



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 07/12/2022

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: ENERGY EFFICIENCY TELECOM GUINEA
 Project Number: 2018-0703
 Country: GUINEA
 Project Description: The project consists of financing a new energy efficient infrastructure (electrical supply, PV, batteries) for the existing and new cellular towers across Guinea, in order to improve the energy efficiency and reliability of power supply, as well as increasing renewable

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The Project supported an Energy Service Company to roll out a new energy efficient infrastructure to supply existing and new mobile towers of a large international Mobile Network Operator (MNO) of the country. 1.186 existing towers were upgraded, and 601 new sites developed with the technical solution.

The project decreases the total energy needs of the mobile towers, switch the power supply of off-grid site from diesel generators to solar PV and significantly reduce the diesel consumption occurring during outages for on-grid sites and sites where PV cannot be deployed. This project brought global and local environmental benefits through energy savings and the reduction of pollutant emissions from diesel-powered generators.

The Guinean authority did not require an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study for any of the upgraded or new sites. However, after an assessment of the land acquisition procedure of the MNO and due to the lack of clarity over the tower permitting process within Guinean Protected Areas, the Bank decided to finance only the sites outside of such areas, despite their limited physical footprint and potential for significant environmental impacts.

To mitigate potential negative aspects, such as the development of new towers and waste management during operation, an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) was required. The Promoter has established an ESMS at corporate level, but the local roll-out in the different countries of operation has been delayed by the pandemic. In Guinea the deployment of the local ESMS shall be finalized during the beginning of the year 2023, with the support of the co-financer Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The Carbon Footprint is calculated considering the grid and diesel consumption of the sites. In the baseline, existing consumption remains at current levels, with new towers assumed to consume the same amounts of diesel and power as current towers. Estimated emissions savings are 27.5 kilotons of CO₂ equivalent per year, close to the estimate at appraisal. For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project costs.



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EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social aspects to be monitored during operations:

- The implementation of the ESMS in the Guinean subsidiary of the Promoter shall be monitored during the year 2023.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter during Construction and first years of operation that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.