



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 17/05/2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name:	<i>IRISH WATER INVESTMENT PROGRAM</i>
Project Number:	<i>20120078</i>
Country:	<i>IRELAND</i>
Project Description:	<i>Part-financing of national water services investment programme (2012-2016)</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project consists of 23 schemes aiming at the improvement of water and wastewater infrastructure in Ireland.

The water conservation schemes (4) of the project aimed at the reduction of water losses thus contributing to optimize the use of the limited resources available and to reduce the energy consumption.

The water supply schemes (7) addressed current water deficiencies in a country where many regions face a situation where demand exceeds supply, posing greater social problems in the near future.

The wastewater schemes (12) included the upgrade of existing and new wastewater treatment plants, and sewerage systems. These schemes improve the quality of effluents that are discharged to surface and coastal waters. They also reduce the level of pollution in water sources from septic tanks that feed drinking water supplies. Sewerage networks are designed as separate systems for wastewater and storm water runoff, including storm tanks. These schemes ensure compliance with the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EC as amended by 98/15/EC), the Bathing Directive 2006/7/EC and the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).

Six of the schemes required an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):

- Clonakilty Sewerage Scheme
- Youghal Sewerage Scheme
- Ringsend Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Swords Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Costello Water Supply Scheme
- River Barrow Abstraction Scheme

The Non-technical Summaries (NTS) of the EIA have been received and published by the Bank. The competent authority in relation to the environment is the Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.ie), and the planning authority is An Bord Planeála (www.planeala.ie).

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs



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The project components schemes are located in 5 river basin districts in Ireland. The 2009-2015 River Basin management plans were adopted in July 2010, being subject to SEA. Consultation on the draft River Basin Management Plans took place between 22nd December 2008 and 22nd June 2009.

The Promoter is the Ministry for Environment, Community and Local Government². The Promoter delegated in April 2014 the execution of the Project to the company Irish Water (www.water.ie). Irish Water is the national service provider for water and wastewater services in Ireland since July, 2013.

Irish Water confirmed that all of the projects in the Programme are in compliance with EU Habitats and Birds Directives. None of the components had a significant impact in Natura 2000 areas.

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.

² Currently renamed as Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) with effect from 30 September 2020