



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 21/12/2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	2I RETE GAS SMART METERING
Project Number:	2013-0682
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	The project was part of the promoter's on-going investment programme in gas distribution networks. It concerned the installation of ca. 3.5 million gas smart meters and the related new communication networks as well as the necessary information management system to enable and optimise the use of the new meters in alignment with the requirements of the relevant regulatory framework.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project comprised the installation of gas smart metering systems in the gas distribution networks in geographically dispersed concession areas of the Promoter. The project improved operational efficiency as well as enhanced customer information and awareness that would potentially allow for energy savings through demand response of customers to price signals.

Given the technical characteristics, location and potential impacts of the project, and considering the criteria established under the EU and national EIA legislation, the project did not require an EIA. No works were carried out close to or on sites of nature conservation importance.

As regards the telecommunications requirements, the solution has adopted the 169 MHz frequency band dedicated by the EU for remote reading. The project complies with EU and Italian regulations (DPCM 08/07/2003). The 169 MHz band is used for short distances; and for other data transmissions, the national GPRS (mobile telephone) network is used.

The installation works were undertaken using standard technologies by an experienced Promoter.

The main impacts that occurred during project implementation were temporary in nature, and they were mitigated according to established practices in the sector. For the smart meters one of the main potential impacts on the environment is from the disposal of the old meters being substituted by this programme. Appropriate procedures have been established by the Promoter to streamline the disposal process of the meters and to reduce the environmental impact of the waste disposal. Materials from old meters were largely sent for recovery or recycling.

The promoter has a well-established health, safety and environmental (HSE) management system, and is ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified.

The project potentially may lead to reduction of gas consumption and thus CO₂ eq. emissions. However, those emission reductions were not quantified and were not included in the carbon



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footprint exercise given their uncertainty and that they relate more to customer behaviour affecting the demand rather than any technical aspect of the project itself.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

Based on the information available at appraisal stage and the monitoring reports from the Promoter the EIB is of the opinion that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.