

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: Grand Nancy Transports Urbains
Project Number: 2012-0162
Country: France
Project Description: Acquisition of rolling stock to operate two new bus lines in Grand Nancy, development of the associated urban infrastructure for one of the lines and redevelopment of Place Thiers.

EIA required: EIA requirements vary according to project component

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: No

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

The development of bus Line 2 and the redevelopment of Place Thiers fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, under which the need for an EIA is decided on a case-by-case basis by the Competent Authority. Both project components were subject to corresponding public inquiry processes which included an environmental impact assessment. Manufacturing of the new rolling stock will take place in the manufacturer's plant and does not fall within the scope of the EIA Directive.

The project is included in the *Plan de déplacements urbains* (2006) and in the *Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale (SCoT)* of the Sud Meurthe-et-Moselle region, both of which have been subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The project is located in an urban area and will not have any significant impact on Natura 2000 or nature conservation areas, as confirmed by the competent authority in a certificate received by the Bank.

Whilst there will be detrimental impacts during the construction phase, the project is expected to generate positive social and environmental impacts. Benefits include improved mobility, as it provides a low emission and energy efficient alternative mode to private cars, improved access to urban functions and, overall, an enhancement in the general quality of life.

Under these conditions, the project is acceptable for Bank financing.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project is included in the *Plan de déplacements urbains* (2006), which was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The project is also included in the *Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale (SCoT)* of the Sud Meurthe-et-Moselle region, which has also been subject to an SEA and is expected to be approved in 2013.

Development of Line 2

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.

The development of Line 2 comprises the provision of new paving and sidewalks, street furniture, street lighting, stations and landscaping on the streets along the new bus route plus cycling paths in some sections, the acquisition of buses and the construction of two Park&Ride facilities. The P&R facilities will be above ground and will have a capacity of about 300 and 250 parking spaces.

This project component has been subject to an EIA procedure as part of the formal public inquiry processes (*Enquête Publique*) on its preliminary design. The opinion of the environmental authority (*Préfet de la Région Lorraine*) was obtained in November 2009. The final declaration of public utility (*Déclaration d'Utilité Publique*) was obtained in August 2010. The development of Line 2 is also subject to an assessment of its impact on water as established by the *Loi sur l'eau*, mainly due to the construction of the P&R facilities, which will increase the amount of paved surface, thus increasing the amount of storm water run-off. This assessment is still pending. The Promoter will submit to the Bank the final declaration or authorisation under this procedure as soon as available.

The development of Line 2 will have some limited and temporary adverse environmental impacts during construction. The new bus line runs mainly along existing road corridors and the works consist mainly of redevelopment of existing streets. The main impacts identified during construction concern the disposal of waste water, hazardous and non-hazardous waste, emissions of air pollutants, high levels of noise and vibration, and disruptions to traffic and socioeconomic activities due to construction works. These impacts can be mitigated through the use of best construction practices and appropriate technologies. The development of Line 2 requires the removal of some trees, which will be replaced. Overall, there will be a gain of 161 new trees, thus the impact will be positive. Land acquisition is required for the P&R facilities. One of the P&R facilities will be implemented on land partially occupied by a petrol station. Therefore ground remediation may be needed for this plot. Line 2 is located next to some historical monuments and areas protected for their architectural and urban heritage. Overall, the project's impact will be positive thanks to its contribution to reducing private vehicle traffic.

Redevelopment of Place Thiers

The redevelopment of Place Thiers was also subject to a formal public inquiry processes (*Enquête Publique*) on its preliminary design, which included an environmental impact study. At the time of the enquiry (April-May 2009) French legislation did not require an opinion from the environmental authority. The final project declaration (*Déclaration de projet*) for the Place Thiers was obtained on September 25, 2009. Impacts during construction will be temporary and will consist mainly consist of noise and vibration, emissions of air pollutants and disruptions to traffic and socioeconomic activities due to the works in an urban environment. Once completed, noise levels are expected to be reduced thanks to the reorganisation of traffic flows and the prioritisation of public and soft transport modes.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The project is not included as its absolute and relative CO2 emissions fall below the related thresholds.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation has been carried out as part of the formal inquiry process (*Enquête Publique*) for the development of Line 2 and the redevelopment of Place Thiers. Public consultation for the development of Line 2 took place from December 15, 2009 to January 22, 2010. Public consultation for the redevelopment of Place Thiers took place from April 28, 2009 to May 29, 2009.