



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 22 December 2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	TUNISIE TELECOM 4G ROLLOUT
Project Number:	2015-0828
Country:	Tunisia
Project Description:	The project related to the roll-out of mobile next generation access networks, including the related investments in the backbone network and IT systems, in Tunisia. With the implementation of the project, the promoter planned to roll-out a 4G mobile network throughout the country to connect 1.1 m customers.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

Environmental Assessment

If the project would have been located within Europe, it would not have been subject to EU Environmental Impact Assessment legislation, as defined under Annexes I and II of Directive 2011/92 EU as amended and would therefore be subject only to local or national legislation. Similarly, in Tunisia, only local environmental impact mitigation legislation is applicable for the authorisation process of telecommunication projects. The environmental impacts of mobile communication systems are mainly visual nuisance, electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation, and noise from diesel generators located at base stations and microwave radio towers. The project was not subject to any local procedure and no further environmental impact has been reported.

Social Assessment, where applicable

Regarding the limitation of EMF exposure to the general public, the promoter adhered to the guidelines set out by the Agence nationale de fréquences (ANF) which are in line with the threshold defined by the International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). The ANF is also in charge of the control of the radiation limits of the individual base stations. EMF is however under continuous study by international organizations, and in the most recent development in 2011 the WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified EMF radiation as possibly carcinogenic to humans.