

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	TÜBITAK RESEARCH PROMOTION II
Project Number:	2015-0021
Country:	Turkey
Project Description:	The project concerns the research activities supported by the Academic Research Funding Programme (ARDEB) and the Industrial R&D and Innovation Programme (TEYDEB) implemented through the Scientific and Technological Research Council (TÜBITAK) of Turkey. The programmes have national reach and will be implemented in 2015 and 2016.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

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

The project will finance intangible scientific research activities as well as industrial R&D and innovation programmes that will be performed in existing facilities already authorised; the construction of buildings is not foreseen within the investment. The beneficiaries include public and private sector promoters. The Bank requests the promoter to comply with relevant environmental legislation. In the EU operational research activities are not specifically listed in the EIA directive (2011/92/EU).

Turkey and the EU opened in 2009 the environment chapter of access negotiations which will lead to the implementation of general environmental legislation in line with EU standards. The environmental capability of the promoter is considered satisfactory. If successful, the R&D activities of the project may result in the production of goods and services offering improved environmental characteristics. Therefore, the project is considered acceptable for the Bank financing.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Research activities that are selected to be financed by the TÜBITAK and that are therefore included in its programmes, have to obtain the approval of the relevant TÜBITAK's ethics committees depending on the specific characteristics of each individual projects. Where necessary, certifications must also be obtained from the Ministry of Health and other related institutions. Permits from state or private entities may also be necessary for research involving data collection or with impact on atmosphere, water, land, humans, flora, fauna and cultural heritage. In addition the promoter will be contractually requested to comply with the list of EIB eligible activities.

Concerning the occupational risks of the personnel conducting the financed R&D projects, health and safety measures will be applied according to the Turkish national legislation, which underwent significant changes since the year 2000 in order to be harmonised with the EU legislation in this area, and to detailed regulations of the beneficiary R&D institutes.

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.

In the negotiations for adhesion of Turkey to the European Union, environmental issues in the research sector have been considered within the acquis in “Chapter 25 – Science and Research”, which was opened and provisionally closed for negotiation on 12 June 2006. By closing the Chapter provisionally, the EU has approved that Turkey has met the conditions to ensure necessary implementing capacities to pursue the Community objectives and activities in the field of research and technological development.

More generally on environmental issues regarding the Chapter 27 of Environment and climate change, the conclusion of the EU’s Commission Turkey’s progress report of October 2014 was: “Turkey has made good progress on waste management, whereas only limited progress can be reported on horizontal legislation, air quality and industrial pollution control and risk management. Turkey made very limited progress on water quality, chemicals and on administrative capacity. No progress can be reported on nature protection. Regarding climate change, Turkey made limited progress on awareness-raising on EU climate requirements, but a more robust and ambitious climate policy, both domestically and internationally, has yet to be established. There is a need to enhance administrative capacity.”