

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: AIMAG SETTORE IDRICO E AMBIENTE
Project Number: 2015-0647
Country: Italy
Project Description: Multi-sector investment programme including water, waste water, solid waste and gas projects schemes

EIA required: Yes, some of the project components are subject to EIA

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: No

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project – being part of AIMAG's 2015-2019 investment programme - will comprise a number of investments geographically dispersed throughout the service areas covered by AIMAG. This is a multi-sector operation including water, waste water, solid waste and gas projects schemes.

The water and wastewater investment components are defined in the master plans ("Piani d'Ambito") approved by the competent Authorities and the Authority of the Optimal Territorial Area (AATO) of the Province of Mantova and Modena. Some project components require an EIA, in particular the wells construction in the sites of Cognento di Modena and Campogalliano in the Province of Modena. The project is complied with the EC Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC as amended by Directive 98/15/EC, as well as the requirements under the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC). The investments into the security of water supply contribute to safeguarding public health as required by the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC and the environment thereby increasing the resilience to potential effects of climate change. Network and treatment process rationalisation will contribute towards greenhouse gas emissions reduction and resource efficiency.

The solid waste components in the investment programme are in line with the regional waste management plan ("*Piano Regionale di Gestione dei Rifiuti 2014-2020*"). The plan has been subject to a SEA. A full-fledged Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be carried out for the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility in Finale Emilia with a nominal capacity of 50 000 tons/year. An EIA has been also conducted for a fourth cell of the existing landfill located in Fossoli di Carpi with a total capacity of 280 000 tons for which the approval of the competent authorities is awaited. The investments will help the Emilia Romagna Region to achieve the EU objectives of the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) and the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC). They will furthermore reduce emissions and climate change impact from current operations. Finally, the investments in gas and heat distribution networks aim at maintaining and improving the reliability and quality standards of gas and heat supply. Therefore, it will also contribute to increase energy efficiency. Overall, the project will contribute to meet the Bank's priority objectives regarding support to EU climate action by investing 25% of total CAPEX in climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

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.

The promoter follows sound practices with regard to the management of environmental issues. The project is expected to have minor residual environmental impacts and thus is acceptable in environmental terms for Bank financing.

Finally, the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, Birds Directive 2009/147/EC, Habitats Directive 92/43/EC and SEA Directive 2001/42/EC have all been transposed into Italian legislation. The verification of the environmental compliance is implicitly incorporated into the procedures.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

Since the project concerns a multi-sector investment programme including recovery investment from the 2012 earthquake, a comprehensive carbon footprint calculation cannot be carried out. However, the carbon footprint methodology has been applied to the new AD plant. As a result: estimated annual emissions of the waste treatment facilities amount to 11 000 tons CO_{2eq}/year. Relative emissions are calculated at -9000 tons CO_{2eq}/year respectively. Therefore, this AD plant will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the methane emissions from landfills and to meeting demand for electricity by using residual waste considered partially (production of biogas) as a renewable energy source.

For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

Conclusions and Recommendations

For all investment types, the promoter undertakes not to allocate the Bank's funds to project components requiring a mandatory EIA and/or nature assessment until it has been completed and approved by the competent authority. An electronic copy of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) must be submitted to the Bank to be published on its website once the EIA is made available to the public. A copy of the consent from the competent authority should be provided to the Bank. Furthermore, the Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that impacts nature conservation sites, without receiving the conclusion of the appropriate assessment under the Habitats and Birds Directives carried out from the competent Authority and informing the Bank that the confirmation that there are no significant impacts has been obtained.

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