

Luxembourg, 11 April 2025

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: AEP GRAND CONAKRY - GUINEA - PHASE 1
 Project Number: 2021-0432
 Country: Guinea
 Project Description: Première tranche d'investissement du Schéma Directeur d'alimentation en eau potable du Grand Conakry visant à renforcer la capacité de production à 200.000 m³/j ainsi que les infrastructures pour distribuer l'eau sur Conakry.

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The proposed operation will support the first phase of investments identified by the Water Supply Master Plan of Grand Conakry. It has been prepared under the new WB Guinea Water and Sanitation Project (PEAG). The project aims at expanding access to reliable potable water services in the Grand Conakry area, while improving the capacity and performance of *Société des Eaux de Guinée* (SEG), the project promoter, and strengthening the institutional framework of the urban water sector. EIB financed works concern the construction of a 45 km long water conveyor between the new water treatment plant Yessoulou IV (capacity of 200 000 m³/day) and Grand Conakry, a large part of the distribution network and water reservoirs, including household connections. The EIB financing will also include relevant, non-structural, dam safety measures in the upstream dams feeding the project area, Grand Chutes, Banéah and Kalé. All EIB components will be aligned with both the EIB and the WB E&S standards. The 45 km long conveyor connecting the Grand Chutes dam and Yessoulou IV will be parallel financed by Exim Bank India. Therefore, the EIB won't supervise the E&S aspects of this component.

Promulgated by decree D/2019PRG/SGG of 04 July 2019, the environmental code of Guinea aims to manage and protect the environment against all forms of degradation, promote the exploitation of natural resources, fight against pollution and nuisances and improve the living conditions of the population while protecting the environment. Investment projects likely to harm the environment must be subject to impact studies. Decree No. 199/PRG/SGG/89 sets out the list of works and infrastructure subject to an ESIA, which includes "*travaux et ouvrages d'adduction d'eau*".

The *Bureau Guinéen d'Études et d'Évaluation Environnementale* (BGEEE) promotes the Government's national policy on environmental and social assessment. BGEEE plays a key role in the analysis and approval of environmental and social impact studies. The ministry in charge of a project acts as an interface between the Ministry of Environnement, Water and

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.



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Forestry and the project promoter. The Ministry of Energy, Hydraulics and Hydrocarbons is responsible for this project.

The infrastructure to be financed by the project will improve the quality of life of the population and will support social and human development. PEAG has been prepared by the WB, including most detailed designs and the ESIA for the WB's financed works: the water treatment component, Yessoulou IV, and the distribution network and reservoirs for the districts of Kouria, Manéah and Kagbelen. Upstream works to ensure the safety of the operation of the dams will be financed by the EIB. The preparation of the EIA is ongoing as part of the preparatory activities of the WB. A first version of the ESIA for the conveyor was carried out, requiring an upgrade to comply with the WB E&S standards. It will be financed by the EIB, together with the ESIA and RAP for the distribution networks to be financed by the EIB/EU Delegation/Government of Guinea. These studies will comply with the EIB and the WB's E&S standards.

The project will substantially enhance the quality of drinking water service delivery within Grand Conakry and will improve safety condition in the upstream dams. The Grandes Chutes Dam, feeding Yessoulou IV WTP, is located in a rich biodiversity area, which includes the Grandes Chutes classified Forest (situated in the southern Fouta Djallon immediately north of the town of Mambiya). The habitat is wooded savanna and grassland, and, along the northern boundary of the reserve, a tributary of the River Badi is lined by gallery forest. It was classified by Birdlife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA) in 2001 and listed as a Key Biodiversity Area on the IBAT web site. More recently the Grandes Chutes classified forest was identified as a Tropical Important Plant Area (TIPA). Dam safety related works will be non-structural, whose impacts will be properly identified and easily mitigated through a correct implementation of the ESMP.

Other risks associated to the phase of construction and/or operation are the alteration of air quality; noise and vibration from construction vehicles and machinery; soil and water contamination by hydrocarbons, lubricants, oils and suspended solids; risk of accidents and incidents linked to works; wastewater and faecal sludge generation from sanitation facilities. An important impact associated with the operation of the project is the generation of additional wastewater volumes produced by the population. PEAG will fund the construction or rehabilitation of WASH facilities in primary and secondary schools in Grand Conakry to enhance the human capital impacts of the water supply investments. These facilities comprise latrine blocs, with pour or flush toilets and handwashing stations and they will be segregated by gender, with separate latrine blocs for teachers and access ramps for the disabled. It will also provide funding to community groups and NGOs that work on hygiene education and on latrine maintenance

The project has been assessed to be Paris aligned against resilience goals.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The Project has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) that outlines potential stakeholders, engagement/communication modalities, monitoring and reporting, institutional arrangement, and timeline and cost. A Labour Management Plan (LMP) has been also prepared that will apply to all investments. It specifies: (i) terms and conditions of employment; (ii) Non-discrimination and equal opportunity; (iii) code of conduct to be signed by all project workers; (iv) freedom of association with worker's organizations; (v) child labour and minimum age; (vi) forced labour; (vii) occupational health and safety; (viii) Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures; and (ix) labour management influx. The LMP also includes a grievance mechanism for project workers (contractors and subcontractors). The project will require contractors/operators (both local and international) to integrate this LMP in their own labour management regulations, ensuring that all workers are fully aware of the terms of employment,



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remuneration, grievances and other relevant factors. These documents have been published on the WB website.

The construction of the infrastructure downstream the water treatment plant (conveyor, pipelines, reservoirs) will lead to some permanent or temporary acquisition of land as well as economic and physical resettlement. The most likely physical and economic resettlement are expected to be small buildings, kiosks, trees or annex elements such as walls, fences, etc. RAPs for the EIB financed components will be prepared together with the ESIA's. All project compensations will be financed by the WB, except for those linked to the Exim Bank financed conveyor, which will be covered by the Government of Guinea.

Project benefits will be linked to improved hygiene and increased access to drinking water in newly connected households, leading to a reduction in water-borne diseases. It will be also the case for schools and other public places, where permanent access to safe water will have a similar positive impact. The WB has identified *risks of social exclusion and discrimination of, and against, women and other vulnerable groups during the project pre-construction and construction phases. This risk is related mainly to land acquisition process and access to project labour and employment opportunities including sexual exploitation and child labour.. There is a risk that occupational health and safety may not be upheld, as the previous WB's experience showed that implementing companies had low environmental and social capacity..* The ESIA/ESMPs will address sexual harassment, HIV prevention, and incident response. Contractors will be required to adhere to these plans and create C-ESMPs. The project will primarily hire locally, boosting the local economy, and contractors will implement the labour management procedures approved by local authorities and co-financier.

As part of the project preparatory activities, a Gender analysis was undertaken, concluding that women are the primary responsible for water collection in Guinea. Women must devote hours every day to collect water from stand posts, neighbours with boreholes or water tankers. Other indicators known to impact women's emotional burden such as interrupted water availability is also high for urban households. The analysis identified that SEG lacks a policy, strategy, and action plan to promote gender issues, highlighting gender disparities. The survey found that, of SEG's 929 employees, only 17.33% were women. Overall, the WB concludes that the project is expected to contribute to improved school attendance especially for girls to attend school and enable women to engage in additional productive activities.

There are no indigenous people identified in the project area and the promoter concludes that the project won't have significant impacts on cultural heritage.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation is part of the process of elaboration of the ESIA's. The SEP already developed and endorsed includes a Grievance Mechanism (GM) for the project that is known by and made accessible to all stakeholders and allow them to voice their concerns and request information about the project.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

A Project Coordination Unit (PCU), located in the Ministry of Energy, Hydraulic and Hydrocarbon, will be responsible for project management and coordination, fiduciary and E&S safeguards activities, monitoring and evaluation, communication activities and preparing progress and completion reports in accordance with WB/EIB rules and procedures. SEG will allocate a project implementation unit responsible for the preparation and monitoring of the project, including E&S aspects, among other subjects, occupational health and safety, gender, SEA/SH and stakeholder engagement aspects. An international consultant financed by the EIB (*assistance à la maîtrise d'ouvrage*) will support SEG, providing a strong capacity building component.

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Conclusions and Recommendations

The project will have a high positive social impact and will contribute to the country's adaptation to climate change conditions. It will also improve public health. No significant negative impacts on the environment nor negative social impacts with appropriate identification and mitigation measures are expected.

With the following conditions in place, the project is acceptable for financing in environmental and social terms:

All disbursement conditions linked to works

- The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment(s), the Environmental and Social Management Plan(s), and the Resettlement Action Plan(s) in relation to the disbursement in question are satisfactory to the co-financiers and sent to be published on the EIB website, together with the favourable opinion of the competent authority in charge of the environment.
- Confirmation that compensation to those people affected by the project, in relation to the disbursement in question, has taken place.

Undertakings

- The Promoter commits to implement the project in line with the EIB E&S standards;
- The promoter commits to comply with the recommendations of the project's ESMPs during the implementation of the project;
- The promoter commits to adopt and implement throughout implementation of the EXIM Bank India component the requirements and activities set forth in the Labour Management Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan, as well as to report the implementation of these requirements in the project reporting;
- The promoter commits to develop and implement a gender attraction and promotion policy to increase the number of women in technical fields.