



Luxembourg, 29 November 2023

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	WADI AL ARAB WATER SYSTEM II PROJECT
Project Number:	2014-0150
Country:	Jordan
Project Description:	The Project consists of a new water intake facility from the King Abdullah Canal, a treatment plant, pumping facilities and a transmission pipeline to the Zabda Reservoir on the western side of the City of Irbid. The system will provide an additional 30 million cubic metres of potable water per year to the Northern Governorates.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The main objective of the Wadi Al Arab Water System II Project is to provide additional water to supplement the limited potable water resources available in the Irbid Governorate and to contribute to the reduction of the current water deficit experienced in Jordan's northern governorates. The project included the construction of a 26 km long transmission pipeline from the King Abdullah Canal to the Zabda Reservoir, on the western side of the city of Irbid, as well as a raw water intake facility on the canal, a water treatment plant and three pumping stations.

An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) was prepared for the project as per the requirements of the Jordanian Environment Impact Assessment Regulations of 2005. The ESIA was prepared in compliance with the Jordanian Environment Protection Law No. 52 of 2006, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation No. 37 of 2005, the Ministry of Environment requirements and the EIB Environmental and Social Standards. The ESIA also included an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) covering both the construction and operation phases of the project.

According to the ESIA, no infrastructure associated with the project is located in or affects sensitive or protected areas. The negative impacts identified (e.g. typical construction works related nuisances) were considered to be minor or they could be mitigated as long as national regulations and the requirements of the ESMP are followed properly.

During construction, adequate mitigation measures were taken to eliminate, when possible, or reduce the negative impacts due to construction. The requirements set out in the ESMP were followed by the identified responsible parties and, as a result, there were no major environmental issues reported. Any recorded non-compliances (mainly relating to noise generated by the construction activities) were dealt with promptly by the contractor.

Since the start of operations, the average water production through the water treatment plant has been variable due to the availability of raw water in the KAC. This situation has gradually improved with additional water made available from Lake Tiberias.



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Land acquisition of privately owned agricultural plots was required for the project. An Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan Report (ARAP) was prepared for the project and measures were put in place for the process. No issues were reported in relation to this.

Water quality as well as spills, leaks and chemical releases in the environment are regularly monitored since the start of the operation. Monitoring will continue and should be sufficient to maintain the environmental risk to acceptable levels. No issues have been reported during the operations phase.

The project created positive impacts on the local society and economy such as creating job opportunities for the local labour during the construction phase. Since the start of operations, the project has contributed to improving the resilience of the communities to extreme droughts and climate change.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion, based on reports from the Promoter, site visits by the EIB team as well as inputs provided by Construction Supervision Consultants during construction, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.