

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	Energy Efficiency in Public Venues
Project Number:	2019-0236
Country:	Greece
Project Description:	An integrated investment programme aiming to improve energy efficiency in public buildings with a particular focus on schools, hospitals, and sports facilities. This project falls under the Smart Finance for Smart Buildings ("SFSB") Initiative, a joint initiative of the EIB Group and the European Commission (EC) aiming at supporting energy efficiency investments in buildings.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The project aims at improving the energy efficiency of existing public owned and public occupied buildings in Greece. The project is in line with the objectives of the national energy efficiency action plan (NEEAP) and the objectives are aimed at generating energy savings of at least 30% in the energy consumption of public buildings, resulting in reduced air pollution and reduced emission of greenhouse gases.

Under this framework loan, the Promoter, Consignments, Deposits and Loans Fund (CDLF) will provide loans to public entities located across Greece, in order to improve the energy efficiency of public buildings (the underlying projects). The energy performance certificates will be issued for all buildings according to the national legislation implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010/31/EU, amended by the Directive 2018/844/EU).

The underlying projects will be chosen based on Calls published by the Ministry of Energy and Environment and a Technical Secretariat will be set up to help assess the applications submitted. The Technical Secretariat will benefit from the technical advice of the Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (CRES), a national body set up to advice on sustainable projects.

At the construction stage, the project implementation may lead to increased noise and vibration levels and may impact air quality. Adequate mitigation measures will be implemented in accordance with the existing legal framework, together with the enforcement

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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.

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of good construction practices. The project's impact at construction stage will be temporary and reversible, at a level, which is deemed acceptable.

The primary energy savings resulting from this project are estimated at around 819 GWh per year corresponding to approximately 151 t of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year.

### **Social Assessment, where applicable**

No special social risks are foreseen for this project. The project is expected to bring positive social benefits related to the gains in energy efficiency and associated decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The operation is expected to have positive environmental and social impacts, as it will contribute to reduced energy consumption in buildings. It will therefore reduce air pollution-related to the production of heat (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and particulates) and will help mitigate climate change by avoiding associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The Promoter shall ensure the compliance of the following undertakings:

- The types of technologies invested under this project are compliant with the EIB's Energy Lending Policy, including the emission performance standard;
- For all relevant underlying projects, the ex-ante and ex-post energy performance certificates must be issued by accredited experts;
- For all projects related to buildings with a floor area above 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>, energy audits shall be performed before and after the conclusion of the renovation works, to assess the primary and final energy savings achieved;
- All boilers financed will be high efficient gas condensing boilers;
- The renovation works must comply with the existing regulations, particularly with the applicable environmental law (e.g. related to the removal of asbestos);
- The Promoter is considered capable to select schemes complying with the Bank's specific procedures and eligibility criteria, in particular regarding the environmental and social aspects.

Based on the above considerations, the Project is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.