



Luxembourg, 16.10.2023

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Ukraine Solidarity Package - Brandenburg FL
Project Number:	2022-0205
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	Financing of costs incurred by the state of Brandenburg in relation to reception and accommodation centres in support to migrants.
EIA required:	This is an intermediated multi-scheme framework loan operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex II ("screened in") of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

This Operation has been developed under the Programme Loan "Ukraine Solidarity Package – Programme EU MS (2022-0249) approved by the Board in May 2022, which provides financing to EU Member States to increase the capacity of cities and regions to adequately respond to the needs of refugees and host communities.

At present, more than one million Ukrainians had entered Germany and more than 970,000 have registered for Temporary Protection (or similar national protection schemes). To date, around 30,000 Ukrainians live in the State of Brandenburg.

The project concerns a framework loan to Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg (ILB), the State of Brandenburg's promotional bank, acting as Intermediary for this Project, in financing costs incurred by the Federal State of Brandenburg in relation to reception centres and accommodation for refugees to be implemented by municipalities across the State.

Environmental Assessment

This is an intermediated multi-scheme framework loan operation. Some of the Project's underlying investments may fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, requiring a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or EIA screening by the competent authority on the basis of related Annex III to determine the need for a full EIA. In addition, most of the schemes will be located outside protected areas, including Natura 2000 (falling under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC or Birds Directive 2009/147/EC). The Bank will require the intermediary to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives as transposed into the national law, prior to the use of funds.

¹ 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 CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

The Project's environmental impact at the construction stage will be short-lived and reversible, and at a level deemed acceptable. Some of the expected negative effects include heavy traffic, increased noise and air pollution during construction, which will be alleviated by appropriate mitigation measures concerning site organisation and construction management in line with the relevant national legislation.

In respect of energy performance, the investments are expected to meet the relevant requirements defined by the EU directives and national legislation.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The borrower, Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg (ILB), the public promotional bank of the Federal State of Brandenburg, is in scope of the EIB Group framework to support the Paris Agreement (PATH framework). However, it has been screened out given that its primary activity – provision of financial support – is not a high emitting sector and it is not engaged in any other high emitting sector.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The Operation concerns investments in reception centres and different types of accommodation for refugees. It will contribute to alleviating current constraints in existing housing provision and to providing adequate infrastructures for women, children and vulnerable groups. The investments are expected to have a positive effect; they will provide adequate housing facilities for Ukrainian and other refugees, they will improve their living conditions, wellbeing, and overall quality of life. Furthermore, the Operation is expected to contribute to the effective social inclusion of Ukrainian and other refugees in host communities.

Accommodation which is restricted to or excludes persons from specified national, ethnic or religious groups or other types of segregation and/or discrimination are not eligible.

Reception centres will meet the requirements of the EU Receptions Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU).

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation process and stakeholder engagement will take place as part of the planning permission process carried out by local authorities.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Intermediary's capacity regarding Environmental, Social and Climate management, governance and monitoring systems has been verified during implementation of previous operations supported by the Bank and is deemed adequate.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Intermediary will undertake that the schemes under this operation, if applicable, are in line with the EU Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down the standards for the reception of applicants for international protection.

In investments where applicable, the Intermediary will be requested to deliver to the Bank and before the Bank funds are allocated, the EIA report and the evidence of the compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives.

Upon the Bank's request, the Promoter will be requested to provide selected Energy Performance Certificates obtained in line with the EU Directive 2010/31/EU during implementation or after completion of works.

The institutional capacity of the Intermediary to manage and monitor the environmental and social issues is deemed good.

Overall, the Operation's net environmental impact is expected to be positive, and it should bring about important benefits to refugees and social inclusion. The investments to be financed will significantly contribute to increase the capacity of municipalities to respond to the needs of refugees and adequately contribute to their quality of life, whilst avoiding discrimination and ensuring fair treatment to all groups of society. Therefore, subject to the conditions described above, the Operation is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.