

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: ROAD NO 445 NORTHERN BYPASS ROAD KECSKEMET
 Project Number: 2015 0023
 Country: Hungary
 Project Description: Road 445 is a major project allocation under Regional Accessibility Co-Financing Framework Loan and consists of a 10.3 km section of a new single-carriageway (2x1 lanes) northern bypass of Kecskemét in Hungary

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: 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 project consists of a 10.3 km section of a new single-carriageway northern bypass (Road 445) of Kecskemét in Hungary.

The project was included in the Transport Operational Programme 2007-2013 (2007) which was subject to strategic environmental assessment (SEA) following Directive 2001/42/EC. The project is a class of development that falls under Annex II of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU. Following a preliminary environmental procedure screening the Lower Tisza Region Environmental, Nature Conservation and Water Management Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) concluded in 2007 that no further EIA was necessary.

Expected impacts from construction and operation include those typically associated with new road construction; these include conversion of predominantly agricultural land and construction and operation impacts on air quality, noise, surface water and groundwater. Environmental mitigation measures are stipulated for the project.

The project is acceptable to the Bank with regard to environmental and social matters.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Environmental Legislation

The EIA Directive 2011/92/EU has been transposed in Hungary through the following legislation: Act LIII of 1995 on the general rules of environmental protection and Government Decree No. 314/2005. (XII. 25.) on EIA and the uniform environmental use permits. Act LIII of 1996 on nature conservation and Government Decree 275/2004 (X. 8), amended by Government Decree 266/2008 (XI. 6), implements the Habitats 92/43/EEC and Birds Directives 2009/147/EEC in Hungary.

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 Procedure

The project was included in strategies and programmes that were subject to SEA in accordance with Directive 2001/42/EC such as the Transport Operational Programme 2007-2013 (2007) and the national motorway and trunk road network long-term development program (2010). The project is a class of development that falls under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. An environmental screening – in accordance with the EIA Directive – was undertaken in 2007. The Inspectorate concluded that no further EIA was necessary through decision no. 44686-1-18/2007. Following the decision, the Inspectorate contributed to the building permit procedure, with permits issued for the project phases in 2009. In 2010 minor technical alterations to the project were accepted by the Inspectorate and National Transport Authority via permit no. DA/KA/1494/44/2010. The Inspectorate confirmed no significant impact on Natura 2000 sites in 2012.

Environmental Impact

Expected negative impacts from construction include those typically associated with new road construction; these include conversion of predominantly agricultural land, impacts on soil, flora and fauna, surface water and groundwater, and construction related air, vibration and noise pollution.

The project will redistribute traffic from local roads in the urban centre of Kecskemét and provide a bypass for both local and strategic traffic. A reduction of traffic related air pollution, carbon emissions and noise is expected from alleviated roads, although there will be an increase along the new road 445 corridor. Other impacts during operation include possible contamination of soil and ground water from traffic related oil, petroleum and wearing materials from vehicles and deposited waste. Environmental mitigation measures are stipulated for the project including vegetation planting, noise barriers and a game passage.

Biodiversity Issues

No Natura 2000 network sites are in the vicinity of the project as included in the Habitats and Birds Directives. The National Park Directorate of Kiskunság provided no objection to the route alignment. Following the EIA screening decision in 2007 the competent authority issued, in 2012, confirmation that the project has no significant impact on Natura 2000 sites and therefore an appropriate assessment according to Article 6 of the Habitats Directive was not necessary.

Climate Change

The project does not include particular climate change mitigation or adaption measures over and above that required to comply with existing technical standards in Hungary – including structural Eurocodes.

Social Assessment

The planning and environmental procedures included public and stakeholder engagement. The construction of the project will comply with occupational health and safety standards including those related to temporary and mobile construction sites. Land acquisition was majority completed prior to construction – with delays from legal contests recorded during the process. The project did not involve forced resettlement and all relevant properties were compulsory purchased. No properties were left inaccessible.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

During the preliminary EIA screening process in 2007, the Inspectorate made information publically available. The building permit procedure necessitates public consultation and seven were organised in the case of the project. The technical changes were made publically available.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The building permits specify environmental mitigating measures for both construction and operation. No other environmental monitoring is specified for the project.