” General Secretary, Korogho Prefecture

“I was treated for free, and the way that staff visited my home reassured my family and made them feel respected.” Survivor, Guiglo
“By coming together, we have become autonomous.”
Mrs. Diaby Bamba, president of a group that processes cashew nuts in Dabakala.

“The project has given me the means to earn money by taking part in something that lets me provide my children with the food and care they need. Now, when the family needs to make a decision, I too have a say.”
Project beneficiary, Bouake

“Widows who have been abused, women who were raped or beaten – these women were welcomed in groups, in the community.”

Dr. Anne Ambroise, UNFPA Coordinator, Korhogo

“Now the community knows that it mustn’t harm people. Now it knows that women are protected.”
Survivor, 16 years old.
A PROJECT IN FOCUS...

The ‘Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project’
Strengthening the State to deliver essential services and help the vulnerable

Financed with concessional African Development Fund (ADF) resources to the tune of US$ 30.4 million, the Institutional and Multisector Crisis-exit Support Project (PAIMSC) focuses on emergency actions to restore the normal functioning of the administration and the return to peace. It does so through the delivery of essential services such as education, health and rural development. Its aim is to assist the reunifying of the country, consolidating peace and providing a safe environment for the return of internal refugees.

One part of the project supports the re-establishment of State authority in the Centre-North-West (CNW) areas, with the restoration of primary education, health and rural development services. A second part of the project consolidates peace and national reconciliation, especially by supporting women who are victims of violence, and supporting organizations which provide care to vulnerable groups.
A PROJECT IN FOCUS...

The ‘Targeted Support & Capacity Reinforcement Project’
Improving governance for sustainable development and inclusive growth

Like other Bank-funded post-conflict assistance programmes in Côte d’Ivoire, the Targeted Support and Capacity Reinforcement Project (TSCRP) is an all-embracing and comprehensive project. It focused on governance, prospective development, support to national development plans, and support to poverty reduction programmes.

The project established and defined a national policy framework on governance, called the ‘Jurista’. It trained 40 Commercial and Trade Magistrates and 15 Court coordination personnel to handle governance issues and manage Commercial Tribunals. It helped to define and improve governance and social accountability procedures across the country, and also informed and involved communities in this process. In preparing the implementation of a revamped National Development Plan (as adopted in 2013), it also helped with the allocation of prospective financial resources. It also established data collection procedures and a database for National Development Programmes.

Centre hospitalier universitaire de Yopougon, Abidjan
A key element of the work was to involve the Ivorian people in the National Development Plan, through a national communication programme. It also prepared project briefs which formed the basis of an international donor conference in Paris, which yielded US$ 8 billion in pledges for Côte d’Ivoire in December 2012.

N’dia Youssouf, Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Planning, oversees and coordinates this vast country-wide programme. “The African Development Bank is helping us overcome the negative effects of conflict. The various tools at its disposal – such as budget support and the funds it sets aside for fragile states – have helped us implement our recovery and social programmes. The project has helped us launch a major structural realignment agenda, in line with Côte d’Ivoire’s drive to be an emerging nation by 2040.”

Kouame Koffi, Director of Project Follow-up and Evaluation, said that before 2010, Côte d’Ivoire did not have any legal framework on good governance, and nor did it have specific guidelines for the collection of countrywide data for national planning purposes. “Today, thanks to this Bank-sponsored project, we now have these necessary key instruments. We have also developed computerized programmes and training modules so that our people can carry out governance operations across the country.”

Kacou N’cho Richard, a planning officer in the Ministry, said: “The project is building a critical mass of middle income people throughout the country, thereby promoting private sector development. It’s also encouraging proper consideration of gender issues in national development decisions.”

In 2013-2014, the project trained 3000 students at the Felix Houphouët Boigny National Higher Institute (ENSTP) at Yamoussoukro. It also established a Multimedia Centre at the Institute, which has trained 1500 students. With 200 qualified teachers trained each year, ENSTP can now send as many as 15 teachers on bilateral training exchange programmes each year, and receive some 20 in return.

Pelagie Gonto, a TV journalist in charge of communicating the project to the people of Côte d’Ivoire, said: “For me, the project should not be viewed in its own, but it should be seen alongside other Bank-funded public sector projects in the past. The new budget support projects and programmes are promoting productivity, changing development culture, and making the missing links. The project is improving capacity, especially by computerizing and automating our national operations systems. Ivorians have realised the importance of moving with the times, towards achieving the national vision for 2040.”

Traore Salifou, a Strategic Planning Expert, agreed: “These projects are contributing to the restoration of public services in the areas of governance, planning, education, health and rural development of this country. They are building the capacities of public structures and civil society organizations in the management of emergency and economic recovery issues.”
Supporting Small Businesses in Côte d’Ivoire

AfDB Partners with MicroCred with a €1.1 million credit line

The African Development Bank partners with MicroCred Côte d’Ivoire with a €1.1 million investment aimed at strengthening the small businesses sector in Côte d’Ivoire.

The investment was approved in March 2010 for the creation of a new microfinance bank (MicroCred Côte d’Ivoire, MCI) to facilitate access to financial services for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). In addition, the Bank’s Private Sector Development trust fund provided €0.7 million in technical assistance to MCI.

Geared to consolidate economic growth, MCI was expected to create over 550 jobs within the company and some 36,000 in MSMEs, of which just over half would be held by women.

MicroCred strategy in Africa is structured around three main axes. First, the establishment of new microfinance institutions in urban areas in countries with strong economic potential. Second, the provision of a range of diversified products for segmented customers, including credit and savings, and also insurance and other financial services. Third, injecting capital into Greenfield microfinance institutions in Africa.

The MCI project will be a milestone for the Bank financial intermediation for SMEs and promoting microfinance. It will also strengthen the ties with development partners, and will allow technical partners with a viable business model to expand across regions.

The investment will help MCI increase its commitments to sections of the market which are currently underserved. It will allow poor households and small businesses to have access to different types of financial service, improving incomes and bringing growth to more parts of the community.
Fostering regional integration

A cross-border electricity project

The Bank has launched a project to connect the electricity networks of Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, which is valued at US$ 500 million. It will involve the construction of about 1,400 km of high voltage line to connect the national networks, and the construction of 11 sub-stations and two regional control centers.

The Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea (CLSG) Interconnection project will maximize the huge hydroelectric potential of the region by offering the possibility of electric power trade between the four countries within the larger West African market. It will therefore play a major role in the wider task of regional integration. During the first phase, the project will enable Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea to import electricity from Côte d’Ivoire.

It aims to increase the average rate of access to electricity in the four countries from 28 to 33 per cent, electrifying 125 locations along the transmission line as well as 70 schools, 30 health centres and nearly 1,500 small commercial and industrial enterprises, of which a quarter are owned by women. Directly benefiting from the project are the 24 million inhabitants living in its target impact area the four countries involved who will enjoy reliable electric power at a competitive cost.

The interconnection will be implemented between 2014 and 2017, with total Bank Group financing estimated at US$ 190 million, representing 40 per cent of the total project cost.
# The AfDB at a glance

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<th>Shareholders</th>
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<td>25 non-African countries</td>
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| Mission                                        | To promote sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty in Africa |

| Authorized Capital, December 2013             | US$ 103.15 billion                |
| Subscribed Capital, December 2013             | US$ 100.42 billion                |
| Paid-up Capital, December 2013                | US$ 7.64 billion                  |
| Callable Capital, December 2013               | US$ 92.79 billion                 |
| Total Reserves, December 2013                 | US$ 4.40 billion                  |

| Approved Operations, 2013 of which:           | 317 operations totalling US$ 6.76 billion |
| Loan                                           | US$ 4.40 billion (93 operations)         |
| Grants                                         | US$ 1,073.38 million (114 operations)    |
| Highly Indebted Poor Countries                | US$ 34.34 million (2 operations)         |
| Equity Participation                           | US$ 153.23 million (10 operations)       |
| Guarantees                                     | US$ 664.82 million (6 operations)        |
| Loan Reallocation                              | US$ 27.41 million (1 operation)          |
| Special Funds                                  | US$ 390.24 million (91 operations)       |

| Loan and Grant Approvals by Sector, 2013       | Infrastructure: US$ 3.16 billion (57.6 percent) |
|                                                | Multisector: US$ 691.78 million (12.6 percent) |
|                                                | Agriculture and Rural Development:         |
|                                                | US$ 660.17 million (12.0 percent)          |
|                                                | Social: US$ 515.59 million (9.4 percent)   |
|                                                | Finance: US$ 443.52 million (8.1 percent)  |
|                                                | Environment: US$ 14.17 million (0.3 percent)|
|                                                | Urban development: US$ 0.46 million (0.01 percent)|

| Total Loan and Grants Approvals, 1967-2013     | 4,003 loans and grants totalling US$ 103.52 billion |

Cumulative Bank Group operations 1967-2013 (in million USD)