

Luxembourg, 7th October 2024

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	EURE - PROGRAMME DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE
Project Number:	2023-0123
Country:	FRANCE
Project Description:	Framework loan for financing multi-sector investments as part of the sustainable development programme of the Département of Eure for the period 2024-2028
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation, structured as a Framework Loan, will support the French Département of Eure, located in the Normandy region, in the achievement of its objectives of sustainable territorial development: strengthen the attractiveness of the territory, improve the quality of life for inhabitants and preserve environment and biodiversity. The Département of Eure is competent in numerous sectors such as spatial planning, schools, social inclusion and solidarity as well as support to local entities and culture.

This will be achieved primarily by upgrading of public buildings and infrastructure with approximately 67% of the planned investments in the sector of Integrated Territorial Development. The tentative schemes include the building, extension and renovation of public buildings, primary and secondary schools, local sport infrastructures, tourism and cultural heritage both in main urban areas and smaller villages. The project pipeline also foresees investments in the health sector (7%) to improve retirement homes and in the construction and renovation of water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructures (7%). In addition, the Département of Eure also plans to invest in natural resource management and protection (6%) mainly through flood and fire prevention (wetlands and river basins management, forest management, awareness campaigns) as well as actions supporting biodiversity. The creation of a major cycling path "Eure à vélo" aims to foster sustainable tourism and low-carbon transport. Finally, energy related schemes (3%) consist of energy efficiency renovation of buildings. Several investments will also have a positive environmental impact on biodiversity and climate change adaptation.

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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Schemes financed under this operation will be mainly of small size (mainly project cost less than EUR 30m) and are not expected to have significant negative environmental or social impacts. However, some schemes could have limited temporary environmental impacts during the construction phase. Environmental impacts during construction may come from increased local traffic through traffic-related air pollution, exhaust gas and noise emissions, and generation of construction and demolition noise, dust, waste and vibration. These impacts could be mitigated by adhering to a good practice and by following the recommendations of the competent authority.

For schemes related to the new construction or refurbishment of buildings, the Promoter shall ensure compliance with the national and applicable EU legislation related to energy performance of building during the implementation of the scheme and during operation. Schemes aiming to reduce natural disaster risk and increase preparedness regarding drought, heat and floods underline the adaptation efforts of the Département and contribute the Climate Action as well. Schemes related to biodiversity and water supply and wastewater treatment contribute to Environmental Sustainability.

In view of the nature of the schemes supported in the sub-operations, the application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures and protected sites may be relevant for very few of the schemes to be proposed. In such case, The Promoter is required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU legislation, mainly SEA Directive (2001/42/EC), EIA Directive (2011/92/EU, as amended by 2014/52/EU), Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) and Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), and national legislation.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The planned investments cover the whole territory of the Département including urban and rural areas. In particular, various subprojects consist in supporting municipalities to improve local public building and infrastructures via direct grants or contracting schemes that support local development strategies.

The investment programme is expected to bring socioeconomic benefits to the territory, population and visitors in terms of improved infrastructure and services in education, healthcare, culture, sports, tourism and quality of life.

In addition, the project pipeline includes measures targeting population at risk of social exclusion such as the elderly and the youth (retirement homes, schools, sport and cultural infrastructures open to the public).

More generally, the project will contribute to strengthening secondary growth poles and reducing inequalities between people and between places. It may improve living conditions in the Département, as well as strengthening social cohesion.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The promoter will ensure conformity with European and national environmental regulations especially making publicly available relevant information on social and environmental aspects and organising the necessary public consultation exercises. Public consultation of the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) of the relevant underlying schemes will be carried out in line with the EIA Directive, as transposed into national law. In addition, regional strategic



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programming processes that may impact some of the schemes (via the SRADDET²), were also subject to public consultation and strategic environmental assessment (SEA).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The following undertakings will be required for this Project:

- The Promoter is required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU legislation, mainly SEA Directive (2001/42/EC), EIA Directive (2011/92/EU, as amended by 2014/52/EU), Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) and Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), and national legislation.
- In case a scheme with a budget over EUR 40m requires an EIA or an appropriate assessment or equivalent, the Promoter shall submit, prior to allocation of the Bank's funds, the full EIA report or appropriate assessment to the Bank.
- Schemes, in relation to which a screening or appropriate assessment of impacts on Natura 2000 sites is carried out, shall be assessed in view of site-specific conservation objectives. For schemes subject to screening/appropriate assessment, the Promoter will inform the Bank about any changes or updates to the conclusions of the screening or appropriate assessment, in view of the site-specific conservation objectives, as defined by the competent authority and reflected in their decision.

Considering the above undertakings, as well as the capacity of the Promoter and the systems in place to manage environmental and social impacts and risks, the project is acceptable for the Bank's financing in environmental and social terms.

² [SRADDET Normandie : results of the public consultation](#), 2020.