

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	Swietokrzyskie Bridge
Project Number:	FL 2012-0535
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	Construction of a 995m bridge over the Wisla (Vistula) River in Polaniec along with 4.5 km of connecting roads and a smaller 112m bridge over the Bren Stary River. The project was allocated under the Framework Loan for the Region of Swietokrzyskie. The project is co-financed by the Region of Podkarpackie and supported by an EC grant.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project falls under Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU. The project has been the subject of a full EIA procedure in February 2010. The Competent Authority deemed that the project would not have a significant impact on the environment. A positive environmental decision was issued in November 2011 and the building permit awarded in July 2012. Although a SEA was not required, the project is implemented within the framework of the Operational Programme: Development of Eastern Poland 2007 – 2013, Priority Axis IV: Transport Infrastructure and SEA Swietokrzyskie Voivodship Development Strategy to 2020 approved in 2000. The Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) and Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) also apply. The project is not located in a Natura 2000 area. The nearest Natura 2000 area is some 2 km away. The formal declaration on the assessment carried out under Article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive and duly signed by the competent authority has been received by the Bank

The main negative impacts relate to noise, severance, water pollution, wildlife and archaeological impacts. Mitigation measures included 600m of noise screens. With respect to severance, new road junctions have been provided at four locations on the route in order to minimise this issue. Runoff water from the bridge and newly constructed parts of the route are collected in storage tanks which have protective fences against entry by amphibians. Appropriate animal crossings have been provided and are being monitored. The contractor was required to employ an archaeologist to monitor earthworks etc during construction. The contractor was also required to adopt adequate measures for the organisation of the construction site, including proper waste management, and respect of times or specific periods when construction could not take place.

The positive impacts of the project are related to the major reduction journey times for commuters and the concomitant reduction in noise and congestion through diversion of traffic away from some of the towns and villages in the area. There were no particular social or land acquisition issues.

The Competent Authority has required ongoing monitoring of environmental impacts over the next four years, including in particular and use of animal crossings and noise measurements.

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.