



Niger: Smart Villages for rural growth and digital inclusion (P167543)

AFRICA WEST | Niger | Digital Development Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2021 | Seq No: 2 | ARCHIVED on 29-Apr-2021 | ISR45963 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministere des Finances, ANSI -- Agence Nationale pour la Société de l'Information / National Information Society Agency, Ministère des Postes, des Télécommunications et de l'Economie Numérique (MPTEN), Projet Villages Intelligents, Unite de Gestion du Projet

Key Dates**Key Project Dates**

Bank Approval Date: 08-Jul-2020

Effectiveness Date: 21-Oct-2020

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 14-Feb-2024

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:

Original Closing Date: 23-Oct-2026

Revised Closing Date: 23-Oct-2026

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The project aims to increase access to cellphone and broadband services in rural areas and to bring digital financial services to selected underserved areas.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components Table

Name

1. Enabling environment:(Cost \$4.00 M)
2. Developing rural connectivity:(Cost \$63.00 M)
3. Improving digital financial inclusion:(Cost \$28.00 M)
4. Strengthening project management and stakeholder capacity-building:(Cost \$5.00 M)
5. Contingent Emergency Response Component

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The Niger Smart Village IPF (P167543, effective since October 21, 2020) was officially launched in Niger by local authorities on December 3, 2020. The project implementation unit (PIU) has migrated from the transitional PIU (PCDS, Public Sector Capacity and Performance for Services) to the newly recruited team within the ANSI (National Information Society Agency) since December 31, 2020.

The Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) was approved by the Bank on Jan. 19, 2021, and project activities financed from the main project started in the same month. Project implementation is generally progressing well, though there have been some delays in procurement.



Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Macroeconomic	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High
Technical Design of Project or Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Fiduciary	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Environment and Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

1. Enabling Environment				
▶ Mobile broadband (3G and above) penetration rates (per 100 inhabitants) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	5.30	8.30	11.20	25.00
Date	31-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Mobile broadband (3G and above) penetration rates (per 100 inhabitants), has increased slightly since the baseline (2018). However, it has been negatively affected by the withdrawal of Orange from the market, as well as more difficult trading condition for the mobile operators as a result of the security situation and COVID-19.			
□ Mobile broadband (3G and above) estimated penetration rates for women (per 100 inhabitants) (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	4.59	4.17	4.17	25.00



Date	01-Aug-2019	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2025
2. Rural Connectivity				
▶ Percentage of the population covered with mobile broadband signal (3G and above) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	65.29	67.90	73.53	90.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	31-Dec-2019	30-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Mobile broadband (3G and above) network coverage (percentage of population covered) (for all operators). This indicator shows a small improvement over the baseline in line with planned network roll-out.			
▶ Number of villages, previously with no mobile broadband coverage, served with mobile broadband under the project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Date	31-Dec-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of candidate villages identified as having no form of mobile broadband coverage (3G and above) which are provided with mobile broadband service, under the project. This will start to change only once the project is declared effective.			
3. Digital Financial Inclusion				
▶ Number of mobile money accounts ; (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3,041,000.00	3,433,000.00	3,433,000.00	5,000,000.00
Date	31-Dec-2018	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of registered mobile money accounts. The data source is BCEAO and mobile money providers.			
□ Number of registered mobile money accounts owned by women (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	456,000.00	510,000.00	510,000.00	1,000,000.00
▶ Number of people who have been enabled, under the project, to make and receive mobile financial payments for the first time (of which women, and of which in underserved areas) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	240,000.00



Date	01-Jan-2020	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of people who have been enabled, under the project, to make and receive mobile financial payments (of which women, and of which in underserved areas) . In other words, direct beneficiaries of the project who are now using digital financial services. This will only start to change once the project is effective.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Number of women who have been enabled, under the project, to make and receive mobile financial payments for the first time (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	120,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Number of people in underserved areas who have been enabled, under the project, to make and receive mobile financial payments for the first time (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000.00

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

1. Enabling Environment				
▶ Number of public officials or government employees trained under the project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of public officials or government employees trained under the project, to help address some regulatory and legal constraints to the development of digital infrastructure and digital financial services. This will only start to change once the project is declared effective,			
▶ Retail price of 1 GB per month of pre-paid mobile data, in US\$ (Amount(USD), Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3.44	3.30	1.28	1.20
Date	01-Aug-2019	28-Feb-2020	24-Apr-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Retail price of mobile broadband sub-basket, prepaid handset-based, 1 GB, in US\$. Using data from cable.co.uk, which is based on a sample of price points from different operators.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Retail price of 0.5 GB per month of pre-paid mobile data, in % of GNI per capita (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	11.45	8.20	8.20	5.00
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2. Developing Rural Connectivity

► Private sector investment raised through the project (Amount(USD), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Private sector investment raised through the project to promote ICT infrastructure development and financial inclusion in rural areas. This will only change once the project is declared effective and component 2 meets disbursement conditions.			

► Number of villages connected to telecommunications and broadband networks (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,111.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of villages provided with telecommunications and broadband coverage. This will only begin to change once the effectiveness conditions for component 2 have been met.			

► Number of villages provided with small power generation system (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	580.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of villages where power supply installed to run the local digital connectivity infrastructure is over-dimensioned so that spare electric power can be used by inhabitants for essential needs. The number of small power generators is dependent on the number of sites that will be deployed. During project preparation, the current technical and financial analysis was based on the deployment of 580 sites.			

3. Improving Digital Financial Inclusion

► Number of digital centers created under the project (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025



Comments:	Number of digital centers (physical points for people and firms to conduct cash-in and cash-out transactions, and to get help with making mobile and financial transactions), created under the project. This will only start to change once the disbursement conditions for component 3 have been met.			
► Number of people trained for digital skills or knowledge under the project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of people enrolled in digital and financial literacy programs, under the project. This will only start to change once the conditions for effectiveness have been met.			
□ Number of women trained for digital skills or knowledge under the project (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
► Number of merchants provided with vouchers for POS Terminals (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of merchants provided with vouchers to cover the costs of acquisition of payment devices			
► Number of agricultural producers and women using digital payments for their activity (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of agricultural producers/farmers and women making and receiving payments related to their agriculture activity digitally			
► Number of agricultural producers for which data was collected in the digital platform (for e-KYC and credit scoring purposes) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Number of agricultural producers/farmers and women for whom personal and farm information was collected and included in the digital data platform			



4. Strengthening project management and stakeholder capacity building				
▶ Number of grievances received, of which percentage addressed within 30 days (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	05-Oct-2020	05-Oct-2020	30-Oct-2026
Comments:	Number of grievances received during the life of the project. No indicators recorded to date, but the project has been asked to process some "dummy" complaints to test the mechanism.			
□ Percentage of grievances addressed with 30 days (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.00

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

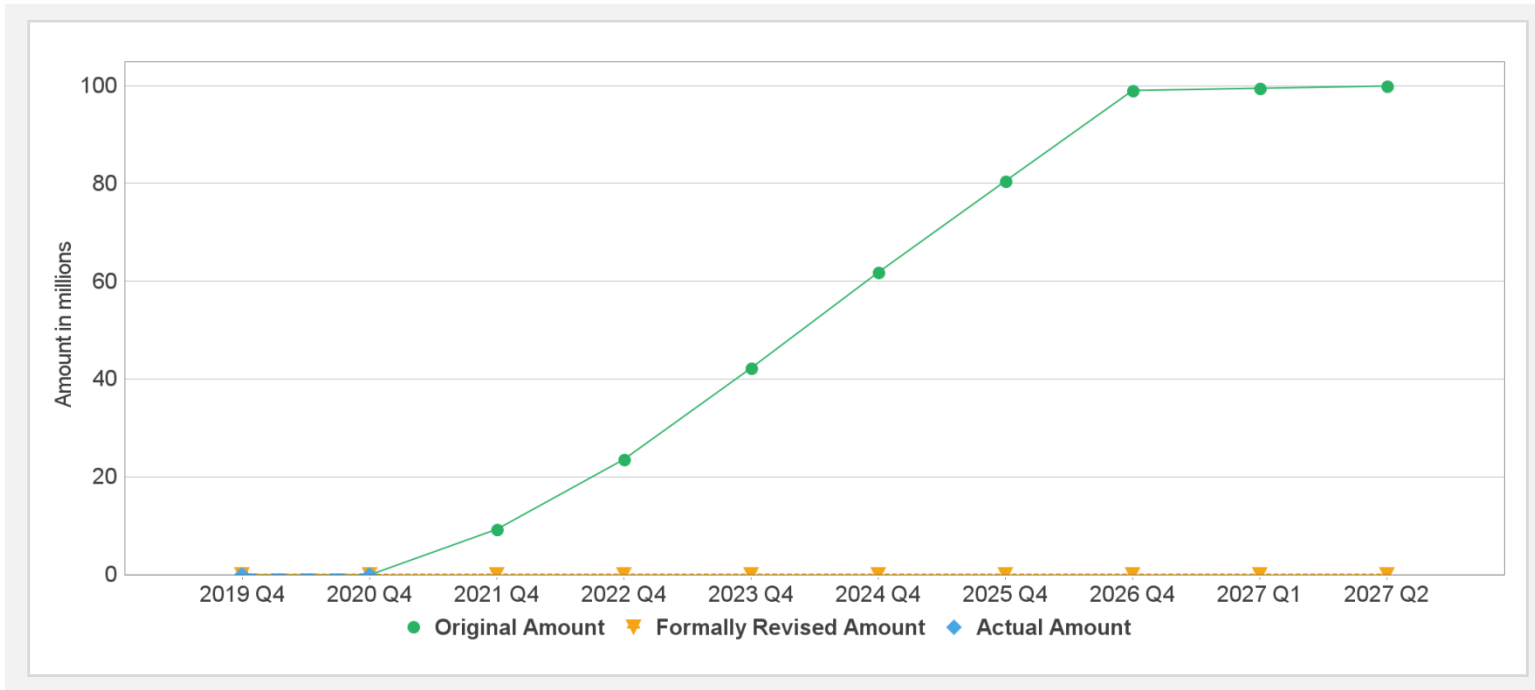
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P167543	IDA-66880	Effective	USD	50.00	50.00	0.00	3.41	50.44	6.3%
P167543	IDA-D6560	Effective	USD	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	52.32	0%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P167543	IDA-66880	Effective	08-Jul-2020	16-Jul-2020	21-Oct-2020	23-Oct-2026	23-Oct-2026
P167543	IDA-D6560	Effective	08-Jul-2020	16-Jul-2020	21-Oct-2020	23-Oct-2026	23-Oct-2026

Cumulative Disbursements



PBC Disbursement

PBC ID	PBC Type	Description	Coc	PBC Amount	Achievement Status	Disbursed amount in Coc	Disbursement % for PBC

Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.