

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	NSRF COFINANCING FACILITY
	<u>Allocation of large projects:</u>
	2014-0720 Constanta-Ialomita counties Water / Wastewater
	2014-0721 Alba county Water / Wastewater
	2014-0722 Braila county Water / Wastewater
	2014-0723 Buzau county Water / Wastewater
	2014-0724 Galati county Water / Wastewater
	2015-0082 Sibiu-Brasov Water / Wastewater
	2015-0083 Dolj Water / Wastewater
	2015-0084 Suceava Water / Wastewater
	2015-0085 Timis Water / Wastewater
Project Number:	2008-0170 plus see above
Country:	Romania
Project Description:	Co-financing of nine large projects in water sector supported by EU funds under the sector operational programme for environment.
EIA required:	Yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no
(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")	

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

The projects contribute to the protection of water bodies by implementing the EU Directive for Urban Waste Water Treatment (EU Directive 91/271 EEC) and by ensuring an efficient and sustainable use of water resources. The entire Romanian territory belongs to the greater Danube river basin that drains into the Black Sea and has been declared sensitive, requiring advanced wastewater treatment for all agglomerations above 10 000 person equivalents. All projects include conditions and provisions for the establishment of strategies and actions plans for sludge management and industrial wastewater, the latter with a view to safeguarding the operation of wastewater treatment processes and safe sludge disposal.

The projects also provide for significant efficiencies in the area of water supply, by reducing water losses from networks and installation of more efficient pumping. Overall, however, the energy savings in water supply are not expected to offset the increased energy consumption arising from the very substantial upgrading of wastewater treatment in the different project locations.

A full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) including required public consultation was carried out for a few larger subprojects and approved by the relevant competent authorities. Most of the Annex II projects comprising rehabilitation and development of networks in smaller agglomerations were screened out. The results of EIA process were also reviewed by

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.

DG Environment. For schemes falling within the "Major Project" definition according to the relevant Structural Funds regulations, the Bank accepts the judgement of the Commission that the scheme complies with EU environmental law based on standard forms completed by the Competent Authority of the Member State and forwarded by the European Commission's Regional Policy Directorate-General to the EC's Environmental Directorate-General for scrutiny.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment

The projects are supported by the Sector Operational Programme Environment, which was subject to a compulsory Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Construction of waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150 000 population equivalent are subject to compulsory EIA, while all other projects fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive.

In Romania, the Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (EIA) is carried out according to Governmental Ordinance 860/2002 with subsequent amendments and according to the Government Decision 1213/2006, transposing the EIA Directive. The different components of the overall project fall under the jurisdiction of the local environmental protection agencies in the various project counties.

Environmental and social context

The projects are strongly environmentally driven. The specific objectives of the Sector Operation Programme to which they belong are:

- Objective 1: Provide adequate water and sewerage services, at accessible tariffs
- Objective 2: Provide adequate drinking water quality in all urban agglomerations
- Objective 3: Improve the ecological status of watercourses
- Objective 4: Improve of the level of management of sludge from wastewater treatment plants
- Objective 5: Create innovative and efficient water management structures

The definition of the projects have systematically taken into account the social impact of the projects through affordability considerations in the estimation of project revenues and determination of the necessary grant component in each case.

Compliance with EU Acquis, river basins affected and pollution impact

In accordance with agreed transitional arrangements, Romania must comply with the European Directive 98/83/EC on drinking water quality by 2015 and the Directive 91/271/EC on urban wastewater treatment by the end of 2018. For this reason, Romania intends for the period 2010-2015 to make the necessary investments to comply with the European drinking water indicators for e.g. turbidity, ammonia, aluminium, pesticides, nitrates etc. and for urban wastewater collection, treatment and discharge. Also by 2015 waste water collection and treatment is planned to be realized for agglomerations of more than 10 000 population equivalent (p.e.) and by 2018 in 2 346 agglomerations of between 2 000 and 10 000 p.e.

The projects contribute to the protection of water bodies by implementing the EU Directive for Urban Waste Water Treatment (EU Directive 91/271 EEC) and by ensuring an efficient and sustainable use of water resources thanks to a reduction of technical water losses and demand. All project locations - as does all of Romanian territory - belong to the greater Danube river basin that drains into the Black Sea.

The projects respect the principles of preventive action, with significant emphasis on the rehabilitation of sewers, reducing the risk of pollution (by ex-filtration to the groundwater) and

unreasonable drainage (infiltration to the sewer). Reduction of infiltration also reduces dilution of wastewater, thus enabling more efficient wastewater treatment.

Water and energy efficiency

The projects also provide for increased efficiencies in the area of water supply, by reducing water losses from networks and installation of more efficient pumping. Overall, however, the energy savings in water supply are not expected to offset the increased energy consumption arising from the very substantial upgrading of wastewater treatment in the different project locations.

Environmental permits

EIB operation name	Environmental decisions
Constanta-lalomita counties Water / Wastewater	NEPA issued the Environmental permit No. 1854/ACC/ 11.03.2010 for lalomita County and No. 12021 29.03.2010 for Constanta County.
Alba county Water / Wastewater	NEPA issued the Environmental permit No. 4152/2/09.07.2009 for Alba County
Braila county Water / Wastewater	NEPA issued the Environmental permit No. 111/06.09.2010 for Braila County
Buzau county Water / Wastewater	NEPA has issued 5 Environmental permits, for each of the project localities with the numbers: 14049 through 14052
Galati county Water / Wastewater	NEPA has issued the Environmental permits for each agglomeration as follows: Galati No. 3308/14.04.2011 and the other 4 agglomeration on 31.03.2011 with the numbers 2819 through 2822.
Error! Reference source not found.	Screening out decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no. 116 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering for Calafat, Ciuperceii Vechi; • no. 115 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering Craiova. • no. 125 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering Dabuleni, Calarasi and Bechet. • no. 123 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering Filiasi; • no. 117 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering Bailesti, Poiana Mare; • no. 124 of June 11th, 2009 revised on June 25th 2010 for the works covering Segarcea and Cerat;
Error! Reference source not found.	Sibiu, Cisnadie, Rasinari, Selimbar, Mohu: no. 14/04.12.2009, Avrig and Marsa: 13/04.12.2009.
Error! Reference source not found.	1. Suceava – No. 59 / 28.10.2010 2. Falticeni – No. 63 / 28.10.2010 3. Radauti – No. 60 / 28.10.2010 4. Vatra Dornei - No. 62 / 28.10.2010 5. Gura Humorului - No. 61 / 28.10.2010
Error! Reference source not found.	Environmental Permits: Sanicolaul Mare: No. 698/08.02.2010 Recas: No. 2/25.02.2010 Screening out decisions: Timisoara: No. 2620 RP/ 07.07.2009 Gataia: No. 53/26.08/2009 Faget: No. 54/26.08.2009 Deta: No. 51/26.08.2009 Jimbolia: No. 55/26.08.2009 Saclaz: No. 2622RP/07.07.2009 Ciacova: No. 2621RP/08.07.2009 Buzias: No. 2805RP/05.10.2009

All above decisions were displayed on the ROC website and on each REPA website. The authorisations were publicly announced in the local newspapers.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The projects will generally benefit public health, by increasing or improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation services, or by collecting and treating wastewater before discharging into receiving waters bodies and eventually into the Danube and the Black Sea. Public health will also be increased thanks to the safe disposal of sludge from waste water treatment plants.

The definition of the projects has systematically taken into account affordability considerations in the estimation of project revenues and determination of the grant component in each case.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

In Romania, the Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (EIA) is carried out according to Governmental Ordinance 860/2002 with subsequent amendments according to the Government Decision 1213/2006, transposing the EIA Directive, including requirements for public consultation at the relevant stages.