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Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

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Project Name: Project Number: Country: Project Description*:* BPCE ACTION POUR LE CLIMAT 2019-0236

France

The project consists of an intermediated lending in support of small to mid-sized renewable energy projects in France (onshore wind, photovoltaic, geothermal, hydro, biomass and waste treatment/biogas).

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

This operation consisted of funding provided to BPCE, the Financial Intermediary ("FI"), in support of renewable energy projects in France, covering on-shore wind, photovoltaic, geothermal, hydro, biomass and waste treatment/biogas, with investment costs up to EUR 15m per scheme. Eventually, the operation co-financed on-shore wind, photovoltaic, and biogas schemes. While eligible under the facility, no geothermal, hydro or biomass schemes have been co-financed under this loan.

Overall, the operation has financed a total of c. 1000 schemes, for a total financing amount of EUR 250m, 92% to solar PV (including to more than 900 rooftop PV for c. 140 MWp), 3% to wind (with only one scheme of 10 MW) and 5% to biogas. In total, around 515 MW of new renewable energy capacity has been developed as a result of the operation (solar PV 505 MWp, wind 10 MW), with total investments costs of circa EUR 560m. In total, annual renewable energy production generated by the supported projects amounts to c. 611 GWh/y, thus contributing to France's environmental and climate action targets.

For all schemes subject to an EIA, the FI submitted the required E&S information to the Bank. Out of the c. 1000 schemes, 40 schemes required an EIA, which have been reviewed by the Bank and subsequently published on the EIB website to make them available to the public. Based on the information available to the Bank, the FI verified that none of the schemes submitted for part-financing by the Bank have a significant negative impact on any site of nature conservation importance (incl. Natura 2000). No significant environmental or social issue was noted nor reported to the Bank.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion, based on the information provided by the FI, that the operation has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.