



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 14 October 2022

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	A1 MOTORWAY (PYRZOWICE-CZESTOCHOWA)
Project Number:	2014-0268
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	Construction of about 57 km of new 2 x 2 motorway between Pyrzowice and Czestochowa in south central Poland.

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project concerns the construction, on a new alignment, of about 57 km of 2x2 motorway between Pyrzowice and Czestochowa in south central Poland. The project forms part of the broader A1 motorway route in Poland from Gdynia on the Baltic coast to the Czech Republic border at Gorzyczki.

The project works were performed on the following four sections:

- Section F: Rząsawa – Blachownia.
- Section G: Blachownia – Zawodzie.
- Section H: Zawodzie – Woźniki.
- Section I: Woźniki – Pyrzowice.

The project falls under Annex I of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU. The project was therefore subject to a full EIA procedure including mandatory disclosure and public consultation. The procedure resulted in a positive Environmental Decision (ED) being issued by the Competent Authority in February 2009. In accordance with Polish law, the promoter voluntarily undertook additional supplementary environmental procedures to support the building permit applications. Four positive supplemental environmental decisions were issued over the period from October 2013 to April 2014.

While the project does not cross or border any Natura 2000 sites, the closest site is just one hundred metres from the project and several others are in the vicinity; therefore, the provisions of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) apply. Following an Appropriate Assessment, the relevant EIA reports did not identify any significant negative effects on protected sites and species. Confirmation of this opinion (Form A) has been obtained from the Competent Authority for Nature Conservation.

After the approval of the project, several appeals against the construction permits were filled with the Ministry, and after their dismissal at the Ministry level, they were taken to different judicial instances. The majority of the appeals were also dismissed by the judiciary, with the only exception of Section F between Rząsawa – Blachownia. For this section, the main objection regarded the construction or reconstruction of water reservoirs. On 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019, the Minister issued the decision in which he partly rescinded Voivodeship's decision dated 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The change regarded ditch R-1 (S-10) maintenance, which was replaced by its reconstruction. The remaining part of the Voivodeship's decision did not change.



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After the approval of the project, there were some updates as follows:

1. Section F: Rząsawa – Blachownia. Due to on-going construction works on the Motorway Service Centres (MOP-s) and Motorway Maintenance Centre (OUA), RDOS decided to postpone a post implementation analyses regarding noise levels and air pollution. They will be done after above mentioned works are completed and once the increase in speed limit up to 140 km/h is implemented. The analyses are planned to start in 4Q of 2022.
2. Section G: Blachownia – Zawodzie. In order to minimize potential negative impacts on the environment, the following monitoring activities were devised:
  - Post implementation analysis regarding noise level and NO<sub>2</sub> concentration received on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and forwarded to the relevant offices.
  - Monitoring of NO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the air in the neighbourhood of Natura 2000 "Walaszczyki" received on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.
  - Monitoring of groundwater level in the neighbourhood of Natura 2000 Walaszczyki: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
  - Monitoring of animal passes, fences, birds collision with acoustic screens, greenery: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020 -10<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

No mitigation activities were imposed.

3. Section H: Zawodzie – Woźniki. In order to minimize potential negative impacts on the environment, the following monitoring activities were devised:
  - Post implementation analysis regarding noise levels and rainwater received on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and forwarded to the relevant authorities.
  - Monitoring of animal passes, fences, birds collision with acoustic screens, greenery: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

The following mitigation activity was imposed: due to exceeding noise standards at Wąsosz, Marshal of Silesian voivodeship issued on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 a decision no. 3616/OS/2021 regarding noise reduction by installing two additional acoustic screens by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at the latest.

4. Section I: Woźniki – Pyrzowice. In order to minimize potential negative impacts on the environment, the following monitoring activities were devised:
  - Post implementation analysis regarding noise levels and rainwater received on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and forwarded to the relevant authorities.
  - Monitoring of animal passes, fences, birds collision with acoustic screens, greenery: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

No mitigation activities were imposed.

Road safety audits at various stages of design, pre-commissioning, and after opening to traffic have been performed in accordance with Polish legislation. The audits were followed by recommendations that have been partially implemented. The promoter provided explanations when recommendations were not followed.

The project involved the expropriation of private and public land, some 974 ha of largely agricultural and post mining waste land with some forest, as well as the involuntary resettlement



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of a limited number of residential homes. Such expropriation was conducted in accordance with applicable national laws and regulations.

**Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter, and/or inputs provided by Lenders' Supervisors and others, where applicable, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.