

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: Carreteras de Galicia IV

Project Number: 20110091

Country: Spain

Project Description:

The project is a road multi-scheme encompassing 8 components referred to new construction, rehabilitation and upgrade and implementation of road safety measures in the regional road network of the Autonomous Community of Galicia (Spain).

EIA required: YES (for 2 of the schemes)

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: NO

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

The project is included in the Regional Strategic Master plan for Mobility and Road Planning 2009-2015 ("Plan MOVE" October 2010), for which a Strategic Environmental Assessment was concluded in January 2011, in compliance with EU SEA Directive 2001/42.

The project includes several road schemes, most of them referred to rehabilitation and upgrade but also some road safety and new construction schemes are included. The two new construction schemes included in the project fall into Annex I of EU Directive 2011/92/UE (requiring a full EIA) and the remaining schemes (six) do so into Annex II (requiring an environmental screening). All Annex II schemes have been screened out of the EIA process.

The promoter is considered to be adequately qualified for environmental management including the capacity to screen projects according to the EU environmental acquis, mirrored in national and regional legislation.

EIS (Environmental Impact Statements - DIA in the Spanish acronym) have been made available to the Bank, related to the two Annex I schemes included in the project.

There are two new construction road schemes in the project with potential impact in Natura 2000 network: the "High Capacity link Costa Norte de Lugo, section Celeiro-San Cibrao" and the "bypass of PO-546 in Pontevedra". In both cases, the impacts are likely not to be significant as certified through the appropriate opinion (Form A) issued by the competent authority; in compliance with the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directives (79/409/EEC).

The project is acceptable for the Bank in Environmental terms.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment: competent authorities for EIA and nature protection

Xunta de Galicia (XG, regional government), through the Consellería de Medio Ambiente, Territorio e Infraestruturas (equivalent to the ministry of environment, land use planning and Infrastructures), is the competent authority for EIA and for nature conservation, including Natura 2000 (under the Nature Conservation Directorate of the Consellería de Medio Rural CMRM, equivalent to the ministry of rural environment).

Environmental Assessment: applicable legislation

EIAs were carried out for the 2 new construction schemes included in the project in line with national and regional legislation: Royal Decree 1/2008, as amended by law 6/2010 (transposing Directive 97/11/EC) and Regional Decrees 442/90, 327/91 and law 1/1995.

Environmental Assessment: process

Three EIS (Environmental Impact Statements - DIA in the Spanish acronym) have been made available to the Bank, related to the two Annex I schemes included in the project: an EIA was carried out for the PO-546 Bypass in Pontevedra (approved in 21 December 2007) and two for the High Capacity Link Costa Norte de Lugo, Celeiro-San Cibrao section. In this case, the first EIA (approved in 27 October 2004) was subsequently modified by a second EIA (approved in 30 May 2006). The first EIA did not cover two project sub-sections located in the municipality of Viveiro, whose alignment was conditioned to pending urban planning decisions at the time, and the environmental impact in these sections was assessed in the second EIA.

Environmental Assessment: impacts and mitigating measures

- Noise and vibration: impact during construction from construction machinery will be mitigated by allowing the works to take place only at certain hours of the day and by ensuring proper maintenance of equipment. Sound barriers are foreseen to mitigate impact during operation.
- Pollution: adequate maintenance of the machinery and watering of the project area to minimise dust emission during construction is foreseen.
- Water: Several schemes are crossing water courses, for which particular design conditions have been specified (such as the obligation of not invading the river beds with structural components). During construction, this impact will be mitigated by the provision of decanting basins in the parking area of construction machinery as well as the provision of sediment barriers in certain locations.
- Fauna and Flora: during construction, works will not be authorised during the reproduction periods of local fauna and organic topsoil removed with the earthworks will be preserved and reintegrated to the project area. Drainage works will be dimensioned to be suitable for use as fauna passes. The scheme "High Capacity link Costa Norte de Lugo, section Celeiro-San Cibrao" crosses the "Rio Landro" Natura 2000 site ES1120012, which hosts protected species and for which a viaduct crossing has been made mandatory in the Environmental Impact Statement, to preserve the territorial integrity of the Natura 2000 site.
- Land: the schemes will make use, to the extent possible, of existing access roads and paths during construction. Borrow pits and landfill areas will not be allowed in environmentally sensitive areas. Severance will be mitigated by the provision of underpasses in particular locations.
- Cultural heritage: archaeological surveys and follow up during construction are foreseen for most of the project schemes.
- Landscape: cut areas will be irregularly shaped, to facilitate its visual integration in the project area. Soils in the project area will not be excessively compacted, to allow for planting, which is foreseen in cuts and embankment areas, using local species.
- Social: the project will increase road capacity and road safety. It will not entail resettlement of people and land acquisition has taken place where required in line with the applicable legislation. Overall, social impact will be positive.

Environmental Assessment: Public consultation and disclosure

For the 2 schemes subject to an EIA, the project file was made available for public consultation in the Public Works Directorate of XG (Dirección Xeral de Obras Públicas) in August 2003 and July 2006 respectively and institutional consultation was launched among different authorities and public administrations after that. Allegations and remarks received (both from public and private stakeholders) were incorporated in the EIA files in August 2004 and February 2007 respectively and resulted in a number of guidelines, incorporated in the final EIA reports in each case.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

Project is not included - the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodology only includes emissions from Investment Loans, and large allocations under Framework Loans, above the methodology thresholds.