

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Moldova Solid Waste Framework Loan
Project Number:	2014 0483
Country:	Moldova
Project Description:	The project concerns the implementation of solid waste sector projects throughout Moldova, supporting the implementation of the Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2013-2027
EIA required:	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

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

The programme will comprise projects aimed at upgrading and developing solid waste management systems and facilities in eight regions in Moldova, in line with the Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2013-2027. The eight regional waste management projects will be prepared by EIB and two bilateral cooperation programmes. The projects will provide new regional sanitary landfills and possibly also residual waste treatment facilities for all the urban population and part of the rural population in Moldova, in total expected to be ca. 3 000 000 inhabitants. Together with upgrades of waste collection systems and introduction of separate collection and treatment of recyclable materials and bio-waste, the projects will reduce adverse environmental, health and climate impacts from current dumpsites that will be closed and rehabilitated. The project will thus provide a timely investment support to the transposition of the EU legislation in the waste management sector as stipulated by the EU Association Agreement.

Environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) studies normally form part of the documentation developed in the course of the project preparation, despite the fact that under national legislation all the project components may not require a full environmental impact assessment (EIA). In Moldova a new EIA law entered into force on 4 January 2015. This Law mirrors the EIA Directive with regard to requirements for EIA for Annex I projects and screening of Annex II projects and the annexes are shaped in accordance with the annexes of the EIA Directive.

The programme is expected to be co-financed with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the individual schemes will comply with the EBRD's Performance Requirements as well as the EIB Environmental and Social Standards. Therefore, should the EIB determine that a full environmental and social impact assessment would normally be required in line with its Environmental and Social Standards, the completion of the full ESIA or the remaining steps to complete an ESIA will be required.

Environmental and social undertakings for the programme are listed below;

- The Borrower shall not commit any EIB funds against schemes that require an EIA or biodiversity assessment according to national law without, prior to commitment, receiving the consent from the competent authority, and the Non-Technical Summary of the EIA having been made available to the public. For projects for which the

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.

competent authority does not require an EIA, the Bank shall receive a copy of the decision by the competent authority indicating the basis for it, as well as evidence of public disclosure of this decision. Should EIB determine that a full environmental and social impact assessment would be required in line with its Environmental and Social Standards, the completion of the full ESIA or the remaining steps to complete an ESIA will be required.

- The Borrower shall ensure that promoters of individual schemes implement, to the satisfaction of the Bank, the environmental and social management plan, the livelihood restoration plan, and the stakeholder engagement plan.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Since the individual sub-projects still are under preparation, details about their environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures are not yet known and can thus not be assessed.

All schemes will be reviewed from environmental & social assessment point of view in relation to among other impacts and mitigation measures.

The Waste Management Strategy for the Republic of Moldova 2013-2027 has been subject to a SEA like review by the Ministry of Environment with public access at a time where there were no specific law for SEA. Such a law is now being prepared.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The occupational health and safety practices will likely need improvement, in particular as regards the human resources management system, working conditions and facilities for the personnel. Environmental and social action plans are expected to be developed for each scheme separately and will address these issues with the support of Technical Assistance.

Closure of existing dumpsites and landfill could affect the livelihoods of people involved in the collection of secondary materials on the sites. Livelihood restoration plans will have to be developed and implemented in accordance with EIB and EBRD standards to properly address this issue.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

The environmental assessments of the schemes are under preparation. When submitted, the competent authority will decide if the formal public consultation procedure applies. The Promoters will be assisted by consultants responsible for the project preparation in that process.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Not applicable.