



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 28/12/2022

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	PLAN MAROC VERT PNEEI
Project Number:	2011-0122
Country:	Morocco
Project Description:	<i>The project was part of the National Irrigation Water Saving Program and had as objective to improve the efficiency of irrigation over an area of 21,903 ha through the modernization of the irrigation networks in order to allow the improvement of water service and equipping farms with drip irrigation.</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project was implemented in three Regional Agricultural Development Offices (ORMVA): Gharb (ORMVAG), Haouz (ORMVAH) and Souss-Massa (ORMVASM) and contributed to the general objective of the Plan Maroc Vert (PMV) to modernize agriculture while ensuring efficient and sustainable management of water resources.

The project supported the transition to drip irrigation replacing existing sprinkler and gravity irrigation systems with a more efficient and sustainable management of water resources. This transition allowed substantial water savings of approximately 35% which will have a positive impact on the environment thanks to better use of limited natural resources.

As the project aimed at modifying existing irrigation infrastructure and did not imply an increase in the irrigated area, a full Environmental Impact Assessment was not required either by the European legislation on the environmental impact nor by the environmental legislation of Morocco. However, in order to ensure compliance with the EIB's Environmental and Social Standards, the promoter was requested to prepare an environmental impact study aimed at defining an Environmental and Social Management Plan for the project and to help the promoter monitor and control soil salinity within the project area, as well as the monitoring of the concentration of fertilizers and pesticides in the soil. The environmental impact study was conducted and presented to the EIB, which was reviewed and the Bank verified compliance with its Environmental and Social Standards, including aspects related to resettlement.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The project was not included in the EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise as it was estimated that the project would only achieve modest savings in energy required for pumping irrigation water.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The project, through the intensification of agricultural activity allowed the creation of approximately 1,200 to 1,500 additional permanent jobs within the project areas.



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Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion, based on reports from the promoter and site visits by EIB teams during the project implementation, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.