Early Warning System

WB-P510702

Cote d'Ivoire Renewable Energy & Financial Stability Initiative

Quick Facts

Countries	Ivory Coast
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2027-02-25
Borrower	Government of Ivory Coast - CI-Energies
Sectors	Energy, Finance, Law and Government
Investment Type(s)	Guarantee, Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 20.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 1,220.30 million

Project Description

According to the Bank’s website, the objective of this project is to enhance the short- to medium- term financial viability of the electricity sector and increase renewable energy capacity.

The proposed REFI project supports the Government of Cote d'Ivoire in restoring the financial sustainability of the electricity sector and accelerating the energy transition. It includes an IBRD Loan Guarantee of up to EUR [622] million to help refinance arrears and short-term debt, thereby creating fiscal space and restoring investor and lender confidence and to enable investment in grid-connected solar generation and battery storage. The project also includes a EUR [17] million IBRD Loan to provide technical support to CI-Energies for effective project implementation. REFI is part of a broader energy sector recovery and reform program under the Government's Energy Compact and the World Bank Group's engagement.

The project includes three components:
* Component 1: Arrears clearance and short-term debt refinancing -- supported by IBRD guarantee-backed commercial financing to clear payment arrears to IPPs and gas suppliers and refinance short-term liabilities.
* Component 2: Green investments in renewable energy and battery energy storage systems -- supported by IBRD guarantee-backed commercial financing for two 120 MWp solar PV plants with 120 MWh battery storage and associated transmission, to expand clean energy and grid reliability.
* Component 3: Technical assistance and capacity building -- supported by IBRD loan to provide institutional and technical support to CI-Energies for the preparation, procurement, and implementation of solar and storage investments.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

The Environmental Risk Rating for the project is **Substantial**. The construction of two solar plants with 120 MWh energy storage systems is planned for two have been pre-identified sites of 200 ha each in Kong and one site of 400 ha in Serebou, respectively in the North and East of Cote d'Ivoire. The Transmission Lines layout, less than 7km for each site, are still to be finalized. While large scale solar PV and BESS technologies are well-established and proven, their deployment still necessitates diligent risk monitoring, and robust safety protocols for battery systems to mitigate both potential occupational and nearby communities' risks associated with explosions, hazardous emissions and noise. Key additional environmental risks include land disturbance, habitat fragmentation, dust, noise, waste, erosion, sedimentation, e-waste management, solar panel cleaning water usage, pollution, and traffic. The Serebou site near the Comoe River may impact hippopotamus habitats, necessitating additional mitigation measures for aquatic biodiversity. MAdditionally, the Serebou site is situated near the Comoe River, a known habitat for hippopotamuses. This proximity may necessitate the implementation of additional mitigation measures to address potential impacts on aquatic and riparian biodiversity.

The Social Risk Rating for the project is **Substantial**. The screening indicates that the project may lead to low to moderate levels of involuntary resettlement for the two PV plants in Kong and Serebou. The Northern region of Côte d'Ivoire, noted for its volatile security situation, also presents higher risks of social conflict, particularly involving nomadic pastoralists. OHS risks include handling hazardous materials and fire safety concerns related to the construction and operation of RE and BESS technologies. The risk of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) is rated as 'Moderate'.

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US$ 1,220.30 million

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD): US$ 20.00 million

IBRD Guarantee: US$ 720.00 million

Private Actors Description

Côte d'Ivoire Energies (CI-ENERGIES) is a state-owned public utility company in Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) responsible for managing the country's electricity sector assets and infrastructure.

Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	Ci-Energies	Client	-

Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE 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. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint

Bank Documents

- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Cote d'Ivoire Renewable Energy & Financial
- Concept Project Information Document (PID)