

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	NSRF COFINANCING FACILITY
	<u>Allocation of large projects:</u>
	2015-0700 <b>Arges</b> county water and wastewater
	2015-0701 <b>Bacau</b> county water and wastewater
	2015-0702 <b>Bihor</b> county water and wastewater
	2015-0703 <b>Botosani</b> county water and wastewater
	2015-0705 <b>Caras Severin</b> county water and wastewater
	2015-0706 <b>Maramures</b> water and wastewater
	2015-0707 <b>Mehedinti</b> water and wastewater
	2015-0708 <b>Mures</b> water and wastewater
	2015-0709 <b>Satu Mare</b> water and wastewater
	2015-0710 <b>Covasna</b> water and wastewater
	2015-0711 <b>Vâlcea</b> water and wastewater
Project Number:	2008-0170 plus see above
Country:	Romania
Project Description:	Co-financing of eleven large projects in water sector supported by EU funds under the Sector Operational Programme for Environment and Operational Programme Large Infrastructure
EIA required:	Yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	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 population equivalents. All projects include conditions and provisions for the establishment of strategies and action 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

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

10.03.2016

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 project in Bacau and approved by the relevant competent authority. Other Annex II projects comprising rehabilitation and development of networks in smaller agglomerations were screened out. The results of EIA process were also reviewed by 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 (SEA). Due to delays in their implementation, the projects will also be financed through the Operational Programme Large Infrastructure, which was subject to a compulsory SEA, too.

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 was expected to 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

10.03.2016

intended 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 was 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
<b>Arges County Water and Wastewater</b>	Negative screening decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costesti Buzoiesti agglomerations: 11202/07.07.2011;</li> <li>• Pitesti agglomeration: 11201/07.07.2011;</li> <li>• Topoloveni agglomeration: 11203/07.07.2011.</li> </ul>
<b>Bacau County Water and Wastewater</b>	Environmental permit for Bacau no. 8/2010. Negative screening decisions for Darmanesti no. 179/2010, Moinesti no. 176/2010, Buhusi no. 178/2010 and Targu Ocna no. 177/2010.
<b>Bihor County Water and Wastewater</b>	Negative screening decision no. 5 from March 10, 2009 for the works covering Oradea city, Biharia, Girisu de Cris, Tarian, Nojorid, Osorhei, Alparea, Fughiu, Santandrei, Palota. Negative screening decision 58 from April 9, 2009 for the works covering Beius town and Finis. Negative screening decision no. 59 from April 9, 2009 for the works covering Tinca.
<b>Botosani County Water and Wastewater</b>	Negative screening decisions for Botosani no. 3389/2011, Dorohoi no. 3390/2011, Flamânzi no. 3388/2011, Vorona no. 3387/2011, Stefanesti no. 10324/2010, Saveni no.10323/2010.
<b>Caras Severin County Water and Wastewater</b>	Negative screening decisions: Resita no. 353; Caransebes no. 352; Bocsa no. 356; Otelu Rosu no. 354; Moldova Noua no. 357; Oravita no. 351; Anina no. 355; Baile Herculane no. 358 of November 2011

10.03.2016

<p><b>Maramures</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. 120/28.05.2010 revised on 10.08.2011 for Baia Mare Agglomeration</li> <li>• No. 122/28.05.2010 revised on 10.08.2011 for Cavnic Agglomeration</li> <li>• No. 123/28.05.2010 revised on 10.08.2011 Targu Lapus Agglomeration</li> <li>• No. 121/28.05.2010 revised on 10.08.2011 Seini Agglomeration</li> <li>• No. 124/28.05.2010 revised on 10.08.2011 Viseu de Sus Agglomeration</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mehedinti</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No.11/15.06.2010, for Vanju Mare Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.12/15.06.2010, for Strehaiia Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.7/15.06.2010, for Baia de Arama Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.8/15.06.2010, for Branistea Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.10/15.06.2010, for Cujmir Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.9/15.06.2010 for Comanda Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.13/15.06.2010, for Rogova Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.18/25.06.2010, for Gura Vaii Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.16/25.06.2010 for Drobeta Turnu Severin Agglomeration</li> <li>• No.17/25.06.2010, revised on 15.12.2011, for Simian Agglomeration</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mures</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targu Mures – no.6457 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Reghin – no.6459 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Sighisoara – no.6458 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Tarnaveni – no.6460 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Ludus – no.6461 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Iernut – no.6462 / 08.01.2010</li> <li>• Cristuru Secuiesc – no.6 / 26.01.2010</li> <li>• Valea Nirajului – no.6463 / 08.01.2010</li> </ul>
<p><b>Satu Mare</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions: Satu Mare no. 240/2009; Carei no. 20/2010; Negresti Oas no. 243/2009; Tasnad no. 243/2009; Livada no. 33/2009; Ardud no. 242/2009; Capleni no. 255/2009</p>
<p><b>Covasna</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sfântu Gheorghe – No. 10 / 13.09.2010</li> <li>• Târgu Secuiesc – No. 11 / 13.09.2010</li> <li>• Covasna – No. 278 / 13.09.2010</li> <li>• Întorsura Buzăului - No. 12 / 13.09.2010</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vâlcea</b> County Water and Wastewater</p>	<p>Negative screening decisions: Ramnicu Valcea no. 581/26.11.2009 revised 08.03.2011, Dragasani no. 586/27.11.2009 revised 09.03.2011, Calimanesti no. 609/16.12.2009 revised 09.03.2011, Olanesti no. 582/26.11.2009 revised 08.03.2011, Babeni no. 48/08.02.2010 revised 09.03.2011, Balcesti no. 579/26.11.2009 revised 09.03.2011</p>

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 water bodies and eventually into the Danube and the Black Sea.



10.03.2016

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.