



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 16/12/2022

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name:	IPTO CRETE ISLAND INTERCONNECTION PHASE I
Project Number:	2017-01
Country:	Greece
Project Description:	The proposed project concerns the interconnection of the island of Crete with mainland Greece, in the region of Peloponnese. The project includes two AC 150 kV submarine cables, 150 kV underground and overhead circuits, a compensation terminal in the Peloponnese and network reinforcements associated to the interconnection. The landing points of the submarine cables are in Kissamos bay (Crete) and the Malea peninsula (Peloponnese)

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The investment programme comprises the following main components:

- Component 1: Upgrades of lines and substation in the Peloponnese.
- Component 2: Upgrade of Molaoi substation and new overhead circuits and new terminal station in the Peloponnese.
- Component 3: New underground and submarine cables from the Peloponnese to Crete.
- Component 4: New underground connection to and upgrade of Chania substation in Crete.

The project is part of the national 10 year Grid Development plan 2017-2026 that underwent Strategic Environmental Assessment approved by the Ministry of Environment and Energy on May 26th, 2017.

At the time of appraisal, all the necessary environmental permits for the project had been granted. The Promoter confirmed that all environmental terms, set by the competent authority, were applied and there were no issues or pollution incidents or social complains during the construction phase. The main mitigation measures implemented are summarized below:

- The width of the occupation zone of the project was limited to that absolutely necessary for the construction of the project.
- A special Phyto technical study (competently approved) was carried out for the restoration of the intervention forest area.
- In order to deal with the possible effects of the project components on the historical and cultural environment of the study area, all excavation and earthworks were monitored by archaeologists appointed by the relevant Ephorates of Antiquities.
- The maintenance of the construction equipment is done outside the project occupation zone, specifically in local vehicle workshops.

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs



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- A temporary construction site facility was created within an IPTO substation which was used for the temporary storage of the steel towers of the transmission line as well as the parking of vehicles and machinery.
- There were no redundant materials during the construction phase. .

During implementation the EIA was amended following the finalisation of the route of the subsea cable. The amended EIA took into account the updated NATURA 2000 list for Greece and a new Appropriate Assessment was conducted. According to the new Appropriate Assessment, there were no additional measures proposed, since the project does not cause further negative effects on fauna species, habitat types and flora species.

No significant risk or issues concerning environmental or social aspects have been reported.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

Based on reports provided by the promoter during construction and at completion that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.