

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	EU FUNDS CO-FINANCING ANDALUCIA 2014-2020
Project Number:	2014-0504
Country:	Spain
Project Description:	EU FEDER funds co-financing of priority investments within the scope of Junta de Andalusia's Strategic Reference Framework 2014-2020.
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme, multi-sector Structural Programme Loan operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or Annex II ("screened in") of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no
(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")	

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The Project is a multi-sector Structural Programme Loan (SPL) supporting the recovery and sustainable development of the Andalusian economy by co-financing selected Operational Programmes (OP) under the Spanish Partnership Agreement 2014-2020 in the areas of competence of the government of the Autonomous Community of Andalusia ("Junta de Andalucía" – JA).

It will cover all priority axes of the Regional Operational Programme (ROP), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) co-financed, as well as all eligible priority axes of the Operational Programme, European Social Fund (ESF) co-financed. The investments are mainly small schemes in SME financing, innovation and skills, strategic and sustainable transport, integrated territorial development as well as environmental protection, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Climate change mitigation and adaptation will also be a substantial component of the investments.

Relevant environmental EU Directives have been transposed into national legislation (SEA Directive, EIA Directive, Birds and Habitats Directive).

The Operational Programme FEDER 2014-2020 was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in line with the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, and the relevant non-technical summary (NTS) has been provided to the Bank. The Project contributes to the environmental objectives of the European Union (2010-2050) related to energy, greenhouse gas emission, air quality, water, and responsible production and consumption.

<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Luxembourg, 9 March 2017

Andalusia's main environmental challenges include erosion and desertification, increasing numbers of fires, high greenhouse gas emissions, high waste production and a low level of energy self-sufficiency. These challenges are directly addressed by a number of schemes targeted at promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management as well as preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency. Specific actions linked to the water and waste systems will contribute to Andalusia's compliance with the relevant EU Directives and result in a better quality of the environment. These schemes are also expected to directly or indirectly benefit the population and their health.

In general, the Project is expected to have a major positive impact on natural and cultural heritage, water resources, and landscape. Adverse environmental impacts at the construction stage (e.g. dust and noise) will be short-lived and reversible and have to be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures such as adequate selection of project locations and adherence to best practices in construction site management.

At operation stage, major impacts will be related to noise and emissions from motor vehicle traffic linked to roads as well as train traffic linked to railroads. Special mitigation measures will be proposed according to legal emission thresholds which include the construction of noise barriers and fences where needed.

Given the scope of this operation and sectors included, it is likely that some infrastructure schemes fall under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU, either under Annex I or Annex II. Should any scheme under this SPL fall under Annex II and be "screened in" by the Competent Authority (Environment and Land Use Planning Department – Consejería de medio ambiente y ordenación del territorio) or fall under Annex I, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

In Andalusia, 2.67 hectares are protected by Natura 2000. Some of the schemes included in this operation might be located within or in the vicinity of these areas. The Competent Authority has to provide evidence of compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) directives (Form A/B or equivalent) before the Bank funds are allocated.

### **Social Assessment**

No separate social assessment has been carried out for the ROP and the ESF OP. However, the operations are expected to have significant positive social externalities. The everyday life of the inhabitants will be improved thanks to better mobility and public infrastructure. Investments in education and training (priority axis 10 of the operational programme) and measures promoting sustainable and quality employment (priority axis 8) will increase the employability of both young people and life-long learners. Moreover, measures under priority axis 9 will contribute to social inclusion, and provide high-quality health and housing infrastructure.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

The SEA of the ROP has been carried out with positive outcome, including public consultation and appropriate assessment on Natura 2000 areas. In addition, if a scheme is subject to EIA, adequate public consultation will take place in the process.

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## Conclusions and Recommendations

The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including SEA (2001/42/EC), EIA (2014/52/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives as transposed into national law. In projects where applicable, the Promoter will be requested to deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank before Bank funds are allocated. Furthermore, the Promoter has to provide evidence of the compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives (if applicable) before the Bank funds are allocated.

Overall, the net environmental and social impact of this operation is expected to be positive (i.e. investments in innovation and skills, sustainable transport, education, renewable energy, energy efficiency, etc.). Potential negative effects (e.g. dust and noise during construction) will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures.

The institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed adequate and therefore, subject to conditions mentioned above, the project is acceptable to the Bank in environmental and social terms.

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