

Luxembourg, 29/08/2025

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: *EAM ELECTRICITY NETWORK INVESTMENTS*
 Project Number: *2024-0532*
 Country: *Germany*
 Project Description: *The Project comprises investments in an electricity distribution network programme including substations, overhead lines, underground cables and automation fostering connection of renewable generation and e-mobility*

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

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

Environmental and Social Assessment

The investment programme includes the renovation, reinforcement and extension of distribution infrastructure. The Project will cater for demand growth, connect new network users and the integration of renewables and improve the quality of services and the efficiency of operations. The project is located in few Germany regions: Hesse, southern Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Thuringia and Rhineland-Palatinate.

Environmental Assessment

The Programme includes schemes relevant to electricity distribution network, mainly underground cables but also overhead lines, with voltage levels up to 110 kV. Some of these schemes may fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, amended by directive 2014/52/EU, which requires the competent national authority to determine the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment.

The European directives have been transposed into German national law on 12/02/1990 with the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (Gesetz über die Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung - UVPG). Given their characteristics, location and potential impacts, none of the programme schemes is expected to require a full EIA. Each scheme is examined and approved by submissions to the regional nature and water protection authorities, who carry out a screening on the necessity and scope of the required EIA, in order to obtain the necessary environmental permits. Programme schemes are also screened with respect to the need for an appropriate assessment under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.

No scheme is expected to affect any Natura 2000 site.

The programme has the potential for some low to moderate environmental and social impacts. During construction, the environmental impacts are expected to relate to dust, noise, vibration, traffic disruption and vegetation clearance. Environmental impact during operation will concern electromagnetic fields (EMF), noise disturbance and collision and electrocution of flying vertebrates. Where relevant, appropriate measures will be implemented to avoid or minimise impacts. This includes measures to contain the effect of noise during operation, specific

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.



Luxembourg, 29/08/2025

maintenance procedures and coordination with local authorities and property owners. In densely populated areas, particular attention will be paid to contain the effect of noise, vibration and traffic disruption during construction works. Regarding the schemes relating to works in substations, contamination from oil leakage of transformers is mitigated through the appropriate design of bunds.

The environmental and social due diligence has followed the investment programme lending approach according to the EIB's procedures and standards, i.e. the due diligence focussed on the Promoter's capacity and capability to implement the programme in line with EIB environmental and social standards and requirements. Based on this assessment and considering the performance on environmental and social matters publicly available on the promoter website, the environmental capacity of the promoter is deemed to be "good"; it has the experience and the capacity to appropriately manage the investment programme.

The programme has been assessed for its Paris alignment and it is considered to be aligned both against low carbon and resilience goals in line with the policies set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap and with the EIB's Energy Lending Policy.

Gross annual GHG emissions of the programme in a standard year of operation are estimated at 0.1 kt of CO₂ equivalent per year (on the basis of network losses), relative emission equal zero.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterparty EAM is in scope and screened out of the PATH framework, because it is not considered high emitting and/or high vulnerability. The counterparty is not involved in any incompatible activities.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The promoter is an experienced Distribution System Operator with internal procedures covering Environmental and Social aspects of the activities and it undergoes regularly a voluntary test procedure, Technical Safety Management (TSM), to verify the company's compliance with legal and technical requirements as well as the safety and reliability of technical plants and processes.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Bank reviewed the environmental and social capacity of the promoter including its organisation, process and procedures and deemed them to be good. Based on the information available, and with appropriate conditions (see below) and monitoring, the programme is expected to be acceptable in environmental and social terms for Bank financing:

- PATH counterparty undertakes not to engage in incompatible activities, as defined in the "EIB Group PATH Framework"².
- The Promoter undertakes to send to the EIB copies of 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 programme schemes that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the biodiversity assessment have been finalised to the Bank's satisfaction and, including public consultations, and approved by the competent authority. When the EIA is made available to the public, an electronic copy of the EIA study shall be sent to the Bank.
- The Promoter undertakes to take into account and implement the conditions expressed in any screen-out decision or EIA consent granted by the competent authority for nature and environment.

² [The EIB Group PATH Framework: Version 1.2](#)



Luxembourg, 29/08/2025

- 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.