

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	SOPRON-SZENTGOTTHARD RAILWAY
Project Number:	2010 0637
Country:	Hungary
Project Description:	<i>The project concerns the design, rehabilitation and upgrade construction works of the single track railway line on a 116 km long section between Sopron-Szombathely-Szentgotthard in Hungary, including electrification from Szombathely to Szentgotthard. This project is part of the framework loan operation co-financing priority investments under the Transport and the Energy & Environment Operational Programmes in the current EU programming period (2007-2013).</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The project fell under Annex II of Directive 85/337/EC as amended and was therefore subject to screening. Two preliminary environmental impact assessments for the two sections were performed in 2007. On the basis of the findings of these assessments, the Competent Authorities decided to screen out the project from completing a full EIA procedure by subsequently issuing two environmental permits without further assessment or consultation. These permits covered the whole project.

The project is partly situated next to NATURA 2000 sites. According to the assessment and the requirements stipulated in the respective environmental permits, the Competent Authorities stated in their opinion that no negative impact on the identified NATURA 2000 sites was expected.

Noise mitigation measures, such as noise protection walls settlement, window replacement, have been taken in accordance with the environmental requirements. Cultural Heritage Impact Study was prepared for the project. During the project's implementation only lands with lower quality soils were used for the project, wood stock and water balance of the soil of the forests in the vicinity were not harmed.

No significant environment or social issues were noted.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter during Construction that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.