

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	REGIONE BASILICATA 2014 - 2020 CO-FINANCING
Project Number:	2015-0348
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	Co-financing of projects under “Regione Basilicata's FESR” Operational Programme for the programming period 2014 - 2020 financed under the ERDF.
EIA required:	Yes. This is multi-scheme, multi-sector SPL operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or Annex II (“screened in”) of the EIA Directive
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	No

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

The Project is a multi-sector Structural Programme Loan comprising the Basilicata’s Regional Operational Programme (ROP) co-financed by ERDF, for which the Strategic Environmental Assessment was performed in compliance with the EU SEA Directive 2001/42/EC. The NTS of the SEA has been provided to the Bank.

The investments included in the ROP ERDF are divided in nine priority axes: i) Research, Development & Innovation; ii) Digital Agenda, iii) Competitiveness, iv) Energy and Urban Mobility, v) Environmental Protection and Resource Efficiency, vi) Transport Systems and Infrastructure, vii) Social Inclusion, viii) Improvement of the Education System and, ix) Technical Assistance.

Given the scope of this operation and sectors included, it is likely that some infrastructure schemes fall under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, either under Annex I or Annex II. Should any scheme under this SPL fall under Annex II and be “screened in” by the Competent Authority, or fall under Annex I, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

Basilicata has 53 Natura 2000 sites, representing over 20% of Region. Some projects included in this operation might be located within or in the vicinity of these areas. The Competent Authority has to provide evidence of the compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives (Form A/B or equivalent) before the Bank funds are allocated.

The ROP ERDF comprises projects aiming at promoting sustainable transport, energy efficiency in public buildings and renewable energy contributing to climate change mitigation. In addition, it comprises construction and rehabilitation of public infrastructure, including technical requirements and measures, contributing to increase the resilience of the Region to natural disasters (e.g.: earthquakes and floods) and to long-term sustainable growth in the area.

Overall, the net environmental and social impact is expected to be positive (i.e.: investments in integrated water and waste systems, resource efficiency, energy efficiency in public buildings, renewable energies, sustainable transport, etc.). Potential negative effects (e.g. dust and noise during construction) will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures.

The institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental issues is deemed adequate and therefore, subject to conditions mentioned above, the project is acceptable to the Bank in environmental and social terms.

<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.

## Environmental and Social Assessment

### Environmental Assessment

Italy has harmonised its environmental legislation in line with the relevant EU Directives: SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by 2014/52/EU), Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and Birds Directives 2009/147/EC.

The Regional Competent Authority for the Environment is a dedicated office (“Ufficio Compatibilità Ambientale”) within the Environmental and Land Department. In addition, an entity (“Comitato Interdipartimentale di Coordinamento Organizzativo”) ensures the environmental integration and strengthening towards sustainable development. It performs environmental monitoring of the ROP ERDF and presents results to the Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee.

The Region has 53 Natura 2000 sites, of which 20 are classified as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and 17 as Special Protection Area (SPA) under the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). The regional office “Ufficio Parchi, Biodiversità e Tutela della Natura” is responsible of managing the protected sites. In Italy, the assessment of the protected areas is well integrated in the EIA process.

According to the latest national earthquake hazard maps, the Region could experience seismic events in the future. This operation includes the strengthening and modernization of earthquakes-prone public buildings (mainly in schools). In addition, the preliminary flood risk assessment and flood hazard and risk maps prepared in compliance with the Flood Directive (2007/60/EC) have highlighted that certain areas in Basilicata are classified under flood risk due to their proximity to the five main Rivers (Basento, Bradano, Agri Sinni, Noce and Cavone) and the vast hydrographic network of minor rivers. The project designs thus include technical requirements and measures to adapt the infrastructure located in such areas to potential floods.

The Project will have a minor impact on the environment both during construction and operation. At construction stage, it will increase noise levels, and will mainly impact water and air quality. Adequate mitigating measures will be considered in the designs. The Project's impact at the construction stage will be short-lived and reversible, at a level which is deemed acceptable.

At operation stage, major impacts will be related to noise and emissions from motor vehicle traffic linked to road projects. Special mitigation measures will be proposed according to legal emission thresholds which include the construction of noise barriers or fences where needed. Severance will be solved with animal underpasses and reparation of affected animal paths. Specific actions linked to the water and waste systems, including the increase in separate collection, reuse and recycling, will contribute to the Region's compliance with the relevant EU Directives and result in a better quality of the environment.

In addition, positive effects can also be expected from improving the energy efficiency in public buildings, promoting the use of renewable energy sources (mainly solar PV and wind energy) and enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of transport systems. Indirect positive effects will come from technological innovation in the field of renewable energies and the introduction of digital services reducing urban mobility and traffic congestion.

### Institutional Capacity of the Promoter

The experience from the previous programming period 2007-2013 showed that all projects falling under the EU EIA Directive and “screened in” for EIA were managed in line with the requirements of the EIA Directive and the national legislative framework.

Over the last decade, environmental issues such as resource efficiency and sustainability, biodiversity protection, climate change, and risks of accidents and disasters (mainly floods, landslides, coastal erosion and earthquakes), have become more important in policy making. These elements are increasingly considered in assessment and decision-making processes by the Promoter. The Promoter's institutional capacity to manage social and environmental risks within the framework of this operation is therefore considered to be adequate.

### Social Assessment

No separate social impact assessment has been carried out for the ROP. However, it is deemed that the overall social impact of the Project is positive, in particular through the investments in educational and social facilities, including health, cultural and recreational

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services and buildings. It will contribute to reduce poverty and increase the quality of life of the inhabitants of the Basilicata Region.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

The SEA of the ROP has been carried out with positive outcome, including public consultation and appropriate assessment on Natura 2000 areas, in conformity with the national environmental legislation ("Codice dell'Ambiente" Law L.152/06) transposing the EU SEA Directive 2001/42/EC. The SEA of the ROP was published by the regional competent authority ("Ufficio Compatibilità Ambientale") in June 2014.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The individual project building permits will stipulate monitoring of environmental requirements prior to, during and post construction. In addition, road safety is expected to improve, contributing to upgrade the road network and public transport infrastructure to current safety standards.

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