The ECOWAS Bank

EBID IN BRIEF

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The ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) is the financial arm of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) comprising fifteen (15) Member States namely, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

EBID emerged as a banking group (the EBID Group) after the transformation of the erstwhile Fund for Cooperation, Compensation and Development of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS Fund) in 1999. [The ECOWAS Fund was established in 1975 at the same time as the erstwhile Executive Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (the present ECOWAS Commission) and commenced operations in 1979].

ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) started operations on 1 January 2004 as a holding company with two specialized subsidiaries:

- ECOWAS Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for financing the public sector;
- ECOWAS Regional Investment Bank (ERIB) for financing the private sector

By Decision A/DEC.3/06/06 of 16 June 2006, the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government agreed to the reorganization of the EBID Group into a single entity with two windows: one for promoting the private sector and the other, for developing the public sector.

EBID has been operating under its current structure since January 2007. The headquarters of the Bank is in Lome, Togolese Republic.
VISION
The vision of the Bank is to be the leading regional investment and development financial institution in West Africa and an effective instrument for poverty reduction, wealth creation and job promotion for the well-being of the people of the region.

MISSION AND OBJECTIVES
The mission of EBID is to assist in creating favourable conditions for the emergence of an economically strong, industrialized and prosperous West Africa that is fully integrated into the global economic system with a view to taking advantage of the opportunities and prospects offered by globalization.

By virtue of its Articles of Association, the Bank aims to:

▪ contribute to attaining the objectives of the Community by supporting infrastructure projects relating to regional integration or any other development projects in the public and private sectors;

▪ assist in the development of the Community by funding special programs.

STRUCTURE OF CAPITAL
On 10 October 2011, the authorized capital of the Bank was increased from 603 million to UA1 billion or about US$1.5 billion. Seventy percent (70%) of the authorized capital is reserved for regional members (15 ECOWAS Member States) while the remaining 30% or about US$450 million is open to subscription by non-regional members.

Distribution of Authorized Capital of EBID by Member States
AREAS OF INTERVENTION
Operational activities of EBID are intended to lay the foundation for the sustainable development of Member States of the Community through the financing of regional and national (public and private) projects. The Bank operates primarily in the following areas:

- Infrastructure and basic amenities relating to transport, energy and telecommunications (roads, civil engineering works, railways, port and airport infrastructure, production facilities, transportation and energy distribution, telecommunications systems, information technology);
- Rural development and environment (irrigation, flood control, rural water supply, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, ecosystem protection, renewable energy, capacity building);
- Social sector (vocational training, education, health, support to decentralization, municipal facilities);
- Industry (agro-industry, mining industry, other industries, technology transfer, technological innovation);
- Services (financial services, services related to information technology, financial engineering, hotels, etc.).

MODE OF INTERVENTION
- Long, medium and short-term loans;
- Equity Participation;
- Granting of lines of credit and putting in place framework agreements for refinancing;
- Financial Engineering operations and services.

ACHIEVEMENTS
- Founding Shareholder in Ecobank Transnational Inc. (ETI);
- Founding Shareholder in ASKY Airlines;
- Initiator of the African Biofuels and Renewable Energy Fund (ABREF) now ABREC;
- Partner and Manager of the Cultural Industries Guarantee Funds (CIGF);
- Decades of Experience in Project Financing within and among ECOWAS Member States;
- Major Partner for Regional Integration Programs and Implementation of Public-Private Sector Partnerships in Member States.
EBID has enhanced its internal administrative and financial management especially within the framework of reforms that started in 2007 and has produced encouraging results in terms of cost control, efficient organization of work and the increasing volume of activities.

After thirteen (13) years of activity (2004 - 2016), the Bank’s net commitments have increased 7.6 times over from UA121 million in January 2004 to UA917.6 million at the end of December 2016 in respect of 135 active projects.

From the inception of the institution (ECOWAS Fund) to 31st December 2017, the net assistance from EBID to Members States amounted to UA1.27 billion representing US$1.702 billion dollars or FCFA1 059 billion in respect of 211 projects from various sectors.

In line with its mission, EBID continues to give priority to the financing of infrastructure in all sectors especially, electricity interconnection works, the construction of inter-State highways, port development or procurement of harbour equipment, opening up of rural areas development of digital coverage which account for about 71.8% of the Bank’s net commitments.

At the external level, the Bank took several initiatives to diversify its shareholder base and further mobilize adequate resources to finance its activities. In this regard, from 1st of January 2004 to date, EBID has mobilized more than nine hundred and sixty seven million United States Dollars (US$967.7 million) from financial partners and financial markets in the sub region.

PROSPECTS

Under its strategic plan, the Bank aims to mobilize 1.32 billion United States Dollars (approximately FCFA1042 billion) for the 2016-2020 period. In this regard, priority will be given to regional projects that have a structuring effect on infrastructure, transport and energy sectors.