

Luxembourg, 16.10.2025

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	WALLONIE ENTREPRENDRE RENEWABLE ENERGY FL
Project Number:	2024-0803
Country:	Belgium
Project Description:	The operation consists of an intermediated framework loan with Wallonie Entreprendre to support predominantly private companies promoting small and mid-sized renewable energy projects in the Walloon region of Belgium (the "Project"). The operation will be 100% CAES dedicated.

EIA required: Some of the underlying schemes may require an EIA.

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 consists of a Framework Loan (FL) to Wallonie Entreprendre (WE) (the "FI" or "WE"). WE is the Walloon region Promotional Institution, and a well-known counterpart to the EIB from previous operations. The loan is for an amount of up to EUR 100m to finance mainly renewable energy projects in the Walloon Region of Belgium. The operation focuses on solar photovoltaic and onshore wind and associated storage infrastructures. To a lesser extent, the operation will support energy efficiency (EE) projects, electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructures and some manufacturing of renewable technologies (PV panels). The investment costs of the individual sub-projects will be up to EUR 80m. The operation will be 100% CAES dedicated.

The FI will be required to ensure the compliance of all schemes with relevant EU Directives as transposed into national legislation. Due to their technical characteristics, some of the investments are expected to fall under Annex II of Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by EIA Directive 2014/52/EU, leaving it to the national competent authority to determine according to Annex III of the said Directive whether an environmental impact assessment is required. Most of the individual schemes to be financed are likely to have limited negative environmental impacts, which are expected to be mitigated appropriately. In case an EIA is required, the Bank will require the Financial Intermediary (FI) to store and keep updated any documents that may be relevant for the project (including EIA screening decisions, environmental studies, environmental monitoring reports or equivalent documents) supporting compliance with the EIA Directive and national environmental regulations, and to promptly deliver such documents to the Bank upon request.

The FI will be required to verify that none of the schemes has a significant adverse impact on any site forming part of the EU Natura 2000 network (falling under Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC or Birds Directive 2009/147/EC). Schemes with significant negative impacts on areas with high biodiversity value, nature conservation areas, including bird migration routes, shall not be eligible.

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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EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterpart WE is a National Promotional Institution, therefore is out of scope of the PATH framework.

Social assessment, where applicable

Recent reports are pointing out the possibility of use of forced labour in the supply chain of solar PV panels. The Bank confirms that the FI has in place an ESMS which includes a Human Rights Policy and a Code of Ethics, rejecting the use of any form of forced or compulsory labour, applicable inter alia to the supply chain of the underlying solar PV projects, in compliance with the applicable provisions of the relevant E&S standards of the Bank.

The FI has a Code of Ethics in place rejecting the use of any form of forced or compulsory labour.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

For projects subject to an environmental impact assessment as defined by national legislation, the FI shall ensure that an E&S assessment is carried out and that public consultation is undertaken in accordance with national legislation and the EIA Directive.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The FI is considered to have the expertise and the capabilities to verify the environmental procedures carried out for individual schemes, appropriately addressing environmental issues and ensuring that the schemes to be part-financed under this framework loan comply with national and EU legislation.

If a scheme falls under Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive, the FI shall ensure that the sub-project's promoters comply with the provisions of the EIA Directive as transposed into national law. When relevant, the FI shall deliver to the Bank the EIA report and other relevant environmental documents. Projects located inside Natura 2000 sites and projects with significant negative impacts on areas with high biodiversity shall not be eligible.

The FI will be required to undertake, on a best effort basis, to perform enhanced due diligence of the supply chain of the solar PV module manufacturers (supply chain mapping of the solar PV module manufacturers reaching the level of silicon/polysilicon suppliers and/or declarations by the PV module manufacturers concerning the origin of the components used in the PV modules, per sub-project), also guided by the FI's human rights commitment, and ensuring that appropriate contractual provisions are cascaded to contractors/suppliers of the sub-projects.

Under these conditions, the operation is acceptable to the Bank in E&S terms.