

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	GEEREF
Project Number:	2012 0175
Country:	Luxembourg
Project Description:	The Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund ("GEEREF") is an emerging market infrastructure fund-of-funds.
EIA required:	some of the sub-schemes might require an EIA
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

GEEREF is an equity Fund of Funds and is a compartment of a larger umbrella-structure Fund (The European Initiative on Clean, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change related to Development"). The Regional Funds in which GEEREF invests, target projects and companies involved in energy efficiency and renewable energy which enhance access to clean energy in developing countries and economies in transition. Geographical focus is Sub-Saharan Africa, East and South Asia as well as the Pacific, non-EU Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa. Currently the shareholders of GEEREF are the European Commission, Germany's Ministry for Environment and Nuclear Safety and Norway's Ministry of Development. GEEREF is advised by EIF with EIB acting as sub-adviser.

Given the roles that the EU Commission and the EIB Group have in GEEREF the investment policy of the Fund already incorporates all the main Bank requirements on environmental and social aspects for projects located outside the EU. GEEREF also requires that the same requirements are adopted by the Regional Funds and their investments. GEEREF's management team comprises EIB technical and environmental experts who are involved in the appraisal of the Regional Funds ensuring that GEEREF's environmental and social policies are incorporated in the Regional Funds' legal documentation and also that the Regional Funds have the appropriate capacity and resources to apply and implement such requirements when appraising and investing into the final projects. All Regional Funds have been required to put in place a Social and Environmental Management System (SEMS) to implement and monitor the environmental and social performance of projects.

The involvement of EIB in the monitoring of the Regional Funds and their underlying investments should however be strengthened and as some Regional Funds also invest in sectors other than RE/EE, the involvement of specific EIB sector experts should also be envisaged. Subject to these conditions the project is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective.

<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

## **Environmental and Social Assessment**

### **Environmental Assessment**

The environmental policy of GEEREF foresees an endeavour to ensure that Regional Funds and the underlying projects adhere to EIB's Statement of Environmental Principles and Standards and the related Handbook, follow the principles and standards of the EU Environmental Laws, comply with national laws and the obligations of multilateral environmental agreements to which the relevant host countries are parties. Because the possible negative environmental externalities, GEEREF does not invest in hydropower projects larger than 30MW.

### **Social Assessment, where applicable**

The investment policy of GEEREF foresees an endeavour to ensure that Regional Funds and the underlying projects follow a rights based approach mainstreaming the principles of human rights law into practices through the application of the social safeguard measures of EIB, other IFIs (e.g. World Bank), ensure that appropriate arrangements for effective stakeholder consultation are put in place, follow core international labour (e.g. the principles of the ILO conventions) and occupational and community health and safety standards (notably IFC's standards) and follow international best practice for dealing with the involuntary resettlement and impacts on vulnerable groups such as women or indigenous people, the risk of negative impacts on local employment and on cultural heritage.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The Regional Funds that GEEREF invests into are required to establish an E&S Management System needing among other things the appointment of an E&S Manager, the integration of environmental and social matters during each phase of the project cycle and the creation of an E&S project classification system. Regional Funds are also asked to prepare environmental and social monitoring reports based on which the performance on environmental and social issues is assessed.