The Bujagali Dam in Uganda

Lessons from a KfW/DEG co-financed PPP project

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Bujagali Dam at the Nile in Uganda

Largest (finalized) infrastructure project since independence 1962





Project history: 2nd attempt after corruption scandal

- 1996: First PPP contract with AES (USA) and Madhvani (Uganda)
- 2002: World Bank (WB) report confirms five breaches of safeguards, corruption scandal ends with demission of WB director
- 2003: After WB reporting on corruption and environmental problems two construction companies and then *AES* quit project
- 2005: New tender: Sithe Global (USA, affiliate of Blackstone, one of the world's largest private equity firms) and Industrial Promotion Services (Kenia): Built and operate contract for 30 years with garuanteed but secret fixed amount of electricity to buy by government, then back to Uganda (in 2043) for symbolic 1 US\$
- 2012: Dam in operation with 250 MW maximum power (about 30 % of Ugandas electricity, but on average only 170 MW real delivery according to WB study)

Contruction phase and environmental impact

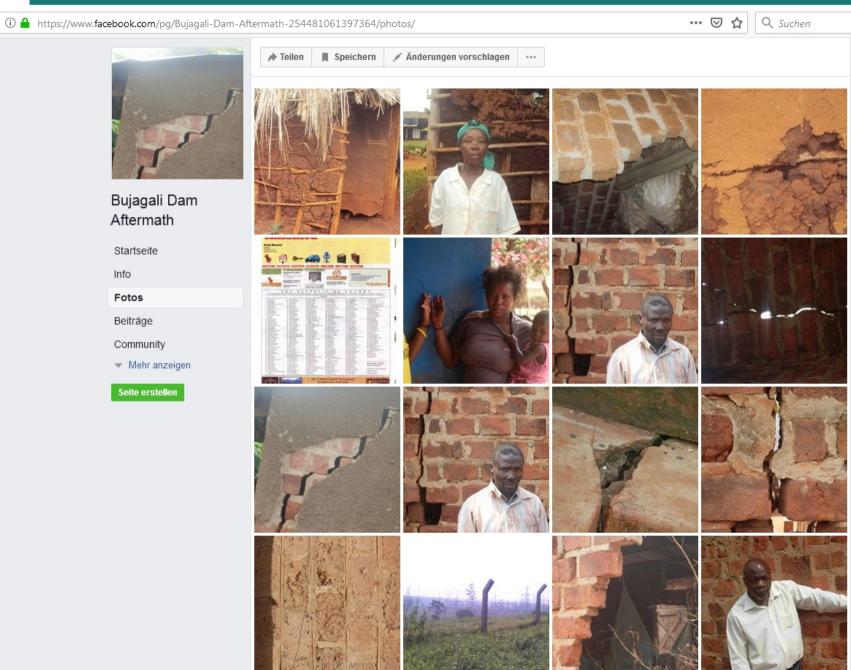


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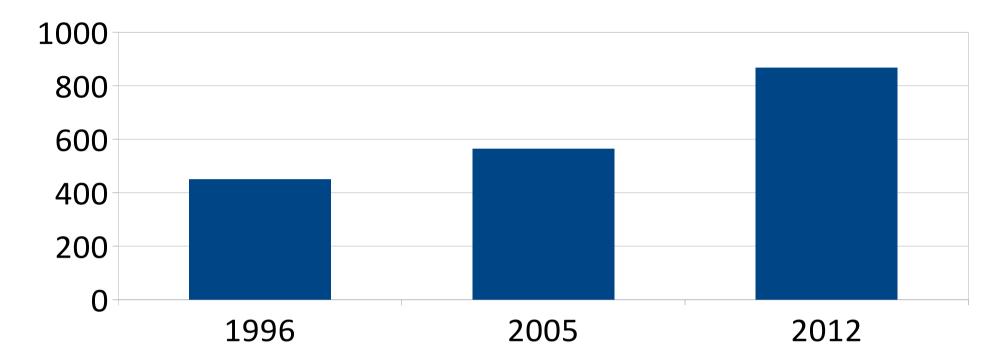
- 13.760 people affected by dam and new high-voltage transmission line
- Since 2000, eight World Bank (WB) complaints: on resettlements, cultural sites, workers' rights (salaries and else), damage to houses
- Partly successful but not implemented until today: "IFC did not ensure [...] landholders and workers were compensated as required by IFC's Performance Standards." (CAO, Feb 2018); 21 Sep 2018: new inspection panel approved
- Agreed land compensation cancelled for new dam
- Uganda's electricity now 90 % renewable, minus
 5,6m tons CO2 since 2012 (says dam operator)

"Bujagali Dam Aftermath"



WEED, Bujagali Dam, 5 Dec 2018

Costs (US\$m)



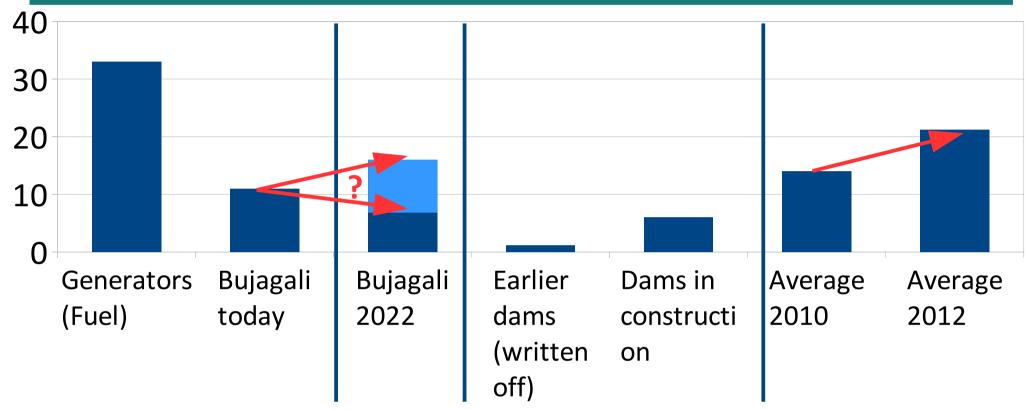
- Total app. US\$866m (Ugandan Parliament: 893); "The process increasing and approving the cost ... from the initial US\$460m to a high US\$893 million was highly suspicious." (Ugandan Parliament)
- App. US\$3,5m/MW; in comparison: Three-Gorges (China) US\$1.2m/MW, similar price at dam in Kenia, i.e. Bujagali 3x more expensive; but new Ugandan dam Karuna app. US\$2.75m/MW

Complex (initial) financing

Equity	Share (US\$)		
Sithe Global Power (USA, 99% Blackstone)	110m	Guarantee MIGA (World Bank) Guarantee IDA (World Bank) / Uganda	Almost no risk for private
Industrial Promotion Services (Kenya, Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development)	60m		
Uganda	20m		
Debt (until 2027? at last 6,75% int.?)			
IFC (World Bank Group)	130m		
European Investment Bank	130m		investors!
Standard Chartered and Absa / Barclays (UK)	115m		
African Development Bank	110m		
Proparco (French development agency)	73m		
FMO (Dutch development agency)	73m	Complexity is problem in view of Uganda: current new dam (Karuna) directly to Chinese	
KfW / DEG (German development bank)	45m		
Sum	866m		

Source: Eberhardt e.a. "Independent Power Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa" (World Bank); Blackstone; NAPE/FIVAS "Unsettling Business"; www.independent.co.ug; World Bank "Financial Solutions"

Price (\$-Cent/kWh): Expensive electricity



- "final tariff arrangement [...] depends on a final cost audit for the project, which was not yet complete in early 2015" (World Bank)
- President Museveni: "public private partnerships (PPPs) had been responsible for high cost power in the country" (Observer, 23 Feb 2018)
- With 11 \$-Cents/kWh (170 MW): US\$164m/year (with US\$866m cost)

Growing desperacy to lower prices over the last years



2016: Failed sell-off by Sithe (for US\$400m) but investment by *Jubilee Holdings* US\$54m

2017: Tax relief (since 2012) prolonged by 10 years

The East African

30 JANUARY 2017

Uganda Drops Plans to Buy Out Bujagali Dam Over Cash Constraints

Tagged: Business • East Africa • Infrastructure • Uganda

2017: Plan to buy back by government failed



Uganda agrees to demands of Bujagali financiers

SATURDAY DECEMBER 30 2017





Finally, Blackstone makes its profits



Print Article

World Bank Group approves refinancing loans for Uganda's Bujagali hydropower project

WASHINGTON

03/13/2018

By Gregory B. Poindexter



March 2018:

Debt restructuring (prolonged until 2032)



What we do Investments Who we are How we SN Power has completed investment in Bujagali Hydropower Project

SN Power has completed investment in Bujagali Hydropower Project



July 2018:

Sithe (Blackstone) sells to SN Power (finally owned by Norwegian government) for US\$ 277m (comparision: 110m initially: value up by 2.5x in ten years!)



Jubilee Holdings to pump Sh4.4bn into Bujagali power

plant





May 2018:

Jubilee Holdings invests additional US\$44m

Vielen Dank für die Aufmerksamkeit



Weltwirtschaft, Ökologie & Entwicklung World Economy, Ecology & Development

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