



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 02/12/2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	ITALGAS GAS SMART METERING
Project Number:	2016-0055
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	2017-2020 rollout of gas smart meters in the Promoter's concession areas throughout Italy

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The Project involved the financing of a gas distribution project covering the period between 2017 and 2020 (4 years in total). The Project comprised the replacement of old meters by new gas smart meters in residential and commercial connection points (ca. 5 million), and the related project management costs. The activities were undertaken across the Promoter's concession areas in Italy, using standard technologies. This is an experienced Promoter.

All of the investments were at low pressure levels, mostly comprising refurbishment of existing gas infrastructure. Given the characteristics, location of the works and potential impacts of the project, and considering the criteria established under EU and national EIA legislation, the project did not require an EIA. Equally, none of the investments affected Natura 2000 sites, being located in urban or industrial areas.

The main impacts, associated with the Promoter's construction works, were temporary in nature and mitigated according to established practices in the sector. For smart meter projects, the main impact on the environment is from the disposal of the old meters being replaced. The promoter reports in its 2020 Report and Accounts that materials from old meters were largely sent for recovery or recycling. The Promoter is accredited to meet the standards of ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OSHAS 18001, among others.

As regards the telecommunications requirements, the solution adopted was to use point-to-point technology through the national GPRS (mobile telephone).

Based on the information provided by the Promoter up to Project completion, no significant environment or social issues were noted.

The project is not included in the carbon footprint exercise. Whilst the project facilitates more efficient network operation (allowing for remote operations), energy savings through demand management have not been demonstrated, therefore the project is not expected to have had a significant impact on CO₂ emissions.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

The EIB is of the opinion, based on reports from the Promoter during construction and after completion, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB's Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.