## **Environmental and Social Data Sheet**

## **Overview**

Project Name: REGIONE BASILICATA FLOOD PREVENTION

Project Number: 2015-0339
Country: Italy

Project Description: Framework Loan for investments of the Regione Basilicata into landslides,

river floods and coastal erosion risk mitigation and protection measures

EIA required: yes

This is a programme made up of multiple schemes. Some of them might require an EIA. The Promoter shall provide the link to the website where the NTSs are published or send copies to the Bank.

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 proposed programme involves floods, landslides and coastal protection schemes to be implemented in the Basilicata Region over the period 2014-2020.

The environmental and social due diligence has followed the programme lending approach according to EIB's procedure, i.e. it mainly focussed on the Promoter's approach and capacity to carry out the programme in line with EIB environmental and social standards and requirements. The Basilicata Region's Land Protection Office, which is the entity responsible for the floods, landslides and coastal protection schemes, is an experienced promoter with a good track-record on environmental and social management.

This programme is driven primarily by the wider economic benefits generated by improving the protection of human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activities, making it acceptable for EIB financing. Overall, the net environmental and social impact is expected to be positive. Potential negative effects during construction and operation will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures.

As some works will require a full EIA according to Directive 2011/92/EC or affect protected areas, the operation will be subject to the Promoter complying with the following requirements:

- 1. The promoter undertakes not to allocate Bank funds to programme components that require a full EIA until the EIA and/or the necessary nature assessment have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. Once any EIS is available, the promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of its Non-Technical Summary (NTS) for publication on the EIB website.
- 2. The promoter shall not commit any EIB funds towards any scheme that impacts nature conservation sites, without receiving from the relevant competent authority the declaration under Art. 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that there are no significant effects and informing the Bank of such declaration having been obtained.
- 3. The promoter undertakes to provide to the Bank, if requested, any decisions and subsequent justification that screen out project components from the requirement of a full EIA

<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 CO2e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO2e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

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as well as the decisions issued by the competent Authority regarding the Habitats and Birds Directives.

# **Environmental and Social Assessment**

#### **Environmental Assessment**

The verification of the environmental compliance with the relevant EU Directives transposed into the Italian legislation is required both at programme level (SEA Directive 2001/42/EC) and project level (EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, Birds and Habitats Directive 92/43/EC), and is implicitly incorporated into the procedures. The Promoter is well aware of the requirements of the Italian and European legislation and will act according to the relevant EU Directives' provisions.

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.

The programme has to be consistent with the River Basin Management Plan and the Flood Risk Management Plan of the Southern Apennines River Basin District, to next be finalised by end 2015 and which are both subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The competent authorities have taken appropriate actions to coordinate the preparation of the two plans and the relative public consultation procedures, in line with the requirements of the EU Flood Directive (2007/60/EC). The existence of such planning framework will help the competent basin authorities and the Region to take informed decisions on how to prioritise actions and investments.

The flood, landslide and coastal protection schemes, effectively the flood risk management plans, are defined according to the plan for hydrogeological-risk reduction - "Piano Stralcio per la difesa dal rischio Idrogeologico (PAI)" - and the regional plan for coastal management, which have to be approved by the Civil Protection and relevant River Basin authorities. They are prepared based on the level of vulnerability and exposure of assets and population, as identified by the preliminary flood risk assessment and the flood hazard and risk maps prepared by the River Basin Authorities as prescribed by the Floods Directive.

The programme is expected to have net positive environmental and social impacts. Potential negative effects on water bodies, biodiversity, landscape, etc. during construction and operation will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures as required by the competent authority. The programme will favour ecologically based restoration activities in order to improve degraded waterways over hard engineering solutions.

Basilicata has 53 Natura 2000 sites, representing over 20% of the Region. Some schemes included in the programme might be located within or in the vicinity of these areas. The works are to be approved by the competent authority which will prescribe appropriate measures to mitigate the impacts. Evidence of the compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives (Form A/B or equivalent) will have to be provided to the Bank before funds are allocated.

Natural disasters risk management and prevention is increasingly considered in assessment and decision-making processes in the Basilicata Region. It is likely that the frequency and intensity of flash floods and landslides phenomena linked to short-term, intense precipitation will increase in the South of Italy as a consequence of climate change. The programme is expected to increase the resilience of the Region to natural disasters and climate change and to contribute to long-term sustainable growth in the area.

#### Social Assessment, where applicable

The project is expected to bring considerable social benefits by reducing the risk or impact of landslides, river floods and coastal erosion in the priority areas. By alleviating such risks, the project will contribute to long-term sustainable growth in the area. The construction works will also contribute to employment creation.

# Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

The public consultation on the draft River Basin Management Plan and the Flood Risk Management Plan and relative environmental reports is carried out as prescribed by the SEA Directive and national procedures. The relevant documentation is published on the River Basin District Authority and the Basilicata River Basin Authority's websites. The status of the programme's implementation will be made available on the geographic web portal of the Basilicata Region.

# Other Environmental and Social Aspects

N.A.