Early Warning System

# AFDB-P-ZA-BB0-006

## South Africa - Nyanza Light Metals

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### Quick Facts

| | |
|---|---|
| **Countries** | South Africa |
| **Specific Location** | Richard's Bay Industrial Development Zone |
| **Financial Institutions** | African Development Bank (AFDB) |
| **Status** | Approved |
| **Bank Risk Rating** | A |
| **Voting Date** | 2025-10-22 |
| **Borrower** | Nyanza Light Metals Proprietary Limited |
| **Sectors** | Industry and Trade, Mining |
| **Investment Type(s)** | Loan |
| **Investment Amount (USD)** | $ 49.36 million |
| **Loan Amount (USD)** | $ 49.30 million |

## Project Description

According to bank provided information, the proposed facility is expected to provide long-term hard currency financing to support the development of Africa’s first and only titanium dioxide (TiO?) manufacturing plant, a capital-intensive and strategically important industrial project.

The Project entails a senior secured loan to Nyanza Light Metals Proprietary Limited for the development of a new 80,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) sulphate-based titanium dioxide (TiO?) pigment plant on a 69-hectare site within the Richard’s Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ), South Africa. The associated infrastructure includes, a sulphuric acid production unit, a steam production unit, solid and liquid feedstock storage areas, among others. The TiO? will serve domestic and export markets in coatings, paints, plastics, and paper. Construction is expected to begin after the financial close in Q3 2025, with a 36-month build period followed by 12 months for testing, ramp-up, and commissioning. Commercial operations are expected to commence in June 2029. The Project is a key real sector project with significant development outcomes, including creating 850 permanent jobs and contributing significantly to (re)industrialisation of this region, a crucial objective of South Africa’s economy. Further, via establishing the only TiO2 plant on the continent, the Project will allow for substitution of a large part of the current TiO2 imports and increase intra-African trade. Last, it opens possibilities for additional downstream projects and value chain development for the wider region. In essence, the Project will create an intra-African TiO2 market.

## Investment Description

- African Development Bank (AFDB)

### Private Actors Description

As stated on the company's LinkedIn account, Nyanza Light Metals is s a chemicals company that processes titanium mineral ores and slags to produce titanium dioxide and other industrial chemicals.

| Private Actor 1 | Private Actor 1 Role | Private Actor 1 Sector | Relation | Private Actor 2 | Private Actor 2 Role | Private Actor 2 Sector |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| - | - | - | - | Nyanza Light Metals Proprietary Limited | Client | Mining |

## 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 AfDBÕs 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

- Appraisal Report [Original Source]
- Environmental & Social Management System [Original Source]