

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	EIFFEL ENERGY TRANSITION COVID-19 TOP-UP
Project Number:	2020-0506
Country:	Regional-EU countries
Project Description:	Infrastructure debt fund providing finance to support European developers to build small-medium renewable energy / energy efficiency projects.
EIA required:	Multi-scheme project. Depending on the technical characteristics of the investments financed by the fund, sub-projects may be subject to an EIA.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation concerns EIB's participation in a fund, which is a parallel vehicle to be established alongside the Eiffel Energy Transition Fund ("EETF"), where the EIB is already an investor. This parallel vehicle constitutes a top-up to EETF with an identical investment strategy and governance structure. Alongside EETF, this is a debt fund providing predominantly bridge finance to renewable energy assets.

Based on the indicative pipeline, 55% of the investments will be solar photovoltaic plants, 40% onshore wind farms and the rest, 5%, energy efficiency or other potential technologies (energy storage, geothermal, small-scale hydro). Using this short-term debt, developers can accelerate the development and construction of assets. At least 90% of the projects will be located within EU and EFTA countries, with a dominant focus on the French market (50%), and the remaining 10% could be outside of the EU.

This operation would contribute to the EU-wide 2030 target of 32% final energy consumption coming from RE sources as laid out in the new RE Directive. It further contributes to the EU energy objectives, notably security of energy supply and climate change mitigation. The operation is aligned with the Bank's COP objective on Environment (renewable energy) and Climate Action objectives.

Should an investment project be subject to an EIA (or ESIA for outside the EU), the Fund manager shall deliver to the Bank a copy of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and EIA

¹ 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 20,000 tons CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

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documents, or provide a website link to the location where the EIA is published (or for outside the EU all relevant ESIA documentation).

Climate Mitigation

The Fund will contribute to the development of renewable energy projects, reducing CO₂ emissions and increasing the participation of RE in the energy mix.

It is estimated that, once fully invested, the EIB-eligible subprojects supported by the Fund will generate about 1165 GWh/year of energy from renewable sources, with a total RE installed capacity of about 600 MW. Therefore, the total relative effect of the project is a net reduction in CO₂ equivalent emissions by 502.4kt CO₂e/yr.

Conclusions and Recommendations

For the purpose of this operation, the legal documentation to be concluded between the Fund and the EIB will comprise, amongst others, the following undertakings:

- The Fund Manager will adhere to the national legislation, the EU relevant directives and the Bank's environmental and social standards. In addition, the Fund Manager will be required to ensure compliance of the investments with the EIB Excluded and Restricted Lists of activities.
- The Fund Manager shall nominate an Environmental and Social Manager, who shall be an experienced senior officer of the Manager having management responsibility, among other things, for ensuring proper operation and maintenance of the existing Environmental and Social Management System.
- The Fund Manager shall ensure that a grievance redress mechanism is in place and it is applicable to the entire portfolio.
- The Fund will integrate the EIB E&S standards into its existing E&S procedure and shall not invest in companies which operate in areas of activities excluded from EIB activity nor in companies which do not comply with EIB E&S standards.

With these conditions in place, the investment is deemed acceptable for financing from an environmental and social perspective.