



Luxembourg, 24 November 2022

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	ILIAD FRANCE TRES HAUT DEBIT EXPANSION 2
Project Number:	2022-0143
Country:	FRANCE
Project Description:	The project relates to the expansion of a fibre to the home (FTTH) telecommunication network throughout France from 2022 to 2024.
EIA required:	No
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

#### Environmental Assessment

Investments in fixed telecommunications projects (including civil works investments for fibre roll-out and transmission systems) do not fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the Directive 2011/92/EU. Fixed telecommunications systems have limited environmental effects, apart from disturbances during civil work constructions, which can be mitigated by appropriate measures.

The project relates mainly to the connection of the final customer from the network termination point into the customer's premise. This type of roll-out is not expected to have any major environmental impact as it will be performed close to the customer premise. It will make use, to the extent possible, of already existing infrastructure (such as cable ducts already laid within Multi Dwelling Units). For the number of cases in which there is no existing infrastructure, the promoter has expressed its intention to use an aerial or on-façade deployment of the fibres, while the new electronic equipment will be housed in small office-type sites already used for the same purpose in most of the cases.

Telecommunication networks are the basic components for the digitalisation of all sectors of the economy. They are therefore essential to enable the deployment of low carbon and decarbonisation scenarios leading to significant sustainability benefits across the whole economy and fulfil the Paris Alignment criteria as set out in the EIB's CBR (Climate Bank Roadmap).

<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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## **EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework**

As a corporate, the counterpart is in scope but it is screened out of the PATH Framework because it is neither a high emitting nor a highly vulnerable entity.

## **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

As part of its annual report, the promoter publishes a chapter on Environment, highlighting the main environmental and social actions it has undertaken.

The expansion of the fibre network will help to increase the FTTH competition and allow for more affordable and better high-speed broadband products. Investments in the FTTH roll-out significantly improve the quality of broadband services, with widely reported positive social benefits such as enabling teleworking solutions thereby reducing the need for travel, enabling the use of cloud computing solutions with energy efficiency gains, the delivery of e-health and tele-education services to underserved regions, and supporting regional development through development of sufficient ICT ecosystem

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Investments in fixed telecommunications projects have limited environmental effects, apart from disturbances during civil work constructions, which can be mitigated by appropriate measures.

Investments in the FTTH roll-out significantly improve the quality of broadband services, with widely reported positive social benefits.

In light of the above, the project has been found to be acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.