

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	PYRENEES ORIENTALES EDUCATION-PROTECTION CIVILE
Project Number:	2025-0343
Country:	France
Project Description:	The Project concerns primarily the construction, extension and rehabilitation of public lower-secondary education facilities, as well as of other infrastructure receiving pupils and children, in the Department of Pyrénées-Orientales. It also includes transversal components, contributing to digitalisation, energy efficiency measures and low carbon transition. The Project further comprises the financing of investments related to civil protection (fire-fighting and rescue services), including transversal operations to implement production of renewable energies, and modernise existing equipment and infrastructure.

E&S Risk Categorisation:	High risk
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	No

### Environmental and Social Assessment

The Project components are a planned effort to modernise and increase secondary education and fire-and-rescue infrastructure in the department of Pyrénées Orientales, France. The Project aims to renovate and extend existing buildings and construct new buildings through the use of up-to-date technologies and materials.

The Project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development and some of the Project components requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), therefore is categorized as high risk Project as per para 4.18 of the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy (2022).

#### Environmental Assessment

Educational buildings and fire brigades are not specifically listed in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, though the Project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. In France, individual projects are subject to screening if they meet thresholds in terms of their size. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken for the new site located in Clairà.

<sup>1</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.

None of the components are located in a Natura 2000 site. However, for the new site in Claira a derogation under article 16 of the Habitats Directive, from the prohibition to destroy, capture, relocate or change the habitat of protected species was granted and the building permit was issued. Throughout Project implementation, the Promoter will further be required to provide reports on how mitigation and conditions are implemented in accordance with the derogation.

For the new school in Le Boulou, a screening process will be undertaken and if screened in, an EIA will be prepared.

At the time of appraisal, the location for the new fire brigade in Mont Louis was not fully determined and the need for an EIA could not be confirmed. The Promoter will be required to provide a copy of the building permit and, if applicable, a copy of the EIA.

For projects subject to an EIA, the Promoter will be required to provide reports on how mitigation measures, and any conditions they are subject to, are implemented in accordance with the decision from the competent authority.

## **Climate Assessment**

### ***Climate change mitigation:***

#### **1. Mitigation**

The new buildings will be designed and built to meet French energy performance standards for new construction and renovations. These will be the *Réglementation Énergétique 2020 (RE2020)* for new constructions and *Réglementation Thermique 2012 (RT2012)* for renovations. In general, meeting the RE2020 regulation is considered to exceed French nearly zero energy building (NZEB) standards by more than 10%, thus demonstrating a substantial contribution to climate action mitigation. RT2012 regulation is considered to meet the Bank's requirements for renovations projects as it requires buildings to reduce energy consumptions by 30%. The Project components are designed to include some passive and active design measures, such as the installation of best available energy-efficient technologies, enhancements to the building fabric and façades. The Promoter has furthermore confirmed that part of the Project components aim to meet French label *Bâtiments Durables Occitanie (BDO)* silver level.

The EIB will require the Promoter to provide a copy of the building permits for the new buildings as well as a copy of the existing energy performance assessment, audit or equivalent. Most of the buildings being renovated are seeking energy efficiency improvements, so the EIB will require the Promoter to provide copies of the energy performance certificate (EPC) for all new, reconstructed and renovated buildings upon completion. For new buildings above the thresholds, the Promoter will be required to provide air-tightness test certificates.

#### **2. Adaptation**

Regional and departmental strategies identify physical climate change risks and potential impacts on buildings. The Promoter has confirmed that the department's strategies to increase their infrastructure's resilience will be applied to the Project: measures will be included in the design to address current and future physical climate change risks such as increasing temperatures and decreasing rainfall.

The Project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be i) aligned with the policies set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap (CBR), see Annex 2, Table D: Buildings and ii) the Project has a climate-resilient design.

**Climate change adaptation:**

The Project is Paris aligned with respect to adaptation.

**Paris Alignment :**

The Department of Pyrénées-Orientales being a Sub-Sovereign Public Authority (SSPA), this part of the Project is not in the scope of the PATH Framework project.

The *Service Départemental d'Incendie et de Secours* (SDIS) is a public authority. The Promoter is active solely in the NACE 084.2.5 (fire service activities) sector. This Promoter is screened out as not considered to operate in a high vulnerability context nor generate high emissions.

**Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

The Promoter will ensure compliance with national and European environmental regulations.

**Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The Project will contribute to two outcomes. Firstly, it will provide modern education facilities to enhance the teaching and learning environment and improve the energy efficiency of the building infrastructure. Secondly, it will increase the department's readiness and resilience to climate change through the strengthening and modernisation of its fire-and-rescue services.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project components form part of a strategic effort to increase the capacity and modernise education-related facilities in the department of Pyrénées-Orientales, enhancing the working and learning environment of both staff and students. The Project components also contribute to modernising and improving fire-and-rescue infrastructure in the department of Pyrénées-Orientales, thus increasing the resilience and readiness of the fire and rescue services.

**Environmental and Social Conditions****Conditions:**

Prior to final disbursement, the Promoter shall provide :

- The building permit and, if applicable, a full copy of the EIA report for the new school in Le Boulou.
- The building permit and, if applicable, a full copy of the EIA report for the new fire brigade in Mont Louis .

**Undertakings:**

The Promoter shall provide to the Bank:

- For the new school in Claira, throughout implementation phase, reports on how mitigation measures and conditions are implemented in accordance with the decision from the competent authority.
- If applicable for the new school in Le Boulou and/or the new fire station in Mont Louis, throughout implementation phase, reports on how mitigation measures and conditions are



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implemented in accordance with the decision from the competent authority should mitigation measures and/or conditions be imposed.

- A copy of building permits for all other new constructions.
- A copy of the Energy Performance Certificates (EPC or Diagnostic de Performance Energétique - DPE) or equivalent for all new, reconstructed and renovated buildings upon completion.
- A copy of the EPC before works for all renovated buildings.
- Where applicable, a copy of air tightness tests for all new buildings over 5,000m<sup>2</sup>.

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