

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	EU FUNDS CO-FINANCING 2014-2020 (PT)
Project Number:	2014-0399
Country:	Portugal
Project Description:	This multi-sector Structural Programme Loan will support to selected Operational Programmes under the Portuguese Partnership Agreement 2014-2020 (PA 2014-2020). The investments aims to respond to the four PA 2014-2020 funding priorities: competitiveness and internationalisation, social inclusion and employment, human capital, sustainability and efficiency in the use of resources — considering also two cross-cutting dimensions related to the reform of public administration and an integrated intervention approach at territorial level.
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

This multi-sector Structural Programme Loan will cater to the recovery and sustainable development of the Portuguese economy through support to selected Operational Programmes under the Portuguese Partnership Agreement 2014-2020 (PA 2014-2020). The investments aims to respond to the four PA 2014-2020 funding priorities: competitiveness and internationalisation, social inclusion and employment, human capital, sustainability and efficiency in the use of resources — considering also two cross-cutting dimensions related to the reform of public administration and an integrated intervention approach at territorial level.

The project will support specific axis of the Operational Programmes co-financed with the European Funds:

- four thematic Operational Programmes: (i) Competitiveness and Internationalization; (ii) Sustainable Development and Efficient Use of Natural Resources; (iii) Human Capital and (iv) Social Inclusion and Employment.
- seven regional Operational Programmes, structured territorially in accordance with NUTS II and co-financed by ERDF and the ESF: (i) Norte; (ii) Centro; (iii) Lisboa; (iv) Alentejo; (v) Algarve; (vi) Madeira; and (vii) Açores.

Strategic Environmental Impact Assessments were carried out for the seven regional Operational Programmes, and the two thematic Operational Programmes; OP Sustainable

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.

Development and Efficient Use of Natural Resources and OP Competitiveness and Internationalization.

Some infrastructure schemes under this Structural Programme Loan are expected to fall under the EIA Directive, either under Annex I or Annex II. Should any scheme under this Structural Program Loan (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. The SEA contains appropriate conditions for each axis and/or measure.

Overall, the environmental and social impact is expected to be positive. It’s expected that the investments under the present SPL will also contribute to:

- a knowledge-intensive and internationally competitive economy;
- effective education and vocational training systems contribution to the development of human capital and qualified employment;
- a clean and diverse natural environment and efficient use of resources;
- sustainable infrastructure, for economic and social development; and
- enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration and local self-government.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Legal Framework

Portugal, as an EU Member State, has harmonised its environmental legislation in line with the relevant EU Directives, the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and the Habitats and Birds Directives 2009/147/EC. Projects that will receive environmental permits after the enactment of the new Directive on EIA in 2017, will fall under the new EU Directive.

Environmental Assessment

The intervention financed by the Bank will focus on the following sectors: business development, human capital and regeneration, as well as other sectors such as RDI, ICT, transport, water, solid waste, energy efficiency and renewable energy, culture and public administration.

The OPs will have positive impact on biodiversity, soil water, air, climate, population, human health, cultural heritage and landscape, while appropriate measures will be taken to mitigate any negative impact. Overall, the implementation of the OPs has a positive impact on the environment. For instance; investments under OP Sustainable Development and Efficient Use of Natural Resources will contribute to low carbon economy, adaptation to climate change and risk management; will investments under regional Operational Programmes will mitigate, if not resolve, environmental problems at regional level.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

Public consultation was carried out in line with the national legislation, in some cases for twenty days (OP Norte), while all SEAs are currently published at:

<https://www.portugal2020.pt/Portal2020/programas-operacionais-portugal-2020-2>

Institutional Capacity of the Promoter

The experience from the previous programming period 2007-2013 showed that all projects financed by the EIB and falling under the EU EIA Directive and “screened in” for EIA were managed in line with the requirements under the Directive and the national legislative framework. In previous operations, the institutional capacity to manage environmental and social issues has been deemed to be acceptable.

The Promoter’s overall institutional capacity to manage social and environmental risks within the framework of this operation is therefore considered to be satisfactory.