

**Public**

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: MEGALIS BRETAGNE TRES HAUT DEBIT  
Project Number: 2019-0389  
Country: France  
Project Description: The project relates to the design and rollout of a publicly owned fibre broadband network PIN (Public Initiative Network) in the Bretagne Region in France. The objective of the project is to deploy a Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) network covering nearly 426 000 households in rural and less-densely populated areas where private operators are not present with very high-speed broadband services due to lack of commercial interest.

EIA required: No

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 relates to the design and rollout of a publicly owned fibre broadband network in the Bretagne Region in France. The construction and installation of fixed telecommunications projects (including civil works for fibre roll-out and transmission systems) do not fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the Directive 2011/92/EU.

#### Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The promoter is incentivising the reuse of existing infrastructures to reduce the potential impact of the implementation of the project and allows for a more cost-efficient roll-out. Around 75% of the network will be deployed using existing infrastructure, be it existing poles or ducts. Due to the high degree of re-use of existing infrastructure, the impact on the few sites of nature protection potentially affected by the project will be minimized.

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

Luxembourg, 11 November 2020

The promoter has indicated that less than 10% of the project roll-out will be located in areas of cultural heritage. While the visual impact is minimal, the concessionaire will have to follow the indications of the competent authority, such as “Architectes des bâtiments de France” in order to minimise the visual impact of the network roll-out. Most of the Optical equipment sites (NRO's) located in urban areas (villages, etc...) will be installed in the promoter's existing Central Offices.

The contract between the promoter and the construction company does furthermore reflect the requirement to limit the builders' pollution and waste creation resulting from the project implementation.

Broadband networks have a positive social impact. With the increase of connectivity, accessibility and reliability of the telecommunications network they enable communities to enjoy higher speed broadband, internet with the ability for increased economic activity in rural areas and access to a whole array of e-service (such as e-health or e-government).

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The related environmental issues seem well taken care of through the relevant legislation and contractual requirements.

Considering the above, the project is considered acceptable for EIB financing from an environmental and social point of view.