

 Early Warning System

WB-P115063

WAPP (Phase 3) Adjarala Hydroelectric Project



Quick Facts

Countries	Benin, Togo
Specific Location	Adjarala
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Canceled
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2014-03-27
Borrower	GOVERNMENTS OF BENIN AND TOGO
Sectors	Climate and Environment, Hydropower
Potential Rights Impacts	Cultural Rights, Healthy Environment, Housing & Property, Right to Food, Right to Health, Right to Water
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 120.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 450.00 million



Project Description

This World Bank investment is a hydroelectric project. It consists of the Adjarala dam, a hydropower plant, transmission line, and other necessary infrastructure such as roads, a bridge, and repositioning of a preexisting transmission line at Mome Hagou. The dam will be 3,700 meters long and 48 meters high, while the hydropower station will have three 49-megawatt units.

The project will be located on the Mono River, which borders Togo and Benin, approximately 100 km downstream of the Nangbeto dam in Togo.

This project is part of the Programme for Infrastructure Development In Africa (PIDA)



Early Warning System Project Analysis

RISK CATEGORIZATION: A

This project has been placed under Category A because, based on a full assessment, it will invest in new physical infrastructure with significant environmental impacts.

APPLICABLE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS:

- Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01
- Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04
- Forests OP/BP 4.36
- Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11
- Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12
- Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37
- Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50



People Affected By This Project

ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ASSESSMENT

Right to Culture

Since hydroelectric dams often involve involuntary relocation, large populations may have to be moved from their homelands. This could involve significant impacts to local culture. For instance, populations may face losing important cultural ties to their land. Also, due to loss of agricultural areas, communities may have to find new means of making a living, which may severely impact their culture. Cultural artifacts could also be present on the land that is to be flooded. This project triggers the Bank's physical cultural resources safeguard, meaning that the Bank anticipates that it could have a significant impact on the cultural resources of the region. It is important that the implementing agency ensure that this does not occur or that all cultural artifacts be recovered prior to moving forward with the project.

Some questions community members and local NGOs should consider asking:

- Do you have reasons to believe the planned investment project could affect the cultural resources of your community?
- Do you have reasons to believe that your ability to participate in cultural life could change as a result of the planned investment project?
- Does this project have a chance-finds procedure in case cultural artifacts are encountered during operations?

Right to Food

Because they flood large areas of land, dams can result in a large loss of agricultural land. They may also reduce the flow of water to areas downstream, resulting in a lack of water for agriculture. Hydroelectric dams can also destroy fish and other aquatic species. The World Bank report states that the design of the project "will contribute to the mitigation of the floods downstream". However, it does not discuss what the extent or nature of these floods will be, leaving a great deal of uncertainty about the full impact of the project. In Benin about half of the population relies on subsistence farming as their main source of food and income, making these impacts from the Adjarala project potentially severe. In Togo, 47 percent of the rural population is food insecure, while 37 percent are at risk of becoming food insecure. Therefore, any loss to local food supply could potentially be very severe. Communities that rely on the Mono River for food supplies may also be adversely impacted.

Some questions community members and local NGOs should consider asking:

- Have you been informed of any potential changes that could affect your access to food?
- Do you have reasons to believe that your access to the land where you grow food, hunt for food or fish could change once the investment project begins?
- Are there mechanisms through which you can file a complaint and/or obtain a remedy when your right to food has been affected?

Right to Housing and Property

The World Bank report states that the design of the project "will contribute to the mitigation of the floods downstream". However, it does not discuss what these flooding impacts will be. Because they flood large areas of land, dams can result in the displacement of populations. In fact, the Communaute Electrique du Benin (CEB) has, in the past, displaced people for dam projects without helping them to find new housing despite promising they would. When the Nangbeto Dam was constructed, there was no resettlement plan and 10,600 individuals were displaced, many without compensation. The World Bank's report mentions that there is a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). However, it is important that local communities ensure that this RAP is favorable, fully covering compensation for loss of land and providing for new housing that is at least of equal quality to the



Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

The total cost of the Adjarala Hydroelectric Project is USD \$435 million. The World Bank will be financing USD \$120 million. The remainder of the cost will be funded by Togo and Benin, unidentified bilateral agencies, and unidentified foreign multilateral institutions.



Contact Information

Communaute Electrique du Benin (CEB)

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CONSULTATION PROCESS:

There is no information provided in the World Bank documentation about a consultation process.

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org.

You can learn more about the Inspection Panel and how to file a complaint at:

<http://ewebapps.worldbank.org/apps/ip/Pages/Home.aspx>.



Bank Documents

- [Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet \(Concept Stage\) - 3A-WAPP APL1 \(Phase 3\) Adjarala Hydroelectric Pro](#) [Original Source]
- [Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa \(PIDA\) - 330KV Ghana-Togo-Benin Transmission Inte](#)
- [Project Information Document \(Concept Stage\) - WAPP APL1 \(Phase 3\) Adjarala Hydroelectric Project -](#) [Original Source]