



EMBAJADA DE EL SALVADOR EN SUECIA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As part of the analysis carried out by the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation, taking as a reference the preliminary results of the pre-feasibility study that the Central American Bank is carrying out for Economic Integration (BCIE), the conceptual project has been defined in its first phase, which will consist of a mixed-use railway line with an approximate length of 63 km, which will connect the Port of Acajutla, in the municipality of Acajutla, department of Sonsonate, with the canton of Sitio del Niño, in the municipality of San Juan Opico, La Libertad.

The existing railway infrastructure in the country has been abandoned for more than twenty years; therefore, the project will be developed on the right of way of the disused railway line, consisting of a complete renovation of the track towards a standard gauge (currently 914 mm wide), construction of seven passengers stations, a central freight station, together with the second container yard of the Port of Acajutla, and a secondary freight station, projected in the Sitio del Niño canton. The new railway line is planned with a mixed operation for freight and passenger transport, sharing the track, electric traction units, and a few diesel combustion traction units for the first operational stage.

It is planned for the end of 2023 to have the first section in the testing phase and start-up that will connect the Port of Acajutla with the City of Sonsonate. Fig. 1 shows the location scheme of the layout to be developed.

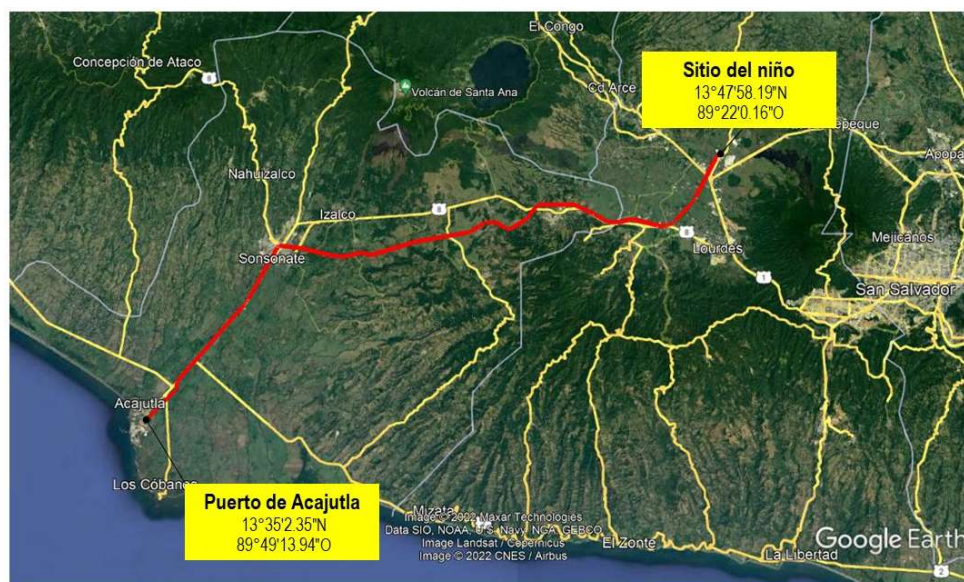


Figure 1. General scheme of the prioritized section. Puerto de Acajutla – Sitio del Niño, in the Acajutla-San Salvador corridor.



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CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

Basic Engineering Design

At the beginning of June 2022, the order to start the consultancy called "STUDY OF BASIC ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL STRUCTURING FOR THE TREN DEL PACÍFICO" is planned. SEGMENT I, PUERTO DE ACAJUTLA, SONSONATE AND SITIO DEL NIÑO, LA LIBERTAD", whose main objective is to carry out the Basic engineering designs and the elaboration of the implementation strategy and bidding documents for a segment I, detailing the elements and technical requirements of the different components of the conceptual project, preparing all the technical documentation for the Bidding for the Execution of the Project, a phase that is planned through a Turnkey Project scheme.

The first product of said consultancy is expected in September 2023. It will consist of the basic design and technical structuring of a first 15 km section, which will connect the area of the Port of Acajutla, Sonsonate, a section that is expected to be tendered for its design and execution at the end of 2023.

The second product is expected to be received in February 2024. It will consist of the basic engineering design of the section between the City of Sonsonate and the Canton of Sitio del Niño, with a length of 48 km. This package is planned to be tendered for its execution in the second quarter of 2024.

Environment Effect investigation

As part of the Basic Engineering Consultancy and technical structuring, to start in June 2023, the project's Environmental and Social Impact Study will be prepared to manage the respective environmental permit to begin bidding for the project of the first tranche at the end of 2023.

Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan

In mid-June 2023, the order to start the consultancy called "SPECIALIZED CONSULTANCY FOR THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (PAR) OF THE RAILWAY PROJECT" is planned, which aims to prepare the Procurement Plan and resettlements, and implement it for the release of the right-of-way strip of the project.

Execution Stage

The Basic Engineering study will structure the project in two stages of implementation to put into operation the first section of track at the end of 2023 and the second section in 2025.



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The International Public Bidding process for executing the first tranche is expected to begin in October 2022, and the Bidding process for the second tranche in March 2023.

Financing

The Government of El Salvador is currently exploring financing mechanisms for the project, which will allow it to start its execution in the first quarter of 2024. For the execution of the first 15 km of the project, the project is intended to be carried out through financing with the national budget.