



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 13th September 2019

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	GALICIA AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE
Project Number:	2011-0453
Country:	Spain
Project Description:	The project consists of a number of improvements to upgrade the Galician airports of A Coruña and Vigo in northwest Spain, both owned and operated by Aeropuertos Españoles y Navegación Aérea (AENA). The investments are primarily aimed at achieving full compliance with international safety recommendations as required by the State Agency for Aviation Security (AESA) under the new certification process of Spanish airports. The improvements comprise strip widening, obstacle removal and taxiway and strip re-profiling. The project also includes the expansion of the passenger terminal building at A Coruña.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

Project description

A Coruna and Vigo airports are small regional airports in Galicia, Spain, each handling about one million passengers per year. The project consisted of making both airports compliant with international aviation safety standards as well as expanding the terminal in A Coruna. Due to the financial and economic crisis and a significant reduction in passenger numbers, the terminal expansion was later removed from the project scope.

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion

The project is now complete, except for the expansion of the terminal building in A Coruna as noted above. This component was cancelled due to the strong traffic reduction following the financial and economic crisis in the 2008-2011 period. Both airports are now compliant with the latest aeronautical safety requirements in the airside area.

A number of project components fell within the Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EC thus requiring a decision by the Competent Authority whether or not a full environmental Impact Assessment process was required. The Competent Authority decided that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study for those components on both airports had to be carried out. The environmental assessment covered the entire civil engineering works programme, which included: i) the compliance with aeronautical regulations as well as ii) the capacity expansion works, at A Coruna and Vigo airports. The EIA approval process at both airports included institutional and public consultation according to Spanish legislation.

The key environmental & social outcomes of the project was the requirement for the expropriation of about 15 hectares of land in A Coruna and 25 hectares in Vigo.



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The land expropriation was inevitable due to requirement for the expansion of the airstrip and compliance with aviation safety requirements. The expropriation and compensation processes were carried out according to the Spanish legislation.

Additionally, in Vigo the widening of the runway strip required the landfill of a small lake integrated in a golf course and its associated water stream. The impact to the hydro-geological system including soil and water contamination, the decrease of a natural recharge of the connected aquifer and the impact to local wells and other water sources was considered to be non-significant and measures were put in place to make an artificial deviation of the flow alongside the airport boundary.

The key requirements from the environmental & social conditions were fulfilled with: i) the submission by the Competent Authority confirming that the project does not have a significant impact on environmentally protected areas and ii) the receipt by the Bank of the environmental impact declaration concerning Annex II components.

Additional information

Both airports have Environmental and Information Management Systems in place that are accredited under ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. The Promoter is committed to ensuring environmental sustainability and aims to implement best practices towards that goal.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the Promoter that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.