



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

THE WORLD BANK  
IBRD - IDA

IFC  
International  
Finance Corporation

MIGA  
Multilateral Investment  
Guarantee Agency

MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS' COLLABORATION:  
INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROJECT BRIEFS

# Côte d'Ivoire: CIPREL IV Power Project



## Overview

The Compagnie Ivoirienne de Production d'Electricité (CIPREL) was established in 1994 as the first independent power producer in Côte d'Ivoire. A public-private partnership (PPP) agreement enabled it to expand the capacity of the thermal power plant while improving its efficiency. CIPREL IV was commissioned in February 2016 and by the end of 2016 was providing power to 120,000 additional homes per year while reducing greenhouse emissions equivalent to 180,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. The International Finance Corporation (IFC), member of the World Bank Group, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Proparco jointly financed this project. The Dutch development bank (FMO) and the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) joined the lender group after financial close in 2014.

This series showcases how the Multilateral Development Banks' collaboration supports the development and implementation of infrastructure investment. This support comes in the form of public sector loans, private sector finance, sector and transaction advice, guarantees, and output-based aid.

## Background

With a GDP of about \$35 billion, Côte d'Ivoire (CIV) is one of the largest economies in West Africa. Despite an average real growth rate reaching 8.5 percent annually between 2012 and 2015, this high performance in economic growth must translate into improvements in the quality of life of Côte d'Ivoire's population of nearly 23 million. Despite rapid economic growth, poverty rates have only declined modestly between 2011 and 2015, from 51 to 46.3 percent. Much remains to be done to provide better access to infrastructure. Access to electricity is low, standing at an overall 55.8 percent, with high disparities between urban (75 percent), and rural (37 percent) areas. Furthermore, Côte d'Ivoire's per capita electric power consumption is just over half of average consumption in Sub-Saharan Africa (including South Africa), and over a third the average consumption in other lower-middle income countries.

Côte d'Ivoire produces energy from a mix of imported oil, domestically-produced natural gas, and hydropower. No new gas discoveries have been made in recent years, thus prompting the government to look for new energy sources and improve the efficiency of plants currently in use. The CIPREL IV project has added much-needed, low-cost, reliable, clean generation capacity to support the country's economic development while increasing its generation capacity with greater efficiency. After the expansion, CIPREL became the largest power plant in the country and one of the most important in the region.

The CIPREL IV project follows the Azito Gas-fired Power Plant Expansion — Phase III, another energy project exemplifying collaboration between development financing institutions. Azito and CIPREL power plants account for about two thirds of Côte d'Ivoire's total generation capacity.

## Project Description

The CIPREL IV project consisted of the expansion of the existing CIPREL natural gas-fired power plant and retrofitting two gas turbines, enhancing the efficiency of the power plant without using additional gas or producing more greenhouse gas emissions. The project's total cost was about €350 million and was to be developed, designed, constructed and operated under a 25-year Build-Own-Operate-Transfer arrangement. The project sells its

power to the government of Côte d'Ivoire through the private transmission and distribution company Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Electricité (CIE).

The project's sponsor and CIPREL's largest shareholder (83.3 percent) is Finagestion, a diversified utilities group with a longstanding presence in the electricity and water sectors in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. Other shareholders include the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (14.7 percent) and the West African Development Bank (two percent). The project reached financial close in August 2013 and was commissioned in February 2016.

## Multilateral Development Banks' Role

Multilateral and bilateral support for the expansion of the CIPREL thermal power plant in Côte d'Ivoire was as follows:

- IFC provided a €100 million loan and acted as lead arranger mobilizing an additional €100 million financing package from FMO and EAIF.
- AfDB provided a €50 million loan; and Proparco provided a €50 million loan.

## Outcomes

The project has increased the generation capacity by 800 GWh/ per annum, representing a 25 percent increase in the plant's capacity. This additional capacity has allowed the power plant to provide power to 120,000 additional households while reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of the increased efficiency. Furthermore, the project created 100 additional permanent jobs for the operation phase and employed an average of 1,500 workers on the ground and 2,500 workers at the peak of the construction phase.

*For more information please contact:*

*World Bank Group: Nadine Ghannam  
Email: [Nsghannam@worldbankgroup.org](mailto:Nsghannam@worldbankgroup.org)*

*African Development Bank: John Phillips  
Email: [j.phillips@afdb.org](mailto:j.phillips@afdb.org)*

*IFC: Geoffrey Keele  
Email: [GKeele@ifc.org](mailto:GKeele@ifc.org)*



Photo Credits

Back: Martijn Munneke/Creative Commons license, [creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0)