

The Project has been classified as a Category B (Medium-Risk) operation according with BID Invest's Environmental and Social Sustainability Policy since it will likely generate, among other, the following impacts: i) potential fuel and oil spills caused by the use of machinery and transport vehicles and diesel plants; ii) erosion caused by surface runoff during rains or wind; iii) pollution of superficial and ground water caused by fuel and oil spills; iv) dust produced by wind erosion caused by exposition of soil materials; v) emissions of GHG to the atmosphere caused by the use of machinery and transport vehicles and indirect carbon emissions and air pollution from energy losses during transmission; vi) risk to birds and bats; vii) electromagnetic fields from transmission lines that might affect neighboring communities; viii) increase in health and safety risks due to construction and electrical interconnection activities; ix) visual impact of transmission lines and wind turbines; and x) potential impact to historical buildings and tourism. These impacts are deemed to be of low to medium intensity. The following Performance Standards have been triggered by the Project: PS1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts PS2: Labor and Working Conditions PS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention PS4: Community Health, Safety, and Security PS5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement PS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources PS 8: Cultural Heritage In 2015, Sigora International and its subsidiary Sigora Haiti (hereafter "Sigora" or "The Company") began work on a plan to electrify up to 250,000 households in Haiti over a period of seven years, which equates to approximately 15 percent of the total off-grid population of the country. Phase 1 of the Sigora Haiti Micro-Utility Project (hereafter "The Project") involves electrification of 21,600 households (about 110,000 people) in the northwest communities of Môle Saint Nicolas, Mare Rouge, Jean Rabel, and Bombardopolis. In addition, Sigora plans to build a second, independent, microgrid approximately 200 km south of Cluster 1 in the municipalities of Liancourt, Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite and Dessalines, with a total capacity of approximately 5.0 megawatts (MW). Construction of the Project began in 2016 and is expected to be completed by mid-2020. The Sigora green micro-utility is a unique business model that leverages specialized cloud-connected grid management technology, pre-paid payment solutions, and tariff structures designed to promote small business development. As of May 2018, the following components of the Project have been completed:

- Môle Saint Nicolas: i) 200 kW of diesel generation (2 gensets); ii) 208 kW of solar generation; iii) 1,055 household and business connections; and iv) 24 kilometers (km) of distribution or transmission lines. Also, as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR), Sigora has provided free electrification of the health clinic in the village and the installation and 100 streetlights.
- Jean Rabel: i) 780 kW of diesel generation (2 gensets) owned by municipality; ii) 250 kW diesel generation, owned by Sigora Haiti; iii) 2,457 household and business connections; and iv) 13 km of transmission lines. In a similar fashion as in Môle, Sigora provides free electrification of one public building and 100 free streetlights.
- Bombardopolis: i) 245 kW of diesel generation (1 genset), owned by municipality; ii) 25 kW of diesel generation, owned by Sigora Haiti, and ii) 390 household and business connections. Also, Sigora provides free electrification of one public building of choice (the police station) and 100 streetlights. As part of the Project, a 3 kW of solar generation facility, lead acid batteries (with charge controller and inverter), 1 km of distribution lines, and 50 household connections, with provision of subsidized electricity were also completed at the community of Presqu'île.

Contact Information

For project inquires, including environmental and social questions related to an IDB Invest investment, please contact the client (see Investment Summary sheet) or IDB Invest via email at: requestinformation@idbinvest.org. As a last resort, project affected communities have access to the IDB Invest Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism by email - mecanismo@iadb.org or MICI@iadb.org - or by calling +1 (202) 623-3952