

INITIAL PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Location: Nouakchott, Mauritania

Name of Applicant: Meridiam Infrastructure Africa Fund

Name of Project: ARISE Mauritania Port

Project Description: The proposed Project consists of the development, construction, and operation of a new container and oil terminal south of the city of Nouakchott, Mauritania. The Project is located in the existing Port of Nouakchott, which handles containers, bulk, and tankers. Specifically, the Project will entail:

- Construction of a 570-meter main berth, a 7.2 ha container yard, and extension of the existing breakwater by ~100 meters;
- Capital dredging to expand/deepen the existing navigation channel and port basin to -15.7 meters depth. Total volume of dredged material is expected to be ~ 5.2 million m³, and the dredged material will be disposed of at sea;
- Demolition of the existing oil jetty and pipelines, and provision of three new oil pipelines and one gas pipeline (total length of ~500 meters);
- Connection to the national water supply, power supply, and telecommunication networks; and construction of back-up diesel generators, earthing, substation equipment and building, and cabling from substation to the port equipment/facilities/buildings; and
- Construction of other facilities, including an administration building, control room, workshop building, sanitary and rest area building, fencing, upgrading of existing warehouses, parking area, empty container yard (3.5 ha), port navigation lights, weighbridge, reefer gantry, wastewater treatment plant, hazardous material and waste storage facility, and a worker accommodation camp.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale: The Project has been reviewed against OPIC's categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. The Project is screened as Category A because it is likely to have significant adverse environmental and social impacts that are irreversible, sensitive, diverse, and/or unprecedented. The primary environmental and social issues include sediment mobilization and potential adverse impacts on the marine environment due to dredging and dredge spoil disposal; community nuisance impacts such as noise dust and increased traffic associated with the construction works; occupational health & safety and overall workforce protections; waste management; and ballast management.

Environmental and Social Standards: OPIC's environmental and social due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts that must be managed in a manner consistent with the following of the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) 2012 Performance Standards:

- PS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts;
- PS 2: Labor and Working Conditions;

- PS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention;
- PS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security; and
- PS 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

PS 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement; PS 7: Indigenous Peoples; and PS 8: Cultural Heritage are not triggered by the Project at this time.

In addition to the Performance Standards listed above, the following IFC Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines are applicable to this project:

- IFC EHS General Guidelines (April 30, 2007); and
- IFC EHS Guidelines for Ports, Harbors, and Terminals (April 30, 2007).

Location of Local Access to Project Information:

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