

Luxembourg, 5 March 2025

**Public**

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	SCHOOL RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PT
Project Number:	2023-0877
Country:	Portugal
Project Description:	This Project concerns the implementation of the Portuguese school recovery and rehabilitation programme modernising education facilities in the basic education and upper secondary education cycles. The programme includes 473 schools already identified and prioritised. This project relates to a first phase of investments covering approximately half of these schools. The interventions comprise the renovation and rehabilitation of outdated school facilities improving their energy efficiency, learning environments and safety standards.

EIA required: No

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: Yes  
(details for projects included are provided in section: “EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise”)

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

This Project is a multi-component investment loan comprising predominantly the renovation and construction of school buildings of primary and secondary schools across Portugal.

School buildings are not specifically listed in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, though the Project will be covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. In Portugal, there exists a threshold for certain types of urban development, which the Project's investments are expected to be below the stated thresholds. Therefore, the Project investments are not expected to be subject to an EIA or to the screening process. For the construction or reconstruction of new schools, the Bank will require the Promoter to provide a copy of the development consent and EIA status.

The Promoter has confirmed that the Project components are neither located in a Natura 2000 site nor in other designated or protected sites.

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.



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### **Climate Assessment**

The new and renovated buildings will be designed to achieve a high-energy performance. New buildings will be built to meet Portugal's nearly-zero energy buildings (NZEB) standards and are expected to exceed those requirements meeting the Bank's requirements for contribution to climate action.

The design solutions are planned to include some passive and active design measures such as the installation of best available energy-efficient technologies, onsite renewable energy apparatus and enhancements to the building fabric and facades.

The Project investments include measures to adapt the buildings to future physical climate change vulnerabilities including increased temperatures and heatwaves and potential flooding. The Project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be aligned both against low carbon and resilience goals.

### **EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise**

The Bank has performed a calculation to estimate the baseline emissions, which due to a lack of complete data – the programme of investments contains over 470 schools – has assumed a reasonable average area and an existing energy performance for the schools based on reference data provided by the Promoter. The annual absolute emissions are based on the minimum 30% saving of energy consumption targeted by the Promoter in their call for proposals. The estimated annual absolute emissions in a standard year have been calculated as 43.2 kT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. The estimated emissions savings are 18.5 kT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.

For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

### **Social Assessment**

The Project does not have any significant negative social impacts, as the regional Promoters are expected to carry out the implementation in compliance with applicable Portuguese labour and social legislation.

The Project will deliver modern classrooms and education facilities to improve the internal environments and thermal comfort to promote good quality teaching and learning environments. The Project will also aim to improve accessibility of the school buildings through the installation of lifts and creating step-free access.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The Project components form part of a national programme to modernise and upgrade school buildings across Portugal, enhancing the working environment for staff and students alike. Due to the investment and use of new materials and technologies, the new and renovated buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency of the school infrastructure in Portugal.

### **Conditions and undertakings:**

The Promoter commits to designing and renovating existing buildings to achieve a minimum 30% saving of the primary energy demand. Further, the Promoter commits to designing and constructing new buildings to achieve an energy performance rating of at least 20% lower than the current Portuguese requirements for buildings in accordance with current legislation.



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The Promoter shall commit to maintaining and keeping up to date the database of the Project's investments established for the collection of school building data. This shall include reporting each intervention's EIA status, as well as the energy performance and primary energy demand before and after the intervention.

The Promoter shall perform air tightness tests and a thermal integrity test for any new buildings over 5 000 m<sub>2</sub> and shall provide to the Bank evidence of the completed tests upon completion.

In light of the above the Project is therefore considered to be acceptable for the Bank's financing in environmental, climate and social terms.