Early Warning System

EIB-20180392

EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA OPTICAL FIBER ROLL-OUT

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Quick Facts

Financial Institutions	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	U
Borrower	BANDWIDTH AND CLOUD SERVICES GROUP HOLDINGS
Sectors	Communications
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 18.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 46.00 million

Project Description

The project concerns the deployment of fibre optics networks in regions of Eastern Africa where, either these kinds of networks are not available, or they are expensive and unreliable. In both cases, the development of digital services enabled by broadband access is limited. In total, the networks deployed will have a total length of more than 4 850 km, including more than 3 850 km of terrestrial fibre cable and around 1 000 km of submarine cable in Lake Tanganyika and Lake Albert. The project will lead to the deployment of five different fibre optics networks in Kenya, Rwanda Uganda, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In total, the networks deployed will have a total length of around 4,850 km, including 3,850 km of terrestrial fibre cable and around 1,000 km of submarine cable in Lake Tanganyika and Lake Albert.

Investment Description

- European Investment Bank (EIB)

Financial Intermediary

Financial Intermediary: A commercial bank or financial institution that receives funds from a development bank. A financial intermediary then lends these funds to their clients (private actors) in the form of loans, bonds, guarantees and equity shares. Financial intermediaries include insurance, pension and equity funds. The direct financial relationship is between the development bank and the financial intermediary.

- Bandwidth and Cloud Services (BCS) Group (Financial Intermediary)

Private Actors Description

Bandwidth and Cloud Services (BCS) Group provides back haul data and cloud services to mobile operators and internet service providers. The company’s cloud services also include managed VOIP, and hosting and co-location services. It serves customers in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Bandwidth and Cloud Services (BCS) Group is based in Nairobi, Kenya.

Contact Information

No contact information provided at the time of disclosure.

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF EIB

The EIB Complaints Mechanism is designed to facilitate and handle complaints against the EIB by individuals, organizations or corporations affected by EIB activities. When exercising the right to lodge a complaint against the EIB, any member of the public has access to a two-tier procedure, one internal - the Complaints Mechanism Office - and one external - the European Ombudsman. A complaint can be lodged via a written communication addressed to the Secretary General of the EIB, via email to the dedicated email address complaints@eib.org, by completing the online complaint form available at the following address: http://www.eib.org/complaints/form, via fax or delivered directly to the EIB Complaints Mechanism Division, any EIB local representation office or any EIB staff. For further details, check: http://www.eib.org/attachments/strategies/complaints_mechanism_policy_en.pdf

When dissatisfied with a complaint to the EIB Complaints Mechanism, citizens can then turn towards the European Ombudsman. A memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the EIB and the European Ombudsman establishes that citizens (even outside of the EU if the Ombudsman finds their complaint justified) can turn towards the Ombudsman on issues related to 'maladministration' by the EIB. Note that before going to the Ombudsman, an attempt must be made to resolve the case by contacting the EIB. In addition, the complaint must be made within two years of the date when the facts on which your complaint is based became known to you. You can write to the Ombudsman in any of the languages of the European Union. Additional details, including filing requirements and complaint forms, are available at: http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/atyourservice/interactiveguide.faces

Bank Documents

- Project Information