

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	REGIONE TOSCANA DEVELOPMENT
Project Number:	2016-0625
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	Financing of multi-sector investments supported by the Region of Toscana development strategy
EIA required:	This is multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or Annex II ("screened in") of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project supports the 2016-2020 Programma Regionale di Sviluppo - Programme of Regional Development – of Toscana Region through financing selected components of its multi-annual investment plan from 2016 to 2019. These include social housing, disaster risk management and the upgrade of urban infrastructure and public facilities. The Project is foreseen to support in particular schemes of new build and renovation of social housing, flood, seacoast and soil protection, sustainable transport, retrofitting of schools and public buildings and, to a lesser financial extent, schemes supporting cultural heritage, economic activity facilities, strategic transport infrastructure and general urban renewal.

The 2016-2020 Regional Development Programme establishes nine policy objectives, six of which are related to the Europe 2020 themes of inclusive, sustainable and smart development, and three are related to Toscana's specific characteristics and needs. These include sustainable re-industrialisation, reduction of territorial imbalances and protection and preservation of territory with the objective of zero new land consumption for 2020. The Programme of Regional Development is an integrated territorial development strategy embedding objectives from other sectorial plans (i.a. energy, water, mobility, spatial, infrastructure) as well as Europe 2020 objectives.

Relevant environment EU Directives were transposed into national legislation (SEA Directive, EIA Directive, Birds and Habitats Directive, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive). Individual schemes have to obtain building permission which already takes into account the national environmental legislation.

The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including SEA (2001/42/EC), EIA (2011/92/EU) and subsequent amendments (e.g.: 2014/52/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives as transposed into national law. The Promoter will be requested to deliver the NTS of EIAs (if applicable) to the

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.

Luxembourg, 2nd December 2016

Bank before Bank funds are allocated. In addition, the Promoter has to provide evidence of the compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives (if applicable) before the Bank funds are allocated.

Overall, the net environmental impact is expected to be positive and the institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good. The project's environmental impact at the construction stage will be short-lived and reversible, at a level that is considered acceptable. Potential negative effects (e.g. dust and noise during construction) will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures.

More than 40% of the investments costs will be dedicated to environmental protection and sustainable transport impacting positively on Toscana's environment, other schemes focus on improving energy efficiency and anti-seismic measures which will improve the resilience of the region and avoid associated human and economic costs to natural disasters.

The region has developed a White Book on climate which identifies the main climate risks, in particular, flood risks and the vulnerable areas. This White Book sets the framework for investment and the measures/objectives and vulnerable areas identified in it will be addressed by the schemes proposed under this Framework Loan operation.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The Project comprises an investment of approximately 40% in social housing. The regional authorities are committed to increase social inclusion and this project is expected to have significant positive impact, where more than 8,000 families will benefit from new or upgraded housing. A general improvement to quality of life can be expected also in relation to improved public transport and sustainable transport networks, safer urban road networks, new or renovated public buildings and urban revitalisation. Furthermore the Project is expected to contribute to increased resilience (and safety) of territories to climate change, and of public buildings to seismic events.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The proposed schemes included in this Framework Loan are in line with the Programme of Regional Development. The Programme of Regional Development underpins different sub-projects that are subject either to urban development plans or sectorial plans which in turn require Public Consultation.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Overall, the net environmental impact is expected to be positive. The regional authorities are fully committed to Climate Action, as demonstrated by the inclusion of mitigation and particularly adaptation measures as part of its investment programme. Toscana also aims at improving its resilience against earthquakes.

The institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good. Therefore, given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning the assessment of environmental impacts and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Toscana, and subject to the conditions mentioned above, the Framework Loan is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.