

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	TÜBITAK RESEARCH PROMOTION
Project Number:	2012-0233
Country:	Turkey
Project Description:	The project aims at strengthening the research and innovation capacity of Turkey by co-financing the national contribution for various science and technology programmes implemented through the Scientific and Technological Research Council (TÜBITAK). The EIB loan is expected to include upstream financing to the research promoters targeted by EIF's Technology Transfer Accelerator (TTA) Fund.
EIA required:	No

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: 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 project will finance intangible scientific research activities as well as industrial R&D and innovation programmes. The beneficiaries include public and private sector promoters and research activities in environmental sciences are included. In addition, the R&D performance in other disciplines (e.g. energy efficiency, renewable energy etc.) may result in the production of goods and services with improved environmental characteristics. The construction of buildings is not foreseen within the investment. The Bank requests the Promoter to comply with relevant environmental legislation. Environmental issues in the research sector have been considered within the EU community acquis in 2006. 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.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The R&D programmes are expected to yield new knowledge and other outputs that can have improved environmental characteristics. The project will also finance academic research in the social sciences that should benefit communities and society as a whole.

All research activities accepted to be financed by the TÜBITAK and therefore included in its programmes have to obtain the approval of the relevant bioethical committees when relevant.

The research personnel conducting the R&D projects financed within the investment will be exposed to a variety of occupational risks including biohazards in case of biotechnology and biomedical laboratories. The 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 within the institutes depending on the source of risks.

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.

Commission evaluation of negotiations of the general environmental chapter in 2011 is that “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.”

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The project is not included in the EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise because the EIB draft Induced Carbon Footprint Methodologies only considers estimated emissions from Investment Loan projects’ with absolute emissions that exceed 100 k tons of CO₂e/year (gross) or with relative increases or savings of emissions (compared to baseline) that exceed 20 k tons of CO₂e/year (net).

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