

Newsletter – April 2023



April 20, 2023 - The Prime Minister, Patrick Achi, launched the construction of three new interchanges in Abidjan, financed both by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Côte d'Ivoire's State

Today's headlines...

- 1. The Ivorian authorities and the World Bank have reached two financing agreements, amounting to a total of €560m**
- 2. Tax revenues have increased by CFAF 86.4 billion (+11.9%) in the first quarter of 2023, compared to the same period last year**
- 3. Prime Minister Patrick Achi launched the construction of three road interchanges in Abidjan**
- 4. The Ivorian government signed a memorandum of understanding with Canada, amounting to €36m**
- 5. The investment fund Meridiam, the data center operator Raxio, and the investment company Roha have committed to financing the construction of a data center in Grand-Bassam**

- 1. The Ivorian authorities and the World Bank have reached two financing agreements, amounting to a total of €560m**

On the sidelines of the Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund - held in Washington DC from April 10 to 16, 2023 - two financing agreements were signed between the Ivorian delegation and the World Bank authorities. The first agreement of €282.8m (c. 185.4 billion FCFA) is financing “the Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Secondary Cities Project”. The second agreement, reaching €276.9m (c. 181.5 billion FCFA) will contribute to the “Inclusive Connectivity and Rural Infrastructures Project”.

At this occasion, the World Bank praised the quality of cooperation and the progress made with the IMF through the new economic and financial program. Indeed, the IMF welcomed the authorities' efforts to maintain macroeconomic stability and reiterated its commitment to the Ivorian authorities.

2. Tax revenues have increased by CFAF 86.4 billion (+11.9%) in the first quarter of 2023, compared to the same period last year

At a seminar held on April 14, 2023, around the theme “Analysis of the results of the first quarter of 2023 and prospects for the 2023's second quarter”, the Director General of Taxes, Abou Sié Ouattara, unveiled the performance of this financial authority for the first quarter of 2023. Tax revenue has increased by 86.4 billion CFAF between 2022's first quarter and 2023's first quarter, an increase of 11.9%.

For 2023's second quarter, the targets are set at CFAF 1,114.6 billion, +15.9% compared to the same period collection in 2022. These good results are mainly due to strong economic performance, digitalization, and strengthening of local collection management. These good fiscal performances are aligned with fiscal consolidation efforts, at the heart of the program agreed with the IMF. Côte d'Ivoire concluded a technical partnership with France in February. Through this agreement, France is committed to providing technical assistance to improve the Ivorian tax system's efficiency and to strengthen the tax administration's capacity to collect taxes.

3. Prime Minister Patrick Achi launches the construction of three road interchanges in Abidjan

The Ivorian Prime Minister, Patrick Achi, officially launched the construction of three road interchanges on François Mitterrand Boulevard in Abidjan. This project financed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the State of Côte d'Ivoire for CFAF 75 billion - is at the heart of the Ivorian government's infrastructure development strategy. These interchanges will support economic development and improve the living conditions and connectivity of Bingerville's population. At the launch ceremony, Patrick Achi underlined that: “Through the construction of these three interchanges, the Government plans to make the François Mitterrand Boulevard an element of the future Abidjan-Lagos international corridor”.

The construction work will provide jobs for nearly 600 young people.

4. The Ivorian government signed a memorandum of understanding with Canada, amounting to €36m

On April 26, 2023, the Ivorian government signed a framework memorandum of understanding with Canada, as well as 9 project protocols for a total amount of €36M (236Mds FCFA). These projects are based on 4 priorities of the 2021-2025 National Development Plan (NDP) : (i) health; (ii) inclusive growth; (iii) education, and (iv) governance. According to the Minister of Planning and Development, Canada has committed to contribute 60 billion CFAF (€91.5 million) to the 2021-2025 NDP.

The memorandum is part of the general agreement signed in January 1985 between Côte d'Ivoire and Canada. It aims to create a framework for structured dialogue between the ministries in charge of development in both countries.

5. Data center operator Raxio, investment firm Roha, and Meridiam have committed to financing the construction of a data center in Grand-Bassam

In a joint press release dated April 17, 2023, French company Meridiam, investment firm Roha, and data center operator Raxio announced the raising of \$170 m, including \$110 m from the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) and Proparco. The first tranche of this financing program is expected to be used to build data centers in seven sub-Saharan African countries, including Côte d'Ivoire. This funding will provide a data center in the city of Grand-Bassam with a Tier 3 quality standard, providing up to 11MW of computing capacity.

Issuance calendar on the West African Monetary Union financial market

List of issues on the WAMU market – April 2023

Instrument	Date	Amount raised (M FCFA)	Subscription rate (%) ¹	Maturity	Coupon (%) ²	Rate (%) ³
BAT	07/04/2023	67,258	105%	6M	n.a.	6.34%
BAT		955		12M	n.a.	6.36%
BAT	17/04/2023	40,399	130%	6M	n.a.	6.35%
BAT		21,500		12M	n.a.	6.84%
OAT		4,101		36M	5.30%	6.63%
TOTAL BAT 2023		586,045				
TOTAL OAT 2023		45,104				
TOTAL 2023		631,149				

1. Subscription rate = amount submitted / amount targeted 2. The BATs are issued through multiple rates auctions and present pre-counted interests, unlike OATs which bear post-counted interests 3. Weighted average yield

Source : UMOA – Titres

To continue the conversation...

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If you have any questions or comments, please use the e-mail address IR@tresor.gouv.ci We will be happy to answer you.