

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	BARCELONA SMART AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN RENEWAL
Project Number:	20130616
Country:	SPAIN
Project Description:	Framework loan to finance various schemes included in the City of Barcelona's Investment Programme.
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive and be screened in. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank the NTS of EIAs, where applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

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

The proposed Framework Loan will support the municipality of Barcelona in the implementation of the city's 2013-2015 investment programme, based on the 2012-2015 Strategic Model.

Given the relative small size of the individual schemes and the nature of sectors concerned most of the schemes are deemed to have significant environmental impact.

Investments in urban renewal and buildings renovations there are a number of positive effects expected, including energy savings, while investments in mobility will lead to an increase of pedestrian and bicycle trips. Investment in green space will improve the green connectivity and ameliorate the city's resilience to climate change.

Overall, the proposed investment program will have net positive environmental and social impact contributing positively to the improvement of quality of life for the citizens through promoting a more equitable, prosperous and self-sufficient Barcelona.

Should any scheme be screened in for EIA, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, before the Bank's funds are allocated.

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.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The proposed Framework Loan will support the municipality of Barcelona in the implementation of the city's 2013-2015 investment programme. This investment programme is policy and planning-led, based on the Barcelona 2012-2015 Strategic Model; a comprehensive strategic document covering sector policies and plans. The project will comprise small and medium investments in renovation of public buildings destined to different uses (including administrative, education, social, commercial, sport, etc), upgrading of open spaces, urban roads, squares and basic infrastructure, technology and e-government.

The promoter is the Municipality of Barcelona and complies with European and National legislation. Thus, Barcelona Energy and Climate Change Plan was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessments in line with Directive (EC) Directive 2001/42/EC. The 2013-2018 Mobility Plan SEA has pending the definitive approval. The promoter has provided the SEA from the previous Mobility Plan and will send the updated version as soon as it is approved.

It's expected that the investments under this Framework Loan will improve the quality of life for residents and visitors, increase the efficient use and provision of municipal resources, while addressing climate change and energy efficiency issues. More specifically, the investments in sustainable mobility will increase the pedestrian and bicycle trips and decrease the use of private vehicle in city. The investments in energy efficiency will reduce the atmospheric emissions and the consumption of non-renewable energy. Last, the investments in green spaces will improve the green connectivity and ameliorate the interaction of urbanity and nature. The opportunity areas (i.e. any surface susceptible to green development) will be transformed into new forms of green infrastructure. It's expected that the schemes stemming from the biodiversity plan will make the city more resilient in the face of future challenges and especially to climate change.

Should any scheme included under this Framework Loan require an EIA, it would be subject to the Bank's standard review of the non-technical summary of the EIA. The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU directives, including the EIA, habitats and Birds Directive and relevant sector directives applicable to the individual schemes. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank a confirmation or equivalent by the competent authority that the schemes have no significant impact on nature sites of community importance or their equivalents, as well as the NTS for EIAs where applicable.

Social Assessment

Even though there is no separate study addressing the social impact of the investments as such, it's expected that the social impact it will be overall positive. The project involves the restriction of car in city areas providing more and better space to citizens. This will improve the air quality and in general citizens' health. Additionally, the promotion of local markets will increase the neighbourhoods' economic activities and the employment options and will reduce unnecessary trips. In summary, the project will generate unquestionable positive social effects.