

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet<sup>1</sup>

### Overview

Project Name:	TECH-EU FIBER COP NETWORK UPGRADE
Project Number:	2024-0724
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	The project concerns the design and rollout of a Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) broadband network across Italy. Its objective is to extend coverage by passing an additional 5.8 million homes by project completion. The network will operate exclusively on a wholesale open-access basis, providing retail operators with speeds of up to 10 Gbps in areas that currently lack access to very high-capacity (VHC) broadband services. To support this, the project includes also the construction of a new backbone network interconnecting the FTTH broadband infrastructure nationwide with the country's primary data centres and internet exchange points.

E&S Risk Categorisation:	Low risk
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	Yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>2</sup> :	No

### Environmental and Social Assessment

Investments in fixed telecommunication projects (including civil works investments for fibre roll-out and transmission systems) are not listed in Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by the Directive 2014/52/EU. Fixed telecommunications systems have minor environmental effects, apart from some disturbances during work execution, which can be mitigated by appropriate measures.

#### Environmental Assessment

The project concerns the commercial deployment of a fibre access network spread across urban, semi-urban and to less extent rural areas in Italy. The network cables will be predominantly deployed alongside roads in existing underground ducting systems. When trenching is needed, the excavation material will be used to fill in again the trench and thus limit the amount of building waste. Although no new central offices will be built for the project, there is a need for installing street cabinets, which are required for the handling of the fibre cables. They will be installed at suitable street side locations. However before the construction work can start, a permit from the competent authorities is required,

<sup>1</sup> The information contained in the document reflects the requirement related to the environmental, social and climate information to be provided to Investment Committee as required by the Invest EU Regulation and it represents the equivalent of the information required in the template of the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary.

<sup>2</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20 000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.



Luxembourg, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026

which verifies the environmental impact of the cable routes and may request mitigation measures such as a re-routing or additional protection measures and suitable reinstatement works.

When applicable, the rollout of fibre access networks in protected areas (Natura 2000) may require environmental studies as part of the permitting process, depending on the environmental sensitivity of the area where these elements will be deployed. In this case, this will be done in line of the Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive while following the methodology established by the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) in Italy.

Deployment of fixed broadband networks is considered aligned with the Paris Agreement as defined in the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap Annex 2 Table H.

## Climate Assessment

### ***Paris Alignment of projects:***

The counterpart is in scope but it is screened out of the PATH Framework because it is neither a high-emitting nor a highly-vulnerable entity.

### ***EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework***

The counterparty FiberCop is in scope and screened out of the PATH framework, because it is neither a high emitting nor a highly vulnerable entity.

## Carbon Footprint Calculation

Estimated annual emissions related to the project:

- 9 ktonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year for absolute emissions.
- 0 ktonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year for relative emissions.

The project is not included in the EIB carbon footprint exercise, as the estimated emissions are below the methodology thresholds (20,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute or relative).

## Social Assessment

The project will allow communities to gain access to ultra-fast and reliable internet, which will boost social inclusion by improving access to education, healthcare, and remote work opportunities. The rollout will also support local economies by creating new jobs during construction and beyond, empowering communities with better connectivity for economic and social development. Overall, the project will foster greater social cohesion and digital engagement across the population.

## Other Environmental and Social Aspects

To ensure reliable and sustainable operations, the company has adopted international best practices and obtained key certifications. It has implemented a comprehensive environmental policy aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and secured validation from the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) for its decarbonization strategy, which includes a commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and a 70% reduction in Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions by 2030. In addition, the company applies circular economy principles in the decommissioning of legacy infrastructure, prioritizes renewable energy, and promotes responsible supply chain practices. These measures, combined with adherence to ISO-based management systems and ESG frameworks, underscore its commitment to sustainability, resilience, and long-term value creation. The company is certified under ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems) and ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety), and is in the process of obtaining ISO 22301 (Business Continuity Management).

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## Conclusions and Recommendations

The Promoter is a well-established company with a sound environmental and social policy. The Promoter will conduct the required environmental assessments for the rollout of FTTH networks in compliance with the relevant regulations in the country. The Project is expected to have positive indirect socio-economic impacts in the covered areas.

The information provided in this Environmental and Social Data Sheet is equivalent to the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary.