

First year results presented at ICA's Berlin meeting

The 3rd Senior Level meeting of the ICA took place in Berlin from 17 to 18 January 2007. Participants reviewed the progress of the Consortium in its first year of operation. The volume of new commitments by ICA members increased from \$7.0bn in 2005 to approximately \$7.7bn in 2006; as part of these commitments donor support to regional projects doubled. ICA members agreed to continue working together on an initiative for capacity building in the area of infrastructure targeting the Regional Economic Communities and the African Union Commission. Representatives from the People's Bank of China and China Eximbank participated for the first time and suggested constructive ways that they might work more closely with ICA members.

 All presentations from the two-day meeting can be downloaded at www.icafrica.org/en/news-events/article/view/first-year-results-presented-at-icas-berlin-meeting



Mandla Gantsho, Vice President Infrastructure, AfDB and Michael Hofmann, Director General, BMZ Co-chairing the ICA Meeting in Berlin


Photograph photothek.net / BMZ

1st annual report soon to be published

The ICA's first Annual Report, published by its Secretariat, will be available soon. Members were surveyed on their current and future commitments to African infrastructure.

Whilst aid to the sector has, and continues, to increase, resources from developed countries will need to go through a step change if it is to reach the minimum level of an additional \$10bn per year, as recommended by the report of the Commission for Africa in 2005.


The report also highlights key implementation challenges to scaling up resources.

 The document will be available to download on the ICA's website in a few weeks time.

The website of the ICA is now available in both French and English at www.icafrica.org


Meeting “Financing Electricity for Growth” welcomed

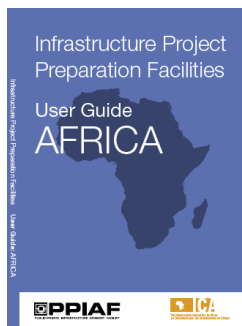
Participants to the “Financing Electricity for Growth” meeting held in Tunis on 12 December 2006, welcomed the meeting for its business-centred approach and high-level of representation from project investors, financiers, transaction advisors, power utilities, power pools and Government. The aim of the meeting was to sensitise project investors to well advanced and prioritised projects.

 *Download the documentation from the meeting along with the outcomes statement at www.icafrica.org/en/news-events/article/view/financing-electricity-for-growth-in-africa*

Project preparation guide ready

The Infrastructure Project Preparation Facilities User Guide is now released. The booklet, available in French and English, will help project sponsors prepare infrastructure projects by providing basic information on the function of facilities designed to help with so called “project preparation activities”, and on how to access technical assistance funding and services.

 *Download the user guide at www.icafrica.org/en/resources*



Growing Indian support to African infrastructure


The ICA Secretariat took part in the 2006 edition of the Conclave on India-Africa Partnership, co-organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry, the Ministry of External Affairs, Department of Commerce, and Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India, and the India Exim Bank. The event provided a forum to build up awareness on the ICA within a cross-section of 500 senior-level delegates from Africa, India and the rest of the world.

The growing involvement of India’s private sector was evidenced by TATA recent power deal in Zambia worth \$150m. The deal with ZESCO will develop the Itezhi-Tezhi 120MW project, with the plant located on the Kafue River about 350KM west of Lusaka.

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Key statistics website up and running

A website devoted to the ICA-backed Africa Country Diagnostic Study (AICD) is now up and running.

 *Greater details of the study and its expected outcomes can be found at www.infrastructureafrica.org*

Our website wins award

The ICA’s website won an Outstanding Achievement Award at the annual meeting of the Interactive Media Awards. The Awards, created by the Interactive Media Council, recognise the highest standards of excellence in website design and development. The website is currently visited by over 6000 people every month.

 *For more information on the award, check www.interactivemediaawards.com*