

CCA  
US AFRICA  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
CONFERENCE

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BUILDING ON STABILITY

October 8-10 2007

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- Benin's MCA Program is a series of strategic investments designed to improve core physical and institutional infrastructure and increase investment and private sector activity. The Program comprises four Projects: "Access to Land," "Access to Financial Services," "Access to Justice," and "Access to Markets."

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- Benin's economy is dependent on cotton production, subsistence agriculture and an increasingly uncompetitive Port of Cotonou (the "Port").
  - The Access to Market Project is designed to improve the port of Cotonou

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- This Project is designed to promote access to markets by improvements to the Port of Cotonou, including a fish inspection facility.
  - This Project aims to improve Port performance and security, expand capacity, and reduce costs.

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- A more efficient Port will contribute to importer and exporter value-added through reducing transportation costs and improving product quality.
  - Because Benin's road transport industry is relatively competitive, it is likely that the anticipated reduction in shipping costs will be passed on to wholesalers and traders, and ultimately be reflected in consumer prices.

# Cost of the Project

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- Estimated amount of MCC Funding for the Project Activity for this Markets Project is \$ 169 millions .
- The total cost of the MCA Benin Program is \$ 307 millions

# Project's activities

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- **Studies and Port Institutional Activity:**  
This Project Activity includes key feasibility studies, environmental assessments and revision of master plan for the Port, as well as the computerization and streamlining of customs clearance procedures for merchandise, technical assistance and training in information systems and Port management, and improvements to legal, fiscal and institutional frameworks that govern the sub-activities.

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- **Port Security and Landside Improvements:** This Project Activity will address the safety and security aspects of the Port for compliance with international safety requirements (conforming to International Ship and Port Security Code (“ISPS”) standards).

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- Major improvements to the physical infrastructure including the access gates, access road, vehicle access facilities, storage areas, and the construction of a compulsory inspection facility for fish and seafood products with associated training and technical assistance.

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- **Waterside Improvements:** This Project Activity will support the construction of a new South wharf to accommodate additional containerized merchant marine vessels and a dry bulk conveyor system;
  - Environmental management improvements; and, an environmentally appropriate solution to address sedimentation of the Port's entrance.

# Outcomes - Targets

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- Bulk ship carriers waiting times at the Port (days) : baseline :7 ; target : 3 after 5 years
- Average customs clearance times at the Port (days) : baseline : 5; target : 1
- Average duration of stay of trucks at Port (hours) : baseline : 48; target : 7

# Contact

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