



Luxembourg, 12 December 2023

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	PANAMA CITY AND BAY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECT
Project Number:	20150056
Country:	Panama
Project Description:	The Project will improve the environmental conditions of Panama City and Bay by doubling the current treatment capacity of 190 000 cubic meters per day to 380 000 cubic meters per day of the Juan Díaz Wastewater Treatment Plant.

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The EIB project financed the largest component of the Panama City and Bay Sanitation Programme Phase II: the extension of the Juan Díaz Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The project aimed at improving public health by treating wastewater before discharging into the streams and/or straight into the Panama Bay. It contributes significantly to the environmental improvement of the beneficiary area by doubling the existing treatment capacity of 190 000 m<sup>3</sup> per day to 380 000 m<sup>3</sup> per day.

An ESIA report covering the full treatment capacity of the WWTP was required by local legislation and approved in 2006 by the Competent Authority (CA) in relation to Environment, the “*Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente*” (Resolution DIEORA IA 119-2006 of 23 November 2006). The ESIA included the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). If located in the EU, the project would fall under Annex I of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU thus an EIA would also be required. The ESIA was updated with the support of the Interamerican Development Bank (IADB) in 2015, including new public consultations. Both documents the ESIA and its update have been published on the EIB public register.

The promoter reports that the project implementation followed the Environmental and Social Management Plan included in the updated ESIA.

The project entered into operation on 31.07.2023 and since then, it is treating the wastewater of about 700,000 people.

The project is expected to have significant environmental benefits like the reduction of the pollution in the Panama Bay and improve the quality of the Juan Diaz River. The project will also reduce GHG emissions by improved wastewater treatment and enhanced anaerobic digestion. Therefore, the project will have a significant contribution to Climate Change Mitigation.

The project is improving the health of the population by properly treating the wastewater, avoiding septic tanks and other unhealthy onsite sanitation. Also the project created employment (temporary and permanent). This project also includes a Centre for Environmental Interpretation that will be used by the society.



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**Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

EIB is of the opinion based on Project Completion Report from the promoter that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.