



Luxembourg, 20 October 2022

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	ACP FIN SECTOR SUSTAINABLE DIGITALISATION GA
Project Number:	20210339
Country:	Regional - ACP
Project Description:	The envelope aims to provide financing to a still to be defined number of financial institutions across ACP countries for the implementation of their IT developments. It will finance IT related projects which could notably include the Research, Development and Innovation and implementation of IT systems in the field of mobile services, digitalisation, process optimisation, business model evolution, regulatory requirements and cyber-security protection.
EIA required:	to be evaluated at time of sub-project appraisal
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no
(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")	

### Environmental and Social Assessment

The proposed Global authorization (GA) intends to provide financing to about 5 to 10 individual Sub-projects of commercial banks in ACP countries for the deployment of their IT projects. Such project include a Research and Development component as well as their implementation in the field of mobile services, digitalisation, process optimisation, business model evolution, regulatory requirements, risk management and cyber-security protection.

#### Environmental Assessment

The proposed activities will take place inside buildings at existing RDI facilities already being used for similar activities, and are not expected to have a significant environmental impact on their surroundings. Some of the RDI projects conducted by the Promoters are expected to address specific environmental issues and include sub-projects that will directly help decrease GHG emissions and build resilience. The RDI results will help for example to allow for a more efficient and reduced use of energy or reduced paper usage and travel. Based on the experience of the Bank with similar projects already implemented, the sub-project should enable to reduce the carbon footprint of the promoter by 25%. Therefore and according to the 2022 Guidance Note on the Eligibility of Projects and Investments, 25% of the sub-projects costs are expected to qualify in addition under to the Bank's cross sector eligibility "Climate Action, Mitigation - Energy Efficiency".

<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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Full environmental details and the final appropriate level of environmental approval will be assessed during the appraisal of the individual sub-projects.

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

As the world seeks to build resilience, the limitations of today's technological infrastructure and under investment become apparent. The need for greater regional economic and infrastructure integration across the ACP countries is well established.

Improved and secure digital financial services infrastructures are likely to have a positive impact on financial inclusion, development of trade, improved production costs and foreign capitals attractiveness in the countries where the sub-projects will be located.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

During the appraisal of sub-projects, the Environmental & Social impact as well as the processes and procedures of individual beneficiaries will be assessed. The Bank will require the promoters to ensure that implementation of the sub-projects will be done in accordance with the Bank's environmental and social policy and standards.

Under these conditions, the operation is considered acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.