

Peacebuilding Commission Country-Specific Configuration on Guinea-Bissau  
Thematic Discussion on the Energy Sector in Guinea-Bissau – 25 June 2008

Background Paper on the Energy Sector in Guinea-Bissau

Introduction

1. The rehabilitation of basic urban infrastructure, especially power and water services, is paramount in the process of underpinning the economic recovery and political stabilization of the country and in the revitalization of the public and private sectors of the economy.
2. Prior to the 1998 conflict, Guinea-Bissau had one of the least developed infrastructure sectors in Africa. Only 2.6 percent of the population in Bissau had access to electricity, and 1.3 percent had access to water. The conflict caused the destruction of an



Master Plan, valued at 640,000 Euros and co-funded in the same amount by the World Bank under MIRP. The EC will also finance the current budget gap of 6 million Euros under the MIRP to cover the conclusion of the electrical network rehabilitation and extension works in Bissau. Under the 10<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF) assistance package, the EC will provide 23 million Euros to su