

Early Warning System

WB-P166390

Sierra Leone Energy Sector Utility Reform Project Additional Financing

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Quick Facts

Countries	Sierra Leone
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2019-05-20
Borrower	Government of Sierra Leone
Sectors	Energy
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 50.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 51.00 million

Project Description

According to bank documents,

Original Objective:
To improve the operational performance of the national electricity distribution utility.

Current Objective:
The current Project Development Objective is to improve the operational performance of the national electricity distribution utility.

The parent project is comprised of three components: (i) Distribution utility capacity enhancement and performance improvement; (ii) Improvement of electricity supply in urban areas; and (iii) Sector planning assistance, project implementation support and monitoring and evaluation.

The activities under the Additional Financing are scaling-up of the activities of the three components in the parent project and are described below

1. **Distribution utility capacity enhancement and performance improvement.** The new activities under this component will further support EDSA to hire a professional management team to strengthen its commercial management and continue to build the local capacity within the utility to ensure sustainability of the results. Improving commercial performance of EDSA is a necessary condition for the utility to become financially viable. It is not however sufficient as good management of the utility will need to be complemented by the commitment and actions of the GoSL to ensure that Government Agencies pay their bills, and there exists a functional legal regime to effectively tackle power theft and illegal connections. The additional activities include:
    i. Incorporation of a modern management information system. This sub component will assist EDSA to improve its operational performance in the key areas of commercial management and attention and resolution of incidents in electricity supply to its customers.
    ii. Technical Assistance to EDSA. This would help build local management capacity within EDSA at the mid and top levels to ensure sustainability of its operations once the management contract ends in November 2019.
2. **Improvement of electricity supply in urban areas.** The additional activities under this component would finance the upgrading and expansion of the 33kV,
   11kV and low voltage network, including connection of new customers, and project management by EDSA. New activities to be added for each sub-component are described below:
    i. Primary medium voltage distribution network upgrade and extension. This subcomponent will finance the construction of four new 33/11kV substations and upgrade of one existing 11kV switching station to a 33/11kV substation as well as construction of new 33kV sub-transmission lines to link the proposed substations. This would help to increase the capacity of the network to evacuate power from the bulk electricity supply point to the load centers in the distribution network.
    ii. Secondary and low voltage distribution network extension. This sub-component includes investments on extension of the 11 kV and Low Voltage network and customer connections, complementary to those in the parent project, to major unserved residential, commercial and industrial centers, which are the most critical constraints to increase the distribution capacity and supply reliability of the network in Freetown.
    iii. Project Implementation Support. This sub-component is newly added and will cover the cost of strengthening the capacity of the project implementing team in EDSA to manage and monitor project implementation. It will include the financing of the necessary safeguard studies (RAP) and the costs of employing specialized consultants (technical, financial, procurement, audit, social, etc.), including young professionals to support the project

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Contact Information

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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

- Project Information Document-Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet - Sierra Leone Energy Sector Utility R [Original Source]
- Sierra Leone - Energy Sector Utility Reform Project : Additional Financing : Resettlement Plan : Res [Original Source]
- Sierra Leone - Energy Sector Utility Reform Project : Environmental Assessment : Environmental Socia [Original Source]