



Luxembourg, 18/12/2025

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name:	SMART GRID AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE LINZ
Project Number:	20190351
Country:	Austria
Project Description:	Investment programme covering electricity distribution grid, smart grid and smart meter deployment, and refurbishment of water and wastewater infrastructure in the city of Linz and the surrounding region in the period 2019-23.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project was a 4-year (2019-2023) investment programme that comprised investment schemes in the low and medium voltage distribution of electricity, the roll-out of smart meters, and the refurbishment of water and wastewater infrastructure in the city of Linz.

Due to their technical characteristics, none of the investment schemes are expected to fall under Annex I of the Directive 2014/52/EU, amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. Some programme schemes fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive, leaving it to the competent authority to determine whether or not an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required.

The promoter has identified 2 electricity distribution subprojects as requiring an EIA:

- 1) a joint project with Austrian Power Grid "Sichere Stromversorgung Zentralraum OÖ", for an EIA was completed and a permit was granted on 26 June 2024.
- 2) A 110 kV line between Rainbach and Langbruck/Rohrbach, for which an EIA permitting process is still ongoing, and expected in 2026. Due to delays, this project is not yet implemented, and falls outside the project financing scope.

No water or wastewater projects were subject to EIA.

No significant environmental or social issues were noted. None of the projects resulted in required compensation measures.

EIB had the following E&S-related undertakings in the Finance Contract, which were fulfilled, based on the promoter's reporting.

- The promoter undertakes to store and keep updated all EIA screening decisions concerning the programme schemes issued by the competent authority for nature and environment.
- The promoter undertakes not to allocate the Bank's funds to the implementation of programme schemes that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the biodiversity assessment have been finalised and approved by the competent authority. An electronic copy of the EIAs must be placed on the website of the promoter, or otherwise communicated to the Bank, from the moment the EIAs are made available to the public, and maintained until completion of reporting.

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs



Luxembourg, 18/12/2025

- The promoter undertakes to ensure that all programme schemes will undergo a biodiversity screening in accordance with the EU Habitats and Birds Directives. Should a component have a potential impact on a site of nature conservation, the undertaking is extended to inform the relevant authority and implement the procedures under Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive.
- The promoter undertakes to store and keep updated any documents that may be relevant for the programme and which support the compliance with the provisions under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives (Form A/B, or equivalent declaration by the competent authority) and shall, upon request, promptly deliver such documents to the Bank.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.