

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	RAILWAY TRACK TRENCIANSKA TEPLA-BELUSA
Project Number:	20120215
Country:	Slovakia
Project Description:	Modernisation of 20km long railway track Trencianska Teplá - Belusa

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

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

The project, modernisation of an existing railway, falls under Annex II of the EIA Directive Directive 2011/92/EU, being subject to an EIA depending upon the decision of a screening procedure, determined by the competent authorities. The Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, as the Competent Authority (CA) determined that the project would be subject to EIA under national regulations prevailing in 2002 (the national EIA Act 127/1994 further amended and completed by Act 391/2000) and an EIA was carried out and approved in 2003 for the complete Nové Mesto nad Váhom – Púchov section. The project is not expected to impact upon Natura 2000 areas, as has been confirmed by the Competent Authority.

The project is expected to contribute to an overall improvement of the urban environment by encouraging the use of rail transport for both passengers and freight, also reducing private car usage and road freight. Environmental mitigation measures are being implemented in order to minimise negative impacts of the construction to the environment, like noise-protection walls, dewatering of the railway body, etc., in accordance with the Environmental decision and the building permit.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project comprises the section Trencianska Teplá – Belusa. The Project is part of the overall modernization of the railway Nové Mesto nad Váhom to Púchov, aiming to increase the track speed up to 160 km/h. The overall modernisation programme is included in the Operational Programme – Transport 2007 – 2013, which was subjected to SEA, concluded in February 2007.

As part of the EIA process, different alternatives have been analysed, discussed and the preferred option has been recommended and approved by Ministry of Environment. In addition, the section of railway related to the current application (Trencianska Teplá – Belusa.) was also subject to a zoning decision and building permit, for which additional assessments and approvals were obtained, including consultation with responsibilities within environmental sector. The building permits for the project were issued by the Railway Regulatory Authority starting from March 2008 to March 2010. The EIA decision contains conditions and

¹ 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 CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

mitigation measures that have been further observed during the subsequent approval process. These conditions have been included in the building permits, which were all approved in the period 2008-2010.

There are no Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity of the project area. The closest site are pSPA Dubncke Strkovisko located ca 0.8 km north west from the project as well as pSCI Strazovske Vrchyis and pSPA Strazovske vrchy, both located ca 5 km from the project. The Competent Authority provided an Annex I form to the bank, confirming that there is no significant impact.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The EIA carried out in 2002 for the complet Nové Mesto nad Váhom – Púchov section has been subject to public participation, including a technical review carried out by an independent EIA expert. The public and other public authorities with responsibilities in the environmental sector were involved in the environmental decision-making process, being informed and consulted (public hearings were organised in each affected municipality) during the entire process. Also the issuance of the zoning decision and building permit were subject of public consultation and consultation with other relevant local authorities with responsibilities within environmental sector.