

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	LYCEES TECHNIQUES PROFESSIONNELS DU BENIN
Project Number:	2022-0816
Country:	Benin
Project Description:	The Project comprises the construction/rehabilitation and equipment of 15 technical secondary schools (lycées techniques professionnels (LTP)) across various regions in Benin. The EIB loan is planned to finance 6 LTP (equipment and infrastructure) out of the 15 LTP of the Project.

E&S Risk Categorisation:	Medium risk
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Government of Benin, through its national strategy for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), has launched a Project to construct and renovate fifteen Lycées Techniques Professionnels (LTPs) across the country. This initiative aims to modernise educational infrastructure, align training facilities with international standards, and improve the employability of young people. The project is part of a broader effort to strengthen the TVET ecosystem, enhance the quality of instruction, and foster entrepreneurship and job creation. It is supported by multiple international development partners, including the World Bank (WB), the West African Development Bank (BOAD), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the OPEC Fund.

The project comprises of Rehabilitation of fifteen existing LTPs located in fourteen communes. The perimeter of the Project supported by EIB is the renovation of LTPs located in the municipalities of Pobé, Ina, Kani, Porto-Novo, Bopa and Kpondehou. Each LTP will be designed to include functional blocks such as workshops, specialised classrooms, dormitories, infirmaries, kitchens, and staff housing. The renovation works involve partial or complete demolition and reconstruction, depending on the condition of existing structures and the planned specialisations. These interventions are intended to create modern, inclusive, and safe learning environments that respond to local labour market needs.

The Project is promoted by the Agence de Développement de l'Enseignement Technique (ADET), under the supervision of the Ministère des Enseignements Secondaire, Technique et de la Formation Professionnelle (MESTFP). Key stakeholders include local school authorities, technical

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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agencies such as Agence pour la Construction des Infrastructures Scolaires et Educatives (ACISE) and regulatory bodies like the Agence Béninoise pour l'Environnement (ABE).

To manage the environmental and social aspects of the project, ADET has developed an Environmental and Social Framework (Cadre de Gestion Environnemental et Social (CGES)), which outlines procedures for risk identification, mitigation, monitoring, and institutional coordination. Complementary documents include the Cadre Politique de Réinstallation des Populations (CPRP), the Plan de Mobilisation des Parties Prenantes (PMPP), the Plan d'Engagement Environnemental et Social (PEES), and the Plan de Gestion de la Main d'Œuvre (PGMO).

The legal framework at the national level is anchored in Decree No. 2022-390, which regulates environmental and social assessments in Benin. Additional legislation includes the Environmental Framework Law (Law No. 030-98), the Public Hygiene Code (Law No. 87-015), the Labour Code (Law No. 98-004). These national laws are complemented by international conventions ratified by Benin and the environmental and social standards of the WB and EIB. The CGES identifies both convergences and divergences between national legislation and international standards, ensuring that gaps are addressed through project-specific measures.

The environmental and social screening of the sites in the Project's perimeter was conducted between January and February 2023. This mission, led by specialists from ADET and ABE, involved site inspections, stakeholder consultations, and the completion of screening forms. The findings were used to categorise each site and determine the appropriate safeguard instruments. As a result, the EISAs were provided to the EIB and were reviewed and gaps assessed in line with EIB social standards and requirements. Once finalised and approved by the ABE, they will be published on the Bank's website.

Climate change adaptation:

The Project is considered aligned with Bank's Climate Road Map on both low-carbon and climate-resilience pathway, by aiming at delivering the infrastructure compliant with best national and international standards and by incorporating in the design the findings of Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA).

Social Assessment

The Cadre de Gestion Environnemental et Social (CGES) and six Etude d'Impact Environnemental et Social (EIES) in relation to the Project were provided to EIB and were reviewed and gaps assessed in line with EIB social standards and requirements. The EIES indicate high positive social impacts related to the strengthening of the education sector in Benin, improving the overall quality of the provision of education services, in addition to the creation of job opportunities and income-generating activities for local communities in particular, women. Key social risks relate to involuntary resettlement (physical and economic displacement), vulnerable groups (Fulani herdsman), health, safety and security (labour influx, gender and gender-based violence).

The EIES provided indicate that involuntary resettlement both physical (dwellings on-site) and economic (cattle grazing, planting of crops and trees) may occur at a limited number of the school sites, as it was avoided on most sites, when possible. The Promoter will be required to develop a Plan d'Action de Réinstallation (PAR) and/or a Plan de Restauration des Moyens de Subsistance (PRMS) combined with related compensation frameworks, where applicable.

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It was indicated that vulnerable groups utilise at least one of the potential sites for grazing purposes and that this will continue during the construction and operational phases of the Project. Consultation with vulnerable groups will be conducted and integrated into the updated Plan de Mobilisation des Parties Prenantes (PMPP) and related Mécanisme de Gestion des Plaintes (MGP).

Due to contextual risks of Gender Based Violence and Harassment (GBVH) in Benin, the promoter has agreed to develop and implement GBVH Risk Management Plans for all Project's components, which conform with Beninese legislation and are aligned with EIB Standards. As part of the GBVH Risk Management Plan, the design of the schools, in particular the dormitories, washrooms and toilets will incorporate gender needs and risks.

Significant education-related gender disparities persist in Benin. For example, girls are more likely than boys to drop out of from secondary school, with a completion rate of 39% compared to 51% for boys. As part of the technical assistance supporting the implementation of the Project, a gender gap analysis will be conducted and resulting actions will be included in a Gender Action Plan directed at improving girls' educational outcomes in the schools supported by the Project.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation is integrated in the environmental legal framework of Benin whereby Titre V of Decree No. 2017-332 defines the requirements and the process to follow. ADET has consulted with the local communities and authorities in the identification of sites and the development of EIESs, including formal public consultations. As mentioned above the PMPP will be updated to include consultations with vulnerable groups and a related MGP will also be established.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Promoter has demonstrated a good understanding of E&S aspects of the Project thus far. They also have previous experience in the preparation of similar projects financed by other international IFIs.

Conclusions and Recommendations

This operation will finance the renovation and reconstruction of vocational education facilities, significantly improving the quality of educational infrastructure and enhancing working and learning conditions for students and staff.

Environmental and Social Conditions

The Project is subject to the following conditions:

- A social specialist with gender-based violence prevention and response experience to be based within ADET;



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A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and related functional Grievance Mechanism to be developed and implemented that are satisfactory to the Bank.

Conditions to be fulfilled prior to construction per site.

- Site specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) with related GBVH Management Plans; Resettlement Action Plans when necessary and/ or Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP), where necessary, and Labor Management Plans (LMP) that are satisfactory to the Bank and published on the Bank's website, together with the favourable opinion of the competent authority in charge of the environment in Benin; Confirmation and evidence that compensation to those communities physically and/or economically displaced has been undertaken.

The Promoter will undertake to :

- Incorporate relevant E&S aspects of the ESMP, relevant E&S plans, and the LMPs, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents with contractors. Monitor contractors' compliance with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts; Inform the bank on the progress of environmental and social aspects during the execution of the project.

Based on the information available and with appropriate conditions and monitoring, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.