

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: EIFFEL ENERGY TRANSITION FUND
Project Number: 2016-0371
Country: France
Project Description: Fund providing developer finance to small renewables (mostly solar PV) and energy efficiency projects mainly in France.

EIA required: depending on specific underlying investment

(This is a multi-sector operation. Some of the investments are expected to require an EIA but not necessarily all of them)

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: No

Environmental and Social Assessment

This operation intends to bring about environmental benefits by supporting renewable energy projects (predominantly solar PV plants and onshore wind farms) and to a minor extent energy efficiency projects. The renewable energy projects and energy efficiency projects are expected to have respectively limited to very limited negative social or environmental impact. The Fund will invest predominantly in EU and EFTA countries (at least 90% of the fund volume). No investment must be made in sectors or activities that are excluded by the Bank.

Some of the Fund's underlying investments are expected to fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, leaving it to the national competent authority to determine on the basis of Annex III of such Directive whether an environmental impact assessment is required. For all underlying investments adherence to the principles of relevant EU Directives will be required.

The Fund Management is typically appraising projects that have already completed their environmental authorisation process. Considering its geographical and sectorial focus, i.e. countries with comprehensive environmental and social legislation (incl. on health and safety) and effective authorisation procedures in place, the Fund's analysis is primarily focussed on ensuring full compliance with national law and good industry practice.

In order to ensure full compliance of the operation with the Bank's environmental and social requirements, it is proposed that the legal documentation to be concluded between the Fund and the EIB comprises additional safeguards. These include, amongst others, the following undertakings:

- The Fund will perform environmental and social due diligence to ensure that potential impacts and risks and appropriate prevention, mitigation and compensation measures are identified through an environmental and social impact screening/assessment and, where relevant, including satisfactory and meaningful public consultation and participation.

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.

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- The Fund will be required to verify that none of the schemes have a significant adverse impact on any site of nature conservation importance, including sites protected under national legislation and international agreements. If in the reasonable view of the Fund Manager an investment has the potential to significantly affect sites of nature conservation importance, it shall ensure that an appropriate assessment is carried out for the potentially affected sites in place, and obtain written confirmation from the competent authority as defined in relevant EU Directives, or an equivalent assessment satisfactory to the Bank, that the Investment does not have a significant negative impact on any Protected Site.
- If an underlying investment is subject to an Environmental and Social Impact Study the Fund Manager will be required to publish the Non-Technical Summary (or a link) on its website for access to stakeholders.

During appraisal it has been verified that the Fund manager has fully understood the Bank's E&S requirements and is willing and capable to fully implement them.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The implementation of the Bank's E&S requirements shall be incorporated into the Fund's procedures by means of an Environmental and Social Management System, to the satisfaction of the Bank's services. This will be made conditional to the first disbursement.

In view of the above findings and conditions, the operation is deemed satisfactory from an environmental and social compliance perspective.