

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: **BUCHAREST GLINA II**
Project Number: **2012-0391**
Country: **Romania**
Project Description: Finalisation of Glina wastewater treatment plant, rehabilitation of the main sewer collectors and Dambovita sewer collector canal (CASETA)

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: yes

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project is the follow-up operation to Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Glina, phase I, completed in 2011. The current plant capacity of 864,000 PE will be extended to the final capacity of about 2.4M PE, for full secondary biological treatment and nutrient removal (nitrogen and phosphorus). Other components of the project are construction of sludge incinerator, rehabilitation and construction of drainage system, and priority rehabilitation of sewer collectors. Most of the works to be carried out under the WWTP component are new structures and equipment. Works related to the sewerage network are mainly rehabilitations and/or replacements of existing pipes and collectors.

The promoter is the Municipality of Bucharest. Compliance with applicable Environmental Legislation (national and EU), including SEA, EIA and NATURA 2000 legislation is inherent to the definition of the sectoral Operational Programme Environment 2007-2013, under which the project was initiated. Special attention during the assessments was paid to the WWTP design and project's impact on the water environment. The sludge incinerator will be designed, equipped, built and operated in such a way that the emission limits as set out by the Directive 2010/75/EU will not be exceeded. The project, being located in urban areas, is not expected to have negative impact on protected areas. The WWTP will be extended within the existing plot perimeter, and is unlikely to have negative impacts on residential areas. Limited temporary impact will be associated with the networks construction undertaken in the urbanised areas (disturbance of population living close to works locations due to construction activities, temporary increase of traffic around the construction sites). These impacts are expected to be mitigated by good practice and work organisation following the competent authorities' requirements.

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.

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The project will provide a significant positive environmental and public health impact and contribute to meeting the country's needs in the water and sanitation sector, in relation to compliance with EU Environmental Legislation, in particular the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC and Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. In particular it will have a beneficial impact on surface waters, namely Dambovită river water quality downstream of Bucharest, including increased capacity of autopurification of the river water. It will also have a beneficial impact on air quality, in the form of reduced odour arising from the discharge of untreated wastewater.

The Project is strongly driven by environmental and water quality concerns, wastewater treatment efficiency and also energy efficiency. This includes additional capacity and processes at the wastewater treatment plant to reach high standards under the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC, including nutrients removal. The project also includes a renewable energy scheme, i.e. energy recovery from sewage sludge (sludge digestion and sludge incineration).

The EIB technical services estimate that roughly 32% of the investment contributes to climate change mitigation through the application of best available technologies for sludge incineration (with energy recovery) and nitrogen removal.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

Estimated absolute annual emissions of project in a standard year of operation are about 130.6 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. However, considering that the credible alternative (baseline scenario) results in emissions of about 135.7 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year, the relative emissions are estimated at -5.1 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. Therefore the project implementation will result in net emission reduction.

For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

Public consultation took place at all levels of the definition and preparation of investments where required for compliance with the EU and national legislation. In this particular case the project was prepared within the scope of the sectoral Operational Programme Environment under the supervision by the Managing Authority.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project is strongly environmentally driven and therefore is expected to have predominantly positive effects on the environment.

The assessment pursuant to the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and respective national GD 1076/2004 was carried out for the overall Operational Programme Environment 2007-13. The project falls under Annex I of the EIA directive and was subject to the environmental impact assessment pursuant to Directive 2011/92/EC and respective national GD 445/2009. The Environmental Agreement was issued in 01/2013. Separate assessments were carried out for effects on the sites in NATURA 2000 network (pursuant to Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and Birds Directive 2009/147/EC). These conclude that the project is unlikely to have significant negative effects on the protected areas and sites.

Should the Promoter review the scope of the project that requires the EIA, the following general provision will be applicable: the Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against



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schemes that require an EIA or biodiversity assessment according to EU and national law without, prior to commitment, receiving consent from the competent authority, and the Non-Technical Summary of the EIA having been made available to the public.

The project is therefore acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.