

 Early Warning System

AFDB-P-TZ-F00-013

Tanzania - Submarine Cable to Zanzibar Project



Quick Facts

Countries	Tanzania
Specific Location	Unguja and Pemba Islands (Zanzibar) and Mafia Island
Financial Institutions	African Development Bank (AFDB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2025-07-16
Borrower	Government of Tanzania
Sectors	Energy, Infrastructure
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 282.07 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 282.07 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 282.57 million



Project Description

As stated by the AfDB, the Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase access to clean reliable energy services in Tanzania and strengthening power supply to Unguja and Pemba Islands (Zanzibar) and Mafia Island. This would be achieved through installation of submarine power cables to reinforce the power transfer infrastructure capacity from Mainland Tanzania to the three Islands accompanied by Last-Mile connectivity and promotion of Clean Cooking Initiatives countrywide. The Project will catalyze creation of job opportunities and improve the quality of life of Tanzanians.

The communities and businesses in Unguja and Pemba Islands with a combined population of 1.9 million people 40% of youth will benefit from increased reliable power supply. In the case of Mafia Island which has a population of over 66,000, for the first-time, local community, businesses, public facilities and the tourism industry will enjoy the benefits of stable and reliable supply of electricity from Tanzania's main powergrid, catalyzing creation of job for youth currently engaged in artisanal fishing activities. Further, energy from prospective Independent Power Producers on the three Islands can be easily integrated in the strengthened grid system. Upon commissioning of the submarine power cables, TANESCO will decommission 3MW diesel generators on Mafia Island. The "last mile" and "clean cooking" components of the project will be implemented nationwide, benefiting 100,000 households, SMEs, public establishments, and institutions with electricity connections and 70,000 additional households with clean cooking appliances. During its implementation and operation, the project will generate 2,400 jobs (1,400 direct and 1,000 indirect), of which 40% will be for young people and 25% for women. This will add value in terms of poverty reduction. In addition, the project will generate 4,150 induced jobs in the project area in the form of small businesses such as restaurants, small shops, mobile banking services, grocery stores, transportation services, etc..

The implementing company will be Tanzania Electric Supply Company LTD (TANESCO).



Investment Description

- African Development Bank (AFDB)



Private Actors Description

As stated on the World Benchmarking Alliance's website, Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) is a fully state-owned company headquartered in Tanzania. In 2021 its revenue was USD 0.99 billion. TANESCO was formed in 1975 when Tanzania's two electric utilities were nationalised and merged. The company generates, transmits, distributes and supplies electricity to mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.



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Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	Tanzania Electric Supply Company Ltd. (TANESCO)	Contractor	Energy



Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/request-for-documents>. Under the AfDB's Disclosure and Access to Information policy, if you feel the Bank has omitted to publish information or your request for information is unreasonably denied, you can file an appeal at <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/appeals-process>.

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF AfDB

The Independent Review Mechanism (IRM), which is administered by the Compliance Review and Mediation Unit (CRMU), is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who have been or are likely to be adversely affected by an African Development Bank (AfDB)-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the IRM, it may assist you by either seeking to address your problems by facilitating a dispute resolution dialogue between you and those implementing the project and/or investigating whether the AfDB complied with its policies to prevent environmental and social harms. You can submit a complaint electronically by emailing crmuinfo@afdb.org, b.kargougou@afdb.org, b.fall@afdb.org, and/or s.toure@afdb.org. You can learn more about the IRM and how to file a complaint at: <https://www.afdb.org/en/independent-review-mechanism/>



Bank Documents

- [PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT](#)
- [RAPPORT D'ÉVALUATION DE PROJET](#)
- [REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement Plan](#)